

Commission is due by March 16 and the Commerce Department's preliminary determination of dumping by July 9.

•The Commerce Department's final determination of dumping in the antidumping case against imports of nepheline syenite from Canada is due by March 10. Last December, a preliminary dumping margin of just under 10% was determined for the single Canadian exporter.

•On beer, the GATT panel established to decide Canada's complaint concerning discriminatory U.S. federal and state practices released its report to the two governments on a confidential basis. On February 18, GATT members formally adopted the panel report on Canadian beer marketing practices and Canada indicated again its intention to implement the recommendations consistent with the panel's report.

IN THE CONGRESS

•On February 17, the Senate passed national energy security legislation. The Embassy, working with an industry coalition, succeeded in getting the FTA-inconsistent Domenici-Wirth provisions stripped from the bill. These measures would have discriminated against Canadian natural gas. Proposals to open the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, which Canada opposed, were dropped from the legislation earlier.

The Embassy continues to object to a Senate-approved provision which would restrict a voluntary overfeed program for uranium enrichment to U.S. suppliers. The House is expected to consider similar energy legislation shortly.

•Congress included Cuba sanctions in the Export Administration Act which will go to the President for signature. The prohibition on trade with Cuba by foreign subsidiaries of U.S. companies stands a better chance of enactment because the broader legislation which contains the sanctions is less likely to provoke a Presidential veto than previous versions. One controversial issue remaining in the legislation is the greater liberalization of telecommunications and software exports to the former Soviet Union, an issue which divides the Administration and Congress.

•The Defense Production Act, which has been at the House/Senate conference stage for several months, has assumed greater urgency as the extension of the previous authorization expires at the beginning of March. The bill under consideration deals equitably with Canadian suppliers.

•How to deal with reductions in defence expenditures without crippling the defence industrial base is a topic of debate among industry,

the Administration and Congress. Defence reductions and new acquisition policies by the Pentagon have been condemned by Congress and industry as unrealistic and impossible to implement without sacrificing future industrial capability. The debate is expected to continue over several months as job creation assumes a greater importance in election-year politics.

WORLD BANK

•Most of the Republics of the former Soviet Union have applied for membership in the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank Group. The World Bank is presently in the early stages of gearing up a pipeline of projects in order that significant lending operations could go forward by the middle of 1993. A proposal to hire an additional 130 professional staff to accommodate the need to develop such a significantly increased level of lending is before the World Bank board and is likely to be approved.

TRADE DEVELOPMENT

•The Embassy is launching a quarterly newsletter to provide timely market intelligence on the U.S. environmental products and services market - a market in excess of US\$100 billion. Interested Canadian companies can receive this newsletter by sending a request to the Embassy (Peter Drabble: fax (202) 682-7619.)

Need More Information?

Here is a list of Embassy officers following the developments described in this advisory.

The Main Embassy phone number is: (202) 682-1740

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