

SECRET

GATT/AIR/182(SECRET)

NO. 6
25 FEBRUARY 1960SUBJECT: MEETING OF INTERSESSIONAL COMMITTEE 14 MARCH 1960
REQUEST BY AUSTRALIA UNDER ARTICLE XXVIII: 4

THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATION DATED 22 FEBRUARY 1960, TOGETHER WITH A REQUEST FOR THE CONVOCATION OF THE INTERSESSIONAL COMMITTEE, HAS BEEN RECEIVED FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF AUSTRALIA:

"THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT REQUESTS AUTHORITY UNDER ARTICLE XXVIII PARAGRAPH 4 TO RE-NEGOTIATE THE CONCESSIONS ON FOOTWEAR ACCORDED UNDER THE FOLLOWING ITEMS OF SCHEDULE 1:

PART 1 - MOST-FAVOURLED-NATION TARIFF

- 329 (A) BOOTS AND SHOES, N.E.I.
 - (1) WOMEN'S AND CHILDREN'S
 - (2) OTHER
- ex 329 (B) SHIPPERS CLOGS, PATTERNS AND OTHER FOOTWEAR (OF ANY MATERIAL) N.E.I. CORK LEATHER OR OTHER SOCKS OR SOLES N.E.I.

"THE CONCESSION UNDER ITEM 329 (A)(1) WAS NEGOTIATED WITH THE UNITED STATES IN 1947 AND THE CONCESSIONS UNDER ITEMS 329 (A) (2) AND EX 329 (B) WERE NEGOTIATED WITH CZECHOSLOVAKIA IN THE SAME YEAR.

"ON THE BASIS OF THE LAST THREE YEARS' IMPORT STATISTICS, ITALY HAS BEEN THE PRINCIPAL MOST-FAVOURLED-NATION SUPPLIER UNDER ITEMS 329 (A) (1) AND 329 (A) (2) AND JAPAN HAS BEEN THE PRINCIPAL SUPPLIER UNDER ITEM 329 (B).

"ACTION UNDER ARTICLE XIX OF THE GENERAL AGREEMENT TO LIMIT THE RATE OF IMPORTATION OF FOOTWEAR FOLLOWING EVIDENCE OF A CONSIDERABLE INCREASE IN IMPORTS OF CERTAIN TYPES OF FOOTWEAR WAS ANNOUNCED BY THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT ON 10 APRIL 1959, AND THE ANNOUNCEMENT WAS CIRCULATED TO CONTRACTING PARTIES BY GATT DOCUMENT L/974 OF 20 APRIL 1959. AS EXPLAINED AT THAT TIME, EMERGENCY ACTION TO RESTRAIN IMPORTATIONS WAS OF A TEMPORARY NATURE PENDING ENQUIRY BY THE AUSTRALIAN TARIFF BOARD AS TO THE TARIFF PROTECTION APPROPRIATE FOR THE FOOTWEAR INDUSTRY.

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

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

"THIS REQUEST FOR AUTHORITY TO RE-NEGOTIATE UNDER ARTICLE XXVIII:4 CERTAIN FOOTWEAR CONCESSIONS IN SCHEDULE 1 FOLLOWS THE RECEIPT OF THE REPORT OF THE TARIFF BOARD WHICH CONDUCTED A COMPREHENSIVE ENQUIRY INTO THE AUSTRALIAN FOOTWEAR INDUSTRY.

"THE TARIFF BOARD FOUND THAT THE PRESENT LEVEL OF PROTECTION ON RUBBER FOOTWEAR CLASSIFIED UNDER ITEM 328 AND ON LEATHER FOOTWEAR CLASSIFIED UNDER ITEM 329 WAS ADEQUATE, HAVING REGARD TO THE COMPARATIVE COST AND PRICE INFORMATION AVAILABLE, TO PROTECT THE LOCAL INDUSTRY AGAINST NORMAL IMPORTS. HOWEVER, DUTY INCREASES WERE RECOMMENDED ON BOOTS, SHOES AND CASUAL FOOTWEAR NOT WHOLLY OR PRINCIPALLY OF LEATHER.

"THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT WISHES TO LIFT THE RESTRICTIONS IMPOSED ON THE IMPORTATION OF FOOTWEAR IN APRIL 1959, AS SOON AS POSSIBLE BUT NOT BEFORE THE TARIFF HAS BEEN AMENDED TO PROVIDE ADEQUATE PROTECTION FOR THE AUSTRALIAN FOOTWEAR INDUSTRY. THE PROTECTIVE DUTIES WHICH THE AUSTRALIAN TARIFF BOARD HAS RECOMMENDED ON BOOTS, SHOES AND CASUAL FOOTWEAR NOT WHOLLY OR PRINCIPALLY OF LEATHER CANNOT BE MADE OPERATIVE WITHOUT INFRINGING THE CONCESSIONS NOW APPLYING UNDER ITEMS 329 (A) (1), 329 (A) (2) AND EX 329 (B). THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT THEREFORE SEEKS AUTHORITY TO RE-NEGOTIATE THE CONCESSIONS UNDER THOSE ITEMS."

ACCORDINGLY I PROPOSE TO CONVENE THE INTERSESSIONAL COMMITTEE TO CONSIDER THIS REQUEST ON 14 MARCH 1960 BEGINNING AT 10 a.m. IN THE PALAIS DES NATIONS GENEVA. STATISTICAL INFORMATION SUPPLIED BY THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT IN SUPPORT OF THEIR REQUEST IS ANNEXED HERETO.

E. WYNDHAM WHITE

CLEARANCES UNDER TARIFF ITEM 329 (A)(1)
Boots and shoes, n.e.i. - Women's and Children's

IMPORTATIONS DE PRODUITS RELEVANT DU No 329 (A)(1)
Bottines et souliers, n.c.a., pour dames et enfants

Country of Origin Pays d'origine	1956/57		1957/58		1958/59	
	Quantity/Quantité EA f.o.b.	Value/Valeur EA f.o.b.	Quantity/Quantité Pairs / Paires	Value/Valeur EA f.o.b.	Quantity/Quantité Pairs / Paires	Value/Valeur EA f.o.b.
UK / Royaume-Uni		172,387	99,299	220,667	88,491	212,756
Hong Kong / Hong-kong		160	11,324	3,319	23,616	6,132
India / Inde		205	540	476	6,384	1,784
Malaya / Malaisie	Not recorded	185	-	-	-	-
Austria / Autriche		130	35	204	97	560
Czechoslovakia / Tchécoslovaquie		8,340	2,795	603	-	-
France		79	118	659	844	560
Germany, F.R. / Allemagne, Rép. féd.		300	129	480	232	830
Hungary / Hongrie	Non recensées	-	-	-	16,584	6,065
Italy / Italie		40,104	34,712	31,830	55,231	42,065
Japan / Japon		-	240	42	77,481	22,497
Spain / Espagne		-	-	-	600	532
Switzerland / Suisse		2,540	1,514	7,774	1,219	6,391
USA / Etats-Unis		957	434	861	560	989
Other / Autres pays		17	90	112	32	41
TOTAL		225,404	151,230	267,027	271,371	301,202

Department of Trade,
CANBERRA

January 1960 / Janvier 1960

CLEARANCE UNDER TARIFF ITEM 329 (A)(2)

IMPORTATIONS DE PRODUITS RELEVANT DU No 329 (A)(2)

Boots and shoes, n.e.i. - Other than women's and children's

Bottines et souliers, n.c.a., autres que pour dames et enfants

Country of Origin Pays d'origine	1956/57		1957/58		1958/59	
	Quantity/Quantité EA f.o.b.	Value/Valeur EA f.o.b.	Quantity/Quantité Pairs / Paires	Value/Valeur EA f.o.b.	Quantity/Quantité Pairs / Paires	Value/Valeur EA f.o.b.
UK / Royaume-Uni		65,606	42,117	94,961	39,143	87,236
Hong Kong / Hong-kong		660	520	384	1,868	867
New Zealand / Nouvelle-Zélande	Not recorded	605	135	467	319	1,041
Austria / Autriche		418	94	632	328	2,160
Czechoslovakia / Tchécoslovaquie		5,541	25,766	13,899	13,448	6,242
France		108	-	-	-	-
Germany F.R. / Allemagne, Rép. féd.		3,364	1,690	5,180	1,525	4,831
Italy / Italie		6,152	3,029	8,564	5,873	13,648
Japan / Japon	Non recensées	20	4,560	1,764	23,285	10,674
Netherlands / Pays-Bas		358	2,748	879	1,252	1,627
Switzerland / Suisse		567	304	1,878	281	1,871
USA / Etats-Unis		164	10	53	35	65
Other / Autres pays		132	24	43	16	17
TOTAL	-	83,695	80,997	128,704	87,373	130,279

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CANBERRA

January 1960 / Janvier 1960

January 1960 / Janvier 1960

CLEARANCES UNDER TARIFF ITEM EX 329 (B)

Slippers, clogs, pattens and other footwear (of any material),
n.e.i.; cork, leather or other socks or soles n.e.i.

IMPORTATIONS DE PRODUITS RELEVANT DU No EX 329 (B)

Pantoufles, sabots, socques à l'anglaise et autres chaussures
(en toutes matières) n.c.a.; semelles, semelles intérieures,
n.c.a., en liège, cuir ou autres

Country of Origin Pays d'origine	1956/57		1957/58		1958/59	
	Quantity/Quantité	Value/Valeur EA f.o.b.	Quantity/Quantité	Value/Valeur EA f.o.b.	Quantity/Quantité	Value/Valeur EA f.o.b.
UK / Royaume-Uni		41,668		57,855		60,341
Hong Kong / Hong-kong		11,827		35,634		70,994
India / Inde		1,107		1,119		152
Mainland China / Chine continentale	Not recorded	1,229	Not recorded	2,814	Not recorded	3,908
Czechoslovakia / Tchécoslovaquie		3,125		16,092		19
France		68		156		299
Germany, F.R. / Allemagne, Rép. féd.		2,551		3,674		2,946
Italy / Italie		39,646		26,634		55,710
Japan / Japon	Non recensées	5,863	Non recensées	68,079	Non recensées	144,512
Netherlands / Pays-Bas		1,278		3,116		1,344
Sweden / Suède		263		44		-
USA / Etats-Unis		720		371		43
Other / Autres pays		257		116		159
TOTAL	-	*109,602	-	215,704	-	340,427

Figures for 1956/57 only, include imports of boot and shoe uppers and tops on which no concession has been negotiated.

* Seuls les chiffres de 1956/57 comprennent les importations de tiges et empeignes pour bottines et chaussures, qui ne font l'objet d'aucune concession.