

to have been satisfied (see 19 U.S.C. 1558).

§ 191.153 Continuous Customs custody.

(a) *Merchandise released under an importer's bond and returned.* Merchandise released to an importer under a bond prescribed by §142.4 of this chapter and later returned to the public stores upon requisition of the appropriate Customs office shall not be deemed to be in the continuous custody of Customs officers.

(b) *Merchandise released under Chapter 98, Subchapter XIII, Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS).* Merchandise released as provided for in Chapter 98, Subchapter XIII, HTSUS (19 U.S.C. 1202), shall not be deemed to be in the continuous custody of Customs officers.

(c) *Merchandise released from warehouse.* For the purpose of this subpart, in the case of merchandise entered for warehouse, Customs custody shall be deemed to cease when estimated duty has been deposited and the appropriate Customs office has authorized the withdrawal of the merchandise.

(d) *Merchandise not warehoused, examined elsewhere than in public stores—(1) General rule.* Except as stated in paragraph (d)(2) of this section, merchandise examined elsewhere than at the public stores, in accordance with the provisions of §151.7 of this chapter, shall be considered released from Customs custody upon completion of final examination for appraisement.

(2) *Merchandise upon the wharf.* Merchandise which remains on the wharf by permission of the appropriate Customs office shall be considered to be in Customs custody, but this custody shall be deemed to cease when the Customs officer in charge accepts the permit and has no other duties to perform relating to the merchandise, such as measuring, weighing, or gauging.

§ 191.154 Filing the entry.

(a) *Direct export.* At least 6 working hours before lading the merchandise on which drawback is claimed under this subpart, the importer or the agent designated by him in writing shall file with the drawback office a direct export drawback entry on Customs Form 7551 in duplicate.

(b) *Merchandise transported to another port for exportation.* The importer of merchandise to be transported to another port for exportation shall file in triplicate with the drawback office an entry naming the transporting conveyance, route, and port of exit. The drawback office shall certify one copy and forward it to the Customs office at the port of exit. A bonded carrier shall transport the merchandise in accordance with the applicable regulations. Manifests shall be prepared and filed in the manner prescribed in §144.37 of this chapter.

§ 191.155 Merchandise withdrawn from warehouse for exportation.

The regulations in part 18 of this chapter concerning the supervision of lading and certification of exportation of merchandise withdrawn from warehouse for exportation without payment of duty shall be followed to the extent applicable.

§ 191.156 Bill of lading.

(a) *Filing.* In order to complete the claim for drawback under this subpart, a bill of lading covering the merchandise described in the drawback entry (Customs Form 7551) shall be filed within 2 years after the merchandise is exported.

(b) *Contents.* The bill of lading shall either show that the merchandise was shipped by the person making the claim or bear an endorsement of the person in whose name the merchandise was shipped showing that the person making the claim is authorized to do so.

(c) *Limitation of the bill of lading.* The terms of the bill of lading may limit and define its use by stating that it is for Customs purposes only and not negotiable.

(d) *Inability to produce bill of lading.* When a required bill of lading cannot be produced, the person making the drawback entry may request the drawback office, within the time required for the filing of the bill of lading, to accept a statement setting forth the cause of failure to produce the bill of lading and such evidence of exportation and of his right to make the drawback entry as may be available. The request shall be granted if the drawback office