The report on consultations held between the United States and the European Economic Community should read as follows:

Report on consultations held between the United States and the European Economic Community

In accordance with the decision taken by Group "Agriculture" on 16 December 1975 (MTN/AG/4), consultations took place on 17 and 18 March 1977 between the United States and the European Economic Community. These consultations were based on the United States notifications contained in MTN/AG/W/11/Add.10 and MTN/AG/W/11/Add.10/Suppl.1; and on the EC notifications contained in MTN/AG/W/11/Add.5. This note is being submitted in accordance with the decision on reporting reached by Group "Agriculture" at its meeting on 20 December 1976 (MTN/AG/5).

The consultations gave a better understanding of the import measures and trading systems which were the subject of the notifications. They also brought to light that certain import restrictions notified are no longer applied.

With regard to the EC notifications - the consultations permitted the Community delegation to express their concern over what they consider to be the trade restrictive effects of various United States import measures. The United States declared its willingness to examine any specific access problem encountered by the EC.

With regard to the United States notifications, the consultations permitted the United States delegation to discuss the Community's and member States import regimes and to question the rationale and method of application of individual import measures,
in particular the elements of uncertainty and arbitrariness inherent in the variable levy and reference price systems of the Community. The United States also expressed concern over the residual quantitative restrictions maintained in certain member States.

The Community delegation took note of the United States views.

The consultations proved useful for the further work of Group "Agriculture".