

PRESS RELEASE

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS OTTAWA - CANADA

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE TUESDAY, JUNE 6, 1961.

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Howard Green, announced today that three Cabinet Ministers of the Government of Sierra Leone, which gained its independence on April 27 of this year, will be visiting Ottawa from June 7 until June 9. The visitors are the Honourable M. S. Mustapha, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, the Honourable Albert M. Margai, Minister of Natural Resources, and the Honourable R. G. O. King, Minister of State for Development.

The distinguished visitors have come to Canada to discuss with Cabinet Ministers and senior Government officials various phases of economic assistance, including extension courses in agriculture, the establishment of banks and financial questions generally.

During their stay in Ottawa, the Ministers will call on the Prime Minister, the Minister of Finance, and the Minister of Northern Affairs and National Resources, as well as on the Eank of Canada and the External Aid Office.

While in Ottawa they will be guests of honour at a luncheon sponsored by the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association and at a Government dinner at the Rideau Club, with the Honourable Donald Fleming as host.

Details of the programme arranged for the visiting Ministers, as well as biographical data, are attached.

PROGRAMME FOR VISIT OF THREE SIERRA LEONE MINISTERS June 7-9

Depart Chicago 2:40 p.m. Wednesday June 7 TCA flight 306. Arrive Ottawa 7:00 p.m. 9:45 a.m. Mr. L. Rasminsky, Bank of Thursday June 8 Canada. Hom. Walter Dinsdale, 10:30 a.m. Minister of Northern Affairs. 11:00 a.m. Opening of Parliament. 12:00 Hon. Donald Fleming, Minister of Finance. Lunch - Commonwealth 1:00 p.m. Parliamentary Association. 4:00 p.m. Tea at Government House. 7:30 p.m. Government Dinner 9:00 a.m. Rt. Hon. John G. Diefenbaker, Friday June 9 Prime Minister. Press Conference - (Large 9:45 a.m. Conference Room, East Block). 11:00 a.m. External Aid Office 1:15 p.m. Lunch with External Aid Office. 2:30 p.m. Carleton University. Depart Ottawa TCA flight No. 368. Arrive New York 5:00 p.m. 8:20 p.m.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

Hon. Muhammad Sanusi MUSTAPHA - born Freetown 1903, son of a trader Education: Prince of Wales School Corporal in the Sierra Leone Defence Corps during the Second World War Studied in Lincoln's Inn, London, 1947, and engaged in business including rice milling and produce buying National Treasurer of the Sierra Leone Peoples Party Elected as Member of Parliament for Freetown East 1951 Minister of Works and Transport Later Minister of Natural Resources and in 1958 appointed Finance Minister, and Deputy Prime Minister.

Hon. Albert MARGAI - born 1910
Younger brother of the Prime Minister
After a number of years in the Medical Department, he went to England to study law
Called to the Bar in 1947
Elected Member from Moyamba in the Protectorate
Assembly
1952 Minister of Local Government, Education
and Welfare
1957 left the Sierra Leone Peoples Party to
found the Peoples National Party
Joined the United Front coalition 1960 and
appointed Minister of Natural Resources

Hon. Robert Granville Ojumeri KING - born at Campbell Town

For some years a teacher and later headmaster in elementary schools

Elected to the House Assembly for British Koya in 1957 and served as Parliamentary Secretary later appointed to present position as Minister of State with special responsibilities for development