

GOVERNMENT



OF CANADA
NO. 81

PRESS RELEASE

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
OTTAWA - CANADA

FOR RELEASE IN MORNING PAPERS OF
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 1956

THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS ANNOUNCED TODAY THE APPOINTMENT OF MR. GEORGE IGNATIEFF AS CANADIAN AMBASSADOR TO YUGOSLAVIA. HE WILL TAKE UP HIS POST IN MID-FEBRUARY, 1957. MR. IGNATIEFF WILL REPLACE MR. J.S. MACDONALD, WHO RECENTLY BECAME THE FIRST CANADIAN AMBASSADOR TO AUSTRIA WHEN THE CANADIAN LEGATION IN VIENNA WAS RAISED TO THE STATUS OF AN EMBASSY.

MR. IGNATIEFF IS A GRADUATE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO. HE WENT TO OXFORD AS A RHODES SCHOLAR IN 1936 AND LATER ATTENDED THE UNIVERSITY OF LONDON. HE JOINED THE DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS IN 1940, SERVING AS THIRD AND LATER SECOND SECRETARY IN LONDON, BEFORE RETURNING TO OTTAWA IN 1944. HE WAS APPOINTED FIRST SECRETARY AT WASHINGTON IN 1946 AND IN 1947 AND 1948 SERVED AS ADVISOR TO THE CANADIAN PERMANENT MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS IN NEW YORK. IN 1949, MR. IGNATIEFF BECAME A COUNSELLOR AT THE CANADIAN EMBASSY AT WASHINGTON AND IN 1954 RETURNED FOR A YEAR TO LONDON. HE HAS BEEN IN OTTAWA SINCE THE BEGINNING OF 1955.

MR. IGNATIEFF IS MARRIED AND HAS TWO CHILDREN.