PRESS RELEASE



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The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Howard Green, today announced that Mr. Dana Wilgress would be the guest speaker at the annual joint ceremonies to be held on May 15 under the auspices of the International Peace Arch Association.

The International Peace Arch stands on the Canadian-United States border between the State of Washington and the Province of British Columbia. It was opened in 1922 and it commemorates the more than one hundred years of peace which have existed between Canada and the United States.

Mr. Wilgress, a native of Vancouver, has had a long and distinguished career in the public service of Canada both at home and abroad.

He has served his country in the U.S.S.R., Roumania, Italy, the United Kingdom, Switzerland and France.

In Canada he has been Director of Commercial Intelligence,
Deputy Minister of Trade and Commerce and Under-Secretary of State for
External Affairs.

Mr. Wilgress is at present Chairman of the Canadian Section of the Permanent Joint Board on Defence. The Board was established by the governments of Canada and the United States following on the Ogdensburg Declaration, of August 18, 1940, by the President of the United States and the Prime Minister of Canada. It is an advisory body made up of two national sections. Its function is to keep under review defence arrangements affecting the northern half of the Western Hemisphere and to offer advice to the governments on defence in this area.