



# PRESS RELEASE

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
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The Department of External Affairs announced today that Mr. Jean Désy, who until recently served on loan from the Department as Director-General of the International Service of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, is proceeding to Europe on a special mission to survey the operation of the Canadian Government Overseas Awards. Mr. Désy's mission will take him to Italy, France and the Netherlands, in which countries blocked funds owing to Canada have been earmarked for educational purposes.

The Overseas Awards Programme was approved by Cabinet in June 1951. It includes both scholarships for advanced study and fellowships for advanced work and study granted each year to candidates selected by the Royal Society of Canada. The Programme is administered overseas by the Canadian missions in the countries concerned. In France and the Netherlands, where the programme already is in operation, Mr. Désy will study existing arrangements and liaison with local educational and cultural bodies. In Italy, where the programme is still pending, he will take part in the negotiation of a cultural agreement, as provided under the Civilian Relief Agreement between Italy and Canada which was ratified by the Italian Parliament last April. In this survey, Mr. Désy will be able to draw on his experience as former Canadian Ambassador to The Hague and Rome.

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