

GATT/AIR/170

30 SEPTEMBER 1959

SUBJECT: CONVOCATION OF THE INTERSESSIONAL COMMITTEE ON 6 OCTOBER 1959

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES HAS ADDRESSED TO THE CONTRACTING PARTIES A REQUEST FOR AUTHORITY UNDER ARTICLE XXVIII:4 TO RENEGOTIATE AN ITEM IN SCHEDULE XX.

I PROPOSE THAT THE INTERSESSIONAL COMMITTEE WHICH HAS AUTHORITY TO DEAL WITH SUCH REQUESTS, MEET AT THE PALAIS DES NATIONS AT 2.30 p.m. ON 6 OCTOBER 1959 TO CONSIDER THIS MATTER.

THE FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF THE UNITED STATES REQUEST:

"I have the honour to inform you that, in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 4 of Article XXVIII of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, the United States Government wishes to request the authority of the CONTRACTING PARTIES to enter into negotiations for the modification or withdrawal of the following concessions contained in Part I of Schedule XX (Geneva - 1947, and Torquay):

<u>US Tariff Para.</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Rate of Duty</u>	<u>Country of Initial Negotiation</u>
1108	Woven fabrics weighing not over 4 ounces per square yard, wholly or in chief value of wool: With warp wholly of cotton or other vegetable fibre	30¢ per lb. and 25% ad val.	UK
	Other	37-1/2¢ per lb. 25% ad val.	UK

Note: The United States reserves the right to increase the ad valorem part of the rate applicable to any of the fabrics provided for in item 1108 or 1109(a) of this Part to 45 per cent ad valorem on any of such fabrics which are entered in any calendar year in excess of an aggregate quantity by weight of 5 per cent of the average annual production of similar fabrics in the United States during the three immediately preceding calendar years."

SENT BY : Executive Secretary, GATT, Tel. address : ICITO GENEVA

ENVOYÉ PAR : Secrétaire Exécutif, GATT, Adresse télégraphique : ICITO GENÈVE

<u>US Tariff Para.</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Rate of Duty</u>	<u>Country of Initial Negotiation</u>
1109(a)	Woven fabrics, weighing over 4 ounces per square yard, wholly or in chief value of wool:		
	Green billiard cloths in the piece, weighing over 11 but not over 15 ounces per square yard, wholly of wool.	37-1/2¢ per lb. and 20% ad val.	Belgium
	Other	37-1/2¢ per lb. and 25% ad val.	UK

"The Government of the United Kingdom has requested that the Government of the United States initiate steps to renegotiate these concessions. Renegotiations looking toward modification of these concessions, if authorized, would be undertaken by the United States in an effort to find a solution to the many problems which both importing and consuming interests in the United States and exporting interests in other countries have indicated arise from the application of the tariff quota which the United States has applied since 1 October 1956 under the terms of the note to the concessions on wool fabrics in items 1108 and 1109(a) of Part I of Schedule XX. It is the existence of severe disruption to normal trading situations, arising from the application of this tariff quota which has led to the present request for a finding of special circumstances permitting the initiation of renegotiations for modification of the above mentioned concessions.

"Accordingly, it is requested that arrangements be made for early consideration of this United States request by the Intersessional Committee.

"There is enclosed for the convenience of the contracting parties a table showing imports of the fabrics in question into the United States in recent years, by country of origin."

E. WYNDHAM WHITE