



# PRESS RELEASE

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

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FRIDAY, JUNE 19, 1953.

The Department of External Affairs announced today that the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, Dr. G.J. van Heuven Goedhart, will arrive in Ottawa on Saturday, June 20 (Uplands Airport, 7:35 p.m. EDT) for a visit of several days.

In Ottawa Dr. Goedhart will consult with officials of various government departments concerning the execution of the responsibilities he has carried since January 1, 1951 for the legal and political protection of refugees, for the improvement of their welfare and for assisting with efforts to integrate them in their countries of refuge or to resettle them elsewhere. Dr. Goedhart, while in Ottawa, also wishes to take the opportunity of expressing his thanks for Canada's contribution of \$100,000 made earlier this year to the United Nations Refugee Emergency Fund.

The organization maintained by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, with headquarters in Geneva, became the principal body exclusively concerned with refugees following the termination of the International Refugee Organization. In addition to the contribution of \$100,000 made earlier this year, Canada formerly made annual contributions to the IRO, and up to the end of last year, out of a total of 789,278 post-war immigrants, Canada had accepted 165,697 refugees and displaced persons as immigrants.

Dr. Goedhart was formerly a newspaper editor in the Netherlands, and has served as a Cabinet minister in his country's Government, and as chairman of the Netherlands delegation to the General Assembly. On Wednesday, June 24 Dr. Goedhart will leave Ottawa for Montreal where he will address a public meeting under the auspices of the United Nations Association.

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