

826.

DEA/4171-D-40

*L'ambassadeur aux États-Unis  
au secrétaire d'État aux Affaires extérieures*  
*Ambassador in United States  
to Secretary of State for External Affairs*

TELEGRAM 233

Washington, February 9, 1956

SECRET. IMPORTANT.

Reference: Our February 6/56 215.†

## INTERNATIONAL WHEAT AGREEMENT

For M.W. Sharp Associate Deputy Minister Department of Trade and Commerce, Begins: I talked this morning with Marvin McLain. He confirmed what Earl Hughes had told me with reference to the instructions to the IWA Delegation to the Geneva meetings, which was reported to you in my teletype under reference. He said there has been substantial agreement among government officials and their advisors that the present range in prices should not be changed in a new Agreement. The producer representatives in particular do not want a reduction in the minimum.

2. Every effort, he said, will be made by the US Delegation in conjunction with Canada to hold the present price range. However, should it become clearly evident that no agreement is possible without a lower minimum, he thought the US would be prepared to accept a reduction of five, ten or even possibly fifteen cents in the minimum price, but reductions of this order would only be accepted in order to save the Agreement. Full consultation with the Canadians would precede the acceptance by the US of any change in the price range.

3. "It is our opinion", he said, "that the Canadians are right in wanting to maintain the present minimum. Canada has more reason for this stand", he said, "than has the US."

4. He is most anxious, he said, to know how firmly Canada will resist probable pressures from the importers to reduce the minimum, even to obtain a renewal of the Agreement. Canada's policy in this regard will be a major factor in determining the attitude of the US, he continued. He hoped, he said, that this matter will be made clear at the London meeting.

5. Only US government officials will go to London.

[W.C.] HOPPER

827.

DEA/4171-D-40

*Le haut-commissaire au Royaume-Uni  
au secrétaire d'État aux Affaires extérieures*  
*High Commissioner in United Kingdom  
to Secretary of State for External Affairs*

TELEGRAM 138

London, February 10, 1956

SECRET. IMMEDIATE.

Reference: Your telegram 193 of February 6.