



PRESS RELEASE

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
OTTAWA - CANADA

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 1960

A CANADIAN RADIATION TECHNICIAN JOHN D. MARR WILL ARRIVE IN ACCRA ON FEBRUARY 3, 1960 TO ASSIST IN SETTING UP AIR SAMPLING STATIONS TO BE CONSTRUCTED UNDER A RADIATION MONITORING PROGRAMME BEING ESTABLISHED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF GHANA.

BEFORE PROCEEDING OVERSEAS, MR. MARR, AN EMPLOYEE OF ATOMIC ENERGY OF CANADA LTD., HAS BEEN CONSULTING WITH SENIOR SCIENTIFIC OFFICIALS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL HEALTH & WELFARE'S RADIATION PROTECTION DIVISION, WHICH IS CONCERNED WITH THE CANADIAN-FALL-OUT SAMPLING PROGRAMME FOR THE MEASUREMENT OF RADIOACTIVITY IN AIR, RAINFALL, SOIL AND SELECTED FOODS. LAST AUTUMN TWO GHANAIAN OFFICIALS VISITED OTTAWA AND CHALK RIVER TO INSPECT CANADIAN EQUIPMENT AND INSTALLATIONS FOR THE DETECTION OF RADIO-ACTIVITY AND TO HOLD DISCUSSIONS WITH THOSE CONCERNED WITH THE CANADIAN OPERATION.

THE CANADIAN GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN ACTIVE IN EFFORTS TO IMPROVE MAN'S KNOWLEDGE OF THE PHENOMENON OF RADIATION. ON NOVEMBER 17, 1959 THE HONOURABLE HOWARD GREEN, SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, INTRODUCED A RESOLUTION IN THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY CALLING UPON THE UNITED NATIONS SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE TO EXAMINE THE POSSIBILITY OF MAKING MORE EFFECTIVE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE COLLECTION AND

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ANALYSIS BY MEMBER STATES OF RADIATION SAMPLES OF AIR, WATER, SOIL AND FOOD ON THE BASIS OF UNIFORM STANDARDS. MEMBER STATES HAVING FACILITIES FOR LABORATORY ANALYSIS WERE INVITED TO ASSIST IN THIS OPERATION.

CANADA FLEDGED SUPPORT TO A CO-OPERATIVE PROGRAMME, ORGANIZED UNDER THE DIRECTION OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE, WHEREBY THE SECRETARIAT WOULD BE NOTIFIED OF THE AVAILABILITY OF RADIATION SAMPLES BY MEMBER STATES WILLING TO COLLECT THEM AND OF THE AVAILABILITY OF FACILITIES FOR ANALYSIS IN MEMBER STATES WILLING AND ABLE TO RECEIVE SUCH SAMPLES FROM OTHERS. CANADA OFFERED TO RECEIVE AND ANALYSE ON A REGULAR BASIS SAMPLES FROM 20 TO 25 FOREIGN SAMPLING STATIONS.