



PRESS RELEASE

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The Department of External Affairs announced today that on April 27 the Canadian Government presented notes to the Governments of Hungary and Roumania in connection with the disputes which have arisen over the implementation of the human rights clauses of the Treaties of Peace signed by Canada with those countries. It was decided to present these notes in view of the recent opinion of the International Court of Justice that a dispute which is subject to the provisions for settlement of disputes contained in the Treaties of Peace does exist, and that the Governments of Bulgaria, Hungary and Roumania are obligated to appoint their representatives to the treaty commissions. These notes drew to the attention of the Governments of Hungary and Roumania the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice and assumed, in the light of this opinion, that the Hungarian and Roumanian Governments would now nominate their representatives to the treaty commissions and would further be willing to enter into consultation with the Canadian Government with a view to the appointment of the third members of the commissions.

As Canada has no diplomatic representative in Hungary or Roumania, the Canadian notes were presented by the British Ministers in Budapest and Bucharest. Similar notes were presented by the Governments of the United Kingdom, the United States and Australia to the Governments of Hungary and Roumania, and of Bulgaria as well. The Canadian Government did not present a note to the Bulgarian Government as Canada was not a signatory to the Treaty of Peace with Bulgaria.

The text of the Canadian note to Hungary reads as follows:

"His Majesty's Legation present their compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Hungary and have the honour, on behalf of the Government of Canada, to direct the Ministry's attention to the Advisory Opinion on the interpretation of the Peace Treaties with Bulgaria, Hungary and Roumania which was given by the International Court of Justice on March 30, 1950.

"In the light of this Opinion, it is assumed that the Hungarian Government will now nominate its representative to the Peace Treaty Commission and will inform the Secretary General of the United Nations of the nomination in accordance with the United Nations General Assembly Resolution of October 22, 1949. It is further assumed that the Hungarian Government will also be willing to enter into consultation with the Canadian Government with a view to the appointment of a third member in accordance with Article 40 of the Treaty of Peace.

"As His Majesty's Legation informed the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in their note of January 5, 1950, on behalf of the Government of Canada, the Canadian Government has appointed Rt. Hon. Justice J. L. Ilesley, P.C. as its representative on the proposed commission."

The note to the Roumanian Government was similar to the note to the Hungarian Government.

On Monday, May 1, the Acting Permanent Delegate of Canada to the United Nations presented a note to the Acting Secretary General of the United Nations, transmitting copies of these two notes and requesting that copies be made available to all members of the United Nations and the International Court of Justice.