

## COMMERCIAL SAMPLES AND MODELS

*Exchange of notes at Paris August 26, 1938*

*Entered into force August 26, 1938*

*Amended by agreement of September 22 and October 7, 1938*<sup>1</sup>

*Obsolete*<sup>2</sup>

Department of State files

*The American Ambassador to the Minister of Foreign Affairs*

No. 1251

PARIS, August 26, 1938

### EXCELLENCY:

Pursuant to the exchange of views which has taken place between our two governments concerning the temporary admission into the United States of French samples and models, I have the honor to inform Your Excellency the samples and models of goods imported with a view to receiving orders and not destined for sale, originating in and coming from French customs territory, are at present, under the provisions of Section 308 of the American Tariff Act of 1930,<sup>3</sup> admitted into the United States free of customs duty.

However, a bond guaranteeing their reexportation within six months from the date of their importation and representing twice the amount of the duties applicable to these articles provided for in the American Tariff Act, or a cash deposit equal to the amount of the duties, is required at the time of their importation.

The Federal Government may extend for a further period, not to exceed six months, the above delay of reexportation, if the request is made by the importers.

The foregoing provisions are also applicable to ladies' dress models imported by manufacturers to be used in their own establishments and not for sale.

I should be grateful if you would inform me if the French Government is willing to grant similar treatment to samples and models originating in and coming from the United States, imported temporarily into French customs territory.

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<sup>1</sup> *Post*, p. 1032.

<sup>3</sup> See International Convention To Facilitate the Importation of Commercial Samples and Advertising Material (8 UST 1636; TIAS 3920).

<sup>4</sup> 46 Stat. 590.

I avail myself of this occasion to renew to Your Excellency the assurance of my highest consideration.

WILLIAM C. BULLITT

His Excellency  
Monsieur GEORGES BONNET  
*Minister of Foreign Affairs*  
*Paris*

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*The Minister of Foreign Affairs to the American Ambassador*

[TRANSLATION]

FRENCH REPUBLIC  
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS  
1/C.M.  
Division of Political and  
Commercial Affairs  
Commercial Relations

PARIS, *August 26, 1938*

MR. AMBASSADOR:

Under date of August 26, 1938, you were good enough to send me the following communication:

[For text of U.S. note, see above.]

In acknowledging the receipt of this communication, I have the honor to inform Your Excellency that as long as the provisions stated in the said communication are maintained in the United States, the French Government will accord, as a measure of reciprocity, the following treatment to the importation of samples and models manufactured in the United States.

Samples and models originating in and coming from the United States, which are subject to customs duties and are not prohibited, imported by commercial travelers with a view to receiving orders and not destined for sale, shall be admitted temporarily free of duty within French customs territory against a deposit of the amount of the duties and taxes, or a bond guaranteeing the eventual payment of these duties. (Articles subjected to quota restrictions shall not be considered as prohibited.)

The delay for reexportation shall be fixed at six months with facility of extension for another period of the same duration. After this delay, the payment of duties shall be required on samples which have not been reexported.

In order to benefit by the foregoing customs privileges, commercial travelers of the United States shall be bearers of an identity card containing a statement in English or French of the essential facts identifying the bearer as a commercial traveler. This identity card need not be in any standard form and need not bear the consular visa.

The present provisions are not applicable to itinerant industries, nor to pedlars, nor to persons trying to get orders from private individuals who have no commerce or industry.

Please accept, Mr. Ambassador, the assurance of my very high consideration.

For the Minister of Foreign Affairs  
*Minister Plenipotentiary*  
*Director of Political and Commercial Affairs*  
MASSIGLI

His Excellency  
Monsieur WILLIAM C. BULLITT  
*Ambassador of the United States*  
*Paris*