



NO. 25

TO BE RELEASED AT 4 P.M.
APRIL 3, 1969

QUARANTINE STATION FOR CATTLE OF FRENCH ORIGIN ON THE ISLAND OF ST. PIERRE

Canada and France today agreed to establish a quarantine station on the Island of St. Pierre to facilitate the importation into Canada of cattle of French origin. The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Mitchell Sharp and the French Ambassador to Canada, His Excellency Monsieur Pierre Siraud signed an agreement under which the French Government will build, equip and maintain the quarantine station and the Canadian Government will operate the veterinary services of the station. Quarantine standards and conditions at the station will be identical to those applied at Canadian quarantine stations.

Imports of French cattle first took place in 1965 when Canada developed the present quarantine station at Grosse Ile, Quebec. The Grosse Ile station processes about 240 head annually. Both the Canadian and French Governments have been interested in increasing the movement of French cattle to Canada. The establishment on the Island of St. Pierre of a new quarantine station, which meets Canadian health standards, will make possible imports of some 200 additional cattle each year.

The agreement will be effective for an initial period of five years and may be renewed thereafter.