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Ottawa, January 13, 1962.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASESEVENTH MEETING OF JOINT CANADA-UNITED STATES
COMMITTEE ON TRADE AND ECONOMIC AFFAIRSCOMMUNIQUE

The seventh meeting of the Joint Canada-United States Committee on Trade and Economic Affairs was held in Ottawa, January 12 and 13, 1962, under the Chairmanship of the Honourable Donald M. Fleming, Minister of Finance.

2. The United States was represented at the meeting by the Honorable C. Douglas Dillon, Secretary of the Treasury; the Honorable Stewart Udall, Secretary of the Interior; the Honorable Orville L. Freeman, Secretary of Agriculture; the Honorable Luther H. Hodges, Secretary of Commerce; and the Honorable George W. Ball, Under-Secretary of State. The United States Delegation also included Mr. Livingston T. Merchant, United States Ambassador to Canada.

3. Canada was represented by the Honourable Howard Green, Secretary of State for External Affairs; the Honourable Donald M. Fleming, Minister of Finance; the Honourable George Hees, Minister of Trade and Commerce; and the Honourable Alvin Hamilton, Minister of Agriculture. The Canadian Delegation included the Canadian Ambassador to the United States, Mr. A.D.P. Heeney.

4. The Committee noted the improvement in the level of economic activity in both countries since the previous meeting in Washington in March, 1961. They agreed on the importance of achieving sustained economic growth in accordance with the resolution adopted at the first Ministerial meeting of the OECD on November 17. Measures for the expansion of world trade would be essential to the achievement of these aims.

5. Canadian Ministers reiterated their support for the expansion of world trade on a multilateral, non-discriminatory basis, and Canada's readiness to play a constructive role in the promotion of freer world trade. United States members welcomed this statement and pointed out that the United States had consistently supported these objectives for many years. The Committee recognized the importance of the recent decision at the GATT Ministerial Meeting to explore new arrangements for the multilateral reduction of trade barriers and for moving toward freer trade. The United States members emphasized that the new trade legislation being sought at this Session of Congress is intended to contribute substantially to this objective.

6. The United States members explained the general nature and purposes of the trade expansion programme which the United States Administration will be submitting to Congress, which, if approved, would enable the United States to make a greater contribution to the growth of international trade on a multilateral basis, and in this way contribute substantially to the strength and prosperity of the free world.

3.

7. The Committee examined the problems inhibiting international trade in agricultural commodities and underlined the importance of securing international agreement on measures which would provide adequate access to world markets for agricultural producers. They agreed that such measures should take full account of the comparative advantage of production in agricultural commodities among different countries. United States and Canadian Ministers expressed the hope that coming international discussions would effectively contribute to the freeing and expansion of international trade in agricultural products.

8. The Committee noted the current negotiations between Britain and the European Economic Community and the widespread consequences which British entry into the EEC would have for the rest of the world. The Committee recognized the great importance of the Commonwealth as a unique association of free nations bridging five continents and the constructive contribution which it was making to world peace and stability.

9. Canadian Ministers emphasized that the Commonwealth trade links, including the exchange of preferences and the historic right of free entry into the United Kingdom market, were an essential cohesive element in the Commonwealth association. They stressed the importance the Canadian Government attached to Britain's efforts in their negotiations with the EEC to safeguard the trade interests of Canada and other Commonwealth countries.

4.

10. The Committee recalled the constructive conclusions reached at the recent Ministerial meeting of the GATT concerning the trade of the less-developed countries. They reaffirmed that it was the continuing policy of both countries to assist the efforts of those countries to expand their trade and improve their standards of living.

11. The Committee recognized that direct exchanges of views at the Cabinet level are useful in helping to maintain soundly based and effective economic co-operation between Canada and the United States. Such understanding and co-operation will be all the more necessary in the years ahead if each country is to play its part in a changing world with a full recognition of the essential interests and aspirations of the other.