



# communiqué

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## DOWNING OF SOUTH KOREAN PASSENGER AIRLINER

The Government of Canada is shocked and saddened by the information it has received concerning the shooting down of a South Korean passenger airliner by Soviet military aircraft.

I regret to confirm that Canadian lives have been lost, as have the lives of civilians from many other countries.

The Soviet action against an unarmed civilian airliner is totally incomprehensible and is unacceptable.

We are calling in the Soviet Embassy Chargé d'Affaires to demand a complete explanation for the reasons for this unprovoked attack.

We will be following up with representations at the highest level in Moscow by our Ambassador, Mr. Geoffrey Pearson.

The Government of Canada wishes to express its heartfelt sympathies to the families of the Canadians who may have died in this tragedy. We also wish to express our deepest condolences to the Government and people of the Republic of Korea and of other countries who have suffered by this inexplicable act.

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