

5 FEBRUARY 1960

GATT/AIR/179 (SECRET)

SUBJECT: NOTIFICATION BY THE UNITED KINGDOM ON FRESH GRAPEFRUIT
(DECISIONS OF 5 MARCH 1955 AND OF 24 MARCH 1953, AS
AMENDED ON 5 MARCH 1955)

THE COMMUNICATION REPRODUCED HEREFUNDER, DATED 1 FEBRUARY 1960, HAS BEEN RECEIVED FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM GOVERNMENT. A CONTRACTING PARTY WISHING TO REQUEST CONSULTATIONS WITH THE UNITED KINGDOM UNDER PARAGRAPH 2 OF THE PROCEDURES ANNEXED TO THE DECISION OF 5 MARCH 1955 (SPECIAL PROBLEMS OF DEPENDENT OVERSEAS TERRITORIES OF THE UNITED KINGDOM - BISD, THIRD SUPPLEMENT, PAGE 24), OR UNDER PARAGRAPH (b) OF THE PROCEDURES ANNEXED TO THE DECISION OF 24 OCTOBER 1953 (WAIVER TO THE UNITED KINGDOM IN CONNECTION WITH ITEMS TRADITIONALLY ADMITTED FREE OF DUTY FROM COUNTRIES OF THE COMMONWEALTH - BISD, SECOND SUPPLEMENT, PAGE 20), SHOULD SO INFORM THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY NOT LATER THAN 6 MARCH 1960. IN THE ABSENCE OF ANY SUCH REQUEST THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED KINGDOM WILL BE FREE TO TAKE THE ACTION PROPOSED.

"I HAVE THE HONOUR TO INFORM YOU THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED KINGDOM WISH TO INVOKE THE DECISION OF THE CONTRACTING PARTIES OF 5 MARCH 1955, CONCERNING THE SPECIAL PROBLEMS OF THEIR DEPENDENT OVERSEAS TERRITORIES, SO THAT THE MARGIN OF PREFERENCE FOR FRESH GRAPEFRUIT IMPORTED INTO THE UNITED KINGDOM DURING THE NORTHERN HEMISPHERE SEASON (OCTOBER TO MARCH INCLUSIVE) CAN BE INCREASED FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE DEPENDENT OVERSEAS TERRITORIES SUPPLYING THESE PRODUCTS TO THE UNITED KINGDOM. THEY ALSO WISH TO INVOKE THE DECISION OF 24 OCTOBER 1953, AS AMENDED ON 5 MARCH 1955, IN ORDER TO APPLY A HIGHER MOST-FAVOURIED-NATION RATE OF DUTY ON THESE PRODUCTS WITHOUT IMPOSING A DUTY ON IMPORTS FROM THE TERRITORIES LISTED IN ANNEX A TO THE GENERAL AGREEMENT.

"2. IN THE CUSTOMS TARIFF OF THE UNITED KINGDOM, THE RELEVANT ITEM APPEARS IN CHAPTER 8 AND READS:

08.02 CITRUS FRUIT, FRESH OR DRIED:

(A) FRESH:

(1) GRAPEFRUIT FULL RATE OF DUTY: 5s. PER CWT
PREFERENTIAL RATE OF DUTY: FREE

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

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

"3. THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED KINGDOM PROPOSE, IN RESPECT OF FRESH GRAPEFRUIT IMPORTED DURING THE MONTHS OCTOBER TO MARCH INCLUSIVE, TO INCREASE THE PRESENT MOST-FAVOURED-NATION RATE OF DUTY OF 5s. PER CWT, WHICH IS NOT THE SUBJECT OF A TARIFF CONCESSION UNDER THE GENERAL AGREEMENT, WHILE MAINTAINING DUTY FREE ENTRY FOR IMPORTS FROM ALL THE TERRITORIES (OUTSIDE THE UNITED KINGDOM) LISTED IN ANNEX A.

"4. THE ACTION PROPOSED BY THE UNITED KINGDOM IS CONSISTENT WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF PARAGRAPH 2 OF THE DECISION OF 5 MARCH 1955. THE DEPENDENT OVERSEAS TERRITORIES CONCERNED RELY IN LARGE MEASURE ON THE UNITED KINGDOM AS A MARKET FOR EXPORTS OF FRESH GRAPEFRUIT, AS IS SHOWN BY THE STATISTICS (APPENDIX I TO THIS LETTER) OF THEIR EXPORTS FOR 1958, THE LATEST YEAR FOR WHICH COMPLETE FIGURES ARE AVAILABLE. THE STATISTICS IN APPENDIX II SHOW THE SOURCE OF IMPORTS INTO THE UNITED KINGDOM DURING THE LAST THREE YEARS, DIVIDED BETWEEN IMPORTS IN OCTOBER TO MARCH AND IMPORTS IN APRIL TO SEPTEMBER. FROM THESE FIGURES, IT CAN BE SEEN THAT THERE ARE NEGLIGIBLE IMPORTS OF FRESH GRAPEFRUIT FROM INDEPENDENT TERRITORIES OF THE COMMONWEALTH DURING THE MONTHS OCTOBER TO MARCH. THE PROPOSED ACTION WOULD NOT AFFORD MATERIAL BENEFIT TO INDUSTRIES OR BRANCHES OF AGRICULTURE IN THE UNITED KINGDOM, OR IN ANY TERRITORY OTHER THAN THE DEPENDENT OVERSEAS TERRITORIES.

"5. THE ACTION PROPOSED IS ALSO CONSISTENT WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE DECISION OF 24 OCTOBER 1953, AS AMENDED ON 5 MARCH 1955. PROTECTIVE DUTY HAS AT NO TIME SINCE 1 JANUARY 1939, BEEN CHARGEABLE IN RESPECT OF FRESH GRAPEFRUIT WHEN IMPORTED FROM THE TERRITORIES LISTED IN ANNEX A TO THE GENERAL AGREEMENT. SINCE NEGLIGIBLE QUANTITIES OF FRESH GRAPEFRUIT HAVE BEEN IMPORTED INTO THE UNITED KINGDOM DURING THE MONTHS OCTOBER TO MARCH FROM THE INDEPENDENT TERRITORIES LISTED IN ANNEX A, AN INCREASE IN THE MOST-FAVOURED-NATION RATE OF DUTY DURING THIS SEASON IS NOT LIKELY TO LEAD TO A SUBSTANTIAL INCREASE OF IMPORTS OF FRESH GRAPEFRUIT FROM SUCH INDEPENDENT TERRITORIES AT THE EXPENSE OF IMPORTS FROM OTHER SOURCES.

"6. IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROCEDURES SET OUT IN THE DECISION OF 24 OCTOBER 1953, THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED KINGDOM ARE INFORMING THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE UNITED STATES AND OF ISRAEL OF THEIR INTENTION TO INVOKE THAT DECISION. I AM TO REQUEST YOU TO REGARD THE PRESENT LETTER AS OFFICIAL NOTIFICATION BY THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED KINGDOM (GIVEN IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROCEDURES OF THE TWO DECISIONS) OF THEIR DESIRE TO INVOKE THE DECISIONS OF 24 OCTOBER 1953 AND OF 5 MARCH 1955, AS AMENDED."

E. WYNDHAM WHITE

Appendix I - Appendice I

Exports of Fresh Grapefruit from the United Kingdom Dependent Overseas Territories in 1958

Exportations de pamplemousses frais des territoires d'outre-mer dépendant du Royaume-Uni - 1958

<u>From/Origine</u>	<u>Total Exports/ Exp. totales</u>	<u>Exports to United Kingdom/ Exp. vers le Royaume-Uni</u>	<u>Exports to other countries/ Exp. vers d'autres pays</u>
	<u>Value/Valeur (£)</u>	<u>Value/Valeur (£)</u>	<u>Value/Valeur (£)</u>
Jamaica/Jamaïque	111,425	98,269	13,156
Trinidad/Trinité	324,834	300,608	24,226
Dominica/Dominique	17,400	14,109	3,291
*British Honduras/Honduras britannique	Nil	Nil	Nil
Cyprus/Chypre	152,498	147,881	4,617
Total	606,157	560,867	45,290

*Exports from British Honduras in 1956 totalled £13,772 of which £13,592 went to the United Kingdom; there were no exports from the territory in 1957 and 1958.

Les exportations du Honduras britannique ont totalisé 13.772 livres sterling en 1956, dont 13.592 livres à destination du Royaume-Uni; ce territoire n'a pas exporté de pamplemousses frais en 1957 et en 1958.

Appendix II - Appendice II

Fresh Grapefruit/Pamplemousses frais

Value of United Kingdom Imports/Valeur des importations du Royaume-Uni

	<u>Oct.-March</u>	<u>April-Sept.</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Oct.-March</u>	<u>April-Sept.</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Oct.-March</u>	<u>April-Sept.</u>	<u>Total</u>
	<u>oct.-mars</u>	<u>avril-sept.</u>		<u>oct.-mars</u>	<u>avril-sept.</u>		<u>oct.-mars</u>	<u>avril-sept.</u>	
	(£)	(£)	(£)	(£)	(£)	(£)	(£)	(£)	(£)
<u>Commonwealth:</u>									
Jamaica/Jamaïque	92,327	9,494	101,821	97,481	26,776	124,257	75,954	13,468	89,422
Trinidad/Trinité	201,150	16,749	217,899	284,918	136,404	421,322	228,333	3,419	231,752
Dominica/Dominique	18,583	4,852	23,435	37,283	2,319	39,602	10,302	5,774	16,076
British Honduras/ Honduras Britannique	22,653	Nil	22,653	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	45,000	45,000
Cyprus/Cypro	266,544	Nil	266,544	300,447	Nil	300,447	369,199	Nil	369,199
Union of South Africa/ Union Sud-Africain	222	845,193	845,415	1,560	678,895	680,455	2,501	938,704	941,205
<u>Foreign:</u>									
<u>Autres pays:</u>									
United States/Etats-Unis	1,255	159,723	160,978	2,595	66	2,661	12,689	250,369	273,078
Israel/Israël	963,069	269,339	1,232,408	791,644	136,822	928,466	717,377	323,008	1,040,385
Other*/Autres*	49,812	240,091	289,903	86,829	345,698	432,527	135,246	263,375	398,621
<u>Total all sources</u>	<u>1,615,615</u>	<u>1,545,441</u>	<u>3,161,056</u>	<u>1,602,757</u>	<u>1,326,980</u>	<u>2,929,737</u>	<u>1,551,601</u>	<u>1,853,137</u>	<u>3,404,738</u>
<u>Total toutes origines</u>									

* These imports, which are made up of negligible quantities from numerous countries, come almost entirely from foreign sources; a detailed breakdown by sources is not available.

* La quasi-totalité de ces importations, qui consistent en expéditions négligeables d'origines très diverses, provient de pays n'appartenant pas au Commonwealth; la ventilation précise par origine ne peut être indiquée.