

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

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CANADA - CUSTOMS VALUATION OF IMPORTS OF TURKEYS

Communication from the Government of Canada

The following communication, dated 17 November 1967, has been received from the Government of Canada.

I have the honour to advise you that in view of the threat from imports of turkeys from the United States below cost of production, the Canadian Government has decided to fix values for duties under Section 40A 7(C) of the Customs Act, with effect from 17 November 1967. It would be appreciated if you could circulate the following information to contracting parties:

- (a) The Canadian Government wishes to advise contracting parties that it has taken temporary action, pursuant to provisions of Article XIX of the General Agreement, in respect of imports of live turkeys, during the current marketing season ending 31 January 1968.
- (b) This action is taken to prevent injury to Canadian producers threatened by imports into Canada of turkeys offered for sale at very low prices.
- (c) Informal consultations have already taken place with the United States, the only contracting party having a substantial interest as exporter to Canada of turkeys. Further consultations following this notice will be undertaken shortly.
- (d) A press release from the Canada Department of Agriculture explaining this action is attached.

Following is text of Press Release issued by the Department of Agriculture on 16 November.

"Agriculture Minister J.J. Greene announced today that the Government is taking action under the Customs Act to alleviate the problem to the Canadian turkey industry of below-cost imports from the United States.

"A special valuation will be levied on live turkeys that move into Canada at distress prices during the current marketing season.

"Mr. Greene emphasized that United States turkeys can still move freely into Canadian markets and at prices somewhat below those that have prevailed in recent years. But, he said, Canadian producers will be provided protection against a product being sold at less than cost.

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"Thus while we are giving our producers a measure of protection, we are also assuring the consumer that turkey prices will remain at a very reasonable level.

"Canadian turkey production this year is estimated at 212 million pounds—about the same as last year.

"Federal officials have discussed the current turkey marketing problem thoroughly with the United States authorities and the turkey industry."

