



PRESS RELEASE

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
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TUESDAY, AUGUST 3, 1954.

The Department of External Affairs announced today that the Secretary-General of the United Nations has appointed Major-General E. L. M. Burns, DSO, OBE, MC, of Canada Chief-of-Staff of the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization in Palestine, to succeed Major-General Vagn Bennike of Denmark.

For the duration of his service with the United Nations General Burns will be on leave of absence from his position as Deputy Minister of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

When General Bennike's appointment expired on June 17, 1954, the Secretary-General requested him to continue in office until a successor was appointed and had arrived in Jerusalem. General Burns will reach Jerusalem shortly.

In announcing the new appointment, the Secretary-General paid special tribute to "the conscientiousness and the high sense of duty" with which Major-General Bennike discharged his heavy responsibilities as United Nations Chief-of-Staff during the period of his tenure. "His impartiality, his judiciousness and his personal courage won for General Bennike the admiration of the members of the Security Council and of the Secretariat. He made a real contribution during a period of severe crisis in Palestine. His efforts have earned him the gratitude of all Members of the United Nations."