GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

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STATE-TRADING ENTERPRISES

Notifications Received Pursuant to Article XVII:4(a) in Reply to the New Questionnaire Contained in Document L/1014[1]

CANADA[2]

I. Enumeration of State-trading enterprises

In Canada only a monopoly of wheat, oats and barley is maintained.[3] It is administered by:

The Canadian Wheat Board

II. Reasons and purpose for introducing and maintaining the State-trading enterprises

The Canadian Wheat Board is an agent of Her Majesty in the right of Canada established under the Canadian Wheat Board Act, 1935, which defines the object of the Board as the "marketing in an orderly manner, in inter-provincial and export trade, of grain grown in Canada".

In 1949, this legislation was extended to cover oats and barley as well as wheat. Oats and barley have since fallen within the scope of the operations of the Canadian Wheat Board.

III. Description of the functioning of the State-trading enterprises

In carrying out this function the Board undertakes to market on behalf of producers, wheat, oats and barley grown in the "designated area" of Western Canada and offered by producers for sale (the "designated area" includes the whole of the

[1]Alphabetical list of the notifications received from governments, see Appendix on last page of this document.

[2]Status as of 1 September 1959.

[3]Although it is not clear that Eldorado Mining and Refining Limited is a State-trading enterprise in the sense of Article XVII of the GATT, information is provided regarding the operations of that enterprise in Annex II.

Provinces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta together with specified areas of British Columbia and Ontario). Since 1943 the Canadian Wheat Board has controlled the disposition of about 99 per cent of all the wheat marketed commercially in Canada. It has purchased from the growers since 1949 only a slightly lower percentage of the barley and oats entering into inter-provincial or export trade.

The Board does not own or operate facilities of any kind for the storage or handling of grain. It does, however, direct the movement of producers' grain, in the domestic and export markets, through the established grain trade acting as agents for the Board.

Wheat, oats and barley are sold by the Board for export either through its agents or on the basis of a direct agreement between the Board and a foreign government or a government agency as purchaser of the grain. The Board sets its price for the various grades of wheat daily, and in so doing endeavours to maintain Canadian wheat on a competitive basis in the world markets at all times having regard to its quality differential.

IV. Statistical information

The relevant statistical information is attached in Annex I.

V. Reason why no foreign trade has taken place (if this is the case) in the products affected

Does not apply.

VI. Additional information

None.

ANNEX I

C A N A D A

State-Trading Enterprises

	1956		1957		1958	
	Quantity (in bushels)	Value (in Can. $)	Quantity (in bushels)	Value (in Can. $)	Quantity (in bushels)	Value (in Can. $)
IMPORTS						
Wheat	285	840	132,639	591,020	788	1,545
Oats	16,230	37,928	5,463	6,966	270	397
Barley, Buckwheat & Rye	3,257	6,549	1,947	4,251	134	201
RE-EXPORTS						
Wheat	18	102	1,745	6,724	788	3,152
Oats	265	660	--	--	--	--
Barley	--	--	--	--	--	--
EXPORTS						
Wheat (except as below)	601,864,299	511,495,193	279,905,468	376,123,432	268,072,035	439,936,688
Ontario Winter Wheat	585,403	1,003,251	2,555,378	4,291,147	3,723,832	6,141,379
Oats	10,112,072	9,316,319	29,941,328	22,389,769	16,956,506	13,915,932
Barley	81,095,422	94,976,982	61,376,567	67,522,202	74,622,732	78,118,327

Domestic Production (by crop year) (by thousand bushels)

	1956-57	1957-58	1958-59
Wheat	573,040	370,508	368,730
Oats	524,517	380,599	400,951
Barley	269,067	215,993	244,764

ANNEX II

Eldorado Mining and Refining Limited

Although it is not clear that Eldorado Mining and Refining Limited is a State-trading enterprise in the sense of Article XVII of the GATT, the following information is provided regarding the operations of that enterprise.

I. Description of the enterprise

Uranium is produced and marketed in mill concentrate form by both private industry and a Government-owned corporation (Eldorado Mining and Refining Limited).

Eldorado also operates a refinery and metal production plan for processing part of the Canadian production. Eldorado functions also as a custom refiner and metal producer. Because of limited volume of business, no other uranium refinery has been established in Canada.

II. Reason and purposes for introducing and maintaining the enterprise

Uranium production in Canada was insignificant before World War II. The small mine and refinery of the Eldorado Mining Company was purchased from the shareholders by the Canadian Government in 1944 as a war measure, and a successful exploration programme was undertaken which resulted in considerably expanded Eldorado operations.

As the uranium demand continued to grow after the war, private interests were encouraged (in 1958) to enter the field of uranium prospecting, mining and production. Today the privately-owned mines produce about 90 per cent of Canada's output of uranium. Eldorado continues to produce from its greatly expanded operations.

III. Description of the functioning of the enterprise

The Eldorado enterprise deals in exports and besides marketing its own production, has served as the Government non-profit agent in the negotiation and administration of contracts between Canadian private producers and the United States Atomic Energy Commission and the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority, the two principal buyers of Canadian production.

Outside these contracts, private producers are now free to sell directly to other countries providing the sale has the approval of the Canadian Atomic Energy Control Board and an export permit from the Department of Trade and Commerce. These approvals are dependent upon Government policy. Restrictions are that sales for more than 2500 pounds U to any one country are limited at the present time to those countries which have signed a bilateral agreement with Canada for co-operation in the development of the peaceful uses for atomic energy.

These rules and regulations pertain to both Eldorado and private producers.

Prices are determined by negotiation between buyer and seller.

Long-term contracts covering most of Canadian production have been negotiated by Eldorado covering the period up to 31 March 1963.

IV. Statistical information

Canadian uranium exports in the form of mill concentrates

	1956	1957	1958
Canadian uranium exports			
Tons U_3O_8	2,258	6,732	13,537
Value	$44,524,086	$136,671,000	$274,400,000
Exports by E.M. & R			
Tons	1,037	1,515	1,729
Value	$20,739,630	$30,734,000	$33,686,000
Exports by private companies			
Tons	1,221	5,217	11,808
Value	$23,784,456	$105,937,000	$240,714,000

V. Reason why no foreign trade has taken place (if this is the case) in the products affected

Not applicable.

VI. Additional information

Not applicable.

APPENDIX

STATE-TRADING ENTERPRISES

Notifications received from governments and reproduced in addenda to document L/1014:

Australia	Add. 9	Japan	Add. 16
Austria	" 14	Luxemburg	" 21
Belgium	" 12/Rev.1	Malaya, Federation of	" 10
Brazil	" 23	Netherlands	" 22
Cambodia	" 25	New Zealand	" 3
Canada	" 26	Norway	" 17
Ceylon	" 7	Rhodesia and Nyasaland, Federation of	" 4
Czechoslovakia	" 18	Sweden	" 6
Denmark	" 5	Turkey	" 19
Finland	" 11	Union of South Africa	" 1
Germany, Fed. Rep. of	" 15	United Kingdom	" 13
Ghana	" 8	United States	" 20
India	" 2		
Israel	" 24		