



PRESS RELEASE

INFORMATION DIVISION
DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
OTTAWA - CANADA

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The Department of External Affairs released today the text of an exchange of notes between the Italian Ambassador in Canada and the Honourable L. B. Pearson, Secretary of State for External Affairs, on the attitude of Canada toward Italy's adhesion to the North Atlantic Treaty.

Text of the notes follows:

L'AMBASCIATORE D'ITALIA

Ottawa, March 18, 1949

Sir:

Under directions from Count Sforza, I have the honour to convey to you - and through your kind intermediary - to the Right Honourable the Prime Minister and to the Canadian Government, the feelings of deep appreciation of my Government for the friendly attitude taken by Canada towards Italy's adhesion to the Atlantic Pact.

In fulfilling my instructions, I would like to stress how much the Italian Nation senses that the new historic Treaty, which binds together also our two Countries in the common work of fostering peace, security and cooperation throughout the Western World, will afford also a unique opportunity for strengthening more and more the ties of friendship between Italy and Canada.

Accept, Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

(Signed) M. di Stefano

The Honourable L. B. Pearson,
Secretary of State for
External Affairs,
Ottawa.

OTTAWA, 30th March, 1949.

Excellency,

On behalf of the Prime Minister and the Canadian Government I have the honour to thank you for your Note of 18th March expressing the appreciation of the Italian Government for the attitude taken by Canada towards Italy's adhesion to the Atlantic Pact.

Italy's participation as a partner in the common defence of freedom and the democratic way of life is most welcome to the Canadian Government. It is the hope of my Government that the Treaty will, in addition to maintaining peace, promote social and economic cooperation among the participants, and thus, a warm and enduring friendship between Canada and Italy.

Accept, Excellency, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration.

(Signed) L. B. Pearson

His Excellency Mario Di Stefano,
Ambassador for Italy,
384 Laurier Avenue, East,
OTTAWA.