

GOVERNMENT



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No. 47

His Excellency Michael Saul Comay presented today to the Honourable Mr. Justice C. H. Locke, Deputy Governor General, his Letter of Credence as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Israel to Canada. The ceremony of presentation took place at the Supreme Court Building.

The Acting Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mr. R. A. MacKay, was in attendance on the Deputy Governor General on this occasion. The Chief of Protocol, Mr. H. F. Feaver, presented the Ambassador to the Deputy Governor General. Mr. J. F. Delaute, Secretary to the Governor General (Administrative), was also present.

Mr. Comay presented his credentials as Israel's first Minister to Canada on September 1, 1953, and his appointment as Ambassador follows the recent agreement between Canada and Israel for the exchange of diplomatic representatives on the ambassadorial level. The appointment of a Canadian Ambassador to Israel will be announced later.

Mr. Comay was born in Cape Town, Union of South Africa, in 1908. He obtained the degrees of Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Laws at the University of Cape Town and practised as a barrister-at-law in South Africa until the outbreak of the Second World War. He served with the South African Forces during the War, with the rank of Major. In January 1946 he settled in Palestine, and was connected with the Political Department of the Jewish Agency until May 1948, when he entered the service of the Government of Israel. He was appointed Director of the British Commonwealth Division of Israel's Foreign Ministry in 1948, and Assistant Director General of the Ministry in 1952. He was also a member of Israel's Delegation to the United Nations in 1948. He is married and has two children.
