

GOVERNMENT



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# PRESS RELEASE

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

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The Department of External Affairs announced today that a Ministerial meeting of the North Atlantic Council will be held in Paris on December 17 and 18, to be preceded by a meeting of the Military Committee on December 13 and 14 and a joint meeting of the Military Committee and the Permanent Council on December 15. Canada will be represented at the Ministerial meeting by the Secretary of State for External Affairs, M. L.B. Pearson, the Minister of Defence Production, Mr. C.D. Howe, and the Minister of National Defence, Mr. Ralph Campney. They will be assisted by the Permanent Representative of Canada to the North Atlantic Council, Mr. L.D. Wilgress, General Charles Foulkes, Chairman, Chiefs of Staff; members of the Permanent Delegation in Paris and of the Departments of External Affairs, National Defence and Defence Production.

While the Permanent Representatives to the Council in Paris meet regularly/<sup>every</sup>week, Ministerial meetings, which are attended by Cabinet Ministers, are held usually twice a year. There have been two previous Ministerial meetings this year, one on April 23 prior to the Geneva Conference, and the other on October 22 to discuss the question of Germany.

The coming Ministerial meeting will be concerned particularly with completion of the 1954 Annual Review of NATO defence plans, preparations for the 1955 Review, and consideration of the international situation as it affects NATO.