

GATT/AIR/105

8 FEB 1957

SUBJECT: SCHEDULE XX - UNITED STATES
CONSULTATIONS UNDER ARTICLE XIX: STRAIGHT AND SAFETY PINS

THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATION HAS BEEN RECEIVED FROM THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT:

"UPON SEPARATE APPLICATIONS OF THE UNITED STATES INDUSTRY THE UNITED STATES TARIFF COMMISSION INSTITUTED INVESTIGATIONS IN MAY 1956 TO DETERMINE WHETHER STRAIGHT (DRESSMAKERS' OR COMMON) PINS AND SAFETY PINS WERE BEING IMPORTED INTO THE UNITED STATES IN SUCH QUANTITIES AS TO CAUSE OR THREATEN SERIOUS INJURY TO THE DOMESTIC INDUSTRY.

"ON 30 JANUARY THE TARIFF COMMISSION REPORTED TO THE PRESIDENT ITS DECISIONS IN THESE CASES.

"BY A 4 TO 2 VOTE THE TARIFF COMMISSION FOUND IN THE CASE OF SAFETY PINS THAT THEY ARE BEING IMPORTED IN SUCH QUANTITIES AS TO CAUSE SERIOUS INJURY TO THE DOMESTIC INDUSTRY AND RECOMMENDED AN INCREASE IN THE DUTY FROM THE PRESENT 22½ PER CENT TO 35 PER CENT AD VALOREM.

"THE UNITED STATES IMPORTS OF SAFETY PINS IN 1955 TOTALLED \$507,000, OF WHICH \$346,000 CAME FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM; \$138,000 FROM WEST GERMANY; \$7,000 FROM ITALY; \$11,000 FROM THE NETHERLANDS AND \$4,000 FROM JAPAN. THE UNITED KINGDOM, GERMANY AND JAPAN HAVE PRIMARY INTEREST IN THE TRADE IN THIS ITEM. IN ACCORDANCE WITH GATT ARTICLE XIX, CONSULTATIONS WERE INITIATED WITH THE WASHINGTON REPRESENTATIVES OF THE INTERESTED FOREIGN COUNTRIES ON 31 JANUARY 1957.

"IN THE CASE OF STRAIGHT (DRESSMAKERS' OR COMMON) PINS THE TARIFF COMMISSION FOUND BY A VOTE OF 4 TO 2 THAT THEY ARE BEING IMPORTED IN SUCH INCREASED QUANTITIES AS TO THREATEN SERIOUS INJURY TO THE UNITED STATES INDUSTRY AND RECOMMENDED AN INCREASE IN THE DUTY FROM 20 PER CENT TO 35 PER CENT AD VALOREM.

"TOTAL UNITED STATES IMPORTS OF STRAIGHT PINS IN 1955 TOTALLED \$285,000 OF WHICH \$214,000 CAME FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM; \$62,000 FROM WEST GERMANY; \$6,000 FROM THE NETHERLANDS AND \$3,000 FROM JAPAN. THE HISTORY OF THE TRADE INDICATES THAT THE UNITED KINGDOM AND GERMANY HAVE PRIMARY INTEREST IN TRADE IN THIS ITEM. IN ACCORDANCE WITH GATT ARTICLE XIX CONSULTATIONS WERE INITIATED IN WASHINGTON ON 31 JANUARY WITH THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE INTERESTED FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

"IN BOTH THESE CASES THE PRESIDENT'S DECISION IS REQUIRED WITHIN SIXTY DAYS FROM 30 JANUARY, THE DATE OF THE TARIFF COMMISSION'S RECOMMENDATIONS."

ANY CONTRACTING PARTY WISHING TO ENTER INTO CONSULTATIONS UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF ARTICLE XIX:2 SHOULD PROMPTLY CONTACT THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT AND NOTIFY ME.

E. WYNDHAM WHITE