

implementation of certain of their provisions.

Troy H. Cribb,

Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements.

Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements

July 12, 1996.

Commissioner of Customs,

Department of the Treasury, Washington, DC 20229.

Dear Commissioner: This directive amends, but does not cancel, the directive issued to you on December 13, 1995, by the Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements. That directive concerns imports of certain cotton, man-made fiber, silk blend and other vegetable fiber textiles and textile products, produced or manufactured in Bangladesh and exported during the twelve-month period which began on January 1, 1996 and extends through December 31, 1996.

Effective on July 15, 1996, you are directed to increase the limits for the following categories, as provided for under the Uruguay Round Agreements Act and the Uruguay Round Agreement on Textiles and Clothing:

Category	Adjusted twelve-month limit ¹
237	407,537 dozen.
334	118,823 dozen.
335	223,235 dozen.
336/636	388,516 dozen.
645/646	344,655 dozen.
847	626,208 dozen.

¹ The limits have not been adjusted to account for any imports exported after December 31, 1995.

The Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements has determined that these actions fall within the foreign affairs exception to the rulemaking provisions of 5 U.S.C. 553(a)(1).

Sincerely,

Troy H. Cribb,

Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements.

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OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

[Docket No. 301-62]

Termination of Increased Duties on Certain Products of the European Community

AGENCY: Office of the United States Trade Representative.

ACTION: Termination of increased duties on certain products of the European Community.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to authority delegated by the President to the United

States Trade Representative in Proclamation No. 5759 of December 24, 1987, the Acting U.S. Trade Representative (USTR) hereby terminates application of increased duties on imports of certain products of the European Community as proclaimed in Proclamation No. 5759 and as subsequently modified. (See 53 FR 53115; 54 FR 6630; 54 FR 31398; 54 FR 50673; 55 FR 23076; and Proclamation 6763 of December 23, 1994 (60 FR 1007)).

EFFECTIVE DATE: The termination of increased duties is effective with respect to articles entered, or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption on or after 12:01 a.m. July 15, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Office of the United States Trade Representative, 600 17th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20508.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Len Condon, Deputy Assistant USTR for Agriculture (202) 395-9564 or Catherine Field, Senior Counsel for Multilateral Affairs (202) 395-3432.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On December 24, 1987, the President determined, pursuant to section 301(a) of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended, (Trade Act), that the "Council Directive Prohibiting the Use in Livestock Farming of Certain Substances Having a Hormonal Action" (the Directive), adopted by the European Community (EC) is inconsistent with the provisions of, or otherwise denies benefits to the United States under, a trade agreement; or is unjustifiable or unreasonable and constitutes a burden or restriction on United States commerce. (52 FR 49131). The President also determined, pursuant to subsections 301 (a), (b), and (d)(1) of the Trade Act to increase duties on certain products of the EC.

In his statement of reasons, the President noted that implementation of the Directive would prohibit imports into the EC of any meat produced from animals treated with growth hormones, thereby severely disrupting exports of U.S. meat to the EC. Such a prohibition is not supported by valid scientific evidence. The President concluded that, "the United States considers that the imposition of import restrictions under the Directive constitutes a disguised restriction on international trade." (52 FR 49139).

The President also cited U.S. efforts to resolve this dispute within the framework of the Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT 1947). He also noted that the EC had blocked these multilateral efforts to resolve the dispute and stated his expectations that the EC would allow

appropriate dispute settlement procedures to proceed expeditiously. (52 FR 49140). In Proclamation No. 5759, the President suspended the application of the increased duties and authorized the USTR to "suspend, modify, terminate, or terminate the suspension of the increased duties imposed by this Proclamation, upon publication in the Federal Register, of his determination that such action is in the interest of the United States. (52 FR 49131).

The USTR subsequently determined to impose increased duties on certain products of the EC when the EC began implementing the Directive against imports from the United States and partially terminated suspension of the increased duties imposed by Proclamation No. 5759. (53 FR 53115). Between January 1989, when the increased duties were first imposed, and December 1994, when application of duties was extended to Austria, Finland, and Sweden when these countries became EC member states, application of the duties was modified five times.

On May 20, 1996, based on a request from the United States, the Dispute Settlement Body (DSB) of the World Trade Organization (WTO) established a dispute settlement panel to examine whether the Directive is consistent with the EC and its member states obligations under various WTO Agreements. (61 FR 33149).

As the United States not has effective multilateral procedures to address the matter of the EC's restrictions on imports of U.S. meat under the Directive, I have determined that it is in the interest of the United States to terminate the increased duties proclaimed in Proclamation No. 5759 and applied pursuant to the authority delegate to the USTR in Proclamation No. 5759.

Charlene Barshefsky,

Acting U.S. Trade Representative.

[FR Doc. 96-18122 Filed 7-15-96; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Coast Guard

Reports, Forms and Recordkeeping Requirements

AGENCY: Department of Transportation (DOT), United States Coast Guard.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: This notice lists those reports, forms, and recordkeeping requirements imposed upon the public which were