



# PRESS RELEASE

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 21, 1954

The Department of External Affairs today announced that Mr. Kenneth P. Kirkwood has been appointed as Canada's first Ambassador to Egypt and concurrently as Canada's first Minister to Lebanon. Mr. Kirkwood, who is at present serving with the Canadian Delegation to the Ninth Session of the United Nations General Assembly, will proceed about the end of November to Egypt and to Lebanon to present his letters of credence. In the meantime, the Canadian diplomatic missions, which have now opened in Cairo and Beirut, will each be under the direction of the senior officer of the mission, serving as Chargé d'Affaires ad interim.

Mr. Kirkwood was born in Brampton, Ontario, on April 14, 1899. He attended the University of Toronto, the London School of Economics and Columbia University. During the First World War he served with the Canadian Army, the Royal Naval Air Service, and the Royal Air Force. From 1923 to 1928 he taught history in Turkey, Canada and the United States. Mr. Kirkwood joined the Department of External Affairs as a Second Secretary in 1928 and has served in Washington, Tokyo, The Hague, London, Greenland, Rio de Janeiro, Buenos Aires and Warsaw. In Warsaw, Mr. Kirkwood was Chargé d'Affaires a.i. from 1947 until 1950. He was appointed Canadian High Commissioner in Pakistan in November 1951 and returned to Ottawa in June of this year. Mr. Kirkwood has attended a number of international conferences and is the author of several books of verse, essays and travel. Mr. Kirkwood is single.

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