



# PRESS RELEASE

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
OTTAWA - CANADA

NO. 22

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15, 1959

THE NEWLY-APPOINTED HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR THE UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA, HIS EXCELLENCY ROBERT KIRSTEN, THIS MORNING MADE HIS FIRST CALL ON THE PRIME MINISTER OF CANADA, THE RIGHT HONOURABLE JOHN G. DIEFENBAKER. THE HIGH COMMISSIONER WAS ACCOMPANIED BY DR. C.B.H. FINCHAM, FIRST SECRETARY OF HIS OFFICE, AND WAS INTRODUCED BY THE CHIEF OF PROTOCOL, MR. H.F. FEAVER.

MR. KIRSTEN, WHO WAS BORN IN 1906, ENTERED THE DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS OF THE UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA IN 1929. PRIOR TO COMING TO CANADA, HE WAS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR THE UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA TO THE FEDERATION OF RHODESIA AND NYASALAND.

MR. KIRSTEN WAS ACCOMPANIED TO OTTAWA BY HIS WIFE AND CHILDREN.