



PRESS RELEASE

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
OTTAWA - CANADA

NO. 42

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
FRIDAY, JUNE 22/56

A NON-IMMIGRANT VISA AGREEMENT HAS BEEN SIGNED IN OTTAWA BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, MR. L.B. PEARSON, AND THE AUSTRIAN MINISTER TO CANADA, DR. KURT WALDHEIM. THE AGREEMENT WILL COME INTO FORCE ON JULY 1, 1956.

UNDER THE TERMS OF THE AGREEMENT, CANADIANS WHO ARE IN POSSESSION OF VALID PASSPORTS MAY VISIT AUSTRIA UP TO A PERIOD OF THREE MONTHS WITHOUT PREVIOUSLY OBTAINING AN AUSTRIAN VISA. AUSTRIANS, WHO ARE IN POSSESSION OF VALID PASSPORTS, WILL BE ISSUED FREE VISAS VALID FOR AN UNLIMITED NUMBER OF ENTRIES INTO CANADA DURING A PERIOD OF TWELVE MONTHS FROM DATE OF ISSUE OF SUCH VISAS.

WITH THE SIGNING OF THIS AGREEMENT, CANADA HAS COMPLETED NON-IMMIGRANT VISA MODIFICATION AGREEMENTS WITH THE REPUBLIC OF AUSTRIA, BELGIUM, DENMARK, FRANCE, THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, ITALY, LICHENSTEIN, LUXEMBOURG, MONACO, THE NETHERLANDS, NORWAY, SWEDEN, AND SWITZERLAND WHEREBY CANADIAN CITIZENS ARE PERMITTED ENTRY WITHOUT VISAS. IN ADDITION, AGREEMENTS HAVE BEEN ENTERED INTO WITH FINLAND, ISRAEL AND JAPAN UNDER WHICH CANADIAN CITIZENS ARE GRANTED VISAS FREE OF CHARGE FOR ENTRY INTO THESE COUNTRIES.