

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

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SCHEDULE XX - UNITED STATES

Article XIX - Escape Clause Investigations by the United States

Tariff Commission

The following communications have been received from the Government of the United States for the information of contracting parties:

Stainless steel flatware

"The United States Tariff Commission has conducted an escape clause investigation regarding stainless steel flatware, i.e., table knives, forks and spoons, wholly of metal and in chief value of stainless steel, classifiable under paragraph 339 or paragraph 335 of the Tariff Act of 1930.

"On 11 January 1958 the Tariff Commission found unanimously that the domestic stainless steel flatware industry was being injured seriously by imports of this product, and recommended the withdrawal of the GATT tariff concessions. The Tariff Commission's decision was, however, split 3-3 as to whether the increase in the rates of duty should be limited to flatware valued at less than \$3.00 per dozen or whether it should include all flatware.

"The Tariff Commission's recommendation is subject to review by the President, who has sixty days in which to give his decision."

Umbrella ribs, stretchers and tubes

"The United States Tariff Commission as a result of an escape clause investigation has found, by a vote of 3-2, that increased imports of umbrella ribs, stretchers, and tubes, in frames or otherwise, for use in hand umbrellas, are causing serious injury to the domestic industry. The Tariff Commission recommended an increase in duty from 30 per cent to 60 per cent ad valorem. Frames valued over \$4.00 per dozen and articles intended for garden or beach use, and tractor or similar large umbrellas are not included in the recommended increase.

"Imports of these items in 1956 were valued at \$1.1 million; of which \$906,000 worth was supplied by Japan, \$95,000 by Austria and \$128,000 by the Federal Republic of Germany.

"This recommendation is subject to review by the President, who has sixty days to reach a decision."