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FOREIGN MAIL

Shanghai, China July 16, 1937
Trade Commissioner

Submitted by: A. Viola Smith,

SESAMUM OIL SHIPMENTS TO UNITED STATES

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What is stated to be the second shipment of sesamum seed oil in bulk ever to leave Shanghai will be shipped on July 27 to the United States via the American steamship "President Coolidge" booked to load some 472 tons of this oil in her bulk tanks. The first shipment of 300 tons went forward by the "President Hoover".

Sesame Seed in former years chiefly moved from China to Europe where it was extracted and later much of the oil then exported to the United States. Because of a new import duty of six cents per pound, United States currency levied by the United States on sesame oil, the extraction of the seed for export purposes is now taking place in China. The two shipments described above were pressed at the China Vegetable Oil Corporation's Shanghai plant, the new semi-government organization created in 1936 to improve refining methods of vegetable oils. The Chinese Government regulations for refining and inspection now being enforced are resulting in higher standards than heretofore, as a result of which better demand for China vegetable oils is expected.

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A. Viola Smith
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Trade Commissioner

Approved by:

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Julean Arnold,
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