

Representative REUSS. Would you agree on the basis of this that world sugar, with particular reference to the foreign exchange needs of our Latin American friends, should be high on the agenda of immediate international discussions?

Mr. IOANES. I am a brave man. And I would say it certainly is an item that should be discussed. I would think again, Mr. Congressman, that the extent to which this would be a real possibility would depend on our ability and the rest of the world's ability to adjust programs in a number of countries, not just the United States.

Representative REUSS. So far there has not been the international discussion of sugar that there has been in wheat, has there?

Mr. IOANES. No. There was at one point a suggestion that there be discussion of sugar as there was on grain. This got dropped at the last minute, and we never really had a serious discussion.

Representative REUSS. Thank you very much.

Chairman BOGGS. Congressman Widnall?

Representative WIDNALL. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Ambassador Roth, New Jersey ranks first in the Nation in the number of chemical plants and the workers that are currently protected under the American selling price system. On June 30, I believe it was, all 15 members of the Republican and Democratic delegations from New Jersey wrote rather strong letters to President Johnson and to you calling for release of the Report on the Economic Future of the American Benzoate Chemical Industry. To date, to the best of my knowledge, such requests have been refused by you for the 1966 full study by the Tariff Commission on dropping the American selling price. Why isn't it being released to Congress?

Mr. ROTH. Mr. Chairman, the Congressman's question was brought up in the questions by industry on Friday in the chamber of commerce. We pointed out that the Tariff Commission's report contains very confidential material from a great many firms, information that would affect their competitive position. We said, however, that we realized that some of this data would be valuable in assessing our proposed American selling price. And we are considering and have under way a letter to the chemical companies concerned asking if they would approve the release of their confidential information. If it is possible to get such approvals, then I think it is possible that we could make some of this information available.

Representative WIDNALL. Mr. Ambassador, it doesn't seem to me that we can act intelligently in connection with this matter unless we do have available to us the same type of information that you have available to you. I understand your reasons for saying that you want to protect certain people who give information to you. But I believe that those who are going to be vitally affected by this, the people in the chemical industry, are entitled to know the basis that is used for the approach that you and the other negotiators have made to other chemical industries. It seems to me quite apparent that there is a great upset within that industry, and not a general acceptance of your decisions over there. This greatly concerns the future of their industry, and they seem terribly disturbed about it.

Mr. ROTH. Mr. Congressman, I agree very much with what you said. I would like to say only that it is not a question of our policy about releasing this information until we get releases from the companies