

CHAPITRE PREMIER/CHAPTER I
CONDUITE DES RELATIONS EXTÉRIEURES
CONDUCT OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS

PREMIÈRE PARTIE/PART 1
REPRÉSENTATION DIPLOMATIQUE ET CONSULAIRE
DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR REPRESENTATION

SECTION A

CEYLAN
CEYLON

1. DEA/10968-40

*Le sous-ministre du Commerce
au sous-secrétaire d'État aux Affaires extérieures
Deputy Minister of Trade and Commerce
to Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs*

CONFIDENTIAL

Ottawa, June 6, 1950

Dear Mr. Heeney,

This Department is proposing to open an office in Colombo, Ceylon, before the end of the year. We have in the past directed our trade promotion activities in Ceylon from Bombay, but this has never been entirely satisfactory. Now that Ceylon has become a Dominion within the Commonwealth and is the only Dominion without a Canadian Government representative of any kind, trade direction from India is even less satisfactory.

While it is desirable to have an officer in Ceylon primarily concerned with trade promotion, his duties would not be so onerous that he could not take on other general responsibilities such as attending to passports, visas, etc., which you might wish to delegate to him, pending the establishment of a diplomatic mission in Colombo. It was my understanding, from our telephone conversation, that you were in agreement with this view and that it would be appropriate to accord some designation, other than Trade Commissioner, which would indicate the general character of this officer's functions. I should be glad to have your suggestions on this subject.

You may wish to advise the Government of Ceylon of our intentions, enquiring at the same time as to the privileges which they would be willing to accord such a representative.

The name of the proposed incumbent, together with his curriculum vitae, will be furnished later when the time approaches for the officer to actually take up his