



PRESS RELEASE

INFORMATION DIVISION
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December 2, 1949.

The Department of External Affairs today announced the appointment of David M. Johnson as High Commissioner for Canada in Pakistan. Since January, 1949, Mr. Johnson has been Acting High Commissioner for Canada at Dublin during the absence of the High Commissioner, the Honourable W. F. A. Turgeon. He will take up his duties at Karachi early in the new year.

Mr. Johnson's appointment as Canada's first High Commissioner to Pakistan and the opening of the new mission at Karachi are in fulfilment of an agreement reached with Pakistan some time ago for an exchange of representation between the two Commonwealth countries. The office of the High Commissioner for Pakistan at Ottawa was opened last May and the Honourable Mohammed Ali arrived on July 11 to take up his duties as High Commissioner.

Mr. Johnson was born on April 30, 1902. He graduated from McGill University in 1923 (Mathematics) and from Oxford University in 1926 (B.A., B.C.L.) and practised law with a Montreal firm until 1936, when he was appointed to the Department of Finance as Solicitor to the Treasury.

Seconded to the Department of External Affairs in 1941, he served in the office of the High Commissioner for Canada at London. He enlisted in the Canadian Artillery in August, 1943, saw service in North West Europe and was discharged, in September, 1945, with the rank of Captain.

Mr. Johnson joined the Department of External Affairs and was appointed Head of its American and Far Eastern Division in February, 1947. He was also External Affairs member and Secretary of the Canadian Section of the Permanent Joint Board on Defence (Canada-United States) during 1947 and 1948. In January, 1949, he was appointed Acting Canadian High Commissioner at Dublin. He is unmarried.