

# The Washington Trade Act Negotiations

TEXT of the notice issued September 28, 1954, regarding Hearings before the United States Delegation for Philippine Trade Negotiations to begin November 1, 1954:

## UNITED STATES DELEGATION FOR PHILIPPINE TRADE NEGOTIATIONS NOTICE OF PHILIPPINE TRADE NEGOTIATION HEARINGS

NOTICE is hereby given by the United States Delegation for Philippine Trade Negotiations of intention to conduct negotiations with the Republic of the Philippines for the purpose of revising, subject to the approval of the Congresses of the two countries, the Agreement on Trade and Related Matters entered into between the United States and the Philippines on July 4, 1946, pursuant to Public Law 371 of the 79th U. S. Congress ("Philippine Trade Act of 1946"). A continuation through December 31, 1955, of the reciprocal free trade provisions of the Agreement was recently approved by the two Congresses (Public Law 474 of the 83rd U. S. Congress) to permit time for the consultations and negotiations to which this notice refers.

The negotiations will cover all aspects of the 1946 Agreement and particularly the provisions regarding tariff preferences (Article I), commodity quotas and their allocation (Articles II and III), exchange rates and controls (Article V), national treatment for Americans in the development of Philippine natural resources (Article VII), and nondiscrimination and termination (Article X).

Any persons who have views or information which they wish to present to the Delegation with respect to possible modification of the 1946 Agreement in these or other respects are invited to do so in the public hearings which will be held before the Delegation beginning at 10:00 a.m., November 1, 1954. The Delegation will also receive information and views in writing. Presentations will be given equal consideration, whether written or oral. Anything which is confidential should be so labeled on the cover sheet and separated from non-confidential material.

Applicants for oral presentation, and the submission of written statements or briefs, must be made to the Delegation not later than 12:00 noon, October 22. All such communications should be addressed to "The Chairman, United States Delegation for Philippine Trade Negotiations, Department of State, Washington 25, D. C." Twelve copies of written statements, either typed, printed or duplicated, shall be submitted, of which one copy should be sworn to.

Only those persons will be heard who have presented written briefs or statements and filed applications to be heard by the closing date indicated in the preceding paragraph. The hearings will be held in the Hearing Room of the Tariff Commission at 7th and F Streets, N. W., Washington, D. C. Applicants for oral presentation will be advised regarding the time of their individual appearance. Statements made at the public hearings shall be under oath.

By direction of the Chairman of the United States Delegation for Philippine Trade Negotiations this 28th day of September, 1954.

F. PATRICK KELLY  
Executive Secretary  
United States Delegation for  
Philippine Trade Negotiations

## DEPARTMENT OF STATE FOR THE PRESS

October 26, 1954

No. 606

## UNITED STATES DELEGATION FOR PHILIPPINE TRADE NEGOTIATIONS NOTICE OF PHILIPPINE TRADE NEGOTIATION HEARINGS

THE United States Delegation for Philippine Trade Negotiations today issued the schedule of appearances at public hearings to be held beginning November 1, 1954, in the hearing room of the Tariff Commission, 7th and F Streets, N.W., Washington, D.C., with respect to possible modification of the 1946 Agreement on Trade and Related Matters between the two countries. Preliminary notice of these hearings was made on August 11, 1954 (Press Release No. 436), and formal notice was made on September 28, 1954 (Press Release No. 539).

Appearances at these hearings have been scheduled for all applicants who have submitted written statements or briefs and asked to be heard in accordance with the provisions of the formal notice.

The schedule of the hearings is as follows:

### Monday, November 1, 1954

- 10:00 International Tobacco Company, New York, N. Y.
- 10:30 Cordage Institute, New York, N. Y.
- 11:00 National Institute of Oilseed Products, Washington, D.C.
- 11:30 United States Cuban Sugar Council, Washington, D.C.
- 12:00 Writing Paper Manufacturers Association, New York, N.Y.
- 2:00 Millers' National Federation, Washington, D.C.
- 2:30 National Milk Producers Federation, Washington, D.C.
- 3:00 General Foods Corporation, White Plains, New York
- 3:30 Tanners' Council of America, Inc., New York, N. Y.
- 4:00 Handkerchief Industry Assn., Inc., New York, N. Y.

No hearings on Tuesday, November 2, 1954

### Wednesday, November 3, 1954

- 10:00 Tobacco Associates Inc., Washington, D.C.
- 10:30 National Cigar Leaf Tobacco Association, Washington, D.C.
- 11:00 Insular Lumber Company, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
- 11:30 Laidlaw Brothers, Chicago, Illinois
- 12:00 American President Lines, Washington, D.C.
- 2:30 California Packing Corporation, San Francisco, California
- 3:00 Embroidery Industry of the Philippines: Feltman Brothers, Inc., New York, N. Y.—Alfred Leon Inc., and Tiny Tots

Written statements or briefs have been submitted by a number of others who have not asked to be heard.

## Statement of the Philippine American Chamber of Commerce, Inc. (New York)

THE PHILIPPINE AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
INCORPORATED  
50 Broad Street  
New York 4, N.Y.

October 19, 1954

The Chairman  
United States Delegation for Philippine Trade Negotiations  
Department of State  
Washington 25, D. C.

Sir:

THE Philippine American Chamber of Commerce is a non-profit organization incorporated in 1920 in the State of New York. The purpose of this organization is to foster and promote trade, commerce, mutual welfare, and other business relations between the United States and the Philippines, and their respective peoples, and to serve those persons and organizations having financial, trade, business, and professional interests in either or both countries. As of October 1, 1954, the Chamber membership consisted of 121 individuals and business firms, as per the list attached, all of whom have substantial investments or trade interests in and with the Philippines.

The Chamber appreciates the opportunity of making its views known to the American Delegation that is now considering possible revisions to the Philippine Trade Act of 1946.

Before stating our position on what appear to be the specific points at issue, we would like to state what we believe to be certain overall fundamental considerations. These are:

(a) The trade and economic relationships between the United States and the Philippines should be considered with reference to the close political associations that have existed between the two countries for such a long time, and the close ties of friendship which we hope will continue to exist indefinitely.

(b) The basis of Philippine-American economic relationships from the end of World War II until July 4, 1954, has been the Philippine Trade Act of 1946 and its associated executive agreements. During that period the Philippines has made a most impressive recovery from the devastation brought about by the war and is presently enjoying a far higher level of prosperity and standard of living than are its neighbors. While the achievements of the Republic of the Philippines are due in large measure to the ability and resourcefulness of its peoples, we submit that the Philippine Trade Act was also a most important factor in this progress.

The Report of the [Philippine] Panel of Experts on the Need for Revision of the Executive Agreement under the Provisions of the Philippine Trade Act of 1946 states that the basic reason for the desired revision is the program of industrialization in which the Philippines is presently engaged. The Report says, in part:

"It is obvious that if we are to expand employment to a level which will put to use our available labor force, there must be a radical shift in the pattern of the economy from the present agricultural raw-material export economy to one which emphasizes industrial development for the home market."

The Report maintains that some protection must be afforded for [the Philippines'] infant industries against competition from similar products produced in the United States. The Panel also refers to certain