

SPECIAL TARIFF POSITION OF PHILIPPINES

Exchange of notes at Washington May 4 and October 7, 1946

Entered into force October 7, 1946

*Terminated May 19, 1950*¹

61 Stat. 2441; Treaties and Other
International Acts Series 1572

The Acting Secretary of State to the Dominican Chargé d'Affaires ad interim

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

May 4 1966

SIR:

With reference to the forthcoming independence of the Philippines on July 4, 1946, my Government considers that provision for a transitional period for dealing with the special tariff position which Philippine products have occupied for many years in the United States is an essential accompaniment to Philippine independence. Accordingly, under the Philippine Trade Act approved April 30, 1946,² goods the growth, produce or manufacture of the Philippines will enter the United States free of duty until 1954, after which they will be subject to gradually and regularly increasing rates of duty or decreasing duty-free quotas until 1974 when general rates will become applicable and all preferences will be completely eliminated.

Since the enactment of the Philippine Independence Act approved March 24, 1934,³ my Government has foreseen the probable necessity of providing for such a transitional period and has since then consistently excepted from most-favored-nation obligations which it has undertaken toward foreign governments advantages which it might continue to accord to Philippine products after the proclamation of Philippine independence. Some thirty instruments in force with other governments, for example, permit the continuation of the exceptional tariff treatment now accorded by my Government to Philippine products, irrespective of the forthcoming change in the Commonwealth's political status.

¹ Date on which the Dominican Republic became a contracting party to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (TIAS 1700, *ante*, vol. 4, p. 641).

² 60 Stat. 141.

³ 48 Stat. 456.