

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON  
TARIFFS AND TRADE

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UNITED STATES AGRICULTURAL ADJUSTMENT ACT

Tariff Commission Investigation on Processed Raw Cotton (Picker Lap)

The following communication, dated 8 February 1961, has been received from the United States Permanent Mission in Geneva.

"Under instruction of my Government, and in accordance with the conditions and procedures of the Decision of the CONTRACTING PARTIES of 5 March 1955, I wish to inform the CONTRACTING PARTIES of the institution of an investigation under Section 22 of the Agricultural Adjustment Act.

"On 24 January 1961 the Tariff Commission announced the institution of an investigation under Section 22 of the Agricultural Adjustment Act to determine the effects of imports of 'cotton products produced in any stage preceding the spinning into yarn' under Department of Agriculture programmes with respect to cotton and cotton products. The product principally involved is known in the trade as 'picker lap'. This product is raw cotton subjected to an elementary processing operation on a 'picker' machine and formed into long compressed sheets called 'laps'. Picker lap cotton imported into the United States has reportedly been used by United States mills principally in the same way as raw cotton.

"A public hearing is scheduled for 25 April 1961.

"The investigation was instituted as a result of the sharp increases in United States imports of picker lap from Mexico and Canada (from less than 40 thousand pounds in 1957 to over 18 million pounds in 1960). Imports of picker lap are not now subject to Section 22 quotas applying to raw cotton."

