RESTRICTED

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON
TARIFFS AND TRADE

31 October 1955

Special Distribution

Working Party on Schedules

RECTIFICATIONS AND MODIFICATIONS

1. The Working Party at its first meeting examined the situation with respect to requests for the rectification and modification of Schedules. The Secretary reported that lists of rectifications and modifications to be incorporated in the Fifth Protocol have been transmitted to the secretariat by:

- Benelux
- Burma
- Canada
- Ceylon
- Czechoslovakia
- Germany
- Greece
- India
- Japan
- New Zealand
- Union of South Africa
- United States

The rectifications requested by Burma have been distributed in document L/382/Add.1; the others will be distributed to delegations in the next few days.

2. Further, negotiations under Article XXVIII have been completed by Nicaragua, Pakistan, Peru and Uruguay, and the Working Party expects that requests will be submitted by these governments. The Government of Belgium has announced that it will submit a list of modifications to Schedule II, Section B - Belgian Congo and Ruanda Urundi.

3. It was agreed that, in view of the forthcoming tariff conference, it was desirable that as many as possible of the modifications to the Schedules which have resulted from negotiations held in the course of the past year should be incorporated in the Fifth Protocol of Rectifications and Modifications, so that participants in the negotiations will have definitive texts of GATT Schedules before them. The difficulty arises from the fact that a number of contracting parties have not yet completed their negotiations. It was decided, however, that these contracting parties should, if at all possible, submit a provisional list of the modifications which have been agreed to in negotiation, together with any rectifications they might require, subject to adding to these lists the results of the remaining negotiations if these are completed in time.

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1 To facilitate the examination of the lists, several delegations - following the suggestion of the secretariat (L/382) - have placed asterisks next to these item numbers which are the object of rectifications so that they may be easily distinguished from modifications.
4. In order to allow sufficient time for delegations to examine the requests submitted, the Working Party decided that all requests should be transmitted to the Executive Secretary not later than 5 November. Delegations should examine the lists received and promptly submit any queries to the requesting delegation. If by 20 November no objections have been received, the lists will be considered as having been approved and the secretariat will proceed to prepare the text which is to be opened for signature at the end of the Session.