

News Release

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CLARK PROTESTS "MACK AMENDMENT" TO BAKER

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Right Honourable Joe Clark, today wrote U.S. Secretary of State James Baker to strongly protest the U.S. Congress' decision last week to adopt the "Mack Amendment" as part of its passage of the Export Administration Act Amendments of 1990.

In his letter, Mr. Clark urges the U.S. Secretary of State to "...weigh fully the impact that the Mack Amendment will have on U.S.-owned enterprises in Canada as well as on our bilateral relationship before a decision is taken to sign this bill into law."

The Minister's letter follows the issuance yesterday of an Order under the Foreign Extraterritorial Measures Act (FEMA) to counter the "Mack Amendment". The Order was issued by the Attorney General of Canada, the Honourable Kim Campbell, with Mr. Clark's concurrence. The Mack Amendment, if passed into law, would prevent the issuance of any licences for trade with Cuba, and would curtail trade with Cuba by any U.S. subsidiary in Canada, even in goods of local origin.

The FEMA Order prohibits any individual or Canada-based corporation from complying with any U.S. measure to prevent trade between Canada and Cuba, and requires them to report any such instruction or directive to the Canadian government.

Since 1963, Canada has opposed attempts by the United States to regulate trade by Canada-based companies with Cuba.

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