



# PRESS RELEASE

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
OTTAWA - CANADA

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, 1959.

Dr. James H. Graham, Dr. Ian Macdonald and Dr. M.O. Klotz, consider it might be helpful to release the following further facts concerning the death of the Honourable Sidney E. Smith, Secretary of State for External Affairs:

Following his return from Halifax at noon, March 17, Dr. Smith lay down after lunch. It was not unusual for him to do this. He apparently went to sleep and died quietly while asleep. The cause of death was a massive haemorrhage in the pontine area of the brain ( a deep-seated vital centre). There was no warning symptom of this grave immediate condition and it bore no relationship to the severe cold of last week.

It has been known that Dr. Smith had shown at intervals for some years a mild degree of hypertension (high blood pressure) without any symptoms or complications.

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