



PRESS RELEASE

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
OTTAWA - CANADA

NO. 61

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17, 1957

THE DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT THE CANADIAN DELEGATION TO THE TWELFTH SESSION OF GATT, WHICH OPENS IN GENEVA TODAY, WILL BE HEADED BY MR. L.D. WILGRESS, CANADIAN PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE TO THE NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION AND THE ORGANIZATION FOR EUROPEAN ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION IN PARIS.

THE TWELFTH SESSION WILL BE ONE OF THE REGULAR SESSIONS OF THE GATT WHICH ARE HELD ANNUALLY TO ADMINISTER THE AGREEMENT AND TO SEEK SOLUTIONS TO PARTICULAR TRADING DIFFICULTIES BETWEEN MEMBER COUNTRIES.

AT THEIR CURRENT SESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE GENERAL AGREEMENT, THE CONTRACTING PARTIES WILL ALSO BE CONSIDERING THE TREATY FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY - THE COMMON MARKET TREATY. THIS TREATY HAS BEEN SIGNED BY BELGIUM, FRANCE, THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, ITALY, LUXEMBOURG AND THE NETHERLANDS, AND IS EXPECTED TO BE RATIFIED BY ALL OF THE SIX COUNTRIES AND TO COME INTO EFFECT BY EARLY NEXT YEAR.

MR. C. M. ISBISTER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE, WILL BE VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE CANADIAN DELEGATION TO THE TWELFTH SESSION OF GATT, AND WILL BE REPLACED AS VICE-CHAIRMAN DURING THE SESSION BY MR. S.S. REISMAN OF THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE. OTHER OFFICIALS OF THE DEPARTMENTS OF TRADE AND COMMERCE, FINANCE, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, NATIONAL REVENUE AND AGRICULTURE ARE INCLUDED IN THE DELEGATION.