

M. Gauran.



PRESS RELEASE

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
OTTAWA - CANADA

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
FRIDAY, MAY 31, 1957

NO. 32

THE DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT AN AGREEMENT HAS BEEN REACHED BETWEEN CANADA AND TUNISIA TO ESTABLISH DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES. AS A FIRST STEP TOWARDS THE DEVELOPMENT OF CLOSER RELATIONS BETWEEN CANADA AND TUNISIA THE PRESENT TUNISIAN AMBASSADOR IN WASHINGTON, M. MONGI SLIM, WILL BECOME CONCURRENTLY THE FIRST AMBASSADOR OF TUNISIA TO CANADA. AMBASSADOR SLIM WILL CONTINUE TO RESIDE IN WASHINGTON.

TUNISIA, A FORMER FRENCH PROTECTORATE, ACHIEVED FULL INDEPENDENCE ON MARCH 20, 1956. CANADA EXTENDED DE JURE RECOGNITION TO THE NEW STATE ON JUNE 20, 1956. CANADA WAS REPRESENTED BY A SPECIAL ENVOY AT THE CELEBRATION OF TUNISIA'S FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF ITS INDEPENDENCE.