

of U.S. Patent No. 5,713,292 (the '292 patent); and claims 16, 19, 35 and 38 of U.S. Patent No. 6,0079,343 (the '343 patent). The complaint names as respondents Esquel Apparel, Inc. and Esquel Enterprises Limited (collectively "Esquel"). On October 4, 2004, the Commission issued a notice of determination not to review an ID (Order No. 4) granting TAL's motion to amend the complaint and notice of institution to amend the complaint to add an additional related patent, U.S. Patent No. 5,775,394 (the '394 patent) to the investigation. 69 FR 60422 (Oct. 8, 2004).

On October 4, 2004 TAL moved to withdraw the allegations of infringement with respect to the '292, '343, and '394 patents. Neither Esquel nor the Commission investigative attorney opposed the motion. On November 29, 2004, the presiding administrative law judge issued an ID (Order No. 5) granting TAL's motion to partially terminate the investigation on the basis of withdrawal of all allegations of infringement relating to the claims of the '292 patent, the '343 patent, and the '394 patent. No petitions for review of the ID were filed.

This action is taken under the authority of section 337 of the Tariff Act of 1930, 19 U.S.C. 1337, and sections 210.21(a)(1) and 210.42(h) of the Commission Rules of Practice and Procedure, 19 CFR 210.21(a)(1) and 210.42(h).

By order of the Commission.

Issued: December 21, 2004.

Marilyn R. Abbott,

Secretary to the Commission.

[FR Doc. 04-28338 Filed 12-27-04; 8:45 am]

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INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

[Investigation No. TA-2104-18]

U.S.-Central America Free Trade Agreement: Potential Economywide and Selected Sectoral Effects

AGENCY: International Trade Commission.

ACTION: Institution of investigation.

SUMMARY: Following receipt on November 17, 2004, of a request from the United States Trade Representative (USTR), the Commission instituted investigation No. TA-2104-18, U.S.-Central America Free Trade Agreement: Potential Economywide and Selected Sectoral Effects, under section 2104(f) of the Trade Act of 2002 (19 U.S.C. 3804(f)).

Background

As requested by the USTR, the Commission will prepare a report as specified in section 2104(f)(2)-(3) of the Trade Act of 2002 (the Trade Act) assessing the likely impact of the U.S. free trade agreement (FTA) with Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua (Central America) on the United States economy as a whole and on specific industry sectors and the interests of U.S. consumers.

Section 2104(f)(2) requires that the Commission submit its report to the President and the Congress not later than 90 days after the President enters into the agreement, which he can do 90 days after he notifies the Congress of his intent to do so. The President notified Congress of his intent to enter into an FTA with Central America on February 20, 2004. At that time, the President also stated that negotiations were under way to integrate the Dominican Republic into the FTA with Central America. That FTA was signed on August 5, 2004, and the Commission provided its report (U.S.-Central America-Dominican Republic Free Trade Agreement: Potential Economywide and Selected Sectoral Effects, Inv. No. TA-2104-13, publication 3717) on August 27, 2004. A public hearing for that investigation was held on April 27, 2004.

In his letter the USTR stated that the Dominican Republic subsequently (on October 1, 2004) enacted a tax on beverages sweetened with high fructose corn syrup that the United States regards as incompatible with the Dominican Republic's obligations under the signed FTA. He said that as a result of that action he informed Congress on October 1, 2004, that he would not recommend including the Dominican Republic in the legislation to implement the FTA signed on August 5, 2004 if the Dominican tax remained in place, and that the Administration would take steps to move forward with an FTA with the Central American countries. He said that the FTA with the Central American countries "otherwise is the same as the one that the Commission has already assessed" that included the Dominican Republic. In his letter requesting a new Commission report, the USTR asked the Commission to supplement its August 27 report by assessing the likely impact of a free trade agreement with Central America on the United States economy as a whole and on specific industry sectors and the interests of U.S. consumers.

As specified in section 2104(f)(2)-(3) of the Trade Act, the Commission's report will assess the likely impact of the FTA on the United States economy

as a whole and on specific industry sectors, including the impact the agreement will have on the gross domestic product, exports and imports, aggregate employment and employment opportunities, the production, employment, and competitive position of industries likely to be significantly affected by the FTA, and the interests of U.S. consumers. In preparing its assessment, the Commission will review available economic assessments regarding the FTA, including literature regarding any substantially equivalent proposed agreement, and provide in its assessment a description of the analyses used and conclusions drawn in such literature, and a discussion of areas of consensus and divergence between the various analyses and conclusions, including those of the Commission regarding the agreement. Section 2104(f)(2) requires that the Commission submit its report to the President and Congress not later than 90 days after the President enters into an agreement with the five Central American countries.

EFFECTIVE DATE: December 28, 2004.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

James Stamps, Project Leader, Office of Economics (202-205-3227 or james.stamps@usitc.gov). For information on the legal aspects of this investigation, contact William Gearhart of the Office of the General Counsel (202-205-3091 or william.gearhart@usitc.gov). For media information, contact Peg O'Laughlin (202-205-1819). Hearing impaired individuals are advised that information on this matter can be obtained by contacting the TDD terminal on (202-205-1810).

Public Hearing: A public hearing in connection with this investigation is scheduled to begin at 9:30 a.m. on January 18, 2005, at the U.S. International Trade Commission Building, 500 E Street SW., Washington, DC. All persons have the right to appear by counsel or in person, to present information, and to be heard. Persons wishing to appear at the public hearing should file a letter with the Secretary, United States International Trade Commission, 500 E Street, SW., Washington, DC 20436, no later than the close of business (5:15 p.m.) on January 4, 2005. In addition, persons appearing should file prehearing briefs (original and 14 copies) with the Secretary by the close of business on January 4, 2005. Posthearing briefs should be filed with the Secretary by the close of business on January 26, 2005. In the event that no requests to appear at the hearing are received by the close of business on January 4, 2005, the hearing will be

canceled. Moreover, in the event that there is no hearing, the Commission shall reference in this report relevant testimony from the April 27, 2004 hearing. Any person interested in attending the hearing as an observer or nonparticipant may call the Secretary to the Commission (202–205–1816) after January 10, 2005 to determine whether the hearing will be held.

Written Submissions: In lieu of or in addition to appearing at the public hearing, interested persons are invited to submit written statements concerning the investigation. Submissions should be addressed to the Secretary, United States International Trade Commission, 500 E Street SW., Washington, DC 20436. To be assured of consideration by the Commission, written statements related to the Commission's report should be submitted to the Commission at the earliest practical date, and should be received by the close of business on January 26, 2005. All written submissions, including briefs, must conform with the provisions of section 201.8 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (19 CFR 201.8). Section 201.8 of the rules require that a signed original (or copy designated as an original) and fourteen (14) copies of each document be filed. In the event that confidential treatment of the document is requested, at least four (4) additional copies must be filed, in which the confidential business information (CBI) must be deleted (see the following paragraph for further information regarding CBI). The Commission's rules do not authorize filing submissions with the Secretary by facsimile or electronic means, except to the extent permitted by section 201.8 of the rules (see Handbook for Electronic Filing Procedures, ftp://ftp.usitc.gov/pub/reports/electronic_filing_handbook.pdf). Persons with questions regarding electronic filing should contact the Secretary (202–205–2000 or edis@usitc.gov).

Any submissions, including briefs, that contain CBI also must conform with the requirements of section 201.6 of the Commission's rules (19 CFR 201.6). Section 201.6 of the rules requires that the cover of the document and the individual pages clearly be marked as to whether they are the "confidential" or "non-confidential" version, and that the CBI be clearly identified by means of brackets. All written submissions, except CBI, will be made available for inspection by interested parties.

The report that the Commission sends to the President and the Congress will not contain CBI. Although the Commission may aggregate or otherwise

use CBI it receives in the course of this investigation in preparing its report, the Commission will not publish CBI in the report in a manner that would reveal the operations of the firm supplying the information. The report will be made available to the public on the Commission's Web site.

The public record for this report may be viewed on the Commission's electronic docket (EDIS) at <http://edis.uistc.gov>. Hearing impaired individuals are advised that information on this matter can be obtained by contacting our TDD terminal on 202–205–1810. Persons with mobility impairments who will need special assistance in gaining access to the Commission should contact the Office of the Secretary at 202–205–2000.

By order of the Commission.

Issued: December 21, 2004.

Marilyn R. Abbott,

Secretary to the Commission.

[FR Doc. 04–28327 Filed 12–27–04; 8:45 am]

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INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

[Investigation No. 731–TA–1058 (Final)]

Wooden Bedroom Furniture From China

Determination

On the basis of the record¹ developed in the subject investigation, the United States International Trade Commission (Commission) determines, pursuant to section 735(b) of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1673d(b)) (the Act), that an industry in the United States is materially injured by reason of imports from China of wooden bedroom furniture, provided for in subheadings 9403.50.90 and 7009.92.50 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States, that have been found by the Department of Commerce (Commerce) to be sold in the United States at less than fair value (LTFV).

Background

The Commission instituted this investigation effective October 31, 2003, following receipt of a petition filed with the Commission and Commerce by the American Furniture Manufacturers Committee for Legal Trade and its individual members; the Cabinet Makers, Millmen, and Industrial Carpenters, Local 721; the UBC Southern Council of Industrial Workers,

Local 2305; the United Steelworkers of America, Local 193U; the Carpenters Industrial Union, Local 2093; the Teamsters, Chauffeurs, Warehousemen and Helpers, Local 991; and the IUE, Industrial Division of the CWA, Local 82472.

The final phase of the investigation was scheduled by the Commission following notification of a preliminary determination by Commerce that imports of wooden bedroom furniture from China were being sold at LTFV within the meaning of section 733(b) of the Act (19 U.S.C. 1673b(b)). Notice of the scheduling of the final phase of the Commission's investigation and of a public hearing to be held in connection therewith was given by posting copies of the notice in the Office of the Secretary, U.S. International Trade Commission, Washington, DC, and by publishing the notice in the **Federal Register** of July 15, 2004 (69 FR 42452). The hearing was held in Washington, DC, on November 9, 2004, and all persons who requested the opportunity were permitted to appear in person or by counsel.

The Commission transmitted its determination in this investigation to the Secretary of Commerce on December 22, 2004. The views of the Commission are contained in USITC Publication 3743 (December 2004), entitled *Wooden Bedroom Furniture from China: Investigation No. 731–TA–1058 (Final)*.

By order of the Commission.

Issued: December 22, 2004.

Marilyn R. Abbott,

Secretary to the Commission.

[FR Doc. 04–28341 Filed 12–27–04; 8:45 am]

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. 30–36574]

Notice of Consideration of Amendment Request for Decommissioning for U.S. Army Research Development and Engineering Command, Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD, and Opportunity To Request a Hearing

AGENCY: Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Notice of license amendment, opportunity to request a hearing, and solicitation of public comments.

DATES: A request for a hearing must be filed by February 28, 2005.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Tom McLaughlin, Project Manager, Decommissioning Directorate, Division

¹ The record is defined in sec. 207.2(f) of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (19 CFR 207.2(f)).