



CANADA

PRESS RELEASE

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

OTTAWA - CANADA

NO. 72

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 1960.

NIGERIAN INDEPENDENCE CELEBRATIONS

THE DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT A DELEGATION HEADED BY THE MINISTER OF FINANCE, THE HON. DONALD M. FLEMING, WILL ATTEND THE NIGERIAN INDEPENDENCE CELEBRATIONS AT THE BEGINNING OF OCTOBER. MR. FLEMING WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY MR. E. W. T. GILL, ASSISTANT UNDER-SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS. THE DELEGATION WILL ALSO INCLUDE A GROUP OF OFFICIALS FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, THE CBC, AND MEMBERS OF THE PRESS.

ONE OF THE LARGEST AND MOST HEAVILY POPULATED COUNTRIES IN AFRICA, NIGERIA WILL ATTAIN INDEPENDENCE AND IS EXPECTED TO ASSUME THE STATUS OF A FULL MEMBER OF THE COMMONWEALTH ON OCTOBER 1. ON THE SAME DAY, THE CANADIAN COMMISSIONER IN LAGOS, MR. T. LEM. CARTER, WILL BECOME THE FIRST CANADIAN HIGH COMMISSIONER TO NIGERIA. MR. CARTER HAS BEEN IN LAGOS AS COMMISSIONER SINCE APRIL 1960.

AS ANNOUNCED PREVIOUSLY, THE DESTROYER ESCORT H.M.C.S. COLUMBIA OF THE FIFTH CANADIAN ESCORT SQUADRON, WILL ALSO TAKE PART IN THE INDEPENDENCE CEREMONIES AT LAGOS, WHERE IT WILL REPRESENT THE CANADIAN ARMED FORCES.

AFTER ATTENDING THE CEREMONIES IN NIGERIA, THE CANADIAN DELEGATION WILL MAKE A BRIEF VISIT TO GHANA WHERE THE MINISTER AND MEMBERS OF HIS SUITE WILL HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO EXCHANGE VIEWS WITH GHANAIAN LEADERS.

THE DELEGATION WILL RETURN TO OTTAWA ON OCTOBER 6, 1960.