

Several personnel changes affecting the conduct of Canadian external relations occurred during 1959. After the death of Sidney Smith on March 17, Diefenbaker served as acting Secretary of State for External Affairs until the appointment of Howard Green on June 4. Other Cabinet incumbents in portfolios dealing with foreign policy remained unchanged during 1959: Donald Fleming, Gordon Churchill, and Ellen Fairclough retained their ministerial positions at Finance, Trade and Commerce, and Citizenship and Immigration respectively. During his first seven months in the External Affairs portfolio, Howard Green benefited greatly from the advice and experience of Norman Robertson, who served as Under-Secretary throughout 1959. This continuity was not matched, however, in other senior departmental posts in Ottawa. R.M. Macdonnell served as Deputy Under-Secretary until he resigned from the Department on 20 July 1959; he was not replaced until July 1960. Two of the four Assistant Under-Secretaries were replaced during 1959. Douglas LePan left the Department in March 1959; A.E. Ritchie replaced him in September. W.D. Matthews, who died in March 1959; was replaced by E.W.T. Gill in April. The other two Assistant Under-Secretaries — John Holmes and Marcel Cadieux — remained in their positions throughout the period covered by this volume.

There were no major changes in representation at Canada's most important diplomatic posts abroad during 1959. Arnold Heeney was appointed Ambassador in Washington in January 1959; he replaced Norman Robertson, who had left Washington in October 1958 to assume his duties as Under-Secretary. George Drew and Chester Ronning remained in their High Commissioners' posts in the United Kingdom and India. Pierre Dupuy retained his ambassadorial post in Paris, as did Escott Reid in Bonn. Jules Léger continued to be Canada's Permanent Representative to the North Atlantic Council and Representative to the Organization for European Economic Cooperation. In New York, Charles Ritchie continued to serve as the Permanent Representative to the United Nations. David Johnson was Canada's Ambassador in Moscow throughout 1959.

Documents in this volume were selected primarily from the records of the Department of External Affairs and the Privy Council Office. Additional documents were chosen from the files of the departments of Finance, Trade and Commerce, and Citizenship and Immigration, and from the private papers of Cabinet ministers and senior government officials. In preparing the volume, the editors were given unrestricted access to the files of the Department of External Affairs and generous access to other collections. A complete list of the archival sources consulted to prepare this volume is found on page xxxiii.

The selection of documents in Volume 26 is guided by the general principles outlined in the Introduction to Volume 7 (pp. ix-xi), as amended in the Introduction to Volume 20 (p. xxiii). The series continues to attempt to provide a self-contained record of the major foreign policy decisions taken by the Government of Canada, by concentrating on Canada's most important bilateral and multilateral relationships and