

PRESS RELEASE

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
OTTAWA - CANADA

No. 3

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 4, 1961.

THE POLISH TREASURES

Commenting on the return of the Polish treasures which have been in the Quebec Provincial Museum, the Hon. Howard Green, Secretary of State for External Affairs, noted that the Government of Canada has favoured an arrangement by the parties concerned which would permit the Polish people to enjoy this important part of their national artistic heritage. Mr. Green recalled that he had had occasion to express this view to M. Rapacki, the Polish Foreign Minister at sessions of the United Nations General Assembly in New York and to explain that while the achievement of a solution has not rested with Ottawa, the Canadian Government was prepared to assist in any way it appropriately could to help the parties to reach agreement.

Two years ago the Canadian Government was instrumental in arranging the return of those items which had been deposited with the Bank of Montreal in Ottawa and now has assisted in the solution which has brought about the departure for Poland of the balance of the items which will take their historic place again in the Royal Palace of Wawel in Krakov from where they were sent for safe-keeping at the outbreak of the Second World War.