



# PRESS RELEASE

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
OTTAWA - CANADA

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
FRIDAY, JULY 26, 1957.

NO.40.

THE DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT THE HONOURABLE J.M. MACDONNELL, P.C., Q.C., M.C., CROIX DE GUERRE, L.L.D., M.P., MINISTER WITHOUT PORTFOLIO, HAS BEEN DESIGNATED AS SPECIAL ENVOY TO REPRESENT CANADA AT THE CELEBRATIONS WHICH WILL BE HELD IN KUALA LUMPUR BETWEEN THE 30TH OF AUGUST AND THE 3RD OF SEPTEMBER, 1957 TO MARK THE ATTAINMENT OF INDEPENDENCE BY THE FEDERATION OF MALAYA WITHIN THE COMMONWEALTH OF NATIONS.

MR. MACDONNELL WILL BE JOINED IN MALAYA BY MR. GEORGE R.C. HEASMAN, O.B.E., CANADIAN AMBASSADOR TO INDONESIA AND MR. M.P. CARSON, CANADIAN GOVERNMENT TRADE COMMISSIONER IN SINGAPORE. HE WILL BE ACCOMPANIED FROM OTTAWA BY MR. F.G. BALLACHEY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

MR. MACDONNELL AND HIS PARTY WILL TRAVEL ON AN R.C.A.F. AIRCRAFT WHICH IS EXPECTED TO LEAVE OTTAWA ABOUT AUGUST 26 AND ARRIVE AT KUALA LUMPUR, THE MALAYAN CAPITAL, ON THE MORNING OF AUGUST 29.

THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE OF THE FEDERATION OF MALAYA WILL BE READ AT 8:00 A.M. ON AUGUST 31. THE STATE OPENING OF THE NEW MALAYAN PARLIAMENT, WHICH MR. MACDONNELL WILL ATTEND, WILL BE AT 10:30 A.M. ON SEPTEMBER 3.

IT IS EXPECTED MR. MACDONNELL WILL RETURN TO OTTAWA VIA INDIA AND PAKISTAN.