



# PRESS RELEASE

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
OTTAWA - CANADA

No. 2

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
MONDAY, JANUARY 4, 1954.

The Department of External Affairs to-day announced the following appointments effective immediately:

Mr. R. A. MacKay, Assistant Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs, to be Deputy Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs in succession to Mr. C. S. A. Ritchie who will accompany the Prime Minister on his forthcoming tour.

Mr. J. W. Halmes and Mr. Jean Chapdelaine, to be Assistant Under-Secretaries of State for External Affairs in succession to Mr. Jules Léger (who has been appointed Ambassador to Mexico) and to Mr. R. A. MacKay.

Robert Alexander MacKay, who was born at Woodville, Ont., on January 2, 1894, joined the Department in 1943 having previously been Professor of Government and Political Science at Dalhousie University. He served as a member of the Royal Commission on Dominion-Provincial Relations, 1937-40. He was President of the Canadian Political Science Association, 1943-44 and is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada. He served as Deputy Chairman of the Committee of officials on Union of Newfoundland with Canada, 1948-49, and since 1950 has served as External Affairs member of the Canada-United States Permanent Joint Board on Defence.

John Wendell Holmes, who was born in London, Ontario, on June 18, 1910, joined the Department in 1943. He has been acting as Assistant Under-Secretary since his return to the Department last October following a two-year assignment as civilian member of the Directing Staff of the National Defence College, Kingston. He has also served as Chargé d'Affaires in Moscow and as Acting Permanent Delegate of Canada to the United Nations, New York.

Jean Chapdelaine was born in Montreal on July 12, 1914, and joined the Department in 1937. He has been serving as Head of the European Division following his return from Germany where he was Counsellor at the Canadian Embassy. Previously he was Chargé d'Affaires in Dublin. He has also served at Washington and Paris, and attended a number of international conferences.