GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

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ACTION UNDER ARTICLE XIX

Communication from the Federal Republic of Germany

The Executive Secretary has received the following communication dated 7 December 1964.

In order to prevent the threat of a serious injury to the German hard coal industry the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany has decided to subject all imports of petroleum and shale oil, crude, BTN No. 27.09, topped crude, diesel fuel, and fuel oil, ETN No. 227.10, to import licences with effect from 10 December 1964. This action is designed to make it possible to bring under control the rate of increase of imports of these oils in such a way as to avoid the displacement of hard coal.

The action is based on sub-paragraph l(a) of Article XIX and is taken under critical circumstances in accordance with the last sentence of paragraph 2 of that Article. The Federal Government has already opened or initiated consultations with the contracting parties having a substantial interest as exporters of the products concerned.