

§ 12.43

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belief to any port director or the Commissioner of Customs. Every such communication shall contain, or be accompanied by, (1) a full statement of the reasons for the belief, (2) a detailed description or sample of the merchandise, and (3) all pertinent facts obtainable as to the production of the merchandise abroad. If the foreign merchandise is believed to be mined, produced, or manufactured with the use of forced labor or indentured labor under penal sanctions, such communication shall also contain (4) detailed information as to the production and consumption of the particular class of merchandise in the United States and the names and addresses of domestic producers likely to be interested in the matter.

(c) If any information filed with a port director pursuant to paragraph (b) of this section does not conform with the requirements of that paragraph, the communication shall be returned promptly to the person who submitted it with detailed written advice as to the respects in which it does not conform. If such information is found to comply with the requirements, it shall be transmitted by the port director within 10 days to the Commissioner of Customs, together with all pertinent additional information available to the port director.

(d) Upon receipt by the Commissioner of Customs of any communication submitted pursuant to paragraph (a) or (b) of this section and found to comply with the requirements of the pertinent paragraph, the Commissioner will cause such investigation to be made as appears to be warranted by the circumstances of the case and the Commissioner or his designated representative will consider any representations offered by foreign interests, importers, domestic producers, or other interested persons.

(e) If the Commissioner of Customs finds at any time that information available reasonably but not conclusively indicates that merchandise within the purview of section 307 is being, or is likely to be, imported, he will promptly advise all port directors accordingly and the port directors shall thereupon withhold release of any such merchandise pending instructions from the Commissioner as to whether the

merchandise may be released otherwise than for exportation.

(f) If it is determined on the basis of the foregoing that the merchandise is subject to the provisions of the said section 307, the Commissioner of Customs, with the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury, will publish a finding to that effect in a weekly issue of the Customs Bulletin and in the FEDERAL REGISTER.

(g) Any merchandise of a class specified in a finding made under paragraph (f) of this section, which is imported directly or indirectly from the locality specified in the findings and has not been released from Customs custody before the date of publication of such finding in the FEDERAL REGISTER shall be considered and treated as an importation prohibited by section 307, Tariff Act of 1930, unless the importer establishes by satisfactory evidence that the merchandise was not mined, produced, or manufactured in any part with the use of a class of labor specified in the finding.

(h) The following findings made under the authority of section 307, Tariff Act of 1930 are currently in effect with respect to the merchandise listed below:

Merchandise	Country	T.D.
Furniture, clothes hampers, and palm leaf bags.	Ciudad Victoria, Tamaulipas, Mexico.	53408 54725

[28 FR 14710, Dec. 31, 1963, as amended by T.D. 89-1, 53 FR 51253, Dec. 21, 1988; T.D. 00-52, 65 FR 45875, July 26, 2000]

§ 12.43 Proof of admissibility.

(a) If an importer of any article detained under §12.42(e) or (g) desires to contend that the article was not mined, produced, or manufactured in any part with the use of a class of labor specified in section 307, Tariff Act of 1930, he shall submit to the Commissioner of Customs within 3 months after the date the article was imported a certificate of origin in the form set forth below, signed by the foreign seller or owner of the article. If the article was mined, produced, or manufactured wholly or in part in a country other than that from which it was exported

to the United States, an additional certificate in such form and signed by the last owner or seller in such other country, substituting the facts of transportation from such other country for the statements with respect to shipment from the country of exportation, shall be so submitted.

CERTIFICATE OF ORIGIN

I, _____, foreign seller or owner of the merchandise hereinafter described, certify that such merchandise, consisting of _____ (Quantity) of _____ (Description) in _____ (Number and kind of packages) bearing the following marks and numbers _____ was mined, produced, or manufactured by _____ (Name) at or near _____, and was laden on board _____ (Carrier to the United States) at _____ (Place of lading) (Place of final departure from country of exportation) which departed from on _____; (Date); and that _____ (Class of labor specified in finding) was not employed in any stage of the mining, production, or manufacture of the merchandise or of any component thereof.

Dated _____

(Signature)

(b) The importer shall also submit to the Commissioner of Customs within such 3-month period a statement of the ultimate consignee of the merchandise, showing in detail that he had made every reasonable effort to determine the source of the merchandise and of every component thereof and to ascertain the character of labor used in the production of the merchandise and each of its components, the full results of his investigation, and his belief with respect to the use of the class of labor specified in the finding in any stage of the production of the merchandise or of any of its components.

(c) If the certificate or certificates and statements specified in paragraphs (a) and (b) of this section are submitted within the time prescribed and the Commissioner finds that the merchandise is admissible, the port director concerned will be advised to that effect, whereupon he shall release the merchandise upon compliance with the usual entry requirements.

§ 12.44 Disposition.

(a) *Export and abandonment.* Merchandise detained pursuant to § 12.42(e) may be exported at any time prior to seizure pursuant to paragraph (b) of this section, or before it is deemed to have been abandoned as provided in this section, whichever occurs first. Provided no finding has been issued by the Commissioner of Customs under § 12.42(f) and the merchandise has not been exported within 3 months after the date of importation, the port director will ascertain whether the proof specified in § 12.43 has been submitted within the time prescribed in that section. If the proof has not been timely submitted, or if the Commissioner of Customs advises the port director that the proof furnished does not establish the admissibility of the merchandise, the port director will promptly advise the importer in writing that the merchandise is excluded from entry. Upon the expiration of 60 days after the delivery or mailing of such advice by the port director, the merchandise will be deemed to have been abandoned and will be destroyed, unless it has been exported or a protest has been filed as provided for in section 514, Tariff Act of 1930.

(b) *Seizure and summary forfeiture.* In the case of merchandise covered by a finding under § 12.42(f), if the Commissioner of Customs advises the port director that the proof furnished under § 12.43 does not establish the admissibility of the merchandise, or if no proof has been timely furnished, the port director shall seize the merchandise for violation of 19 U.S.C. 1307 and commence forfeiture proceedings pursuant to part 162, subpart E, of this chapter.

(c) *Prison-labor goods.* Nothing in this chapter precludes Customs from seizing for forfeiture merchandise imported in violation of 18 U.S.C. 1761 and 1762 concerning prison-labor goods.

[T.D. 00-52, 65 FR 45875, July 26, 2000]

§ 12.45 Transportation and marketing of prison-labor products.

If any apparent violation of section 1761 or 1762, title 18, United States Code, with respect to any imported article comes to the attention of a port director, he shall detain the article and report the facts to the appropriate