

communiqué

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CANADA FORMALLY COMMUNICATES WITH SOVIET UNION ON QUESTION OF COMPENSATION FOR CANADIAN VICTIMS OF KOREAN AIRLINES CRASH

The Honourable Allan J. MacEachen, Deputy Prime Minister and Secretary of State for External Affairs, announced today that, in the absence of a complete and satisfactory explanation by the Soviet Union of the KAL Boeing incident, a diplomatic note has been conveyed to the Soviet authorities formally reserving Canada's rights in respect of the matter of compensation for the loss of Canadian lives. This action constitutes the first formal step in proceeding with a claim against the Soviet Union.

The Minister has directed officials of his Department to take immediate action to establish the extent of the claim and to this end the next of kin of the Canadian victims are being contacted.

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