January 22, 1968
The Honorable Wayne Morse
Re: Log Exports

would propose what we considered unwarranted restrictions on the export-import trade.

Now, in respect to the export of logs to Japan which we felt here in the Pacific Northwest in the late 1950's. At that time, it appeared to us, that for the most part, that portion of logs being exported was largely of a species or grade which to a large extent would not have been utilized had it not been exported. This situation, of course, has materially changed. Principally, in two ways:-

One, lumber industry here has developed methods for greater utilization of our wood products.

Secondly, the grade of logs being exported has changed to where the better grades are going to export as well as the lower or inferior grades.

So to put it simply, we have some loggers working who would not be working were it not for log exports. This was more predominant following the Columbus Day storm of 1962 than probably any other period of time, as much of the timber blown down was exported.

We have some sawmill and plywood employees not working because of the export of logs to Japan.

So we join with others in saying - yes, we do have a problem here in the lumber industry in the Pacific Northwest, part of which we believe can be attributed to the export of logs or to maybe better put it another way, to the abuses which we believe have developed and crept into the industry as a result of the export of logs and that being used, in many cases, as the excuses to attempt to justify what is being done, such as:

 a. Direct Japanese interests bidding for timber stumpage in competition to our own industry.