

GOVERNMENT



OF CANADA

PRESS RELEASE

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

OTTAWA - CANADA

NO. 10

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1957.

THE DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT THE HON. GEORGE PRUDHAM, WHO HAS BEEN DESIGNATED SPECIAL ENVOY TO REPRESENT CANADA AT THE CEREMONIES IN ACCRA, WHICH ARE TO MARK THE FINAL STEP IN THE EVOLUTION OF THE COLONY OF THE GOLD COAST INTO THE INDEPENDENT COMMONWEALTH NATION OF GHANA, WILL DEPART FROM UPLANDS AIRPORT, OTTAWA, ON THURSDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 28.

MR PRUDHAM WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY HIS WIFE AND BY HIS DAUGHTER, MISS CATHERINE PRUDHAM. THE PARTY WILL ALSO INCLUDE OFFICIALS OF THE DEPARTMENTS OF MINES AND TECHNICAL SURVEYS AND OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS. THE RCAF NORTH STAR AIRCRAFT WILL LEAVE FROM NO. 412 SQUADRON HANGAR AT 8 AM ON THURSDAY AND WILL LAND AT GANDER, THE AZORES AND DAKAR IN FRENCH WEST AFRICA BEFORE ARRIVING IN ACCRA ON SATURDAY MARCH 2. THE RETURN TRIP WILL BE MADE VIA GIBRALTAR AND LONDON.

THE GOVERNOR AND GOVERNMENT IN ACCRA WILL RECEIVE MR PRUDHAM AND OTHER REPRESENTATIVES OF FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH GOVERNMENTS ON SUNDAY, MARCH 3. AT MIDNIGHT, MARCH 5, THE GOLD COAST OFFICIALLY WILL ATTAIN ITS INDEPENDENCE UNDER THE NAME OF GHANA AND THERE WILL BE A STATE OPENING OF PARLIAMENT THE FOLLOWING MORNING, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6.

MR PRUDHAM WILL REMAIN IN THE GOLD COAST (GHANA) UNTIL MARCH 12. WHILE THERE HE PLANS TO VISIT KUMASI, THE CAPITAL OF ASHANTI REGION; THE VOLTA RIVER SITE OF A PROJECTED POWER DEVELOPMENT SCHEME; LARGE BAUXITE MINES IN THE INTERIOR OF THE COUNTRY; AND A NEW ARTIFICIAL HARBOUR WHICH IS BEING CONSTRUCTED AT TEMA.