



PRESS RELEASE

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
OTTAWA - CANADA

No.53

HOLD FOR RELEASE
NOT BE RELEASED UNTIL
12 NOON EST, OCTOBER 15, 1951

October 15, 1951.

The Department of External Affairs released today the attached text of a draft Protocol to the North Atlantic Treaty on the accession of Greece and Turkey which has been agreed upon by the North Atlantic Council Deputies and is being made public simultaneously in all the NATO capitals at 5:00 p.m. G.M.T. today. It is expected that the Protocol will be signed in about one week's time.

Insofar as Canada is concerned, Mr. L.D. Wilgress, the Canadian Deputy to the North Atlantic Council Deputies, has been granted full powers to sign the Protocol on behalf of the Government of Canada. The Canadian Parliament will in due course be asked to approve the ratification of the Protocol. When all twelve present signatories of the Treaty have duly signed and ratified the Protocol, a definitive invitation will be extended to the governments of Greece and Turkey to accede to the North Atlantic Treaty.