

GOVERNMENT



OF CANADA

PRESS RELEASE

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

OTTAWA - CANADA

NO.36

NOT FOR RELEASE BEFORE
1 P.M., EDT, AUGUST 3, 1951

August 3, 1951

A meeting of the Council of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization is to take place in Ottawa beginning September 15. An announcement is being issued simultaneously by NATO on this meeting. The text of the NATO announcement is as follows:

"Two meetings of the North Atlantic Council will be held this autumn, it was announced today by Mr. Paul Van Zeeland, Belgian Foreign Minister and Chairman of the Council. Prior to the ordinary annual session, which is to convene in Rome at the end of October a meeting of the Council will be held in Ottawa on September 15 to consider such problems as may be ready for discussion or action by the Council at that time."

The Canadian Government is pleased that the capital of this country has been chosen as the site for the Council meeting, and will be glad to welcome the national delegations of the other eleven members of NATO to Canada. The importance of building up the collective defences and of promoting the closer association of the North Atlantic area hardly needs to be stressed. Canada has from the inception of the Treaty been very conscious of the need to carry this work forward effectively and speedily. The present meeting will serve to emphasize the determination of all the NATO countries to maintain the momentum already created in order that the strength of the North Atlantic area may shortly reach the point where it can hold at bay the forces of any potential aggressor.
