

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON  
TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

L/5589

12 January 1984

Limited Distribution

Original: English

IMPORTS OF NEWSPRINT INTO THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

Recourse to Article XXIII:1 by Canada

The following communication, dated 22 December 1983, has been received from the Permanent Delegation of Canada.

The Government of Canada and the Commission of the European Communities have held extensive consultations over the past several months regarding imports of newsprint into the EEC. The EEC's schedule of concessions includes tariff item 48.01A, newsprint, bound at zero within the limits of an annual quota of 1,500,000 metric tonnes and at 4.9 per cent for imports in excess of 1,500,000 metric tonnes. Canada is the principal m.f.n. supplier of newsprint to the EEC under this concession.

Notwithstanding these consultations, the Council of the European Communities has taken a decision to open a duty-free quota for newsprint at a level of 500,000 metric tonnes as of 1 January 1984. The Canadian Government considers that the Council decision impairs the concession granted by the EEC.

Accordingly, I wish to inform you that on 22 December 1983 the Government has requested consultations at the earliest possible date with the European Communities pursuant to Article XXIII:1 of the General Agreement.