

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTÈRE DES AFFAIRES EXTÉRIEURES

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CANADIAN REACTION TO U.S.A. DECISION ON STEEL IMPORTS

The Honourable James Kelleher, Minister for International Trade, issued the following statement today: "I welcome President Reagan's decision to reject U.S. International Trade Commission recommendations of new tariffs and quotas and tariff-rate quotas on imported steel. I would like to give the President full credit for a difficult decision. I believe the decision reflects a firm commitment to resist protectionist action and recognizes that fair traders in steel such as Canada should not be penalized by across-the-board restrictions. There still remains a possible threat of U.S. legislation which could restrict our access to U.S. steel markets. I intend to meet soon with Canadian steel industry executives and union and provincial representatives to review our position with respect to this proposed legislation."

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