

LE
GOVERNMENT



OF CANADA

PRESS RELEASE

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
OTTAWA - CANADA

NO 75

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1958

THE DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT HIS EXCELLENCY ABDULLAH NAJJAR PRESENTED TO THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL HIS LETTERS OF CREDENCE AS AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF LEBANON TO CANADA. MR. NAJJAR, ON MARCH 20, 1958, PRESENTED HIS CREDENTIALS AS MINISTER OF LEBANON IN OTTAWA AND HAS SUBSEQUENTLY BEEN SERVING IN THAT CAPACITY. FOLLOWING THE DECISION OF THE TWO GOVERNMENTS TO RAISE THE STATUS OF THEIR RESPECTIVE MISSIONS FROM LEGATIONS TO EMBASSIES, MR. NAJJAR WAS APPOINTED THE FIRST AMBASSADOR OF HIS COUNTRY TO CANADA.

MR. NAJJAR WAS BORN IN 1898 AND IS A GRADUATE OF THE AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF BEIRUT. PRIOR TO HIS APPOINTMENT TO THE FOREIGN SERVICE OF LEBANON, HE HELD A NUMBER OF OTHER POSITIONS, INCLUDING THOSE OF DIRECTOR OF POLITICAL BUREAU IN THE GOVERNMENT OF KING FAISAL I IN DAMASCUS IN 1920, DIRECTOR FOR PUBLIC EDUCATION IN THE STATE OF DJEBEL DRUZE IN 1923 AND SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE ARAB BUREAU AND OF THE COMMITTEE FOR THE DEFENCE OF PALESTINE IN 1937. AFTER ENTERING THE DIPLOMATIC SERVICE OF HIS COUNTRY, MR. NAJJAR HAS HELD APPOINTMENTS AS CONSUL GENERAL OF LEBANON IN AMMAN, COUNSELLOR OF LEGATION IN BUENOS AIRES AND MINISTER IN MOSCOW.