

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON
TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

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UNITED STATES - PROHIBITION OF IMPORTS OF TUNA
AND TUNA PRODUCTS FROM CANADA

Recourse to Article XXIII:2 by Canada

The following communication, dated 21 January 1980, has been received from the Permanent Mission of Canada, with the request that it be circulated to the contracting parties.

On 31 August 1979 the Government of the United States prohibited imports of tuna and tuna products from Canada. This discriminatory action against Canada is clearly contrary to the obligations of the United States under the GATT, and benefits accruing to Canada under the GATT have been and are being impaired.

The Government of Canada has made written representations to the Government of the United States, pursuant to Article XXIII:1 of the General Agreement, requesting that the Government of the United States terminate this prohibition immediately. Consultations were also held between Canada and the United States. These consultations have not resulted in a satisfactory resolution of this matter.

The Canadian authorities therefore request, pursuant to Article XXIII:2, that a panel be established to examine the compatibility with the General Agreement of the United States prohibition of imports of tuna and tuna products from Canada and make recommendations or rulings as appropriate.

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