

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON

TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

DS20/1

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EEC - RESTRICTIONS ON IMPORTS OF PORK AND BEEF
UNDER THIRD COUNTRY MEAT DIRECTIVE

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

The following communication, dated 7 November 1990, sent by the Office of the United States Trade Representative in Geneva to the Permanent Delegation of the Commission of the European Communities, 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).

I have been instructed by my authorities to request consultations with the Community under Article XXIII:1 of the General Agreement concerning recent action by the EC to halt imports of U.S. pork, effective November 1, and to halt all remaining imports of U.S. beef by the end of the year.

The United States believes that benefits accruing to it under the General Agreement are being nullified or impaired as the result of the removal, under the authority of the Third Country Meat Directive, of U.S. pork and beef slaughter plants from the list of plants eligible to ship meat to the EC. Such removal contravenes obligations of the European Community under the General Agreement (including obligations pursuant to Articles I, III and XI) and is not covered by any exception to such obligations.

Since the delisting already has taken effect with respect to imports of U.S. pork, the situation is urgent within the meaning of paragraph C.4. of L/6489, and rapid resolution is essential. Accordingly, my authorities request that the above-requested consultations take place in Geneva on November 13.