

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON
TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

L/4764/Add.6
10 October 1979

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STATE TRADING

Notification Pursuant to Article XVII:4(a)

UNITED KINGDOM

Enclosed are details of the changes to be made to update the United Kingdom's previous notification (document L/4623/Add.15).

There is one amendment to the text of the previous notification from the United Kingdom, which covered the activities of the National Coal Board, the British Steel Corporation, British Shipbuilders and British Aerospace (L/4623/Add 15 of 5 December 1978).

NATIONAL COAL BOARD

Section III should now read:

III DESCRIPTION OF THE FUNCTIONING OF THE STATE TRADING ENTERPRISE

Prior to December 1970 it was not Government policy to authorise coal imports except in cases of specific emergency. In practice, imports of coal except for coking coal, are allowed freely on open general licence from any part of the world except Southern Rhodesia. However imports of coking coal in future will be subject to licensing control following a decision by the Government on 4 April 1979. The decision will apply to all imports other than those originating from Community countries.

Imports during 1978 amounted to 2.4m tons. The prices and terms of contracts, free from Government control, are negotiated by the importers themselves.

Solid fuel exports are normally free of export control. Both the National Coal Board and the private non-vested interests are free to compete for overseas markets on a commercial basis. There is no Government control of export prices.

The statistical information given in the Annexes has been brought up to date, and the new data in Annexes I and II is reproduced hereunder. Statistical information is now available on British Shipbuilders and on British Aerospace, and this now forms Annexes III and IV respectively. Since British Shipbuilders was only formed in 1977 figures relating to British Shipbuilders in 1977 refer only to the period July to December.

Department of Trade
LONDON

September 1979

Annex I

STATISTICS OF COAL TRADE AND PRODUCTION

	Tonnage ('000 tonnes)			Value (£'000)		
	1976	1977	1978	1976	1977	1978
(a) Imports	2,837	2,414	2,352	82,645	78,061	77,014
(b) Re-exports	..	..	..	..	..	..
(c) (i) Total exports	1,436	1,941	2,266	30,646	43,727	51,522
(ii) Exports from non-vested (licensed) mines and opencast sites included in (c)(i)	..	..	..	..	..	..
(d) (i) Total home production						
Deep mined	110,264	107,123	107,528	1,947,952	2,197,093	2,436,584
Recovered slurry	1,592	1,476	1,882	3,178	3,108	3,903
Opencast	11,944	13,551	14,167	233,807	287,552	329,524
Total	123,800	122,150	123,577	2,184,937	2,487,753	2,770,011
(ii) Production from licensed mines* included in (d)(i)	919	998	920	16,871	20,767	21,033

* Including licensed opencast

.. Not Available

ANNEX II TO GATT QUESTIONNAIRE ON STATE TRADING

UNITED KINGDOM

(Thousand tonnes)

	1975				1976				1977				1978			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
	(1) Exports:															
(6) Pig iron	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
(3) UK Total	12	12	8	12	13	22	17	31	21	19	10	18	32	48	36	53
(4 & 6) Other iron and steel products	543	499	497	631	633	673	605	651	813	850	850	757	801	774	665	808
(5) UK Total	900	814	720	904	863	995	957	975	1,245	1,245	1,193	1,052	1,009	1,185	1,057	1,269
Iron and steel scrap	126	247	290	252	238	150	110	101	191	205	313	229	334	407	413	410

See footnotes on Sheet 2

UNITED KINGDOM

ANNEX II TO GATT QUESTIONNAIRE ON STATE TRADING

(Thousand tonnes)

	1975				1976				1977				1978			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
	Imports: (1)															
Iron ore (Excludes roasted pyrites)	6,116 4,712	5,858 4,795	4,639 3,141	4,460 3,135	5,338 3,484	6,663 5,314	6,828 5,022	6,087 4,769	5,694 4,467	5,654 4,050	5,887 4,275	4,542 2,747	3,244 3,460	3,876 3,945	3,895 4,026	3,908 4,022
Manganese ore	133 20	80 77	56 68	56 88	75 82	59 22	135 157	201 239	125 121	65 89	54 88	33 30	17 33	25 16	68 78	84 134
Pig iron	- 27	- 18	- 23	- 19	- 29	- 38	- 82	- 73	- 64	- 41	- 45	- 32	- 32	- 48	- 36	- 55
Other iron and steel products	76 1,163	7 847	11 809	95 966	96 1,093	5 949	71 894	166 1,214	3 856	171 998	65 917	1 1,013	15 1,069	51 1,032	30 886	9 785
Iron and steel scrap	45 33	33 40	8 13	- 2	21 99	118 287	149 212	80 96	58 51	12 23	3 12	2 13	1 14	4 10	2 8	3 10

(1) UK Totals from Overseas Trade Statistics

(2) Receipts at work

(3) Includes sponge iron, iron and steel powders, shot, grit and wire pellets

(4) Ingots, semi-finished and finished steel

(5) Excludes ferro-alloys

(6) As reported by producers

(7) Excludes iron and steel alloy scrap in ingot form

(8) Includes iron and steel alloy scrap in ingot form

ANNEX II TO GATT QUESTIONNAIRE ON STATE TRADING

UNITED KINGDOM

(Thousand tonnes)

Production	1977												1978			
	1975				1976				1977				1978			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Iron Ore	BSC	1,119	1,124	1,165	1,179	1,301	1,207	896	1,001	1,004	844	896	1,122	1,040	1,036	1,044
	Other Total	1,119	1,124	1,165	1,179	1,301	1,207	936	1,001	1,004	844	896	1,122	1,040	1,036	1,044
Pig iron* (includes blast furnace ferro-alloys)	BSC	2,859	2,505	2,740	3,200	3,670	3,284	3,495	3,274	2,969	3,097	2,638	2,747	3,051	2,452	3,103
	Other Total	2,859	2,505	2,740	3,200	3,670	3,284	3,495	3,274	2,969	3,097	2,638	2,747	3,051	2,452	3,103
Crude steel	BSC	4,047	3,694	4,076	4,783	5,041	4,366	4,867	4,712	4,240	4,374	3,916	4,145	4,484	3,641	4,395
	Other Total	4,047	3,694	4,076	4,783	5,041	4,366	4,867	4,712	4,240	4,374	3,916	4,145	4,484	3,641	4,395
Iron castings	BSC	148	115	150	146	154	140	176	154	115	104	107	125	131	109	146
	Other Total	148	115	150	146	154	140	176	154	115	104	107	125	131	109	146
		711	596	791	765	722	637	840	810	680	599	706	734	704	571	679
		711	596	791	765	722	637	840	810	680	599	706	734	704	571	679

*Excludes synthetic pig iron

Annex III
Shipbuilding Statistics

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TABLE I

Production of Merchant Ships: Completions in UK shipyards

	Number of Vessels		Gross Tonnage ('000 GRT)	
	Total United Kingdom	British Shipbuilders	Total United Kingdom	British Shipbuilders
1976	140	-	1,450	-
1977	104	24*	1,007	450*
1978	96	56	1,135	715

* July to December

TABLE II

Exports of Merchant Ships: Completions in UK yards for Overseas Registration

	Number of Vessels		Gross Tonnage ('000 GRT)		Value (£ mn)	
	Total United Kingdom	British Shipbuilders	Total United Kingdom	British Shipbuilders	Total United Kingdom	British Shipbuilders
1976	43	-	589	-	144.1	-
1977	25	9*	410	295*	134.1	89.5*
1978	27	20	396	393	133.9	129.6

* July to December

TABLE III

Imports of Merchant Ships: Completions Abroad for UK Registration

	Number of Vessels	Gross Tonnage ('000 GRT)	Value (£mn)
1976	73	1,157	381.6
1977	57	1,186	530.1
1978	46	798	457.1

TABLE IV

Shiprepair: Value of Work Done on UK Vessels (£mn)

	Merchant Vessels		Naval Vessels
	Total United Kingdom	British Shipbuilders	United Kingdom
1976	167.6	-	225.3
1977	183.0	36.5*	283.0
1978 (January-June)	92.1	34.2	141.2

* July to December

TABLE V

Marine Engines¹: Value of Production, Imports and Exports (£mn)

	Production		Imports	Exports
	Total United Kingdom	British Shipbuilders		
1976	180.3	-	13.8	50.0
1977	306.0	118.0*	10.6	49.1
1978 (Jan-June)	138.8	136.8	3.6	20.6

* July to December

¹ Propulsion Machinery

ANNEX IV

AEROSPACE STATISTICS

TABLE I

Exports (£mn)

	Total United Kingdom *	British Aerospace **
1975	744	Not Applicable
1976	811	Not Applicable
1977	926	536

*: Excludes Services Overseas

** : Includes Services Overseas

TABLE II

Imports (£mn)

	Total United Kingdom	British Aerospace
1975	420	Not Applicable
1976	531	Not Applicable
1977	629	Not available *

* Figure would be small in relation to UK imports

TABLE III
Gross Sales ϕ (£mn)

	Total United Kingdom *	British Aerospace **
1975	1,595	Not Applicable
1976	1,828	Not Applicable
1977	1,907	860

ϕ : Gross Sales = Production plus Development Work.

*: Excludes Services Overseas

** : Includes Services Overseas

