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1 logs. Mr. Erskine now expressed fear that because of the export of logs to
2 Japan others will bid the timber to extreme prices to get logs either for export
3 to Japan or to replace logs already gone out of their area. He noted Mr. Ritchie's
4 statement that logs from Mapleton have already gone to Aberdeen to replace logs
5 lost from that area to the Japanese.

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ANDERSON & MIDDLETON LUMBER CO.
Manufacturers Since 1898
Hemlock, Fir & Spruce Lumber
Broadway & State Streets
Aberdeen, Wash.

C O P Y

July 14, 1961

Mr. Joseph W. McCracken, Executive Vice President,
Western Forest Industries Association
2319 Lloyd Center
Portland 12, Oregon

Dear Joe:

I will be unable to attend your meeting with Senator Morse on Saturday July 15th due to previous long term commitments.

As you know our company is seriously concerned about the effect of Japanese log exports on its ability to operate to full capacity. This Company is the oldest saw mill on Grays Harbor and has the steadiest operating record of any sawmill, plywood mill, pulp mill, or other forest industry in this area. Since before World War II it has never been shut down because of market or lack of logs.

Now, however, we have the smallest log inventory in many years, being only enough for three days operation and are finding it exceedingly difficult to buy enough logs to run on. We are operating on a week to week basis not knowing whether we will have the raw material for the next week or so. It appears that so many logs are being shipped out to Japan that we may lose time in our mill in the not too distant future.

Frankly we don't know what we can do about it for we are paying as much for logs as we were when the lumber market was much better and can ill afford to pay more. Furthermore we understand that the Japanese could top anything we payed regardless of what it was.

This Company cuts about 60 million feet of saw logs yearly and has been a large and steady employer. Propaganda by log exporters tries to show that shipping raw logs is more beneficial than manufacturing them into lumber and shipping lumber which also must be loaded onto boats, by longshore men etc. If this mill, which is the largest independent one in this area, and, we believe, one of the most efficient, which ships most of its lumber to the East coast on American ships, (but can also sell lumber to the Japanese) is forced to shut down and put its loyal employees out of work I am afraid for the economy of the lumber ports of the Northwest.

Lets pray that something can be done to prevent this from happening, for once we, and presumably many other mills, are out of logs that we can economically operate on it may be too late.

Very truly yours,

ANDERSON & MIDDLETON LUMBER CO.

s/ By Richard W. Middleton
Richard W. Middleton

RWM:es