The following communication, dated 4 February 1993, has been received from the Office of the United States Trade Representative.

My authorities have asked me to respond to your 2 February letter in which the Community requested consultations under Article 3 of the Agreement on Interpretation and Application of Articles VI, XVI and XXIII of the General Agreement concerning:

1. Definitive affirmative countervailing duty determinations against France, Germany and the United Kingdom concerning certain hot-rolled Lead and Bismuth carbon steel products (published 19 January 1993); and


My authorities agree to your request for consultation. However, because of existing commitments, knowledgeable experts are not available to come to Geneva in the "second week of February" (i.e. next week) as you requested. Therefore, they propose that the consultations take place between 23 and 26 February, at which time they will be in Geneva for the next round of the Multilateral Steel Agreement negotiations. More precisely they believe that the afternoon of 26 February is likely to be convenient for experts from both the US and EC.