

SPECIAL TARIFF POSITION OF PHILIPPINES

Exchange of notes at Washington May 4 and July 8, 1946, supplementing treaty of June 5, 1928
Entered into force July 8, 1946

61 Stat. 2446; Treaties and Other
International Acts Series 1572

*The Acting Secretary of State to the Norwegian Chargé d'Affaires
ad interim*

WASHINGTON
May 4 1946

SIR:

With reference to the forthcoming independence of the Philippines on July 4, 1946, my Government considers that provision for a transitional period for dealing with the special tariff position which Philippine products have occupied for many years in the United States is an essential accompaniment to Philippine independence. Accordingly, under the Philippine Trade Act approved April 30, 1946,¹ goods the growth, produce or manufacture of the Philippines will enter the United States free of duty until 1954, after which they will be subject to gradually and regularly increasing rates of duty or decreasing duty-free quotas until 1974 when general rates will become applicable and all preferences will be completely eliminated.

Since the enactment of the Philippine Independence Act approved March 24, 1934,² my Government has foreseen the probable necessity of providing for such a transitional period and has since then consistently excepted from most-favored-nation obligations which it has undertaken toward foreign governments advantages which it might continue to accord to Philippine products after the proclamation of Philippine independence. Some thirty instruments in force with other governments, for example, permit the continuation of the exceptional tariff treatment now accorded by my Government to Philippine products, irrespective of the forthcoming change in the Commonwealth's political status.

With a view, therefore, to placing the relations between the United States and Norway upon the same basis, with respect to the matters involved, as

¹ 60 Stat. 141.

² 48 Stat. 456.

the relations existing under the treaties and agreements referred to in the preceding paragraph, my Government proposes that the most-favored-nation provisions of the Treaty of Friendship, Commerce and Consular Rights between the United States of America and Norway signed June 5, 1928,³ shall not be understood to require the extension to Norway of advantages accorded by the United States to the Philippines.

In view of the imminence of the inauguration of an independent Philippine Government, I should be glad to have the reply of your Government to this proposal at an early date.

Accept, Sir, the renewed assurances of my high consideration.

DEAN ACHESON
Acting Secretary of State

Mr. KNUT LYKKE,
Chargé d'Affaires ad interim of Norway.

The Norwegian Ambassador to the Acting Secretary of State

NORWEGIAN EMBASSY
WASHINGTON, D.C.

JULY 8, 1946

EXCELLENCY:

I have the honor to refer to your note of May 4th, 1946 in which you proposed that the most-favored-nation provisions of the Treaty of Friendship, Commerce and Consular Rights between Norway and the United States of America signed June 5th, 1928, shall not be understood to require the extension to Norway of advantages accorded by the United States to the Philippines during a transitional period following the proclamation of Philippine independence.

I am happy to reply that in appreciation of the need for such concessions and as an act of friendship toward the Republic of the Philippines my Government has instructed me to accept your Excellency's proposal.

Please accept, Excellency, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration.

W. MORGENSTIERNE

His Excellency
DEAN ACHESON,
*Acting Secretary of State,
Washington 25, D.C.*

No: 213

³ TS 852, *ante*, p. 481.