

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
BUREAU OF CUSTOMS,
Washington, D.C., September 26, 1958.

Bureau of Customs Circular Letter No. 3054.

Subject: Absolute import quotas on unmanufactured lead and zinc; Presidential Proclamation No. 3257 dated September 22, 1958.

Presidential Proclamation No. 3257 of September 22, 1958 (copy attached), modifies, effective October 1, 1958, item 391, the first item 392, item 393, and item 394, Part I, Schedule XX, of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, as supplemented (T. Ds. 51802 and 52739), by establishing, with certain exceptions, absolute quota restrictions on imports for consumption under each of these items for the 3-month period beginning October 1, 1958, and for each quarterly period thereafter beginning January 1, April 1, July 1, and October 1.

Articles described in item 392 or item 394 or in clause numbered (1) of item 391 or clause numbered (1) of item 393 which were exported to the United States before September 22, 1958, are not subject to the quota restrictions provided in the proclamation.

However, metals producible withdrawn from bonded smelting and refining warehouses established under section 312, Tariff Act of 1930, are not exempted from quota limitations by reasons of the ores or crude metals designated in the withdrawal covering the metals producible having been exported before the date of the proclamation.

The quota limitations apply on a country of production basis to—

- (a) the amount of the dutiable lead contained in the articles described in item 391;
- (b) the amount of the dutiable lead contained in the articles described in the first item 392, except Babbit metal and solder;
- (c) the amount of the dutiable zinc contained in zinc-bearing ores of all kinds, except pyrites containing over 3% of zinc, under item 393; and
- (d) the total weight of certain articles described in item 394; namely: zinc in blocks, pigs, or slabs, (except zinc dust), old and wornout zinc fit only to be remanufactured, zinc dross, and zinc skimmings.

The attached table shows the quantities, by country of production, which may be entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption under the respective quotas during each quarterly period, and sets forth the exemptions from the quota limitations provided in the President's proclamation.

In the case of withdrawal for consumption of metals producible from bonded smelting and refining warehouses established under section 312, Tariff Act of 1930, the country chargeable is the country of origin of the ores or crude metals designed in the withdrawal to receive the credit for the withdrawal for consumption under section 312.

The quota restrictions do not apply to any ore, flue dust, or matte the lead content of which is not subject to duty or which contains less than 2 per centum of lead by the wet assay before deduction of the 1.5 units.

Such quota limitations under item 393 do not apply to any ore the zinc content of which is not subject to duty or which contains less than 1 per centum of zinc (whether or not the zinc content thereof is subject to duty).

Entries or withdrawals for consumption under any item for quota-class articles produced in a country not named in the proclamation, or in any country other than those to which allocations have been made, will be charged to the allocation to "all other foreign countries" under the particular item.

For quota control purposes, charges against item 391 quotas and against item 393 quotas will be based on the dutiable lead content or the dutiable zinc content, respectively, as shown on the consumption entries or warehouse withdrawals (clause numbered (1) of each item as shown in the proclamation); charges against the item 392 quotas will also be based on the dutiable lead content as shown in the consumption entries or warehouse withdrawals.

For quota control purposes, charges against the item 394 quotas will be based on the weights as shown on the consumption entries or warehouse withdrawals.

In the case of the items subject to the second clause of item 391 and item 393 relating to the withdrawal of merchandise from a bonded smelting and refining warehouse established under section 312, Tariff Act of 1930, the dutiable lead and dutiable zinc content chargeable to the respective quota by reason of the warehouse withdrawal for consumption shall be the full lead or zinc content of the ores, shown on the withdrawal, required to produce the finished product.