

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON
TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

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EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES - TARIFF PREFERENCES
TO CITRUS PRODUCTS OF CERTAIN COUNTRIES
IN THE MEDITERRANEAN REGION

United States - Request for Consultations under Article XXII:1

A copy of the following communication, dated 29 September 1980 and addressed to the United States Trade Representative, has been received from the Commission of the European Communities, with the request that it be circulated to contracting parties.

You sent to us on 24 July a formal request of your Government for Article XXII consultations with the Commission of the European Communities concerning certain tariff preferences accorded to citrus products in the Common External Tariff and the alleged adverse effects of these arrangements on United States exports.

I am instructed to inform you that the European Communities accept naturally to enter into Article XXII consultations on these matters. Since your letter expressed the view that the tariff preferences in question are in contravention of the Communities' GATT obligations, I am also instructed to inform you that we do not share this view. The tariff arrangements concerned have been applied under the terms of Article XXIV free trade agreements which are fully consistent with the GATT.