

computer and technical communication problems. This is not acceptable.

The North Webster Indiana NWS informed me that they had put a cut off date on providing severe weather classes when I called to schedule a class. There was never a cut off date before. The Cleveland Office was always willing to work around my schedule as well as the people taking the class.

Last, but most important, is the attitude of the employees at the North Webster Office. We, other NW OHIO EMA Directors, and myself have had to call not one, but two emergency meetings in the past four months to discuss the above mentioned problems. Our complaints have fallen on deaf ears. It seems that they do not want to assist us in receiving the quality of service that we deserve and need to protect the citizens in our counties.

I would be happy to discuss this in further detail if you wish by contacting me at 419-782-1130. Thank you and I appreciate any help you may be able to offer." *NWS Response*: Mr. Michael Sabones, Meteorologist in Charge, Northern Indiana office worked with Mr. Speiser to satisfy his concerns. First, NWS has agreed to continue the pager service for Mr. Speiser. Second, there are areas of the country not covered by NOAA Weather Radio (NWR). The NWS is working with state and local governments and private entities in a public/private partnership to increase the NWR coverage. Third, outdated communications software has been updated with more reliable software which alleviated the technical and communications problems referred to by Mr. Speiser. Fourth, due to the upcoming severe weather season, the North Webster Indiana forecast office set a goal to complete spotter training by April 15. This did not fit with Mr. Speiser's schedule, and after clearing up the misunderstanding, a second training session was scheduled after April 15 for Defiance county spotters. On April 21, 1998, Mr. Speiser wrote, "Thank you for providing the great informational Severe Weather Spotter classes in the month of April." Finally, the perceived attitude of the employees at the North Webster Indiana forecast office, related to the pager problem, was resolved to Mr. Speiser's satisfaction. Mr. Sabones met with Mr. Speiser on September 15, 1998, at the Ohio Emergency Management Association meeting and again on September 29, 1998, during a meeting to review flooding concerns in Defiance county. Mr. Speiser is satisfied with the efforts of the North Webster Indian forecast office to resolve his concerns.

At its September 20, 1998, meeting, the MTC endorsed the WSO Charlotte, WSO Fort Wayne, and WSO South Bend certifications as not resulting in a degradation of service.

After consideration of public comments received and the MTC endorsements, the Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere approved these seven combined consolidation and/or automation and closure certifications and transmitted notice of approval to Congress on July 7, 1999. Certification approval authority was delegated from the Secretary of Commerce to the Under Secretary in June 1996. The NWS is now completing the certification requirements of Pub. L. 102-567 by publishing the final consolidation and/or automation and closure certification notice in the **Federal Register**.

Dated: July 14, 1999.

John E. Jones, Jr.

Deputy Assistant Administrator for Weather Services.

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COMMITTEE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF TEXTILE AGREEMENTS

Adjustment of an Import Limit for Certain Silk Blend and Other Vegetable Fiber Textiles and Textile Products Produced or Manufactured in the People's Republic of China

July 15, 1999.

AGENCY: Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements (CITA).

ACTION: Issuing a directive to the Commissioner of Customs adjusting a limit.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 21, 1999.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Janet Heinzen, International Trade Specialist, Office of Textiles and Apparel, U.S. Department of Commerce, (202) 482-4212. For information on the quota status of this limit, refer to the Quota Status Reports posted on the bulletin boards of each Customs port, call (202) 927-5850, or refer to the U.S. Customs website at <http://www.customs.ustreas.gov>. For information on embargoes and quota re-openings, call (202) 482-3715.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Authority: Section 204 of the Agricultural Act of 1956, as amended (7 U.S.C. 1854); Executive Order 11651 of March 3, 1972, as amended.

The current limit for Category 870 is being increased for swing.

A description of the textile and apparel categories in terms of HTS numbers is available in the CORRELATION: Textile and Apparel Categories with the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (see **Federal Register** notice 63 FR 71096, published on December 23, 1998). Also see 63 FR 67046, published on December 4, 1998.

Troy H. Cribb,

Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements.

Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements

July 15, 1999.

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 November 30, 1998, by the Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements. That directive concerns imports of certain cotton, wool, man-made fiber, silk blend and other vegetable fiber textiles and textile products, produced or manufactured in China and exported during the twelve-month period which began on January 1, 1999 and extends through December 31, 1999.

Effective on July 21, 1999, you are directed to increase the limit for Category 870 to 34,928,462¹ kilograms, as provided for under the terms of the current bilateral textile agreement between the Governments of the United States and the People's Republic of China.

The Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements has determined that this action falls 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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COMMITTEE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF TEXTILE AGREEMENTS

Adjustment of Import Limits for Certain Cotton and Man-Made Fiber Textile Products Produced or Manufactured in Nepal

July 15, 1999.

AGENCY: Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements (CITA).

¹ The limit has not been adjusted to account for any imports exported after December 31, 1998.