

tion period would reflect the best available judgment on the time it would take to carry out necessary adjustments in each case.³²

The Standing Committee administering the program would then call for applications from firms desiring assistance in making certain needed changes in operations. Petitioners would have to show proof of being entitled to assistance. A finding of entitlement for assistance would probably have to be based on grounds of reasonable presumption of injury suffered or threatened. Without such latitude administration of assistance in readapting to increased imports would become too rigid and hence less useful.

One additional point worthy of mention concerns interphasing of adjustment assistance and temporary protection until the adjustment program has had its desired effect. The report of the special staff of the study of U.S. foreign commerce of the Senate Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce makes the following suggestion:³³

Even after the Government has had an opportunity to extend appropriate assistance in cases of incipient or serious injury resulting from imports, complaints of serious injury or the threat of serious injury may still persist. In this event, it is possible that some form of temporary trade restriction may be necessary—a limitation of exports by the exporting country or of imports by the United States. Such action may be necessary to provide time for the adjustment remedies to take effect. Action of this kind would exceed the authority of the proposed agency administering the program.

In what form such an auxiliary program should be written into law is a question that could not be dealt with in the present study.

³² The length of the transition period would interact with, or reciprocally determine the amount of assistance to be provided: the longer the period, the better the chance for the dust to settle, and the smaller the amount of assistance required. The question to be posed in each case would be: What is the economically most feasible way of correcting the inflicted or threatened dislocation? Once determination is made, performance must not be modified.

³³ "The United States and World Trade: Challenges and Opportunities," Washington, D.C., 1961, p. 158. A similar idea appeared in Randall Commission "Staff Papers," p. 387.