

# GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

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RESTRICTED

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Limited Distribution

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## SCHEDULE XX - UNITED STATES

### Item 718(b) - Decision to invoke Reservation

By letter dated 16 March the United States Government has advised its invocation of the reservation in the Note to Item 718(b) in Schedule XX annexed to the Japanese Protocol. This invocation is to be effective from 14 April 1956. Item 718(b) and the Note read as follows:

- "Fish, prepared or preserved in any manner, when packed in air-tight containers weighing with their contents not more than 15 pounds each (except fish packed in oil or in oil and other substances):

Tuna .....  $12\frac{1}{2}\%$  ad val.

NOTE: The United States reserves the right to increase the rate of duty on fish of the foregoing description which are entered in any calendar year in excess of an aggregate quantity equal to 20 per centum of the United States pack of canned tuna fish during the immediately preceding calendar year, as reported by the United States Fish and Wild-life Service."

The communication of 16 March states:

"This note reserves the right of the United States to increase the duty on certain canned tuna provided for in that item, including tuna canned in brine, imported in any year in excess of 20 percent of the United States pack of canned tuna during the preceding year. The reservation is invoked completely, no particular rate being specified herein as that to which the duty applicable to imports in excess of such quantity may be increased as a result of this notification.

.....

"The United States Government has concluded an agreement with the Government of Iceland for the withdrawal of tuna from the concession on canned fish in item 718(b) in Schedule II of the trade agreement between the United States and Iceland, of August 27, 1943 (29 U.N.T.S. 317),

effective April 14, 1956. Upon effect being given to the recent agreement with Iceland and the present notice, the increased rate of duty applicable to the tuna to which the notice relates will be 25 percent ad valorem under the Tariff Act of 1930.

"By virtue of fourth general note to Schedule XX (Geneva), which is made applicable to Schedule XX (Japan) by first general note to latter Schedule, the tariff quota resulting from this increase in rate will be apportioned, so that for 1956 the increased rate will apply to any such tuna imported after April 14, 1956 as is in excess of 15 percent of the United States pack in 1955."