Schedule of the United States (''HTSUS''). Although the HTSUS subheading is provided for convenience and Customs purposes, our written description of the scope of this investigation is dispositive.

Period of Investigation

The period of investigation (''POI'') is September 1, 1993, through February 28, 1994.

Case History

Since our preliminary determination (50 FR 50561, October 4, 1994) the following events have occurred. On October 14, 1994 the respondents requested a postponement of the final determination. This request was granted (59 FR 56461, November 14, 1994), and the final was postponed by the Department until no later than February 16, 1995. On January 23, 1995, both parties submitted case briefs. On January 23, 1995 petitioner submitted its rebuttal brief.

Best Information Available

In accordance with section 776(c) of the Act, we have determined that the use of best information available (BIA) is appropriate for all companies. Given that neither of the two named companies responded to the Department's questionnaire, we find that no respondents have cooperated in this investigation.

The Department's usual practice under these circumstances would be to assign respondents the highest margin alleged in the petition as BIA. See Final Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value: Antifriction Bearings (Other Than Tapered Roller Bearings) and Parts Thereof From the Federal Republic of Germany (54 FR 19033, May 3, 1989). In this case, however, a fundamental flaw in the petition calculation methodology has led the Department to reject the use of the highest margin alleged in the petition as BIA. Unlike the other Certain Carbon Steel Butt-Weld Pipe Fittings investigations, petitioner was unable to obtain U.S. price quotes for purposes of the initiation. Rather, U.S. price was based upon an average of U.S. Customs import statistics which did not take into account the relationship between the size of the fitting and its value per pound. Moreover, there is no record information which would allow us to make this adjustment to USP. Therefore, we have weight averaged the FMVs of all size fittings in the petition, and compared that average FMV to the average customs U.S. import value in the petition. This yields a single margin for use as BIA of 203.63%. This margin will be assigned to each of the respondents. (*See,* Memorandum on File Dated: February 16, 1995).

Suspension of Liquidation

In accordance with section 733(d)(1) (19 U.S.C. 1673b(d)(1)) of the Act, we are directing the U.S. Customs Service to continue to suspend liquidation of all entries of certain carbon butt-weld pipe fittings from Venezuela, as defined in the ''Scope of Investigation'' section of this notice, that are entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after the date of publication of this notice in the Federal Register. The Customs Service shall require a cash deposit or posting of a bond equal to the estimated margin amount by which the foreign market value of the subject merchandise exceeds the United States price as shown below. The suspension of liquidation will remain in effect until further notice.

Manufacturer/producer/exporter	Weighted average margin percent
All Companies	203.63

International Trade Commission (ITC) Notification

In accordance with section 735(d) of the Act, we have notified the ITC of our determination. As our final determination is affirmative, the ITC will determine whether imports of the subject merchandise are materially injuring, or threaten material injury to, the U.S. industry within 45 days.

If the ITC determines that material injury or threat of material injury does not exist, the proceedings will be terminated and all securities posted as a result of the suspension of liquidation will be refunded or cancelled. However, if the ITC determines that such injury does exist, we will issue an antidumping duty order directing Customs officers to assess an antidumping duty on certain carbon steel butt-weld pipe fittings from Venezuela entered or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after the date of suspension of liquidation.

Notification to Interested Parties

This notice serves as the only reminder to parties subject to administrative protective order (APO) in this investigation of their responsibility covering the return or destruction of proprietary information disclosed under APO in accordance with 19 CFR 353.34(d). Failure to comply is a violation of the APO.

This determination is published pursuant to section 735(d) of the Act (19 U.S.C. 1673d(d)) and 19 CFR 353.20(a)(4).

Dated: February 16, 1995.

Barbara R. Stafford,

Acting Assistant Secretary for Import Administration.

[FR Doc. 95–4722 Filed 2–24–95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–DS–P

[A–821–807]

Notice of Amended Preliminary Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value: Antidumping Duty Investigation of Ferrovanadium and Nitrided Vanadium From the Russian Federation

AGENCY: Import Administration, International Trade Administration, Commerce.

EFFECTIVE DATE: February 27, 1995.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Louis Apple or David J. Goldberger, Office of Antidumping Investigations, Import Administration, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C., 20230; telephone (202) 482–1769 or (202) 482–4136.

Applicable Statute and Regulations

Unless otherwise indicated, all citations to the statute and to the Department's regulations are references to the provisions as they existed on December 31, 1994. References to Antidumping and Countervailing Duties: Notice of Proposed Rulemaking and Request for Public Comments, 57 FR 1131 (January 10, 1992) (Proposed Regulations), are provided solely for further explanation of the Department's AD practice with respect to amended preliminary determinations. Although, the Department has withdrawn the particular rulemaking proceeding pursuant to which the Proposed Regulations were issued, the subject matter of these regulations is being considered in connection with an ongoing rulemaking proceeding which, among other things, is intended to conform the Department's regulations to the Uruguay Round Agreements Act. See 60 FR 80 (January 3, 1995).

Scope of Investigation

This investigation covers ferrovanadium and nitrided vanadium. The scope is fully described in the preliminary determination.

Case History

On December 27, 1994, the Department of Commerce (the Department) made its affirmative

preliminary determination of sales at less than fair value in the above-cited investigation (60 FR 438, January 4, 1995).

On January 11, 1995, the petitioner alleged that the Department made a significant ministerial error in the preliminary determination in the above-mentioned investigation and requested that the Department correct this ministerial error accordingly.

In its submission, the petitioner alleged that the Department made a ministerial error in its calculation of the foreign market value (FMV) for SC Vanadium-Tulachermet (Tulachermet). This FMV was used for comparison to sales made by both Tulachermet and Odermet, Ltd. The petitioner's allegation deals with the valuation of vanadium slag, the principal raw material used to produce the subject merchandise.

On January 19, 1995, the Department received comments from Odermet, Ltd. and Tulachermet in response to the petitioner's January 11, 1995 letter regarding a ministerial error. Odermet submitted additional comments on January 26, 1995. However, standard Department practice with respect to preliminary determinations, does ''not permit parties to comment on another party's allegations of significant ministerial errors''. (See the Department's Proposed Rules 57 FR 1133 (January 10, 1992). Any party objecting to the Department's amendment, will have the opportunity to present its arguments in its administrative case briefs and at the hearing.

On January 23, 1995, the Department determined that the petitioner's allegation regarding the ministerial error in our calculation of FMV for Tulachermet, requires correction in an amended preliminary determination (See January 23, 1995, Memorandum from Gary Taverman to Barbara R. Stafford).

Amendment of Preliminary Determination

The Department does not normally amend preliminary determinations since these determinations are only estimated margins subject to verification and may change for the final determination. It is, however, the Department's practice to amend preliminary determinations in those instances involving a significant ministerial error. (See Amendment to Preliminary Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value: Fresh Cut Roses From Columbia, 59 FR 51554, 51555 (October 12, 1994) (Roses); and Amendment to Preliminary Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value: Sweaters Wholly or in Chief Weight of Man-Made Fiber from Hong Kong, 55 FR 19289–90 (May 9, 1990)).

The Department has defined ''significant ministerial errors'' as those unintentional errors which result in a change of the estimated margin of at least 5 absolute percentage points but not less than 25 percent of the calculated margin. See Roses. In this case, these criteria have been met.

In its questionnaire response, Tulachermet reported its consumption of vanadium slag, the principal input used to produce the intermediate product vanadium pentoxide, on the basis of net vanadium content. The Department used as a surrogate value a price quote for vanadium slag expressed in terms of net vanadium pentoxide content. The petitioner alleges that the Department made a significant ministerial error in not converting the consumption factor or surrogate value to reflect the different basis of the surrogate value to the factor consumed.

The Department agrees with petitioner that the reported factor should have been adjusted to a vanadium pentoxide basis. The Department did not intend to apply a surrogate value to consumption factor expressed in an incompatible unit of measure. Furthermore, correcting this ministerial error will result in a change in the estimated margin of greater than 5 absolute percentage points and greater than 25 percent of the original estimated margin. Therefore, pursuant to the Department's practice, the error constitutes a significant ministerial error and the Department is amending the preliminary determination accordingly. The calculations have been corrected by applying the methodology from the petition for converting the consumption factor for vanadium slag from units of net vanadium content to units of net vanadium pentoxide content. The recalculation affects the margin percentage for Tulachermet, Odermet, and the all others rate for non-Russian exporters.

Suspension of Liquidation

In accordance with section 733(d)(2) of the Act, the Department will direct the U.S. Customs Service to continue to require cash deposit or posting of bond on all entries of subject merchandise from the Russian Federation at the newly calculated rates, that are entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after the date of the original preliminary determination publication notice in the Federal Register (60 FR 438, January 4, 1995). The suspension-of-liquidation will remain in effect until further notice.

The revised estimated margins are as follows:

Manufacturer/Producer/Exporter	Weighted average margin percent
All exporters located in Russia including SC Vanadium-Tulachermet	94.92
Galt Alloys, Inc.	40.46
Gesellschaft für Elektrometallurgie m.b.H./Shieldalloy Metallurgical Corporation/Metallurg, Inc.	49.18
Marc Rich Co., AG/Glencore International AG	108.00
Odermet, Ltd.	60.09
Wogan Resources, Ltd.	108.00
All others not located in Russia	82.29

ITC Notification

In accordance with section 733(f) of the Act, we have notified the International Trade Commission (ITC) of the amended preliminary determination. If our final determination is affirmative, the ITC will determine whether imports of the subject merchandise are materially injuring, or threaten material injury to, the U.S. industry, before the later of 120 days after the date of the original preliminary determination (December 27, 1995) or 45 days after our final determination.

Public Comment

Public hearings in this proceeding will be held to afford interested parties an opportunity to comment on arguments raised in case or rebuttal briefs. The tentative schedule for the case briefs, rebuttal briefs, and hearings for this proceeding is described in the preliminary determination. We will make our final determination by May 19, 1995.

Dated: February 17, 1995.

Susan G. Esserman,

Assistant Secretary for Import Administration.

[FR Doc. 95–4728 Filed 2–24–95; 8:45 am]

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[C–533–812]

Final Affirmative Countervailing Duty Determination: Certain Carbon Steel Butt-Weld Pipe Fittings From India

AGENCY: Import Administration, International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce.

EFFECTIVE DATE: February 27, 1995.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Susan M. Strumbel, Office of