

Here is an exceedingly responsible Japanese industrialist, who, when he comes to look at the problem from the side of the United States, reaches exactly the same conclusion that you lumbermen in Alaska have reached in respect to how best to handle your timber resources, and the same position that the lumbermen in my State have reached, and the lumbermen in Washington, when it comes to handling the timber resources of Oregon and Washington. I think that is very important that I find today, from Mr. Momma, this verification of the viewpoint expressed to me by another Japanese industrialist just a few days ago when I was in Oregon.

I only want to say good naturedly for the record: State Department, Treasury, Commerce, Forestry, Interior, and White House, please take note. If it is the balance-of-payments issue that you are concerned with, then to follow the policy that Mr. Momma has supported and that other witnesses have supported before my committee is going to give us more benefit in solving that problem than would a policy of shipping round logs to Japan, the course of action that you have recommended.

Whatever other policies are involved, we certainly also want to work out amicable trade relations with Japan, but they have to be bottomed upon seeing to it that those trade relations do not do injury and place in jeopardy legitimate economic interests of our own industries in our own country. Whenever the State Department proposes to do that, then it must be opposed.

It happens to be my judgment, although I will be glad if they can show me that I am wrong, that the State Department has not evidenced yet a clear understanding of the principles the chairman has just enunciated, I think, as has been said earlier by these witnesses, we have got to follow a course of action in the resolution of this problem, wherein we say to the Japanese Government, "This is the floor below which we will not go, and you have got to face up to that floor of ours as your ceiling, when it comes to the matter of the exportation of round logs. We are willing to enter into an agreement with you for exportation of round logs to that amount that can be shown will not do damage to the trusteeship relationship of our Government to administer our natural resources in a way that will protect the longtime interests of the American consuming public in having available to them in perpetuity a supply of timber to meet their wood products needs." That is what our Government should be saying to Japan.

We cannot, or at least we should not, as a matter of national policy ever export logs in quantities which amount in effect to taking away from the American-consuming public a log supply to which they are entitled under our national forestry programs.

An agreement with Japan should maintain a balance of log exports which will protect economic interests of the ports of the United States and the workers connected with the maritime industry, and likewise the economic interests of the lumber mills and their workers, but not go beyond a clear-cut, understood ceiling.

And therefore the main question of fact before this committee is: What should be the log export limitations from the Pacific Northwest that will maintain the economic balance that I am talking about, that would be fair to the ports and their workers and the maritime workers involved in the export trade, and also to the lumber mills and the workers therein.