

No. 2490

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**UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN  
AND NORTHERN IRELAND  
and  
CUBA**

**Exchange of notes constituting an agreement regarding  
commercial relations. Havana, 18 December 1953**

*Official texts: English and Spanish.*

*Registered by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland on  
18 February 1954.*

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**ROYAUME-UNI DE GRANDE-BRETAGNE  
ET D'IRLANDE DU NORD  
et  
CUBA**

**Échange de notes constituant un accord relatif aux relations  
commerciales. La Havane, 18 décembre 1953**

*Textes officiels anglais et espagnol.*

*Enregistré par le Royaume-Uni de Grande-Bretagne et d'Irlande du Nord le  
18 février 1954.*

No. 2490. EXCHANGE OF NOTES CONSTITUTING AN AGREEMENT<sup>1</sup> BETWEEN THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND AND CUBA REGARDING COMMERCIAL RELATIONS. HAVANA, 18 DECEMBER 1953

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I

*Her Majesty's Ambassador at Havana to the Cuban Minister of State*

BRITISH EMBASSY

Havana, 18th of December, 1953

Your Excellency,

I have the honour to refer to the recent trade negotiations held in Havana and to inform your Excellency that I have been instructed by my Government to propose an Agreement with the Government of Cuba in the following terms:—

1. The Government of the Republic of Cuba undertake that the rates of import customs duties levied on the goods grown, produced or manufactured in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (hereinafter referred to as the United Kingdom) and specified in the annexed Schedule,<sup>2</sup> when imported into Cuba shall not be higher than those set out in the aforesaid Schedule, and shall in any event not be higher than the rates levied on like goods grown, produced or manufactured in the United States of America when imported into Cuba.

2. The United Kingdom Government, recognising the importance to its refining industry of supplies of Cuban sugar being freely available in the free market for sugar, and recognising equally the vital importance to Cuba's economy of sugar exports to the United Kingdom, undertake, except with regard to Commonwealth sugar, not to discriminate against Cuban sugar, and in consequence:—

(a) To the extent that the United Kingdom Government purchase sugar other than from Commonwealth sources, the United Kingdom Government undertake not to enter into any such agreement with any foreign supplying country nor to take any such action or measures as might have the result of affecting adversely the relative position of Cuba in the United Kingdom sugar market as compared with that of other foreign suppliers;

(b) To the extent that sugar imports are made by private importers in the United Kingdom from sources other than the Commonwealth, the United Kingdom Government undertake not to take any action or measures nor so to regulate imports as adversely to affect the relative position of Cuba in the United Kingdom sugar market as compared with that of other foreign suppliers.

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<sup>1</sup> Came into force on 1 January 1954, in accordance with the terms of the said notes.

<sup>2</sup> See p. 164 of this volume.

(c) The undertakings stipulated in the sub-paragraphs numbered 2 (a) and 2 (b) are subject to the proviso that the Cuban sugar is available on the world market for purchase under normal trade conditions.

3. The relative position of Cuba mentioned in the sub-paragraphs numbered 2 (a) and 2 (b) shall be determined on the basis of the United Kingdom imports of sugar from sources other than the Commonwealth in the five-year period 1948-52.

4. The United Kingdom Government undertake that as from 1st January, 1954, they will authorise the importation into the United Kingdom of cigars manufactured in Cuba to the value of seven hundred and fifty thousand dollars (U.S.A. \$750,000.00) in the calendar year 1954 and of one million dollars (U.S.A. \$1,000,000.00) in each of the calendar years 1955 and 1956.

5. If for any reason the United Kingdom Government or the Government of the Republic of Cuba should not be satisfied with the results of the present Agreement or if a revision of the terms of this Agreement should be deemed advisable or necessary as a consequence of tariff negotiations affecting Schedule IX<sup>1</sup> or Schedule XIX<sup>1</sup> of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade,<sup>2</sup> each of the two Governments accept that at the request of the other Government conversations will be opened within a period not longer than thirty days to revise the operation and terms of this Agreement. If within a period of ninety days after the request for the opening of said conversations has been formulated, the two Governments have not reached a mutually acceptable solution of any matters arising under this paragraph, the present Agreement shall be considered as terminated thirty days after.

6. The Agreement contained in the above paragraphs shall enter into force on 1st January, 1954, and shall remain in force until 31st December, 1956, unless terminated before that date. The Agreement shall not, however, be terminated before 1st July, 1955, except for the reasons and in accordance with the procedure set out in paragraph numbered 5. Thereafter it may be revised or terminated for any reason at the request of either of the two Governments in accordance with the aforesaid procedure.

Should these proposals prove acceptable to the Government of Cuba, I have the honour to propose that this Note, together with your Excellency's reply to that effect, shall constitute an agreement between our two Governments.

I avail, &c.

Adrian HOLMAN

<sup>1</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, Vol. 58, p. 57, and Vol. 63, p. 1 respectively.

<sup>2</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, Vol. 55, p. 187; Vols. 56 to 64; Vol. 65, p. 335; Vol. 66, pp. 358 and 359; Vol. 68, p. 286; Vol. 70, p. 306; Vol. 71, p. 328; Vol. 76, p. 282; Vol. 77, p. 367; Vol. 81, pp. 344 to 377; Vol. 90, p. 324; Vol. 92, p. 405; Vol. 104, p. 351; Vol. 107, p. 83; Vol. 117, p. 387; Vol. 123, p. 303; Vol. 131, p. 316; Vol. 135, p. 336; Vol. 138, p. 334; Vol. 141, p. 382; Vols. 142 to 146; Vol. 147, p. 159; Vol. 161, p. 365; Vol. 163, p. 375; Vol. 167, p. 265; Vol. 172, p. 340; Vol. 173, p. 395; Vol. 176, p. 2; Vol. 180, p. 299, and Vol. 183, p. 351.

[TRANSLATION<sup>1</sup> — TRADUCTION<sup>2</sup>]

MINISTRY OF STATE

Havana, 18th December, 1953.  
Year of the Centenary of José Martí

M. Ambassador,

I have the honour to acknowledge the Note which your Excellency addressed to me to-day in which, after referring to the trade negotiations recently conducted in Havana, and in accordance with instructions received from your Government, you proposed to the Government of Cuba an Agreement conceived in the following terms :—

[*See note I*]

I am happy to inform your Excellency that the foregoing proposals are acceptable to my Government and that your Excellency's Note referred to above and this reply shall constitute an Agreement between our two Governments.

I take, &c.

Miguel Angel CAMPA

<sup>1</sup> Translation by the Government of the United Kingdom.

<sup>2</sup> Traduction du Gouvernement du Royaume-Uni.

## SCHEDULE

<i>Tariff Item Number</i>	<i>Description of Products</i>	<i>Unit of Duty</i>	<i>Rate of Duty (Specific duty in Cuban pesos)</i>
3	Earths employed in the arts and in manufacturing, and manufactures of gypsum :		
C	Cement, white, either natural or artificial, G. W. . . . .	100 Kgs.	0.25
18	Glazed or unglazed articles of fine screened clay and stoneware, varnished or unvarnished, hollow or not :		
G	Clay in the same articles mentioned in sub- item 18F, when decorated in gold, or with metallic reflections, or relief, in one or more colours, G. W. . . . .	100 Kgs.	3.00
20	All classes of earthenware articles, not elsewhere specified :		
C	All articles, including tableware, when paint- ed, gilded or with ornaments in relief	100 Kgs.	6.24
32	Cast-iron in articles not coated or ornamented with any other metal or with porcelain, and not polished or turned :		
C	In pipes of all kinds and fittings for the same, with a diameter of more than 6 inches, G. W.	100 Kgs.	0.36
37	Rolled sheets :		
C	Tinned and in tinsplate, unmarked, not litho- graphed, G. W. . . . .	100 Kgs.	0.075
40	Piping, cylindrical, triangular, octagonal, or of any other form, and whether or not coated or galvan- ized, except special tubes for boilers, G.W. . . .	100 Kgs.	0.30
41	Wire, whether galvanized or not :		
D	In cables, G.W. . . . .	100 Kgs.	0.90
43	In anchors, chains for vessels and for machinery, moorings, switches and signal discs, G.W. :		
ex	In chains for vessels and for machinery, G.W.	100 Kgs.	0.975
47	Tools and implements not constituting apparatus :		
A	Fine, for arts, crafts and professions, made of fine crucible steel or fine steel cast by other methods . . . . .	100 Kgs.	3.00
F	Other tools and implements . . . . .	100 Kgs.	1.80
48	In screws, nuts, bolts, washers and rivets, nails, meat-hooks, tacks, brads and other articles not specified in other items :		
ex D	In screws and nuts . . . . .	100 Kgs.	1.90
51	Needles for sewing and embroidery, crochet need- les and pens, including cardboard containers, N.W.	Kg.	0.225

<i>Tariff Item Number</i>	<i>Description of Products</i>	<i>Unit of Duty</i>	<i>Rate of Duty (Specific duty) in Cuban pesos</i>
53	Cutlery :		
A	With handles of wood, iron, horn, bone or composition, for use of cooks, butchers, saddlers, shoemakers and those of other crafts or arts, including grinders ; and table knives and forks with such handles, or with handles of the same materials as the blade, whether or not they are tinned or nickelled in whole or in part . . . . .	Kg.	0.12
B	With handles of other materials, not coated, gold-plated or silver-plated ; clasp-knives of all kinds except razors ; and scissors for manicuring, sewing and similar uses, whether or not tinned or nickelled . . . . .	Kg.	0.30
C	Pocket-knives with handles of ordinary metals, or of other materials not coated, gold-plated or silver-plated, razors, including safety razors, not coated, gold-plated or silver-plated, and bladed weapons of steel and their parts, including sabres, swords and foils for fencing . . . . .	Kg.	0.36
D	Medical, surgical and dental instruments, weighing more than 1 kilogram . . . . .	Kg.	0.40
E	Instruments specified under the preceding sub-item, when weighing 1 kilogram or less . . . . .	Kg.	0.80
58	Beds and other articles of fine manufacture :		
C	Enamelled kitchenware made of iron . . . . .	100 Kgs.	3.30
64	Wire covered with fabric or insulating material, and cables for carrying electric current :		
A	Sheathed with lead pipe and various insulating or protective materials . . . . .	100 Kgs.	1.80
65	Wire gauze :		
A	Up to 99 threads in an area 23 millimetres square . . . . .	Kg.	0.1625
B	Of 100 threads or more in an area 23 millimetres square . . . . .	Kg.	0.35
66	Pipe, fire-plates, pieces used in boilermaking, partly worked, and bearings :		
ex A	Copper tubing . . . . .	100 Kgs.	3.90
72	Nickel, aluminium and their alloys :		
E	Aluminium hammered into fine leaves . . . . .	100 Kgs.	6.00
78	Rosins and gums :		
C	Rubber (coagulated latex, whether or not it is smoked, washed or purified) synthetic rubber and gutta-percha, crude, in lumps or sheets not vulcanised, G.W. . . . .	100 Kgs.	0.35
85	Artificial colours :		
ex A	Artificial colours in powder or lumps (except metallic blues in balls or small squares) . . . . .	100 Kgs.	0.40
B	Coal-tar colours . . . . .	Kg.	0.07

<i>Tariff Item Number</i>	<i>Description of Products</i>	<i>Unit of Duty</i>	<i>Rate of Duty (Specific duty in Cuban pesos)</i>
87	Dyes :		
E	Other dyes . . . . .	Kg.	0.175
93	Organic acids :		
ex C	Oxalic acid, G.W. . . . .	100 Kgs.	0.70
95	Inorganic salts :		
ex C	Ammonium carbonate and ammonium bicarbonate . . . . .	100 Kgs.	0.25
98	Chemical products not specifically classified; acetone and wood alcohol and scale-removers :		
ex A	Urea, chemically pure . . . . .	Kg.	0.033
C	Acetone and methyl or wood alcohol, G.W.	100 Kgs.	0.70
106	Perfumery and essences :		
E	Natural essential oils and ethers . . . . .	Kg.	0.21
113	Thread or yarn		
ex B	Thread on spools, skeins, balls or in other form for hand knitting, embroidery or sewing	100 Kgs.	2.10
124	Laces, blondes and edging of all classes :		
A	Of ordinary or common class woven on the loom, N.W. . . . .	Kg.	1.12
161	Cardboard, pasteboard and Bristol-board, in sheets or rolls :		
F	Bristol-board and fine cardboard manufactured wholly of sulphite pulp or fibre of flax or rags, coloured or not, coated or uncoated, or covered or not with white, coloured, painted, lustrous or fancy paper, embossed (stamped) or with any other kind of work .	100 Kgs.	3.30
207	Pianos, player-pianos, phonographs and similar articles, and accessories thereof :		
H	Radio and television receiving and transmitting sets, complete . . . . .	<i>Ad val.</i>	15 per cent.
I	Radio and television receiving and transmitting sets, in chassis alone, including circuits . . . . .	<i>Ad val.</i>	12 per cent.
J	Parts and accessories, including tubes, for radio and television receiving and transmitting sets and tubes for film reproducing apparatus . . . . .	<i>Ad val.</i>	6 per cent.
213	Scientific apparatus and parts therefor :		
A	Scientific apparatus used in physics laboratories and those for geodetic, surveying and nautical use . . . . .	<i>Ad val.</i>	8 per cent.
215	Machinery or apparatus for manufacturing or refining sugar or alcohol, including loose parts and accessories for the same, not specifically classified :		
ex	Boilers, pumps, motors, sugar centrifuges and steam traps (trampas de vapor) for the sugar industry . . . . .	<i>Ad val.</i>	7.98 per cent.

<i>Tariff Item Number</i>	<i>Description of Products</i>	<i>Unit of Duty</i>	<i>Rate of Duty (Specific duty in Cuban pesos)</i>
216	Agricultural and industrial machinery and instruments :		
A	Machinery, apparatus and instruments employed in working and improving the ground, planting, disinfecting plantations, cultivating, harvesting, classifying, conditioning, sterilizing or manipulating in any manner the fruits of agricultural labour, including loose parts and accessories for the same, not specifically classified . . . . .	<i>Ad val.</i>	6 per cent.
B	Machinery, portable or fixed, apparatus or instruments for industry in general and for the transformation of products used in manufactures, including those in aqueducts, not specifically provided for and including loose parts and accessories for the same, not specifically classified . . . . .	<i>Ad val.</i>	7.98 per cent.
217	Motors of all kinds, fixed or not, including windmills, and loose parts and accessories for the same, not specifically classified . . . . .	<i>Ad val.</i>	7.98 per cent
218	Pumps of all kinds, including loose parts and accessories for the same, not specifically classified :		
ex A	Electrical and hand-pumps . . . . .	<i>Ad val.</i>	7.98 per cent.
B	Loose parts and accessories for pumps of all kinds, not specifically classified . . . . .	<i>Ad val.</i>	5 per cent.
222	Office appliances and loose parts and accessories for the same, not specifically classified :		
A	Office appliances, including typewriting machines, cheque protectors; sales registering machines and cash registers; machines for recording and reproducing dictation and conversation, including cylinders and machines for cleaning and shaving the same; calculating, book-keeping, addressing machines; and all other machines for use in offices, banks, &c. . . . .	<i>Ad val.</i>	10 per cent.
B	Loose parts and accessories not specifically classified for office appliances in general, including ribbons for machines . . . . .	<i>Ad val.</i>	6 per cent.
223	Electrical machinery and apparatus, including loose parts and accessories for the same, not specifically classified :		
A	Electric washing machines . . . . .	<i>Ad val.</i>	8 per cent.
B	Others, including telephones and batteries, but excluding electric iron and storage batteries . . . . .	<i>Ad val.</i>	11.9 per cent.
224	Machines for sewing, embroidering and similar machines, including needles :		
A	Machines for sewing, embroidering, spinning and weaving and similar machines, and loose parts and accessories for the same, not specifically classified . . . . .	<i>Ad val.</i>	4 per cent.



<i>Tariff Item Number</i>	<i>Description of Products</i>	<i>Unit of Duty</i>	<i>Rate of Duty (Specific duty in Cuban pesos)</i>
B	Needles for machines included in sub-item A of this item . . . . .	<i>Ad val.</i>	4 per cent.
225	Refrigerating apparatus; air conditioning apparatus, and other machines and apparatus not for industrial use and not specifically classified:		
B	Other machinery and apparatus not for industrial uses and not specifically classified, including loose parts and accessories for the same . . . . .	<i>Ad val.</i>	15.96 per cent.
227	Carriages, automobiles, velocipedes and bicycles:		
B	Finished automobiles, with bodies mounted, of any material, of which the list price at the factory does not exceed seven hundred and fifty dollars (\$750.00) . . . . .	<i>Ad val.</i>	10 per cent.
C	Finished automobiles with bodies mounted, of any material, of which the list price at the factory is more than seven hundred and fifty dollars (\$750.00) but not more than one thousand five hundred dollars (\$1,500.00) . . . . .	<i>Ad val.</i>	10 per cent.
D	Finished automobiles with bodies mounted, of any material, of which the list price at the factory is more than one thousand five hundred dollars (\$1,500.00) but not more than two thousand three hundred dollars (\$2,300.00) . . . . .	<i>Ad val.</i>	12 per cent.
E	Finished automobiles with bodies mounted, of any material, of which the list price at the factory is more than two thousand three hundred dollars (\$2,300.00) . . . . .	<i>Ad val.</i>	18 per cent.
G	The same with bodies of steel or other metal . . . . .	<i>Ad val.</i>	14 per cent.
H	Automobile chassis without bodies . . . . .	<i>Ad val.</i>	12 per cent.
I	Truck chassis with or without cabs for chauffeur, in which metal predominates, but without bodies; and bus chassis without bodies . . . . .	<i>Ad val.</i>	5 per cent.
K	Bodies for trucks or buses made of steel or other metal, assembled . . . . .	<i>Ad val.</i>	15 per cent.
L	Bodies for trucks or buses made of steel or other metal when imported completely unassembled . . . . .	<i>Ad val.</i>	7.5 per cent.
N	Parts and accessories not specifically classified, for automobiles and trucks . . . . .	<i>Ad val.</i>	5 per cent.
O	Tractors . . . . .	<i>Ad val.</i>	4 per cent.
P	Loose parts and accessories for tractors not specifically classified . . . . .	<i>Ad val.</i>	4 per cent.
Q	Motor-cycles and the like, and loose parts and accessories for the same, not specifically classified . . . . .	<i>Ad val.</i>	15 per cent.
S	Loose parts and accessories for velocipedes and bicycles, not specifically classified . . . . .	<i>Ad val.</i>	8 per cent.
247	Codfish and similar articles:		
A	Codfish and stockfish . . . . .	100 Kgs.	4.00

<i>Tariff Item Number</i>	<i>Description of Products</i>	<i>Unit of Duty</i>	<i>Rate of Duty (Specific duty) in Cuban pesos</i>
268	Other seeds :		
A	Alfalfa seed, G.W. . . . .	100 Kgs.	0.80
270	Fish or shell fish canned in oil or in any other form, in tin or other containers :		
E	Sardines, not boned, in tomato sauce or oil, of common or ordinary class . . . . .	Kg.	0.024
271	Vegetables canned and packed in any form :		
F	Canned peas, sweet corn and asparagus . .	Kg.	0.02
273	Other preserved foods :		
F	Canned soup of all kinds except tomato soup, whether or not prepared with meat products, condiments or similar substances . . . . .	Kg.	0.055
289	Sweetened pastes, jellies and gelatine ; marmalade, quince paste, caramels ; sweetmeats and candies of all kinds and chewing gum :		
B	Jams, jellies and marmalades made of apples, peaches, apricots, plums, grapes, cherries, quinces, currants and berries . . . . .	Kg.	0.15
306	Cartridges, shells and percussion caps :		
A	Empty cartridges for hunting arms and per- cussion caps therefor . . . . .	100 Kgs.	13.00
B	Loaded cartridges for hunting arms . . . . .	100 Kgs.	24.00
C	Shells and cartridges for fire-arms not for hunting and not prohibited . . . . .	100 Kgs.	36.00
307	India-rubber or gutta-percha and synthetic rubber in manufactured articles and packing ;		
J	Packings of all kinds . . . . .	Kg.	0.04
312	Oilcloth and linoleum :		
D	Other classes of oilcloth . . . . .	Kg.	0.06
313	Games, toys and other articles of amusement or diversion, not specifically classified :		
ex	Games, toys and other articles of amusement or diversion not specifically classified (except those of wood or plastic) . . . . .	<i>Ad val.</i>	15 per cent.
322	Waterproof fabrics, that is, those covered on one or both sides with a coating of rubber or synthetic rubber and also those having an interior coating of rubber or synthetic rubber :		
A	Waterproof fabrics of cotton in the piece for automobile hoods or upholstery . . . . .	Kg.	0.096
B	Other materials of cotton in the piece, in- cluding insulating tape . . . . .	Kg.	0.15
324	All other raw materials :		
B	Calcium carbide . . . . .	<i>Ad val.</i>	8 per cent.