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OPENING OF CANADIAN EMBASSY IN TUNIS

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Paul Martin, announced today that Canada plans to open an Embassy in Tunis, the capital of Tunisia, later this year. This will serve to strengthen the friendly relations which have existed between Canada and Tunisia since the latter achieved independence in 1956. Diplomatic relations between Canada and Tunisia were first established in 1957 with the dual accreditation to Ottawa of the Tunisian Ambassador to Washington. By a similar arrangement, the Canadian Ambassador to Switzerland was appointed concurrently Ambassador to Tunis in 1961.