



NO. 86

EMBARGOED UNTIL 3 P.M.  
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7.

Opening of Canadian Missions  
in Cameroun and Tanganyika.

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Howard Green, announced today that the Government has decided to extend its diplomatic relations with the independent states of Africa by opening new diplomatic missions in Tanganyika and the Federal Republic of Cameroun.

The Government of Canada and the Government of the Federal Republic of Cameroun, who already enjoy the best of relations, have agreed to exchange diplomatic missions at Embassy level. The Canadian Government will in the near future send an Ambassador to Yaounde. The Government of Cameroun will accredit an Ambassador to Canada at a later date.

It is also the Government's plan to establish diplomatic relations with a number of neighbouring French-speaking African states by accrediting to them the Canadian Ambassador to Cameroun. A further announcement on this subject will be made shortly.

The decision to establish diplomatic relations with these French-speaking African states has been taken because of the growing importance of Africa in world affairs and the outstanding influence of these states both within Africa and at the United Nations. The French African delegations have played a notably constructive part in the deliberations of the General Assembly and the Canadian Delegation has worked closely with them on many issues.

Sharing with Canada a common French cultural heritage, the French-speaking states of Africa have shown great interest in establishing diplomatic relations with Canada. The opening