

were negotiated with considerable ease, and Canada worked closely with the United States and the United Kingdom to adopt a comprehensive policy of international controls. These controls were manifestly necessary in the light of the actions of uranium producing countries such as South Africa, which displayed a willingness to export uranium without the application of control provisions. Canada's commitment to the international supervision of atomic energy was also evident in its approach to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). Although Max Wershof, the Canadian representative to the IAEA, expressed a pessimistic view of the administrative capabilities of the Agency [Document 572], Canada nonetheless remained firmly dedicated to supporting the IAEA through direct financial contributions and the donation of uranium metal to the Agency for resale to Japan [Documents 583 and 585].

For the first three months of the Conservative mandate, John Diefenbaker held the portfolio of External Affairs in addition to his duties as prime minister. Throughout his term in office, Diefenbaker maintained a keen interest in international affairs and insisted on personally handling critical foreign policy issues, often excluding External Affairs officials in the process. Diefenbaker viewed the department's "Personalties" with a certain degree of suspicion owing to their perceived allegiance to their former political master. As a result, Robert Bryce, the Clerk of the Privy Council, arranged in August 1957 to have H. Basil Robinson appointed as a full-time liaison between the Prime Minister's Office and the department, a responsibility that Robinson handled with distinction. In September 1957, Diefenbaker handpicked Sidney Smith, President of the University of Toronto, to fill the position of secretary of state for external affairs. An able academic administrator, Smith failed to carve out an independent niche for himself prior to his sudden death in March of 1959. The documentation in this volume provides ample evidence that Smith often adopted a passive stance toward his portfolio, content to let his departmental officials shape his views on many key issues. Smith was also overshadowed by other ministers with more clout at the Cabinet table such as Donald Fleming and Gordon Churchill, who played an active and prominent role in determining Canada's position on key international issues.

Both Diefenbaker and Smith were able to draw on the advice of a veteran group of senior External Affairs officials during the first eighteen months of the Conservative administration. Jules Léger served as Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs before Norman Robertson replaced him in October 1958. R.M. Macdonnell assisted Léger and Robertson as Deputy Under-Secretary from September 1958 (this position had been vacant from May 1957). The Department depended on the services of four Assistant Under-Secretaries during the period covered by this volume: John Holmes, Douglas LePan, W.D. Matthews, and Marcel Cadieux. Cadieux also served as the Department's Legal Adviser.

No major changes in representation occurred at Canada's major posts abroad until the autumn of 1958. Norman Robertson served as Ambassador in Washington until 10 October 1958 before he returned to Ottawa to assume his duties as under-secretary. A.D.P. Heeney replaced Robertson in Washington. In June 1957, Diefenbaker appointed George Drew as High Commissioner to the United Kingdom. Jean Désy served as Ambassador to France until July 1958 before being replaced by Pierre Dupuy. Prior to his retirement in July 1958, Dana Wilgress served as Permanent Representative to the North Atlantic Council and Representative to the Organization