

January 7, 1943.

PRESS CONFERENCE  
DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

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*Jan 1943*

A Press Conference was held in the Department of External Affairs today, at which Mr. Wrong, Mr. Rae and the following press representatives were present:

Richardson	-	Winnipeg Free Press
Bishop	-	Ottawa Citizen
Marshall	-	Windsor Star
Zhiveynov	-	Tass
Blackburn	-	Canadian Press
Hambleton	-	Wartime Information Board

Mr. Acland of the Prime Minister's Office was also present. The following subjects were discussed:

1. Appointments to Canadian Legation, Kuibyshev:-

Mr. Wrong gave the press the following list of appointments to the staff of the Canadian Legation in Kuibyshev:

Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary	-	L.D. Wilgress
First Secretary	-	R.M. Macdonnell
Military Attaché	-	Brigadier H. Lefebvre
Assistant Military Attaché	-	Major G.J. Okulitch
Third Secretaries	-	A.C. Smith
		J.A. McCordick

and background information was also given to the press on the individuals comprising the staff of the new Legation. It was hoped that it would be possible next week to make an announcement with regard to the staffs for Chungking and Santiago and perhaps also to announce who would accompany Major General Vanier to London.

2. Shipments of Canadian wheat to Greece:-

Mr. Wrong gave the press the following statement which had been issued in Stockholm by Prince Charles of Sweden:

"The President of the Swedish Red Cross, Prince Charles of Sweden, has recently issued the following statement in Stockholm regarding the progress of the relief work in Greece.

Swedish ships have so far carried 76,000 tons Canadian wheat to Greece. In addition, they have carried dried vegetables, powdered milk and medical supplies.

Distribution in Greece is made by a Red Cross Commission composed of Swedish and Swiss members. The president of the Commission, Mr. Paul Mohn, is Swedish. At present the Commission consists of 550 employees, of which 120 are engaged in Piræus, while 140 members are in charge of control and inspection. Distribution is being effected through shops in Athens and through public soup kitchens. On some occasions these kitchens have fed 600,000 inhabitants.