

Honduras listed in Annex I of this notice.

EFFECTIVE DATES: The USTR's determinations as to actionability and the specific action to be taken was made on March 16, 1998. The suspension of GSP and CBI benefits with respect to the products of Honduras listed in Annex I of this notice will be effective with respect to goods entered, or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption, on or after April 20, 1998.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Sue Cronin, Office of Western Hemisphere, (202) 296-5190, David Morrissey, Office of Trade and Development, Office of the United States Trade Representative, (202) 395-6971, or William Busis, Office of the General Counsel, Office of the United States Trade Representative, (202) 395-3150.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On October 31, 1997, the USTR initiated an investigation under section 302(b) of the Trade Act with regard to acts, policies, and practices of the Government of Honduras with respect to the protection of intellectual property rights, including the failure to provide adequate and effective copyright protection and enforcement of rights of copyright owners, resulting in, for example, the wide-spread unauthorized broadcasting in Honduras of pirated videos and the rebroadcasting of U.S. satellite-carried programming. The USTR proposed to determine that these acts, policies and practices are actionable under section 301(b) and that the appropriate response would be a partial suspension of tariff preference benefits accorded to Honduras under the GSP and CBI programs. See 62 FR 60299 (November 7, 1997). The notice set forth a list of articles of Honduras which could be subject to the suspension of tariff preference benefits and invited interested persons to submit written comments by December 10, 1997 and to participate in a public hearing concerning the proposed determinations and action. The scheduled public hearing was subsequently canceled due to a lack of public response. See 62 FR 64039 (December 3, 1997).

In response to the November 7, 1997, **Federal Register** notice, the USTR received comments regarding the failure of Honduras to provide adequate and effective copyright protection and enforcement of rights of copyright owners, the appropriateness of the proposed determinations and action, and the appropriateness of suspending tariff preference benefits with respect to particular products listed in the annex of the November 7 notice.

Determinations

The United States has consulted repeatedly with the Government of Honduras regarding the matters under investigation. While Honduras has established a television regulatory authority and has initiated criminal actions against two stations engaged in broadcast piracy, blatant broadcast piracy continues and the failure of Honduras to protect intellectual property rights has harmed U.S. copyright-based industries. Accordingly, on the basis of the investigation initiated under Section 302 of the Trade Act, the comments received, and the consultations, the USTR has determined pursuant to sections 301(b)(1) and 304(a)(1)(A)(ii) of the Trade Act that the Government of Honduras fails to provide adequate and effective protection of intellectual property rights and the acts, policies or practices of Honduras under investigation are unreasonable and burden or restrict U.S. commerce.

Because the determination of the USTR under Section 304(a)(1)(A) of the Trade Act is affirmative, the USTR must determine the appropriate and feasible action to take under Section 301(b) and (c). In a case in which the act, policy, or practice under investigation also fails to meet the eligibility requirements for receiving preferential treatment under the GSP program or CBI program, Section 301(c)(1)(C) of the Trade Act provides that the USTR may withdraw, limit or suspend such preferential treatment. Both the GSP and CBI programs include eligibility requirements concerning the extent to which the foreign country provides adequate and effective protection of intellectual property rights.

The USTR has determined pursuant to sections 304(a)(1)(B), 301(b)(2), and 301(c)(1)(C) of the Trade Act that the appropriate and feasible action in this case is to suspend the duty-free GSP and CBI treatment accorded to the products of Honduras covered in the tariff subheadings of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTS) listed in Annex I to this notice. Those products are cucumbers provided for in HTS subheadings 0707.00.20 and 0707.00.40, watermelons provided for in HTS subheading 0807.11.30, and cigars, cheroots, and cigarillos provided for in HTS subheadings 2402.10.30 and 2402.10.60. Such products of Honduras will be subject to ordinary, most favored

nation rates of duty effective April 20, 1998.

Irving A. Williamson,
Chairman, Section 301 Committee.

Annex I

The Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States ("HTS") is modified as set forth below with respect to articles entered, or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption, on or after the effective dates specified for the enumerated actions:

1. With respect to articles both: (i) imported on or after January 1, 1976, and (ii) entered, or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption, on or after April 20, 1998.

(a). General note 4(d) to the HTS is modified by adding, in numerical sequence, the following subheadings and the country set out opposite them:

0707.00.20 Honduras
0707.00.40 Honduras
0807.11.30 Honduras

(b). For the following subheadings, the Rates of Duty 1-Special subcolumn is modified by deleting the symbol "A" and inserting an "A*" in lieu thereof:

0707.00.20
0707.00.40
0807.11.30

2. With respect to articles entered, or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption, on or after April 20, 1998.

(a). General note 7 to the HTS is modified:

(i). by deleting subdivision 7(d)(iv) and inserting the following new subdivision in lieu thereof:

"(iv) Articles the product of Honduras classifiable in the following subheadings:

0707.00.20
0707.00.40
0807.11.30
2402.10.30
2402.10.60"

(ii). by adding a new subdivision 7(g) as follows:

"(g) any agricultural product of chapters 2 through 52, inclusive, that is subject to a tariff-rate quota, if entered in a quantity in excess of the in-quota quantity for such product."

(b). For the following subheadings, the Rates of Duty 1-Special subcolumn is modified by deleting the symbol "E" and inserting an "E*" in lieu thereof:

0707.00.20
0707.00.40
0807.11.30
2402.10.30
2402.10.60

[FR Doc. 98-8773 Filed 4-2-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3190-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Aviation Proceedings, Agreements Filed During the Week Ending March 27, 1998

The following Agreements were filed with the Department of Transportation under the provisions of 49 U.S.C.

Sections 412 and 414. Answers may be filed within 21 days of date of filing.

Docket Number: OST-98-3657.

Date Filed: March 23, 1998.

Parties: Members of the International Air Transport Association.

Subject: PTC3 Telex Mail Vote 920, Fukuoka, Japan—Guilin, China fares, r1-076t, r2-092f, r3-081mm, Intended effective date: April 1, 1998.

Docket Number: OST-98-3659.

Date Filed: March 23, 1998.

Parties: Members of the International Air Transport Association.

Subject: PTC12 MATL-EUR 0019 dated March 20, 1998, Mid Atlantic-Europe Expedited Resos r-1—002k, r-4—080L, r-7—072ii, r-10—076e, r-2—044d, r-5—070x, r-8—074ee, r-3—054d, r-6—074c, r-9—074ss. Intended effective date: May 1, 1998.

Docket Number: OST-98-3670.

Date Filed: March 26, 1998.

Parties: Members of the International Air Transport Association.

Subject: PTC3 Telex Mail Vote 923, Korea—(TC3) Russia fares (Reso 010z), Intended Effective date: April 20, 1998.

Paulette V. Twine,

Federal Register Liaison.

[FR Doc. 98-8752 Filed 4-2-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-62-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Notice of Applications for Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity and Foreign Air Carrier Permits Filed Under Subpart Q During the Week Ending March 27, 1998

The following Applications for Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity and Foreign Air Carrier Permits were filed under Subpart Q of the Department of Transportation's Procedural Regulations (See 14 CFR 302.1701 et. seq.). The due date for Answers, Conforming Applications, or Motions to Modify Scope are set forth below for each application. Following the Answer period DOT may process the application by expedited procedures. Such procedures may consist of the adoption of a show-cause order, a tentative order, or in appropriate cases a final order without further proceedings.

Docket Number: OST-98-3667.

Date Filed: March 25, 1998.

Due Date for Answers, Conforming Applications, or Motions to Modify Scope: April 22, 1998.

Description: Application of Legend Airlines, Inc., pursuant to 49 U.S.C. Section 41102, and Subpart Q of the Regulations, applies for a certificate of

public convenience and necessity authorizing interstate scheduled air transportation of persons, property and mail.

Paulette V. Twine,

Federal Register Liaison.

[FR Doc. 98-8751 Filed 4-2-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-62-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Coast Guard

[USCG-1990-3682]

Coast Guard Environmental Justice Strategy

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DOT.

ACTION: Notice of Environmental Justice Strategy; request for comment.

SUMMARY: The Coast Guard announces the promulgation of its Environmental Justice (EJ) Strategy. The Strategy provides guidance to all Coast Guard commands on eliminating or mitigating any disproportionately high, adverse human health or environmental effects of its policies, programs, or activities on minority populations and low-income populations. The Coast Guard is asking for comments on the EJ Strategy.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before June 2, 1998.

ADDRESSES: You may mail comments to the Docket Management Facility, [USCG-1998-3682], U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), room PL-401, 400 Seventh Street S.W., Washington, DC 20590-0001, or deliver them to room PL-401, located on the Plaza Level of the Nassif Building at the same address between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The telephone number is 202-366-9329.

The Docket Management Facility maintains the public docket for this notice. Comments will become part of this docket and will be available for inspection or copying at room PL-401, located on the Plaza Level of the Nassif Building at the above address between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. You may electronically access the public docket for this notice on the Internet at <http://dms.dot.gov>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

For information on the public docket, contact Carol Kelley, Coast Guard Dockets Team Leader, or Paulette Twine, Chief, Documentary Services Division, U.S. Department of Transportation, telephone 202-366-9329. For information concerning the notice of EJ Strategy, contact Mr. Harry

Takai, Project Manager, U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters, Civil Rights Directorate (G-H), telephone 202-267-6024.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Request For Comments

Any interested person may submit written views, comments, data, or arguments concerning the Coast Guard's Environmental Justice (EJ) Strategy. Persons submitting comments should include their names and addresses, identify this Notice [USCG-1998-3682] and give reasons for each comment. The U.S. Coast Guard requests all comments and attachments be submitted in an unbound format no larger than 8½ by 11 inches, suitable for copying and electronic filing. Persons desiring acknowledgment that their comments have been received should enclose a stamped, self-addressed post card or envelope. The Coast Guard will consider all comments received during the comment period and may modify its EJ Strategy in response to those comments.

Background

On December 19, 1997, the Coast Guard promulgated its Environmental Justice (EJ) Strategy in accordance with Executive Order (E.O.) 12898, "Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations," and Department of Transportation (DOT) Order 5680.2, "Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations."

The Coast Guard EJ Strategy sets forth the Coast Guard's approach to implementing the E.O. and the DOT Order in all relevant programs and activities funded, sponsored, supported, or undertaken by the Coast Guard. It emphasizes the Coast Guard's commitment to certain principles of environmental justice embodied in the Secretary of Transportation's Strategic Plan. The Coast Guard's EJ Strategy provides guidance to all Coast Guard commands on eliminating or mitigating any disproportionately high, adverse human health or environmental effects of its policies, programs, or activities on minority populations and low-income populations. Also, it describes how compliance with the E.O. and the DOT Order, directing development of an EJ strategy, will be achieved using the existing planning processes established by the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and existing civil rights statutes. The Coast Guard EJ Strategy may be adjusted periodically in response to insights acquired while implementing its various provisions.