Sir,

I am writing to you on the subject of the provisions of Article XVIII, Paragraph 6 of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, viz. the obligation to notify the other contracting parties, not later than October 10, 1947, of each product on which any existing protective measure is to be maintained, and of the nature and purpose of such measure.

In accordance with instructions received from my Government, I have to notify you, and would request you to pass on this information to the other contracting parties to the Agreement in question, that the Government of the Republic of Cuba is ready and willing to forego the application of its quota system to the imports into Cuba of condensed milk, fabrics, unrefined tallow, rubber goods, rice and the articles now subject to quota, included under Item 127-A of the Cuban Customs Tariff, immediately upon the entry into force of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

At the same time I wish to notify you, also for
general information, that my Government intends to continue the quota system for imports into Cuba of the following articles, which are at present subject to quota:

1) Trimmings, galloons, ribbons, plaits, tassels, fringes, cords of all kinds and other similar manufactures of jute, linen, ramie, rayon, spun rayon, nylon and other fibres and their combinations, including mixtures of cotton and rayon, included under Item 1\textsuperscript{142A} and B of the Cuban Customs Tariff;

2) Trimmings, ribbons, plaits, galloons, cords of all kinds and other articles included under Item 1\textsuperscript{127B} of the Cuban Customs Tariff;

3) Quebracho;

4) Sisal (henequen) fibres.

For all useful purposes, I wish to inform you that:

The measures adopted by my Government in respect of the above-mentioned articles are in the nature of import quotas and are one and all destined to protect and develop the particular industry or branch of agriculture to which each relates. They are therefore essential to the progress of Cuban national economy.

The above-mentioned quotas came into force on the following dates:

a) For the products included under Item 1\textsuperscript{142A} and B, 25 July, 1944;

b) For the products included under Item 1\textsuperscript{127B}, 25 July, 1944;

c) For quebracho, 18 May, 1942; and
d) For sisal (henequen) fibres, 18 July, 1939 and were all in force on 1 September, 1947.

The quantities at which the quotas in question are set are the following:

a) For the articles included under Item 142-A, 50% of the total imports into Cuba in 1941, i.e., 17,398 kilogrammes, to the value of 62,700 dollars.

For the articles included under Item 142-B, 50% of the total imports into Cuba in 1941, i.e., 8,952 kilogrammes, to the value of 43,353 dollars.

b) For the articles included under Item 127-B, 50% of the total imports in 1941, i.e. 5,194 kilogrammes, to the value of 20,681 dollars.

c) For quebracho, included under Item 80 of the Cuban Customs Tariff, a total of 3,000,000 kilogrammes annually, in accordance with the terms of Presidential Decree 168, of 26 January, 1942, issued in conformity with the provisions of the Commercial Agreement concluded between the Republics of Cuba and Argentina in 1940.

Notwithstanding this, the aforesaid quantity was temporarily suspended during the period of war emergency, under Decree 1388 of 15 May 1942, and was replaced by a quota equivalent to 20% of the total imports into Cuba of this product, and

d) For sisal (henequen) fibres, included under Item 129-A of the Cuban Customs Tariff, a quantity equivalent to the imports into Cuba during the normal year of 1936, i.e. 327,184 kilogrammes, to the value of 55,793 dollars.
Finally I have to inform you that the quotas in question, which my Government wishes and intends to maintain are not of a discriminatory character, and are essential to the economic development of Cuba.

I have the honour, etc.

SERGIO I. CLARK

Chairman Cuban Delegation."