

AIRGRAM

TÉLÉGRAMME PAR AVION No 95

GATT/AIR/135(SECRET)

SECRET

2 JUL 1958

SUBJECT: MEETING OF INTERSESSIONAL COMMITTEE ON 9 JULY 1958
REQUEST BY AUSTRALIA FOR RENEGOTIATION UNDER ARTICLE XXVIII:4

THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATION HAS BEEN RECEIVED FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF AUSTRALIA:

"I REFER TO YOUR GATT AIRGRAM NO. 132 OF THE 19TH JUNE INDICATING THAT THERE WILL BE A MEETING OF THE INTERSESSIONAL COMMITTEE ON THE 9TH JULY. IN ACCORDANCE WITH PARAGRAPH 3 OF YOUR AIRGRAM THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT WOULD LIKE TO HAVE INCLUDED ON THE AGENDA FOR THE MEETING ON THE 9TH JULY CONSIDERATION OF AN AUSTRALIAN REQUEST FOR AUTHORITY UNDER ARTICLE XXVIII, PARAGRAPH 4 TO RENEGOTIATE THE FOLLOWING TARIFF ITEMS IN PART II, PREFERENTIAL TARIFF, SCHEDULE I:-

TARIFF ITEMS 392(A)(2)(a), 392(A)(2)(b),
392(A)(4), 392(A)(5)(a) and (b).

"THIS REQUEST STEMS FROM A REPORT OF THE TARIFF BOARD ON COTTON YARNS. THE EFFECT OF THE BOARD'S RECOMMENDATION IS:-

- (a) TO DELETE THREE BY-LAW ITEMS FROM THE TARIFF AND TO INSERT INSTEAD ONE BY-LAW ITEM CARRYING LOWER RATES OF DUTY;
- (b) TO VARY THE RATES OF DUTY ON ITEMS 392(A)(5)(a) AND (b) WHICH ARE PROTECTIVE ITEMS FOR COTTON YARNS COARSER (i.e. LESS) THAN NO. 50 COUNT. IN OVERALL TERMS, THE REVISION OF THE COTTON YARN DUTIES MEANS INCREASED DUTIES ON SOME TYPES, LOWER DUTIES ON OTHER TYPES AND RETENTION OF EXISTING DUTIES ON OTHERS. THE GOVERNMENT BELIEVES ITS BEST COURSE IS TO RENEGOTIATE DUTIES ON COTTON YARNS GENERALLY. THE CONCESSIONS NEGOTIATED IN PART I OF SCHEDULE I ARE NOT AFFECTED AND WILL REMAIN IN FORCE.

"THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT WOULD AIM TO BRING THE NEGOTIATIONS TO A CONCLUSION ON THE BASIS SET OUT IN PARAGRAPH 2 OF ARTICLE XXVIII. CONSIDERATION OF THIS MATTER IS REQUESTED AT THE INTERSESSIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING ON THE 9TH JULY WITHOUT FAIL SO THAT NEGOTIATIONS MAY BE CONCLUDED IN TIME FOR THE EARLY INTRODUCTION OF NEW DUTIES."

E. WYNDHAM WHITE