

## Confidentially yours, Thomas A. Stone

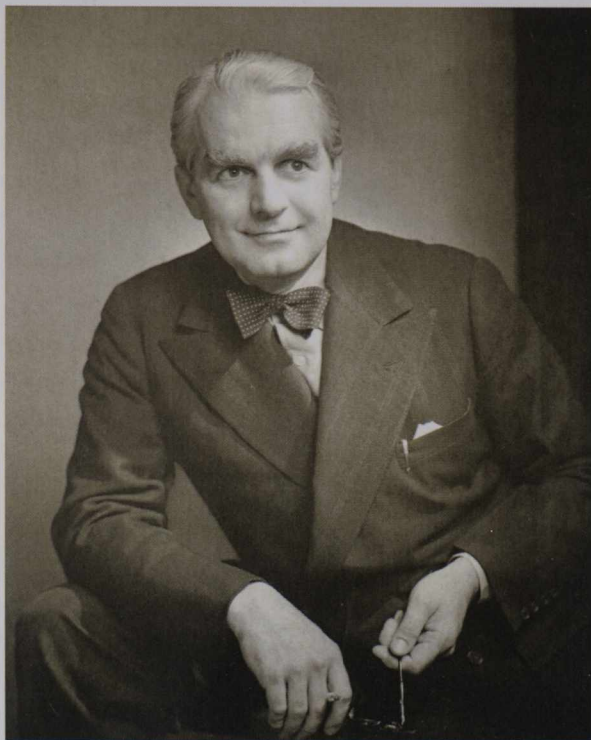
**Joel Kropf**

Thomas Archibald Stone, one of Canada's first professional foreign service officers, began his diplomatic career in 1927, serving for several years in Washington and Paris. After leaving the Department of External Affairs in 1935, he rejoined in 1939, spending part of the Second World War in Ottawa as the Department's point man for foreign intelligence, and later working in London and Washington. In 1949 he went to Sweden to lead the Canadian legation in Stockholm. That same year he was concurrently appointed as the head of Canada's new legation to Finland.

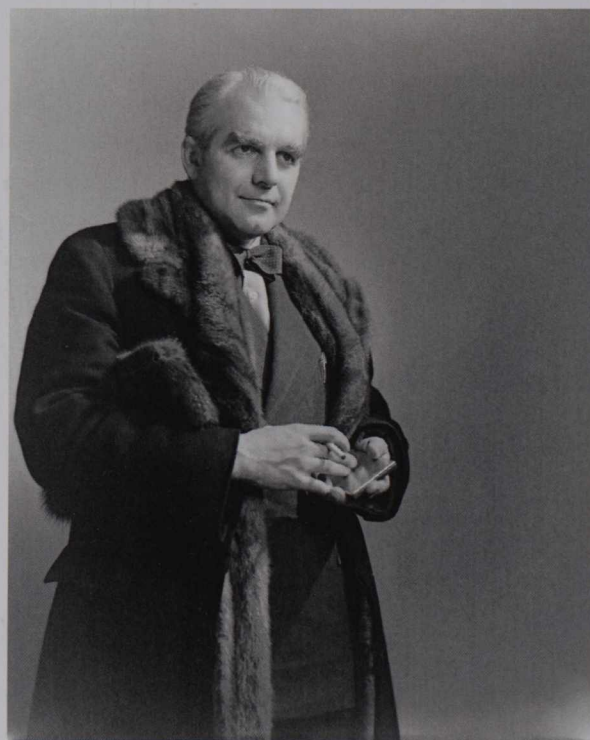
At this time several other countries were also using their senior diplomat in either Sweden or

the Soviet Union as a non-resident envoy to Finland; and after presenting his credentials in Helsinki on September 24, 1949, Stone reported that Finnish officials had "expressed the hope that the Canadian Minister ... would not, as so many others have done, disappear with his Legation into the mist of Stockholm or the snows of Moscow and not be seen again. I assured our Finnish friends that in our case this would not be so." True to his word, Stone was back in Finland less than three months later, visiting the country in early December for Independence Day, and thereby renewing his acquaintance with this "brave, hospitable, and altogether admirable people."

*Joel Kropf works as a Historian with the Historical Section of Global Affairs Canada*



Thomas A. Stone, 1944 (PA-197625/Karsh/Library and Archives Canada)



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