

PRESS RELEASE



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TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 1964

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Paul Martin, today announced the appointment of Mr. Jules Léger, at present Canadian Ambassador to Italy, as Ambassador to France. Mr. Léger succeeds Mr. Pierre Dupuy, who has been appointed Commissioner General of the Canadian World Exhibition, 1967. Mr. Léger's successor in Rome will be announced in due course.

Mr. Léger was born in St. Anicet, Quebec, on April 4, 1913, and he studied at the University of Montreal and at the Sorbonne in Paris. He was editor of Le Droit, Ottawa, in 1938-39 and was an Assistant Press Censor in 1939-40. During 1939-42 he was Professor of Diplomatic History and Current Affairs at the University of Ottawa.

Mr. Léger joined the Department of External Affairs in 1940 and served in Canadian diplomatic missions in Santiago and London from 1943-49. He returned to Ottawa in 1949 and served in the Office of the Prime Minister until August 1950. He was appointed Assistant Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs in 1951 and in 1953 became Ambassador to Mexico. Mr. Léger returned to Ottawa in 1954 and was appointed Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs. In 1958 he was appointed Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Canada to the North Atlantic Council and the Organization for European Economic Cooperation in Paris. Mr. Léger was appointed Ambassador to Italy in May 1962 and he has been serving in Rome since that time.

Mr. Léger is married and has two children.