

3892

Product	Type of Restriction	Estimated Impact on U.S. Trade	Trade Agreement Status	Remarks
Valuation and Taxes (Continued)				
Automobiles	Annual Usage Tax	Significant, 1966 imports from U.S. \$7.9 million. Est. of increase not possible	Legal and negotiable, item bound	Amount of tax depends on fiscal horsepower & age of vehicle. Standard U.S. cars fall in the highest "special rate" bracket. Highly progressive rates seriously restrict sales of larger U.S. cars.
Most Imports	"Value Added Tax" (TVA) Standard rate: 25% of duty paid value. Rate will become 20% as of Jan. 1, 1968 following Govt. reform of TVA.	Believed to be severe, but estimate of increase not possible	Legal 1/ and negotiable	Tax intended to compensate for taxes levied on similar goods when produced and sold domestically. Inclusion of duty in value base inflates tax.
All Imports	Customs Stamp Tax, 2% of customs charges	Not significant	Legal - affects bound items	Tax is levied by French customs on duty plus taxes-excluding TVA tax. As result of U.S. representations, tax was reduced from 3 to 2 percent as of 1/1/61, a level consistent with GATT.
Health, Sanitary and Safety Restrictions				
Pharmaceutical products	Approval of French Ministry of Public Health required on both domestic and imported items	Significant, 1966 imports from U.S. \$1.8 million. Est. of increase not possible	Legal but not negotiable	Purpose of the regulation is to protect the public health.

1/ There are some features of this tax which may conflict with GATT provisions.