

Following is a comparison of the departmental personnel strength on December 31, 1953, and December 31, 1954:

	1953	1954	Change
Officers (including Heads of Posts):			
Ottawa	120	112	- 8
Abroad	147	165	+18
Administrative Personnel:			
Ottawa	509	515	+ 6
Abroad	285	299	+14
Local Employees	453	444	- 9
Totals	1514	1535	+21

The Department was grieved by the death of Mr. H. Hume Wrong, Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs, who died in Ottawa on January 24, after twenty-seven years of distinguished service both in Ottawa and abroad. Mr. Victor Doré, who had only recently retired after service as Canadian Ambassador to Switzerland and Minister to Austria, having previously held the appointment of Canadian Ambassador to Belgium, died on May 27. The untimely death of Mr. Robert M. Lithgow, Third Secretary with the Canadian Embassy in Rio de Janeiro, occurred on October 20. Mr. J. H. Thurrott, adviser to the Canadian Commissioner on the International Supervisory Commission in Laos, was killed on the day before Christmas in a jeep accident while serving with distinction in a difficult post.

During the year Hon. R. W. Mayhew retired after distinguished service as Ambassador to Japan.

The following properties were purchased: a residence for the Ambassador in Djakarta, Indonesia, a chancery building and a house for staff at the same post; a house for staff in Karachi, Pakistan. New residences were leased in Rio de Janeiro, Colombo, Boston, Geneva, and Madrid, and new chancery accommodation was leased in Montevideo, Tel Aviv, Beirut, Cairo, Pretoria, Ciudad Trujillo, and Port-au-Prince. Furnishing schemes in whole or in part were undertaken in Djakarta, Wellington, Geneva, Berne, Karachi, and Canberra.