



# PRESS RELEASE

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
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The Department of External Affairs released today the text of a message from the Prime Minister to the Prime Minister of Japan, Mr. Yoshida, on the occasion of the coming into force of the peace treaty with Japan. The text follows:

"I wish to express through you to the people of Japan the cordial good wishes of the Canadian people on this day which inaugurates a new period of friendly relations between our two countries.

"I wish to assure you that at this historic moment when Japan resumes her place as a free and sovereign member of the Community of Nations, we in Canada, putting behind us all thoughts of rancour which the tragic war may have engendered, look to the new Japan to be an effective bastion of peace and freedom in an area afflicted by Communist aggression and oppression. It is the deeply felt hope of the Canadian people that Japan will play an honourable and constructive part in helping to re-establish peace, security and friendly relations among the peoples of East Asia. As a prosperous and peaceful Far East is in the best interests of Canada, we expect to find ourselves co-operating with Japan in meeting a great number of common problems in the Pacific area.

"In the years before the war, Canada had set up in Japan one of its first diplomatic missions. Numbers of Canadians worked for many years in Japan in business, education and social welfare. Through these friendly associations many Canadians had come to feel a keen interest, not only in Japanese affairs, but in Japanese culture and history.

"For my part, I sincerely welcome the opportunity that now opens up for restoring friendly and mutually profitable relations between our two countries and for strengthening sympathetic understanding between them".

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