

BIOGRAPHICAL PROFILE

Takeo FUKUDA

Prime Minister

Mr. Fukuda, 72, is a native of Gumma prefecture approximately 75 miles northwest of Tokyo. After graduation summa cum laude from the law faculty of the University of Tokyo in 1928 he joined the Ministry of Finance where he served until he entered politics in 1952. From 1930-33 he was assigned to the Finance Sections of the Japanese Embassies in London and Paris and was a member of Japanese delegations to International Conferences in Lausanne and Basel.

Mr. Fukuda was first elected to the House of Representatives in 1952 and has been re-elected 9 times. He held various senior positions in both the executive of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) and was first appointed to the Cabinet in 1960 when he was named Minister of Agriculture and Forestry. During the period 1965-1976 he served twice as Minister of Finance and once as Minister of Foreign Affairs in addition to holding the offices of Secretary-General of the LDP, Director-General of the Economic Planning Agency and Deputy Prime Minister at various times.

Mr. Fukuda became President of the LDP and Prime Minister in December 1976 following the resignation of former P.M. Miki. His term of office lasts until December 1978.

In the past 11 years, he has been extensively involved in Canada/Japan relations, having participated in four meetings of the Canada/Japan Ministerial Committee - in 1966 (Ottawa) and 1969 (Tokyo) as Finance Minister, in 1971 (Toronto) as Foreign Minister and Leader of the Japanese Delegation and in 1975 (Tokyo) as Deputy Prime Minister and Director-General of the Economic Planning Agency. In the latter capacity he also held private discussions with Prime Minister Trudeau when he visited Tokyo in October 1976.