

GOVERNMENT



OF CANADA

# PRESS RELEASE

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
OTTAWA - CANADA

NO 19

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
THURSDAY, APRIL 2, 1959

THE DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS TODAY ANNOUNCED THE APPOINTMENT OF MR. EVAN W.T. GILL, THE PRESENT HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR CANADA TO GHANA, AS AN ASSISTANT UNDER-SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS TO REPLACE MR. W.D. MATTHEWS WHO DIED RECENTLY.

IT IS EXPECTED THAT MR. GILL WILL TAKE UP HIS NEW DUTIES SOME TIME IN MAY. THE APPOINTMENT OF HIS SUCCESSOR IN ACCRA WILL BE ANNOUNCED LATER.

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EVAN WILLIAM THISTLE GILL

MR. GILL WAS BORN IN OTTAWA ON NOVEMBER 2, 1902. HE GRADUATED FROM THE ROYAL MILITARY COLLEGE, KINGSTON, IN 1923 AND RECEIVED A B. SC. DEGREE FROM MCGILL UNIVERSITY IN 1925. BEFORE THE WAR HE SERVED WITH INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERCIAL ORGANIZATIONS. HE JOINED THE CANADIAN ARMY IN 1940 AND ROSE TO THE RANK OF LT.-COLONEL IN 1944. FROM 1944 TO 1946, MR. GILL SERVED AS SECRETARY TO THE CHIEFS OF STAFF COMMITTEE AND AS A MEMBER OF THE CABINET SECRETARIAT. ON DEMOBILIZATION HE WAS APPOINTED TO THE CIVILIAN STAFF OF THE PRIVY COUNCIL OFFICE AND SERVED AS SECRETARY TO THE CABINET DEFENCE COMMITTEE AND OTHER CABINET COMMITTEES. MR. GILL JOINED THE DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS IN 1950. HE SERVED AS COUNSELLOR AT CANADA HOUSE, LONDON, DURING 1950-51 AND BECAME HEAD OF THE PERSONNEL DIVISION IN THE DEPARTMENT IN NOVEMBER, 1951. HE WAS APPOINTED HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR CANADA TO THE UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA IN JULY, 1954. IN MARCH, 1957 HE WAS APPOINTED CANADA'S FIRST HIGH COMMISSIONER TO GHANA. MR. GILL IS MARRIED AND HAS THREE CHILDREN.