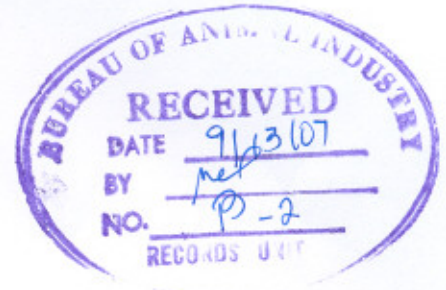




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31 August 2007

MEMORANDUM ORDER

No. 17
Series 2007

**SUBJECT: TEMPORARY BAN ON THE IMPORTATION OF HORSES
ORIGINATING FROM JAPAN**

WHEREAS, based on the official report submitted by the International Animal Affairs Office, Animal Health Division, Food Safety and Consumer Affairs Bureau of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fishery of Japan last 28 August 2007, there was an outbreak of Equine Influenza in Japan;


WHEREAS, the Equine Influenza outbreak was reported in a farm in Ritto City, Shiga Province in Japan last 14 August 2007;

WHEREAS, there is a need to prevent the entry of horses originating from Japan to protect the health of the local equine population;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ARTHUR C. YAP, Secretary of Agriculture, by the powers vested in me by law, do hereby institute the following emergency measures:

1. Banning the importation of horses originating from Japan;
2. Immediate suspension of the processing, evaluation of the application and issuance of Veterinary Quarantine Clearance (VQC) to Import of the above-stated commodities from Japan by the Bureau of Animal Industry (BAI);
3. Stoppage and confiscation of all shipments of horses from Japan by all DA Veterinary Quarantine Officers/Inspectors at all major ports;

This **Order** shall take effect immediately.


ARTHUR C. YAP
Secretary

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