UNITED KINGDOM RESTRICTIONS ON IMPORTS OF CERTAIN CITRUS PRODUCTS

Addendum

With reference to recent consultations under Article XXII of the General Agreement held by the United Kingdom at the request of the United States concerning restrictions on imports into the United Kingdom on certain citrus products from the dollar area, the United Kingdom has communicated to the Executive Secretary the following text of a written answer to a parliamentary question on this subject. (It may be noted that, as pointed out by the United Kingdom delegation, restrictions on fresh grapefruit, canned grapefruit segments, grapefruit juices and orange juices other than frozen concentrated orange juices have not been relaxed.)

The text of the answer to the parliamentary question is as follows:

"In accordance with requests received from the Governments of Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago the Government have decided to remove with effect from 14 March the restrictions at present imposed on imports into the United Kingdom of frozen concentrated orange juice from the dollar area. These restrictions, which were originally imposed for balance-of-payments reasons, have been maintained for the benefit of the West Indies. Before deciding to do this the Government were concerned to ensure that the removal of the restrictions would not harm British Honduras.

"The territory's citrus exports are doing well at the present time with a substantial increase in sales of frozen concentrate to Canada, where prospects are good. The United Kingdom market for citrus products in general is likely to be buoyant and we believe that British Honduras' prospects in this market are unlikely to be adversely affected by the removal of the restrictions on imports of frozen orange concentrate.

"We have concluded that the removal of the restrictions would not harm British Honduras. However, if contrary to our present expectations, British Honduras were harmed by their removal then H.M. Government would examine the position in consultation with the British Honduras Government and would consider what assistance could be given to the territory."