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Letter to Congressional Leaders Transmitting a Report on the Extension of Normal Trade Relations Status for Certain Former Eastern Bloc States

July 3, 2002

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

Pursuant to sections 402 and 409 of the Trade Act of 1974, I am submitting an updated report to the Congress prepared by my Administration on the emigration laws and policies of Armenia, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Moldova, the Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, and Uzbekistan.

On September 21, 1994, President Clinton determined and reported to the Congress that the Russian Federation was not in violation of paragraphs (1), (2), or (3) of subsection 402(a) of the Trade Act of 1974, or paragraphs (1), (2), or (3) of subsection 409(a) of that Act. On June 3, 1997, he also determined and reported to the Congress that Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Moldova, and Ukraine were not in violation of the same provisions, and made an identical determination on December 5, 1997, with respect to Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan. These actions allowed for the continuation of normal trade relations for these countries and certain other activities without the requirement of an annual waiver.

On June 29, 2000, pursuant to section 302(b) of Public Law 106–200, President Clinton determined that title IV of the 1974 Trade Act should no longer apply to Kyrgyzstan, and on December 29, 2000, he made a similar determination with respect to Georgia pursuant to section 3002 of Public Law 106–476.

The attached report indicates continued compliance by Armenia, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Moldova, the Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, and Uzbekistan with international standards concerning freedom of emigration.

Sincerely,

George W. Bush

NOTE: Letters were sent to J. Dennis Hastert, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Richard B. Cheney, President of the Senate. An original was not available for verification of the content of this letter.

Proclamation 7576—To Provide for the Efficient and Fair Administration of Safeguard Measures on Imports of Certain Steel Products

July 3, 2002

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

1. On March 5, 2002, pursuant to section 203 of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended (the "Trade Act") (19 U.S.C. 2253), I issued Proclamation 7529, which imposed tariffs and a tariff-rate quota on certain steel products under subheadings 9903.72.30 through 9903.74.24 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTS) (the "safeguard measures") for a period of 3 years plus 1 day.

2. In clause (3) of Proclamation 7529, I excluded imports of certain steel that are the product of World Trade Organization (WTO) member developing countries, as provided in subdivision (d)(i) of U.S. Note 11 to subchapter III of chapter 99 of the HTS (Note 11), from the safeguard measures.

3. In clause (5) of Proclamation 7529, I authorized the United States Trade Representative (USTR), within 120 days after March 5, 2002, to further consider any request for exclusion of a particular product submitted in accordance with the procedures set out in 66 *Fed. Reg.* 54321, 54322–54323 (October 26, 2001) and, upon publication in the *Federal Register* of a notice of his finding that a particular product should be excluded, to modify the HTS provisions created by the Annex to Proclamation 7529 to exclude such particular product from the pertinent safeguard measure.

4. Pursuant to section 203(g) of the Trade Act (19 U.S.C. 2253(g)), in order to provide for the efficient and fair administration of the safeguard measures, I have determined that:

(a) the USTR should have authority, as appropriate, to add WTO member developing countries to the list of countries in subdivision (d)(i) of Note 11;