

monized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTS), I have decided that it is necessary to modify general note 3(c)(ix) to the HTS.

2. Section 604 of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended (19 U.S.C. 2483), authorizes the President to embody in the HTS the substance of the relevant provisions of that Act, and of other acts affecting import treatment, and actions thereunder, including the removal, modification, continuance, or imposition of any rate of duty or other import restriction.

Now, Therefore, I, William J. Clinton, President of the United States of America, acting under the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, including but not limited to section 203 of the ATPA and section 604 of the Trade Act of 1974, do proclaim that:

(1) General note 3(c)(ix)(A) to the HTS is modified by inserting in alphabetical sequence "Peru", which is hereby designated as a beneficiary country under the ATPA.

(2) The modifications made by paragraph (1) of this proclamation shall be effective with respect to articles entered, or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption, on or after the 15th day after the date of publication of this proclamation in the *Federal Register*.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this eleventh day of August, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-three, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and eighteenth.

William J. Clinton

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 3:35 p.m., August 12, 1993]

NOTE: This proclamation was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on August 12, and it was published in the *Federal Register* on August 16.

Letter to Congressional Leaders on Trade With Peru

August 11, 1993

Dear Mr. Speaker: (Dear Mr. President:)

Pursuant to section 203 of the Andean Trade Preference Act (ATPA) (19 U.S.C.

3202), I wish to inform you of my intention to designate Peru as a beneficiary of the trade-liberalizing measures provided for in this Act. Designation will entitle the products of Peru, except for products excluded statutorily, to duty-free treatment for a period ending on December 4, 2001.

Designation is an important step for Peru in its effort to fight against narcotics production and trafficking. The enhanced access to the U.S. market provided by the ATPA will encourage the production of and trade in legitimate products.

My decision to designate Peru results from consultations concluded in July 1993 between this Administration and the Government of Peru regarding the designation criteria set forth in section 203 of the ATPA. Peru has demonstrated to my satisfaction that its laws, practices, and policies are in conformity with the designation criteria of the ATPA. The Government of Peru has communicated on these matters by a letter to the Office of the United States Trade Representative and in so doing has indicated its desire to be designated as a beneficiary.

On the basis of the statements and assurances in Peru's letter, and taking into account information developed by the United States Embassy and through other sources, I have concluded that designation is appropriate at this time.

I am mindful that under section 203(e) of the ATPA, I retain the authority to suspend, withdraw, or limit the application of ATPA benefits from any designated country if a beneficiary's laws, policies, or practices are no longer in conformity with the designation criteria. The United States will keep abreast of developments in Peru that are pertinent to the designation criteria.

This Administration looks forward to working closely with the Government of Peru and with the private sectors of the United States and Peru to ensure that the wide-ranging opportunities opened by the ATPA are fully utilized.

Sincerely,

William J. Clinton

NOTE: Identical letters were sent to Thomas S. Foley, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Albert Gore, Jr., President of the Senate. This

letter was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on August 12.

Statement on Signing Flood Relief Legislation

August 12, 1993

Today I have signed into law H.R. 2667, the "Emergency Supplemental Appropriations for Relief From the Major, Widespread Flooding in the Midwest Act of 1993." This Act provides \$6.3 billion of Federal assistance to the victims of the Midwest floods and other disasters. I commend the Congress for acting expeditiously to develop a bill that helps those who are suffering as a result of the Midwest floods.

H.R. 2667 provides an estimated \$2.35 billion for disaster payments to farmers through the Commodity Credit Corporation. Pursuant to this Act, I am informing Secretary of Agriculture Mike Espy that extraordinary circumstances exist and that he is to make payments for 1993 crop losses at a 100 percent payment rate for each eligible claim, as authorized in the 1990 Farm Bill and this Act.

The Act also provides \$2.0 billion for Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) operations for disaster relief, both for the Midwest floods and for other disasters. This FEMA funding will provide for the repair of public facilities and for housing and other assistance to those affected by the Midwest floods. \$235 million is provided to the Army Corps of Engineers for repairing damage to Federal and non-Federal levees and other flood control works.

The Act provides \$389 million in Small Business Administration (SBA) loans and \$200 million for long-term recovery efforts through the Economic Development Administration (EDA). The low-interest SBA loans will be made available primarily to homeowners, renters, and business owners to assist in their recovery from physical damage caused by the flooding in the Midwest. In addition, some of the loans will be made to firms engaged in agriculture-related activities that have suffered substantial economic injury due to farm damage. The Act also provides \$10 million for additional SBA staff in order to facilitate the processing of loan applications. The EDA disaster assistance

grants will be provided to State and local units of government for economic recovery strategy, technical assistance, and public works grants.

The Act includes \$75 million for the Public Health and Social Service Emergency Fund of the Department of Health and Human Services for the repair and renovation of community health centers and migrant health centers damaged by the Midwest floods and for social services for flood victims. The Act also provides \$200 million for disaster recovery planning with State and local agencies and for disaster-related community development. This \$200 million is provided through the Department of Housing and Urban Development's Community Development Block Grant program.

The Act includes \$42 million for the Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service. This includes \$12 million to hire temporary employees to accelerate processing of applications for crop disaster claims. It also includes \$30 million to assist farmers with debris cleanup and the restoration of damaged farmland. Sixty million dollars is provided for the watershed and flood prevention operations program in the Department of Agriculture. These funds will be used to repair levees, dikes, and other flood-retarding structures and to open water courses plugged with sediment and debris. Under certain conditions, this funding could also be used to enroll eligible cropland in Agriculture's Wetlands Reserve Program. In addition, \$270.5 million is included for rural development and housing loans, emergency water grants, very low income housing repair grants, and for the Extension Service.

Also included in H.R. 2667 is \$175 million for highway repair. This will allow the Secretary of Transportation to provide immediate assistance to States whose highways and bridges have been damaged by flooding. In addition, \$21 million is provided for local rail assistance to help restore rail service in the flooded regions of the Midwest, and \$10 million is provided for the Coast Guard.

The Act provides \$54.6 million for title III of the Job Training Partnership Act, which