

GOVERNMENT



OF CANADA

PRESS RELEASE

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

OTTAWA - CANADA

FOR RELEASE AT 12 NOON, EDT.,
WEDNESDAY, MAY 18, 1955.

No. 35

The Departments of External Affairs and National Defence announced today that the Permanent Representatives to the North Atlantic Council while visiting Montreal on May 22nd and 23rd will have an opportunity of seeing an important part of the defences of this region of the North Atlantic area, including Air Defence Command at St. Hubert, Quebec.

The Permanent Representatives arrived in the United States last Saturday for a tour of the more important defence commands and installations in the Canada-U.S. region of the North Atlantic Treaty area. They have already visited the various European commands and this is the first occasion of a similar visit to North America.

The party will arrive at Air Defence Command Headquarters, St. Hubert, Quebec, from New York at 11:30 EDT Sunday morning, May 22nd, for a two-day stay. Their tour of the Air Defence Command will include a visit to a radar station and a visit to Canadair. They will leave the International Terminal, Dorval, for Paris, Monday, May 23 at 5:30 p.m.

(Note to Editors:

This is being released simultaneously in Montreal and Ottawa. Background material on the North Atlantic Council, a list of the members coming to Montreal, and biographies, are attached.)

Press enquiries should be directed to:

F/L Harold Astrof,
PRO, Air Defence Command,
RCAF,
St. Hubert, Quebec.

Phone No. Orchard 3-3711.

Mr. R. W. A. Dunn,
Press Officer,
Department of External Affairs,
Ottawa. Phone: 2-8211, Ext. 5253.
May 20-21-22:
Windsor Hotel, Montreal.
Phone No. UNIVERSITY 6-9611.

NATO Council Party (in order of precedence)

- H.E. Jonkheer A.W.L. Tjarda van Starckenborgh Stacheuwer, Permanent Representative of The Netherlands.
- H.E. André de Staercke, Permanent Representative of Belgium.
- H.E. Fatin R. Zorlu, Permanent Representative of Turkey.
- Mr. Nicolas Hommel, Permanent Representative of Luxembourg.
- H.E. Georges Exintaris, Permanent Representative of Greece.
- H.E. L. D. Wilgress, Permanent Representative of Canada.
- H.E. Sir Christopher Steel, K.C.M.G., M.V.O., Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom.
- H.E. A. Vestbirk, Permanent Representative of Denmark.
- Mr. Hans G. Andersen, Permanent Representative of Iceland.
- H.E. Adolfo Alessandrini, Permanent Representative of Italy.
- H.E. Alexandre Parodi, Permanent Representative of France.
- H.E. George W. Perkins, Permanent Representative of the United States of America.
- H.E. Dr. Hasso Von Etzdorf, Deputy Representative of the Federal German Republic.
- Mr. Arne Gunneng, Acting Permanent Representative of Norway.
- Dr. José Calvet de Magalhaes, Deputy Permanent Representative of Portugal.

Visit of the North Atlantic Council to Montreal, May 22 and 23, 1955.

ITINERARY

Sunday, May 22

- 11:30 a.m. - Arrive St. Hubert. Ceremonial reception with Air Force Guard of Honour, band and squadrons. Tour of the station and briefings on North American defense.
- 1:40 p.m. - Luncheon.
- 2:40 p.m. - Leave by car for Alpine Inn, Ste. Marguerite, P.Q.
- 5:10 p.m. - Arrive at Alpine Inn
- 8:00 p.m. - Dinner, Chantecler, Ste. Adele, given by the Canadian Government with Mr. L. B. Pearson, Secretary of State for External Affairs, as host.

Monday, May 23

- 10:00 a.m. - Visit a radar station.
- 11:30 a.m. - Leave
- 1:00 p.m. - Arrive Canadair for luncheon and tour of plant.
- 4:15 p.m. - Leave
- 4:30 p.m. - Arrive International Terminal, Dorval.
- 4:35 p.m. - Meeting in special room at terminal with members of press, radio and television.
- 5:30 p.m. - Depart for Paris.

The North Atlantic Council

The North Atlantic Council is the principal agency through which the governments achieve the purposes of the North Atlantic Treaty. The direct responsibility to further the aims of the Treaty rests with the national governments, but it is the business of the Council to initiate, stimulate and co-ordinate the work of the organization and to ensure that the experience of the respective members is pooled.

The North Atlantic Council is organized to operate continuously. In addition to the periodic Ministerial meetings - a series of which has just been concluded - the terms of reference of the Council require that each government should appoint a Permanent Representative to represent his government on the Council when Ministers are not present "in order to enable the Council to function in permanent session with effective powers of decision". Canada's Permanent Representative is Mr. L. D. Wilgress.

The Council has four principal functions.

- (1) It provides a forum where all questions of policy directly and indirectly affecting NATO can be discussed.
- (2) The Council has continuing administrative and financial responsibilities. It controls the budgets of both the military and civilian agencies of NATO. Through it governments agree upon the proportionate expenditure which should be borne by each member country, not only to finance NATO headquarters, but also for common infrastructure.
- (3) The Council has considerable responsibility towards the military authorities of NATO. Thus, it is responsible for giving political guidance to the military authorities. Also, through the Council, governments provide the military authorities, so far as economic capabilities permit, with the men, equipment and the infrastructure which they require for the discharge of their responsibilities to defend the NATO area. This is done through the medium of the Annual Review.
- (4) The Council encourages proper civil defence arrangements and emergency plans in the non-military fields, such as the allocation of food, of raw materials, of shipping, and of inland transport.

- - - - -

BELGIUM

M. ANDRE MARIE DE STAERCKE, Permanent Representative at the North Atlantic Council.

Born at Ghent in 1913, M. de Staercke studied Law at Namur, Louvain and Paris.

In 1939, he was Conseiller d'Administration, and in 1943, Chef de Cabinet of the Prime Minister and Secretary of the Council of Ministers. From 1945 to 1950, he was Secretary of the Prince Regent.

M. de Staercke led the Belgian Delegation at the Paris Conference on the European Army. He was also the Belgian Representative at the North Atlantic Council Deputies in London.

Permanent Representative of Belgium at the North Atlantic Council with the rank of Minister since April 1952.

Decorations:

Officier de l'Ordre de Léopold
Croix des Evadés
Comm. de la Legion d'Honneur
Comm. de l'Ordre du Christ et de l'Ordre
du Chene
Medal of Freedom (USA) with Bronze Palm.

.....

CANADA

MR. LEOLYN DANA WILGRESS, Permanent Representative at the North Atlantic Council.

Mr. Wilgress was born in Vancouver, British Columbia, on October 20th, 1892, and studied at Yokohama, Japan, and later at the University School, Victoria, B.C.

1916-1918, he was Trade Commissioner at Omsk, and later at Vladivostok. He occupied posts in Rumania, Italy and England, and then was called on to investigate trade opportunities with the Soviet Union. He was subsequently Trade Commissioner in Hamburg and Athens, and from 1932 to 1940, Director of Commercial Intelligence Service, Ottawa.

From 1940 to 1942, he was Deputy Minister of Trade and Commerce. From 1942 to 1947, he was Canada's Representative to the Soviet Union, first as Minister and later with the rank of Ambassador and, subsequently, he became Minister in Switzerland and High Commissioner of Canada in the United Kingdom.

After having served as North Atlantic Council Deputy in London, Mr. Wilgress was appointed Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs, in June 1952.

In August 1953, he became Permanent Representative of Canada at the North Atlantic Council.

- - - - -

DENMARK

MR. ANTHON VESTBIRK, Permanent Representative at the
North Atlantic Council

Mr. Anthon Vestbirk was born March 30th, 1894. In 1920, he took a degree of political economy at the University of Copenhagen.

Mr. Vestbirk was employed with the Danish Customs Authorities from 1914 to 1921, and from 1920 was Secretary, Department of Customs and Excise.

He entered the Danish Foreign Service in 1921. From 1925 to 1931, he was Vice-Consul in London, and from 1931 to 1934, Assistant Head of Section, Ministry for Foreign Affairs.

In 1934, he became Head of Section in the Economic Political Division, Ministry for Foreign Affairs, and conducted a number of trade negotiations. In 1945, he was appointed Danish Consul-General in London and Commercial Counsellor to the Danish Embassy in London, with the rank of Minister, from 1950.

On January 1st, 1954, he was appointed Permanent Representative for Denmark at the North Atlantic Council, with the rank of Ambassador. He was also Head of the Danish Permanent Delegation to the Organization for European Economic Co-operation, and Danish Representative to the High Authority of the European Coal and Steel Community.

- - - - -

FRANCE

M. ALEXANDRE PARODI, Permanent Representative to the North Atlantic Council.

Born June 1st, 1901, M. Parodi holds degrees in Arts and Law and a diploma from the Ecole des Sciences Politiques.

1926-1929, Auditor (Auditeur) at the Conseil d'Etat.

1929-1938, Assistant Secretary General of the National Economic Council.

1939, Director General of Labour at the Ministry of Labour.

March 1944 - August 1944, General Delegate of the French Provisional Government for Occupied France.

September 1944 - November 1945, Minister of Labour and Social Security.

January, 1946, appointed Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary and Delegate of the French Provisional Government on the Allied Consultative Council for Italy, in Rome.

April 1946, Permanent Head of the French Delegation to the United Nations.

1949-1954, Secretary General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

1954, Permanent Representative of France to the North Atlantic Council.

M. Parodi is married and has two children.

Decorations:

Compagnon de la Libération
Commandeur de la Légion d'Honneur

- - - - -

GERMANY *

DR. HASSO VON ETZDORF, Deputy Representative at the
North Atlantic Council

Dr. Hasso Von Etdorf, a Doctor of Laws, was born at Elbing on March 2, 1900. He entered the German Foreign Service in 1928 and has served in Tokyo, Rome and Palermo. From 1950 to 1953, Dr. Von Etdorf was attached to the Foreign Office in Bonn. For the past two years, he has been the deputy head of the German delegation in Paris to the committee working toward the realization of the plan for the European Defence Community, now the Western European Union.

With the entry of his country into the North Atlantic Treaty Organization in May 1955, Dr. Von Etdorf became the German Deputy Representative at the North Atlantic Council.

- - - - -

GREECE

M. GEORGES A EXINTARIS, Minister of State, Permanent Representative at the North Atlantic Council.

Born in 1887, at Malghara (Eastern Thrace). Studied at the University of Paris.

Doctor of Law, graduate of the Ecole Libre des Sciences Politiques de Paris.

1915, entered the Diplomatic Service.

1920, resigned in order to take part in the General Elections and was elected Deputy for Gallipoli.

1924, was appointed Greek Representative, with the rank of Minister Plenipotentiary, to the Joint Commission on the Exchange of Greek and Turkish Populations. In this capacity, concluded the economic agreements with Turkey (1925).

From 1926 to 1928, member of the Chamber of Deputies.

1928, appointed Minister of Agriculture.

1929, appointed Greek Representative, with the rank of Minister Plenipotentiary, to the Joint Commission on Greek-Bulgarian Resettlement.

In 1933, occupied the post of Governor-General of Macedonia while remaining a member of the Cabinet.

From 1933 to 1936, was elected to the Chamber of Deputies three times in succession.

In 1943, during the occupation of Greece, escaped abroad and went to London on special mission.

From 1944 to 1946, was Greek Delegate, with the rank of Ambassador, to the Allied Consultative Council in Rome.

From 1950 to 1951, Greek Ambassador to Rome.

In 1952, was elected Deputy for Athens and appointed to the Cabinet as Minister of State.

Appointed Permanent Representative of Greece at the North Atlantic Council in 1952.

ICELAND

M. HANS G. ANDERSEN, Permanent Representative at the North Atlantic Council.

Born May 12th, 1919. LL.B. 1941 (University of Iceland). LL.M. 1945 (Harvard Law School). 1946-1954, Legal Adviser of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs. 1949-1954, Chief of NATO Division of the Ministry. 1946-1954, Lecturer on Private and Public International Law, University of Iceland Law School. Member of Board of Editors of Nørdisk Tidsskrift For International Ret (Scandinavian Journal of International Law).

1949-1953, Delegate of Iceland to the United Nations General Assembly. Representative of Iceland at various other international conferences.

1952-1953, Chairman of the Icelandic Defence Committee, representing the Government for defence matters in Iceland.

Permanent Representative of Iceland at the North Atlantic Council since March 1st, 1954.

- - - - -

ITALY

AMBASSADOR ADOLFO ALESSANDRINI, Permanent Representative
of Italy on the North Atlantic Council.

Signor Alessandrini was born at Suzzara (Mantua) on May 30th, 1902. Doctor of Law. He passed into the diplomatic service by competitive examination in 1925. Secretary of Legation, Cairo, 1926; Consul at Klagenfurt, 1931; Secretary of Legation, Belgrade, 1932; Office of the Foreign Minister, Rome, 1935; Counsellor of Embassy, Peking, 1937; Counsellor of Embassy, Washington, 1940; Counsellor, Berne, 1942; Head of the Liaison Office with the Allied Authorities, 1945; Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary, Beirut, 1947; Delegate to the General Assembly of the United Nations, 1949; Ambassador, Athens, 1950. Appointed to NATO in April, 1954.

Ambassador Alessandrini is married and has two children.

- - - - -

LUXEMBOURG

M. NICOLAS HOMMEL, Permanent Representative at the North Atlantic Council.

Born, 1915. Studied at Louvain and Paris, and was from 1939 to 1941 member of the Luxembourg Bar.

Removed by the occupying Power, from 1941 to 1945, he was a political deportee in a labour camp in Germany.

1945-1946, member of the managing board of the Office of Mutual Aid in Luxembourg.

In 1946, M. Hommel entered the Diplomatic Service.

He was successively Luxembourg's assistant delegate to the Inter-Allied Reparations Agency, Permanent Representative at the OEEC, and member of the Luxembourg delegation at the Conference on the Schuman Plan.

In May, 1951, he was also appointed head of the Luxembourg delegation at the Conference on the EDC, and since November, 1953, he has been the Luxembourg Permanent Representative at the North Atlantic Council.

M. Hommel holds the rank of Counsellor of Legation.

- - - - -

NETHERLANDS

JONKHEER A.W.L. TJARDA VAN STARKENBORG STACHOUWER,
Permanent Representative at the North Atlantic Council

Born in 1888. Educated at Groningen University, where he took a degree in Law. He entered the Foreign Service in 1915 and served at Washington, Paris and Berlin.

From 1925 to 1931, Governor of the Province of Groningen.

In 1933, Minister in Brussels.

From 1936 to 1945, Governor-General of the Netherlands East Indies, and from 1941 to 1945, he was interned in a series of Japanese camps and prisons.

From 1945 to 1948, he was Netherlands Ambassador in Paris.

M. van Starckenborg was head of the Netherlands Delegation to the North Atlantic Council Deputies in London.

Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of the Netherlands at the North Atlantic Council, with the rank of Ambassador, since April 1952.

NORWAY

M. ARNE GUNNENG, Acting Permanent Representative to the North Atlantic Council.

Born 1st December, 1914, in Oslo. He is a D.LL, Oslo University, 1937. Assistant District Judge 1938 - 1940. Served in the Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Supply and Reconstruction 1940 - 1945. First Secretary Norwegian Embassy Washington, 1945. Chief of Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Oslo, 1948. Counsellor of Embassy, Chargé d'Affaires a.i. Warsaw, 1950. Counsellor of Embassy Stockholm, 1951. Deputy Permanent Representative to the North Atlantic Council since 1952. Acting Permanent Representative to the North Atlantic Council 1955. (Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary (designate) Ottawa 1955).

PORTUGAL

MR. JOSE CALVET DE MAGALHAES, Deputy Permanent
Representative at the
North Atlantic Council

Mr. José Calvet de Magalhaes was born on
October 2nd 1915; Bachelor of Law from the University
of Lisbon; admitted to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs
as Attaché in 1941.

As a career diplomat, Mr. Calvet has occupied
several posts as Secretary of the Consulate General in
New York, Secretary of the Embassy in Washington, Consul
in Cantao, Secretary of the Embassy in Paris.

In 1952, he was appointed to the Portuguese
Permanent Delegation to the North Atlantic Council.

TURKEY

M. FATIN RUSTU ZORLU, Permanent Representative to the North Atlantic Council, with the rank of Ambassador

Born 1910. Educated at the Galata-Saray College and Geneva University. Entered the Turkish Foreign Service in 1932 and served successively in Berne, Paris, Moscow and Beirut.

In 1947 and 1948 Turkish delegate to the United Nations Trade Conference at Havana and in 1949 to the European Economic Recovery Conference in Paris.

Before taking up his post at the North Atlantic Council, M. Zorlu was Deputy Secretary General for Economic Affairs and Secretary General of the Organization for International Economic Co-operation at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Ankara.

On April 2nd, 1954, M. Zorlu was elected to the Turkish parliament and appointed Deputy Prime Minister, while retaining his appointment as Permanent Representative to the North Atlantic Council.

M. Zorlu is married and has one daughter.

UNITED KINGDOM

SIR CHRISTOPHER STEEL, KCMG, MVO, Permanent Representative
at the North Atlantic Council

Born 1903, educated at Wellington and at Hertford College, Oxford.

Sir Christopher Steel entered the Diplomatic Service in 1927, and after two years in the Foreign Office served successively at Rio de Janeiro, Paris (1931-1934) and The Hague.

In 1936, he was sent to Berlin, and later to Stockholm, then returned to the Foreign Office, before being sent to Cairo in 1942.

In 1944, he served at Middle East and Mediterranean HQs for a short time before becoming British Political Officer at SHAEF in January 1945. When the Supreme Headquarters was disbanded, he was appointed Head of the Political Division of the British Element of the Allied Control Commission for Germany in Berlin, and served continuously in Germany until 1950, first as Political Adviser, and subsequently as United Kingdom Deputy High Commissioner.

After spending almost three years as Minister at the British Embassy in Washington, Sir Christopher Steel became United Kingdom Permanent Representative at the North Atlantic Council, on August 18th, 1953.

UNITED STATES

Mr. GEORGE WALBRIDGE PERKINS, Permanent Representative
to the North Atlantic Council

Born at Riverdale-on-Hudson, New York, 2nd May, 1895. Student at Princeton and Columbia (MA) Universities. Formerly Executive Vice-President and Director of Merck & Company, Inc., he was also a director of other corporations. He served in Europe as a Lieutenant, Field Artillery, in World War I. In World War II, he served in both Europe and the Pacific (Colonel, Chemical Warfare Service). From July, 1948, to August, 1949, he was Chief of the Industries Division of the Economic Cooperation Administration (ECA) in Paris. From 1949 to 1953, he was Assistant Secretary of State for European Affairs.

Appointed US Permanent Representative to the North Atlantic Council by President Eisenhower on 1st March, 1955.