GENERAL AGREEMENT ON

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TARIFFS AND TRADE

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AUSTRIA/LUXEMBOURG/NETHERLANDS/NORWAY/SPAIN/SWEDEN/SWITZERLAND/ UNITED KINGDOM - MEASURES TO BE TAKEN UNDER THE EUROPEAN CONVENTION ON TRANSFRONTIER TELEVISION

Request for Consultations under Article XXII:1 by the United States

The following letter, dated 1 September 1989, from the Office of the United States Trade Representative to the Austrian Delegation to the GATT, is circulated in accordance with paragraph C.3 of the CONTRACTING PARTIES' 1989 Decision on Improvements to the GATT Dispute Settlement Rules and Procedures (L/6489). Similar letters were sent on the same date to the missions of Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom.

The United States Government requests consultations under Article XXII, paragraph 1 of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) in connection with your government's signature of the European Convention on Transfrontier Television.

Article 10 of the Convention contains language that could obligate your country to take action that would violate the GATT and nullify and impair benefits accruing to the United States.

Accordingly, we want to clarify the matter via consultations under the GATT prior to a decision by Austria on ratification of its signature to the Convention.

We are requesting that these consultations take place in Geneva during the second week in October, 1989. We look forward to your reply.

89-1227