

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON
TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

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UNITED STATES - ORIGIN MARKING REQUIREMENTS
OF CERTAIN PIPES AND FITTINGS

Request by the European Communities for Consultations
under Article XXII:1

The following communication, dated 6 November 1984, has been received from the permanent delegation of the Commission of the European Communities, with the request that it be circulated to the contracting parties.

The European Communities are concerned about the recent adoption of a provision in the "Trade and Tariff Act of 1984" on the origin marking requirements of certain pipes and fittings.

Such a requirement constitutes a non-tariff barrier to trade. For certain products, it could result in a total prohibition of imports. Furthermore, this method of marking would seriously damage certain products or severely reduce their commercial utility.

The European Communities consider that this provision is contrary to United States obligations under, inter alia, Articles VIII and IX.

The European Communities urgently request consultations under Article XXII, paragraph 1, with the United States. Other contracting parties having an interest in the matter are invited to participate in these consultations.

This request is made without prejudice to the Communities' rights under the Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade.