

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON
TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

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UNITED STATES TARIFF COMMISSION - INVESTIGATIONS

Non-Rubber Footwear

Revision

The following revised text of the communication relating to the Tariff Commission report on non-rubber footwear has been received from the permanent mission of the United States.

On 15 January 1971, the United States Tariff Commission published its report in response to the President's request to determine whether increased imports resulting in major part from trade agreement concessions are causing or threatening to cause serious injury to the United States industry producing men's and women's non-rubber footwear. The Commissioners divided evenly (2-2) on this issue. Work and athletic footwear and slippers were excluded from their findings.

Under the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended, the President may in case of a tied vote consider the findings of either group as the finding of the Commission. If he accepts the negative finding, no further action will be taken. If he accepts the affirmative finding, he may, under the Trade Expansion Act of 1962, take one or a combination of the following actions:

(A) Proclaim an increase of duty or such other import restrictions as he deems necessary to prevent or remedy serious injury to the domestic industry

(B) Provide that firms of the industry may apply to the Department of Commerce for certification of eligibility to apply for adjustment assistance

(C) Provide that workers may apply to the Department of Labor for certification of eligibility to apply for adjustment assistance.

The President may also negotiate international agreements with foreign countries to limit the export of competitive products to the United States in lieu of (A) above.

It is anticipated that the President may be in a position to make a decision in this matter by 15 March.

In accordance with the requirements of Article XIX:2 of the General Agreement, we would appreciate your circulating the contents of this letter to the CONTRACTING PARTIES. The United States Government has already initiated bilateral consultations on the Commission's findings with interested contracting parties having a substantial interest as exporters of the products concerned.

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