

GOVERNMENT



OF CANADA

PRESS RELEASE

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

OTTAWA - CANADA

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 8, 1956

NO. 74

THE DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT THE HONOURABLE PAUL MARTIN, MINISTER OF NATIONAL HEALTH AND WELFARE, WILL LEAVE ON SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 11, FOR AN EXTENSIVE TOUR OF SOUTH AND SOUTHEAST ASIA THAT WILL INCLUDE VISITS TO FOURTEEN COUNTRIES IN THE AREA. MR. MARTIN WILL REPRESENT CANADA ALSO AT THE MINISTERIAL SESSIONS OF THE EIGHTH COLOMBO PLAN CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING WHICH TAKE PLACE IN WELLINGTON, NEW ZEALAND DECEMBER 4 TO DECEMBER 8.

BEFORE AND AFTER THE COLOMBO PLAN CONFERENCE MR. MARTIN WILL BE VISITING THE PHILIPPINES, REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM, CAMBODIA, LAOS THAILAND, INDONESIA, AUSTRALIA, SINGAPORE, THE FEDERATION OF MALAYA, BURMA, CEYLON, INDIA AND PAKISTAN. HE WILL DISCUSS QUESTIONS OF MUTUAL INTEREST WITH GOVERNMENT LEADERS IN THESE COUNTRIES IN THE FIELDS PARTICULARLY OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND HEALTH AND WELFARE.

MR. MARTIN WILL BE THE FIRST CANADIAN CABINET MINISTER TO VISIT THE 150-ODD CANADIANS WHO ARE SERVING ON THE THREE INTERNATIONAL SUPERVISORY COMMISSIONS FOR VIETNAM, CAMBODIA AND LAOS. HE WILL REPRESENT THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA AT THE OLYMPIC GAMES IN MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA ON DECEMBER 1.

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NRS. MARTIN WILL ACCOMPANY HER HUSBAND ON THIS JOURNEY. IN ADDITION MR. GEORGE CARTY FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL HEALTH AND WELFARE AND MR. ARTHUR MENZIES FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS WILL ACCOMPANY MR. MARTIN FROM OTTAWA. THE LEADER OF THE DELEGATION OF CANADIAN OFFICIALS TO THE COLOMBO PLAN MEETING, MR. R.G. NIK CAVELL, WILL JOIN MR. MARTIN'S PARTY AFTER THE WELLINGTON MEETINGS FOR AN INSPECTION TRIP TO SEVERAL CAPITAL ASSISTANCE PROJECTS IN THE VARIOUS COLOMBO PLAN COUNTRIES. THE PREPARATORY WORK FOR THE COLOMBO PLAN CONFERENCE WILL BE DONE BY THE OFFICIALS WHO BEGIN THESE MEETINGS IN WELLINGTON NOVEMBER 19.

THE PARTY WILL RETURN TO OTTAWA ABOUT JANUARY 12, 1957.