

September 28

International Trade Minister Pat Carney, Finance Minister Michael Wilson and the Prime Minister's Chief of Staff, Derek Burney, meet with U.S. Treasury Secretary James Baker and United States Trade Representative Clayton Yeutter for seven and a half hours. Minister Carney says that "progress made" but that it would be up to Cabinet to decide on a resumption of negotiations. (Similar political-level discussions are held in Washington, October 1).

September 26

Appearing on television, Reisman says that "It was made crystal clear in the reply that we will have to have a great deal more precision and have to know a great deal more before there can be any basis for resuming these talks."

September 25

In Vancouver speech, Trade Minister Carney says that talks will begin if U.S. responds to five Canadian demands: clear rules on what is fair or unfair trade practice; speedy, binding resolutions to disputes over matters such as duties imposed by each country on the other's products; increased access to each other's agricultural and food products in a balanced way; changes in automotive trade only if they increase production and employment in both countries; and removal of virtually all tariffs and non-tariff barriers between the two countries with no new barriers introduced.

September 23

Reisman walks out of negotiations, saying "the U.S. is not responding on elements fundamental to Canada's position. I have therefore suspended the negotiations." PM tells MPs in the House that "Canada has tried vigorously, effectively and well to conclude this arrangement and the burden is now on the U.S. to deliver on its end of the bargain." Premiers are advised by telephone of talks breakdown.