

NATO MINISTERIAL MEETING: The Department of External Affairs announced on October 19 that the Ministerial Meeting of the North Atlantic Council in Paris, on October 22, will consider the recommendations prepared on the basis of the decisions reached at the recent Nine-Power Conference in London regarding the association of Germany with the West and arrangements for a German defence contribution. This Meeting will be preceded by a meeting on October 21 of the nine Foreign Ministers who attended the London Conference.

Canada will be represented at both these meetings by Mr. L. B. Pearson, Secretary of State for External Affairs; he will be assisted by Mr. L. D. Wilgress, Permanent Representative of Canada to the North Atlantic Council, Dr. R. A. MacKay, Associate Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs; General Charles Foulkes, Chairman, Chiefs of Staff and Air Vice Marshal D. M. Smith, Chairman of the Canadian Joint Staff, London. Mr. J. G. H. Halstead of the Department of External Affairs and Mr. A. B. Hockin, of the Department of Finance, are accompanying the delegation.

The NATO Ministerial Meeting will consider reports on the arrangements for the admission of Germany to NATO, on the reinforcement of the NATO machinery, and on the association of other NATO countries with the Three-Power Declaration on Germany made at the London Conference.

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AMBASSADOR: The Department of External Affairs announced on October 20 that Mr. H. A. Scott, Canadian Ambassador to Cuba, has been appointed Canadian Ambassador to the Dominican Republic and the Republic of Haiti. Mr. Scott, who will continue as Ambassador to Cuba, is expected to present his Letters of Credence to the Presidents of the Dominican Republic and Haiti later this year.

The decision to exchange diplomatic missions with the Dominican Republic and Haiti was announced earlier this year; the missions will be opened about the middle of November. The Commercial Counsellor in the Dominican Republic, Mr. M. B. Bursey, and Mr. E. R. Bellemare, First Secretary of the Embassy in Haiti, will act as Chargés d'Affaires ad interim during Mr. Scott's absence from these two posts.

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OPERATION "REDUCE": Familiar sites of 25th Brigade elements in the Canadian-occupied sector of Korea have taken on a new appearance recently, as Operation "Reduce", the plan whereby two thirds of the force will be home by year's end, gets into full swing.

Teams of work parties have been busy over the 20-square-mile area dismantling scores of quonset, nisson and tropical shelters. They are being replaced with rows of tents, temporary accommodation until trans-Pacific shipping facilities become available and the move back to Canada begins.

RCN HALF WAY AROUND WORLD: The Royal Canadian Navy's operational and training activity has increased sharply during the month of October, Naval Headquarters has announced.

More than a score of Canadian warships, from coastal minesweepers to the 18,000-ton aircraft carrier Magnificent, are scattered half-way round the globe engaged in widespread training exercises and operational duties.

The RCN's largest warship, the aircraft carrier Magnificent, is in San Francisco on her way northward to Esquimalt. The 18,000-ton ship, with two air squadrons embarked, is on her first cruise to the west coast and is due in Esquimalt on October 25. She is carrying out flying operations enroute. The west coast frigate HMCS Stettler joined the Magnificent at Balboa.

The cruiser Quebec sailed from Halifax on Saturday for a two-month training cruise to Trinidad and South America waters.

Four ships of the First Canadian Escort Squadron left UK waters for the Mediterranean October 17 after participating in NATO exercise Morning Mist in the Northeast Atlantic.

The frigate Jonquiere and the coastal escorts Digby and Brockville are en route to the West Coast from Balboa to join the RCN's Pacific Command.

The destroyer Micmac is on a training cruise to southern United States ports, and Cuba. She is scheduled to return to Halifax on October 23.

The destroyers Huron, Iroquois and Cayuga are in the Far East on Korean patrol and the Haida is en route to Halifax via the Mediterranean after completing her second tour of duty in the Far East.

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GATT DELEGATION: The Department of External Affairs announced on October 18 that the Minister of Trade and Commerce, Mr. C. D. Howe, will be the Minister in Charge of the Canadian Delegation to the Ninth Session of the Contracting Parties to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade which will convene in Geneva on October 28, 1954.

It is expected that at this Session the Contracting Parties will review the operation of the Agreement and formulate more permanent rules for international trade.

In addition to Mr. Howe, other members of the delegation will be as follows:

Chairman of the Delegation: Mr. L. D. Wilgress.

Delegates: Mr. A. F. W. Plumtree, Department of Finance; Mr. L. E. Couillard, Department of External Affairs; Dr. A. E. Richards, Department of Agriculture; Mr. A. W. Brown, Department of National Revenue; Mr. B. G. Barrow, Department of Trade and Commerce; Mr. A. Annis, Department of Finance; Mr. M. Schwarzmann, Department of Trade and Commerce.

Secretary of Delegation: Mr. W. Lavoie, Department of Trade and Commerce.