

UNITED STATES TARIFF COMMISSION

[AA1921-42]

TC Publication 138

September 22, 1964

PLASTIC SHEET FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM

Determination of No Injury or Likelihood Thereof

On July 14, 1964, the Tariff Commission was advised by the Assistant Secretary of the Treasury that cast acrylic plastic sheet, "Perspex", from the United Kingdom, is being, or is likely to be, sold in the United States at less than fair value as that term is used in the Antidumping Act, 1921, as amended. Accordingly, the Commission on July 17, 1964, instituted an investigation under section 201(a) of that Act, to determine whether an industry in the United States is being or is likely to be injured, or is prevented from being established, by reason of the importation of such merchandise into the United States.

Notices of the institution of the investigation and of a public hearing to be held in connection therewith were published in the Federal Register (29 F.R. 9975; 29 F.R. 10635). The hearing was held on September 9, 1964.

In arriving at a determination in this case, due consideration was given by the Commission to the written submissions from interested parties, the testimony advanced at the hearing, and the information obtained by the Commission's staff.

On the basis of the investigation, the Commission has unanimously determined that an industry in the United States is not being, and is not likely to be, injured, or prevented from being established, by reason of the importation of cast acrylic plastic sheet, "Perspex", from the United Kingdom, sold at less than fair value (LTFV) within the meaning of the Antidumping Act, 1921, as amended.

Statement of Reasons

During the last five years the domestic demand for cast acrylic plastic sheet has risen continuously and sharply, two additional producers entered the field, all six producers increased their respective capacities, and all of them operated at or near full capacity. The importer, meanwhile, was selling "Perspex" from the United Kingdom in three general types: a specialty product for one United States customer of a variety not manufactured domestically; standard sheets; and a lower grade sheet (SD/SW) for customers who did not place prime importance on quality. The SD/SW line was discontinued after two years because an adequate market failed to develop for it. The total imports in these three classifications were the equivalent of considerably less than 1 percent of the annual sales of the domestic product; imports of "Perspex" which were directly competitive with the domestic article represented an even smaller share.

There is no evidence that sales of the LTFV imports are having a disruptive effect on the price of competitive domestic cast acrylic plastic sheet in either the national or any regional market. In view of this consideration, and the small volume of relevant imports, the Commission concluded that any injury to a domestic industry resulting from such sales cannot be more than de minimus.

The Commission's determination in this case appears to coincide with the consensus of representatives of the domestic producers, who have neither claimed that a domestic industry was materially injured nor that such an industry was likely to be injured by the LTFV imports. No representative of any domestic industry appeared at the public hearing held in connection with the Commission's investigation.

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This determination and the statement of reasons are published pursuant to section 201(c) of the Antidumping Act, 1921, as amended.

By the Commission:



Donn N. Bent
Secretary

