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DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

Monday, December 14, 1964.

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF JOINT COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT CLOSE OF THE TALKS BETWEEN THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, THE HONOURABLE PAUL MARTIN, AND THE FOREIGN MINISTER OF FRANCE, MR. COUVE DE MURVILLE, IN PARIS ON DECEMBER 13, 1964.

In the framework of the consultations arranged between the Canadian and French governments, the Honourable Paul Martin and Mr. Couve de Murville met on December 13, 1964. They exchanged views on international problems and on questions of mutual interest to their two countries.

The conversations first dealt with international affairs. On the eve of the NATO Ministerial Meeting the two Ministers reviewed the main questions concerning the organization. They exchanged views on the work of the U.N. The situation in Southeast Asia and particularly the role of the International Control and Supervisory Commissions were also examined.

Secondly, the two Ministers were pleased to see the favourable conditions in which cooperation between Canada and France is developing. They recorded their satisfaction with the understanding reached on the opening of two new Canadian Consulates-General in France, one in Marseilles and the other in Bordeaux.

In the economic field, the Ministers emphasized the importance of developing trade relations between the two countries and the usefulness in this respect of sending a Canadian economic mission to France, as well as the possibility of arranging a meeting of the Canada-France Joint Committee. They expressed their desire to see an increase in cultural exchanges between Canada and France. They decided to open negotiations shortly on a general agreement in this field.

At the end of this meeting, the two Ministers noted with satisfaction the large measure of agreement between them and the spirit of cordiality and mutual understanding that had marked their conversation.