



PRESS RELEASE

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

OTTAWA - CANADA

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THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS ANNOUNCED TODAY THE APPOINTMENT OF MISS B. MARGARET MEAGHER AS CANADIAN AMBASSADOR TO ISRAEL. MISS MEAGHER, WHO HAS BEEN CHARGE D'AFFAIRES IN ISRAEL FOR THE PAST YEAR AND A HALF, IS AT PRESENT IN CANADA AND WILL RETURN SHORTLY TO TEL AVIV TO TAKE UP HER APPOINTMENT AS THE FIRST CANADIAN AMBASSADOR TO ISRAEL. SHE IS THE FIRST WOMAN TO BE APPOINTED AS A CANADIAN AMBASSADOR.

THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS ALSO ANNOUNCED THE RAISING OF THE STATUS OF THE CANADIAN MISSION IN THE LEBANON FROM LEGATION TO EMBASSY. THE APPOINTMENT OF AN AMBASSADOR WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

BLANCHE MARGARET MEAGHER -----

MISS MEAGHER WAS BORN IN HALIFAX IN 1911. SHE IS A GRADUATE OF DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY AND TAUGHT SCHOOL IN HALIFAX FROM 1932 UNTIL 1942 WHEN SHE JOINED THE DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS. SHE SERVED ABROAD IN WASHINGTON AND MEXICO CITY BETWEEN 1944 AND 1949. IN 1953, MISS MEAGHER WAS POSTED TO LONDON AS FIRST SECRETARY AND IN 1956 BECAME COUNSELLOR. MISS MEAGHER WAS APPOINTED CHARGE D'AFFAIRES IN TEL AVIV IN 1957, A POST WHICH SHE HAS BEEN OCCUPYING SINCE. MISS MEAGHER IS SINGLE.