

more than 50 countries, countries that account for three-quarters of the world's trade. The final agreements were not signed until a little over a week ago. It is not surprising, therefore, that we in the Congress have been given only preliminary information on the outcome of the negotiation.

We await the report to the Congress required by the Trade Expansion Act for definitive analysis of the Kennedy Round result. Until we see this report, our assessments must be tentative.

I am, nevertheless, willing to express confidence that our negotiators have brought home a Kennedy Round settlement that will largely fulfill the expectations and intentions of the 87th Congress which wrote into law the historic Trade Expansion Act of 1962. Basing my views on observations made as a congressional delegate, I believe that our people in Geneva have used their negotiating authority wisely and well. The act enjoined them, to quote from the statement of purposes, " * * * through trade agreements affording mutual trade benefits (1) to stimulate the economic growth of the United States and maintain and enlarge foreign markets for the products of U.S. agriculture, industry, mining, and commerce." I can attest that they were persistent and diligent in pursuit of this objective.

I shall reserve comment on details of the agreements until I have had the chance to study these agreements carefully and to consider the analysis which is under preparation.

I would like to remark, however, on two matters that are creating considerable controversy.

The Kennedy Round has resulted in the negotiation of an international antidumping code. Without entering into the merits of the provisions of this code, I am inclined to support our negotiators' contention that they have entered into an agreement that does not violate the letter or the essential spirit of our U.S. antidumping law. I know that they made a very great and sincere effort to achieve this end, which included extended domestic consultation and public hearings.

Secondly, an agreement was reached that commits the administration to seek legislation to convert the American selling price (ASP) system of customs evaluation to the normal evaluation system as it applies to certain chemicals. Again, I don't intend to discuss the merits of such legislation at this time, but I do want to say that prior to entering into negotiation on ASP, a maximum effort was made to seek public advice, to assure that the views of the industry affected were heard and considered, and to establish that a change in the system was justified.

Both in regard to dumping and ASP, the administration has recognized its obligation to seek and fully consider public and congressional opinion. In fact, to a far greater extent than in the past, the development of U.S. positions throughout the Kennedy Round has involved extensive consultations not only within the administration, but also with representatives of the public and with Members of Congress. The Trade Expansion Act established, for the first time, the Special Representative for Trade Negotiations, directly responsible to the President for the conduct of such negotiations. The act stated in section 241(a) that the Special Representative should " * * * seek information and advice with respect to each negotiation from representatives of industry, agriculture, and labor, and from such agencies as he deems appropriate."