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ORGANIZATION AND ADMINISTRATION OF THE DEPARTMENT

The senior official directing staff of the Department consists of the Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs (Deputy Minister), the Associate Under-Secretary, and four Assistant Under-Secretaries, one of whom is Legal Adviser. The staff of the Department at home is organized under some seventeen divisions, some concerned with special functions or services, some with particular geographical areas. This organization is outlined in Appendix A.

Canada now maintains fifty-eight diplomatic and consular posts abroad.¹ Of these twenty-eight are embassies, seven high commissioners' offices, nine legations, three permanent delegations, and eleven consulates. During the year, embassies were opened in the Dominican Republic (November 9), Egypt (October 25), Haiti (November 9), and Israel (October 18). A legation was opened in Lebanon on October 19.

Forty-three countries now have diplomatic missions in Canada.² Of these, twenty-eight are embassies, six high commissioners' offices, and nine legations. In addition, fourteen countries have consulates in Canada but no diplomatic missions. During 1954 diplomatic missions were opened in Canada by the Dominican Republic, Egypt, and Haiti. The Legation of Israel was raised to the status of an embassy.

Canada's acceptance of membership, along with India and Poland, on the International Supervisory Commissions for Cambodia, Laos, and Vietnam required the assignment of departmental personnel to Phnom Penh in Cambodia, Vientiane in Laos, and Hanoi and Saigon in Vietnam. The responsibility for organizing and manning the Canadian elements of the International Supervisory Commissions is shared with the Department of National Defence. The administrative problems created by the operation in Indochina have been manifold and varied. For example, in order to meet the personnel requirements in Indochina, it has been necessary to reduce the normal strength of some missions abroad and of divisions in Ottawa and to recruit personnel from other government departments and from outside the government service.

As the result of a competition begun in November 1953, and conducted by the Civil Service Commission, nineteen new Foreign Service Officers joined the Department in 1954. Another competition began with a written examination in November 1954 in which 373 candidates participated at centres across Canada and around the world. The number of candidates who took part in last year's examination was 170. During the year, 176 appointments were made to the administrative staff of the Department.

¹See Appendix B on "Canadian Diplomatic and Consular Representation Abroad".

²See Appendix C on "Diplomatic and Consular Representation of Other Countries in Canada".