

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON  
TARIFFS AND TRADE

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UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION  
INVESTIGATIONS

Television Receivers

The following communication dated 25 March 1977 has been received from the Permanent Mission of the United States.

The United States International Trade Commission found on 22 March 1977 that increased imports of television receivers are causing or threatening serious injury to domestic television manufacturers.

The Commission recommended that duties on the imported receivers be raised to remedy the injury. Five Commissioners -- Daniel Minchew, Joseph O. Parker, Will E. Leonard, George M. Moore, and Catherine Bedell -- recommended that the present duty of 5 per cent ad valorem be raised to 25 per cent for the first two years, then lowered to 20 per cent for the next two years and to 15 per cent for the fifth and final year of remedy. Commissioner Italo H. Ablondi recommended a quota of 1,272,000 television sets for the first year, with a 5 per cent increase in each succeeding year.

Commissioners Minchew, Leonard and Moore would apply the higher rates to both colour and black and white sets. Commissioners Parker, Bedell and Ablondi included only colour sets in their remedy recommendations.

Imports of colour television receivers, principally from Japan, the Republic of China and the Republic of Korea, reached a level of about 3.3 million sets in 1976. Almost 4.5 million black and white sets were received in the same year. On 21 October 1976, responding to a petition from business and labour groups in the United States electronics industry, the United States International Trade Commission began its investigation and held public hearings in Chicago and Washington, D.C., during the course of its work on the case.

The President has sixty days from the receipt of the report to make a decision, i.e. until 21 May 1977.

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