



PRESS RELEASE

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
OTTAWA - CANADA

NO 71

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1957

THE DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT, IN RESPONSE TO AN URGENT REQUEST FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF CEYLON, THE CANADIAN GOVERNMENT HAS DECIDED TO SEND EMERGENCY RELIEF ASSISTANCE TO THAT COUNTRY, WHERE SUDDEN AND SEVERE FLOODS HAVE CAUSED WIDESPREAD DESTRUCTION AND SUFFERING. AN IMMEDIATE CONSIGNMENT, CONSISTING OF MEDICAL SUPPLIES AND CONCENTRATED FOODSTUFFS, HAS BEEN SENT THIS AFTERNOON FROM UPLANDS AIRPORT, OTTAWA, BY A TRANSPORT AIRCRAFT OF THE ROYAL CANADIAN AIR FORCE. THIS WILL FLY TO CEYLON BY THE MOST DIRECT ROUTE POSSIBLE.

THE GOVERNMENT IS CONSIDERING WHAT FURTHER STEPS CAN BE TAKEN MOST EFFECTIVELY TO ASSIST THE PEOPLE OF CEYLON IN THE PRESENT EMERGENCY, AND HAS ASKED ITS ACTING HIGH COMMISSIONER IN CEYLON TO REPORT FURTHER ON THE SITUATION FROM DAY TO DAY. ENGLISH TEXT ENDS.