

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

L/3317

20 January 1970

Limited Distribution

UNITED STATES TARIFF COMMISSION INVESTIGATIONS

Window Glass (Rolled, Plate and Float, Tempered, and Sheet Glass)

The Mission of the United States has informed the secretariat of the results of the United States Tariff Commission investigations with regard to rolled, plate and float, tempered, and sheet glass.

The Commission on 29 December 1969 found by a vote of four to two that imports of rolled glass (TSUS items 541.11-.31), plate and float glass (543.11-.69) and tempered glass (544.31-.32) are not causing or threatening to cause serious injury.

The Commission divided by a vote of three to three on the question of the effect of imports of sheet glass (TSUS items 542.11-.98). One group found imports were causing serious injury and recommended restoration of the statutory rates. The other group found that imports are not causing or threatening to cause serious injury. The findings and recommendations made by the Commissioners proposing restrictive action apply to the same types of sheet glass covered by the original 1962 escape clause action¹, but the proposed tariff rates are higher than the increased duties imposed in 1962. Since the Commission's 1 December report² applies to only certain types of sheet glass (the escape clause duty increases having been terminated on the other types in 1967³) it is not as broad in product scope as this 29 December Tariff Commission Report.

In cases in which the Commission is divided into two equal groups in its findings, United States trade legislation provides that the President may consider the findings of either group as the findings of the Commission.

The President's Special Representative for Trade Negotiations, Ambassador Gilbert, with the participation of the other executive agencies, will analyze the report in conjunction with the Tariff Commission's 1 December report on sheet glass and formulate a recommendation to the President. The President has sixty days to accept, modify or reject the findings of the group of Commissioners recommending the restoration of the statutory rates on sheet glass.

¹L/1509 and addenda.

²L/3316.

³L/2743.