GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

17 January 1956

CONTRACTING PARTIES

UNITED KINGDOM WAIVER - ARTICLE I
(Decision of 24 October 1953)

AND

UNITED KINGDOM WAIVER - DEPENDENT OVERSEAS TERRITORIES
(Decision of 5 March 1955)

Notification re Lime Oil

The following communication has been received from the Government of the United Kingdom. A contracting party wishing to request consultations with the United Kingdom under paragraph (b) of the procedures annexed to the Decision of 24 October 1953 or under paragraph 2 of the procedures annexed to the Decision of 5 March 1955 should so inform the Executive Secretary not later than 16 February 1956. In the absence of any such request the Government of the United Kingdom will be free to take the action proposed.

"The Government of the United Kingdom wish to invoke the Decision of the CONTRACTING PARTIES of 5 March 1955, concerning the special problems of their dependent overseas territories, so that the margin of preference for lime oil can be increased for the benefit of the dependent overseas territories supplying this product to the United Kingdom. They also wish to invoke the Decision of 24 October 1953, as amended on 5 March 1955, in order to apply a higher most-favoured-nation rate of duty on lime oil without applying a duty on imports from the independent territories listed in Annex A of the General Agreement.

"The Government of the United Kingdom propose to increase the present most-favoured-nation rate of duty of 10 per cent ad valorem, which is not the subject of a concession under the General Agreement, while maintaining duty-free entry for imports from all the territories (outside the United Kingdom) listed in Annex A.

"The proposed action is in accordance with the requirements of paragraph 2 of the Decision of 5 March 1955. The dependent overseas territories rely in large measure on the United Kingdom as a market for exports of lime oil, as the following statistics of exports for the year 1954, the latest year for which statistics are available, of the two principal producing territories, show:

Exports of Lime Oil in 1954 (lbs.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>To United Kingdom</th>
<th>To Other Destinations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jamaica</td>
<td>27,946</td>
<td>3,625</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dominica</td>
<td>25,493</td>
<td>12,544</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>53,439</strong></td>
<td><strong>16,169</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

There are no official statistics of United Kingdom imports of lime oil by source but, according to available information, lime oil is imported almost exclusively from British dependent overseas territories, in particular the British West Indies, and from Mexico. The proposed action would not, therefore, afford material benefit to industries or branches of agriculture in the United Kingdom, or in any territory other than the dependent overseas territories.

The action proposed is also in accordance with the requirements of the Decision of 24 October 1953, as amended on 5 March 1955. Protective duty has at no time since 1 January 1939 been chargeable in respect of lime oil when imported into the United Kingdom from the territories listed in Annex A. As explained above, there are no official statistics of United Kingdom imports of lime oil by source, but available information indicates that there have been no imports of lime oil from any of the independent territories listed in Annex A. Thus the increase in the margin of preference which will result from the increase in the most-favoured-nation rate of duty is not likely to lead to a substantial increase of imports of lime oil from such independent territories at the expense of imports from other sources.

Since no contracting party appears to have a substantial interest in the trade in question, the United Kingdom have not notified any individual contracting party of their proposals. I am to request that this communication shall be regarded as the official notification, required by the terms of the two Decisions, by the Government of the United Kingdom of its desire to invoke the Decisions of 24 October 1953 and of 5 March 1955.