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## APPOINTMENT OF CHIEF AIR NEGOTIATOR

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, Flora MacDonald, and the Minister of Transport, Don Mazankowski, announce the appointment of R. Harry Jay as Chief Air Negotiator. Mr. Jay will be responsible for the conduct of bilateral air negotiations and will draw on Transport Canada, the Department of External Affairs and the Canadian Transport Commission in setting up negotiating teams.

The Chief Air Negotiator reports to the Interdepartmental Committee on Civil Aviation chaired by Transport Canada, with members from the Canadian Transport Commission, the Department of External Affairs as well as other government departments. The Committee is responsible for co-ordinating domestic and international civil aviation matters and making recommendations as appropriate to the Minister of Transport and the Secretary of State for External Affairs.

Mr. Jay succeeds Mr. Ralph Collins who is retiring after serving as Chief Air Negotiator since 1974.

Born in Lachine, P.Q. in 1919, Mr. Jay studied at McGill University (B.A. in 1941 and B.C.L. in 1948). He was admitted to the Quebec Bar in 1948. From 1941 to 1945 he served in the European Theatre with the R.C.A.F. He joined the Department of External Affairs in 1948 and was posted subsequently to India, Vietnam and as Deputy Permanent Representative to NATO in Paris, before being named High Commissioner to Jamaica in 1965. He was named to the Directing Staff of the National Defence College in 1968, Director General of the Bureau of United Nations Affairs in the Department of External Affairs in 1970, Ambassador to Sweden in 1973, and Ambassador and Permanent Representative to the European Office of the United Nations, Geneva in 1976, where he was also Canada's representative in GATT (General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade) and on the Disarmament Committee. Mr. Jay is married and has three sons.