



PRESS RELEASE

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

OTTAWA - CANADA

No. 64

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Saturday, October 3, 1953.

Following is the text of a statement by the Department of External Affairs issued today in connection with recent events in Poland:

The news of the renewal of religious persecution in Poland will deepen sympathy in Canada for the suffering Polish people. The recent trial of Bishop Kaczmarek, three priests and a nun has followed the usual Iron Curtain pattern, in which the defendants are induced to condemn themselves. The arrest of Cardinal Wyszynski without any charge being laid against him outrages all principles of justice.

It is significant that these new instances of religious persecution come at a time when the Communists claim to be concerned to bring about a relaxation of tension in Europe and elsewhere. If the Communist leaders are honest in their declarations of peaceful intentions, they should realize that acts of religious persecution which arouse the indignation of the peoples of the free world contradict and deny these professed intentions.