



PRESS RELEASE

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
OTTAWA - CANADA

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
FRIDAY, AUGUST 19, 1963.

THE DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS ANNOUNCED TODAY THE APPOINTMENTS OF THE FOLLOWING PERSONS AS MEMBERS OF THE CANADIAN NATIONAL GROUP IN THE PERMANENT COURT OF ARBITRATION.

1. THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE RITCHIE,
JUDGE OF THE SUPREME COURT OF CANADA,
OTTAWA, ONT.
2. ARTHUR HUGO RAY, ESQ., Q.C.,
BARRISTER AND SOLICITOR,
VANCOUVER, B.C.
3. PROFESSOR JACQUES-YVAN MORIN,
PROFESSOR OF INTERNATIONAL LAW,
UNIVERSITY OF MONTREAL,
MONTREAL, QUE.
4. MARCEL CADIEUX, ESQ.,
DEPUTY UNDER-SECRETARY OF STATE FOR
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS,
OTTAWA, ONT.

AS THE HONOURABLE HOWARD GREEN, SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, RECENTLY SAID IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS, CANADA HAS DECIDED TO SUPPORT ACTIVELY THE PERMANENT COURT OF ARBITRATION AND OUR AMBASSADOR IN THE HAGUE IS REPRESENTING CANADA ON ITS ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL. FORTY-FOUR OTHER COUNTRIES ARE MEMBERS OF THE COURT WHICH WAS ESTABLISHED IN 1899 FOR THE SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES BETWEEN STATES.

IN ADDITION TO THE DUTIES OF ARBITRATORS WHICH THE MEMBERS OF THE CANADIAN NATIONAL GROUP MAY BE CALLED UPON TO PERFORM, THEY ALSO PERFORM AN IMPORTANT SUPPLEMENTARY FUNCTION WHICH IS PROVIDED FOR IN THE STATUTE OF THE INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE. THIS FUNCTION IS TO MAKE NOMINATIONS FOR ELECTIONS TO THE INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE. UNDER THE STATUTE, THEY ARE AUTHORIZED TO NOMINATE FOUR CANDIDATES FOR ELECTION TO THE COURT WHOSE NAMES ARE COMMUNICATED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS. THE SECRETARY-GENERAL NOTIFIES MEMBER GOVERNMENTS OF THE UNITED NATIONS OF ALL NOMINATIONS PRIOR TO THE ACTUAL ELECTIONS WHICH ARE CONDUCTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND THE SECURITY COUNCIL. CANDIDATES WHO OBTAIN AN ABSOLUTE MAJORITY OF VOTES IN THE ASSEMBLY AND IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL ARE CONSIDERED AS ELECTED.

THE CANADIAN NATIONAL GROUP PLANS TO MEET IN OTTAWA LATER THIS MONTH TO NOMINATE CANDIDATES FOR THE INTERNATIONAL COURT ELECTIONS WHICH WILL TAKE PLACE DURING THE 15TH SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY THIS AUTUMN. THESE ELECTIONS ARE BEING HELD TO REPLACE FIVE RETIRING JUDGES AND TO FILL ONE VACANCY CAUSED BY THE DEATH OF SIR HERSH LAUTERPACHT OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

THE STATUTE OF THE COURT PROVIDES THAT THE COURT SHALL CONSIST OF FIFTEEN MEMBERS, NO TWO OF WHOM MAY BE NATIONALS OF THE SAME STATE. NO CANADIAN IS A MEMBER OF THE COURT AT THE PRESENT TIME. THERE WAS A CANADIAN ON THE COURT IN THE PERSON OF MR. JUSTICE JOHN E. READ. HIS TERM OF OFFICE EXPIRED IN 1958.

MEMBERS OF THE CANADIAN NATIONAL GROUP HOLD OFFICE FOR

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SIX YEARS AND SERVE WITHOUT HONORARIUM. THE PRESENT GROUP IS DRAWN FROM THE VARIOUS BRANCHES OF THE LEGAL PROFESSION IN CANADA, THE BENCH AND PRACTISING BAR, THE LAW FACULTIES, AND GOVERNMENT SERVICES.