

PRESS RELEASE



COMMUNIQUÉ

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

CANADA

MINISTÈRE DES AFFAIRES EXTÉRIEURES

No. 48

FOR RELEASE AT 12:00 NOON E.D.T.
THURSDAY, AUGUST 5, 1965.

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Paul Martin, today announced the following appointments to Canadian Consulates General in the United States:

Mr. Robert Guy Carington Smith, at present Minister (Commercial) at the Canadian Embassy in Tokyo, as Consul General in New York succeeding Mr. H. A. Scott, who is retiring.

Mr. J. Gontran Bisson, at present Consul General in New Orleans, as Consul General in Los Angeles, succeeding Mr. J. C. Britton, who replaces Mr. R.G.C. Smith as Minister (Commercial) in Tokyo.

Mr. Pierre Asselin, at present Head of the Administrative Services Division of the Department of External Affairs in Ottawa as Consul General in San Francisco, succeeding Mr. O. E. Ault, who is retiring.

Mr. Robertson Gass MacNeill, at present Chairman of the Civil Service Commission, as Canadian Consul General in New Orleans as previously announced succeeding Mr. J. G. Bisson.

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Mr. Smith, who was born in Quebec City on January 5, 1908, was educated at the Royal Military College in Kingston and at McGill University. Mr. Smith joined the Department of Trade and Commerce in 1930, and served with Canadian trade missions in Buenos Aires and New York, before enlisting in the Royal ...2

Canadian Artillery in 1940. In 1946 he returned to the Trade Commissioner Service, serving in Havana from 1946 to 1948 and in Rome from 1948 to 1950. He was seconded to the Department of Defence Production as United Kingdom Representative in London in 1951-52, and later represented this Department in Paris as a member of the Canadian Delegation to the North Atlantic Council and the Organization for European Economic Cooperation. Previous to his appointment in 1958 as Commissioner for Canada in Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, Mr. Smith served as Commercial Counsellor in Paris and as Minister (Commercial) in Washington. He has been a Minister (Commercial) in Tokyo since 1963.

Mr. Smith is married, with three daughters.

Mr. Bissen, was born at Black Lake, Quebec, on June 22, 1914, studied at McGill University, and obtained his Chartered Accountant's Degree in 1938. After joining the Canadian Army in 1939 he served in the United Kingdom and Northwestern Europe until 1945. He was Chairman and Chief Commissioner of the Unemployment Insurance Commission from 1946 to 1960. He became a member of the Department of External Affairs in 1960, and has served as Consul General in New Orleans since that time.

Mr. Bissen is married, and has one child.

Mr. Britton was born in Toronto, on April 24, 1903 and graduated from Queen's University in 1930 with the degree of Bachelor of Commerce. Mr. Britton joined the Department of Trade and Commerce in 1930 and served in Port of-Spain, Johannesburg and Los Angeles before being seconded to the Department of External Affairs in 1943 as Official Secretary to the Canadian High

Commissioner in Newfoundland. In 1944 he was appointed to St. John's, Newfoundland as Trade Commissioner and served in Tokyo, Sydney and The Hague before being appointed Consul General in Los Angeles.

Mr. Britton is married.

Mr. Asselin, born in Montreal on January 14, 1910, received his Master of Commerce Degree from the University of Montreal in 1934. He was in newspaper management from 1934-36 before becoming Secretary to the Minister of Lands and Forests in Quebec. From 1937 to 1948 he was Secretary of the Quebec Department of Lands and Forests. He was on the staff of the Prime Minister's Office in 1949, and served as Private Secretary to the Prime Minister from 1950 to 1957. He was Executive Assistant to the Leader of the Opposition in 1957-58. Mr. Asselin joined the Department of External Affairs in 1958 and is at present Head of the Administrative Services Division in Ottawa.

Mr. Asselin is married and has five children.

Mr. MacNeill, who was born in Petitcodiac, New Brunswick on March 13, 1904, studied at the University of New Brunswick and Acadia University. He was bookkeeper and Credit Manager for a number of private firms before becoming Secretary of the Defence Research Board in Ottawa in 1947. From 1950 to 1961 he was a Finance Officer, and later Assistant Secretary of the Treasury Board with the Department of Finance. He was appointed Chairman of the Civil Service Commission in 1963.

Mr. MacNeill is married and has two daughters.