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# news release

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For release

## SHELL EGGS AND EGG PRODUCTS PLACED ON EXPORT CONTROL LIST

The Honourable Gerald Regan, Minister for International Trade, and the Honourable Eugene Whelan, Minister of Agriculture, announced today that shell eggs and egg products have been placed on the Export Control List effective February 6, 1984. The move was taken in order to avert a shortage of eggs in Canada.

In announcing the government's decision, Mr. Regan pointed to the growing epidemic of avian influenza, which during recent weeks has led the U.S. Department of Agriculture to eradicate a significant number of its laying flocks. The resultant shortage of eggs in the U.S. market has prompted an unprecedented export of Canadian table eggs to the United States. Mr. Regan explained that the action to place eggs and egg products under export control was being taken under Section 3(c) of the Export and Import Permits Act to "ensure that there is an adequate supply and distribution" of eggs and egg products.

"We are deeply concerned" Mr. Whelan said, "that disruptions in the U.S. market not lead to shortages in Canada of either table eggs or eggs for the further processing industry. Domestic egg production is regulated by the Canadian Egg Marketing Agency which endeavours to ensure that Canadians always have adequate supplies of eggs at reasonable prices. In the current circumstances, however, it is not possible for the CEMA to increase supply quickly enough to meet the developing shortage in the Canadian market".

The Special Trade Relations Bureau of the Department of External Affairs will administer the export controls. Applications for export of shell eggs should be made directly to the Export Control Division of that Bureau

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and will be evaluated on the basis of prevailing market conditions. It should be noted that an export permit will be required before the Department of Agriculture will certify shell eggs for export.

Exports of shipments of up to 25,000 kg. of egg products and up to two dozen eggs for personal use will be covered by a general export permit and therefore will not require individual permits. The export of egg products will, however, be monitored closely to ensure that their 'export' does not frustrate the control on export of shell eggs.

A Notice to Exporters with further administrative details, will be published shortly.

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