

Mr. FULTON. Thank you, Doctor, for your appearance before the committee.

The next witness is Mr. Schwenger.

Mr. Schwenger, we are pleased to have you appear before the committee today.

I want to say for the other members of the committee I am sure that some of them are aware of your many years in connection with the trade agreements program in the Department of Agriculture.

We are pleased to have you appear before the committee.

Will you identify yourself and your association for the record.

STATEMENT OF ROBERT B. SCHWENGER, KENSINGTON, MD.

Mr. SCHWENGER. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

My name is Robert B. Schwenger. I worked in the Interdepartmental Trade Agreements Organization from 1934 to 1966: 26 years for the Department of Agriculture; 6 years for the Department of Labor, after holding fellowships in international economic relations at the Universities of Wisconsin, Geneva, Switzerland, and Chicago.

About 1963, I became convinced that a fundamental change in approach was needed, but officials were too preoccupied with the Kennedy round to really consider by proposal. In 1964 I was awarded a sabbatical year to develop my idea but officials were too preoccupied with the Kennedy round to consider it. In January 1967, I retired in order to try to get it considered in connection with new trade-policy legislation. Hence, I am particularly grateful for the opportunity to appear before this committee.

My proposal for a change in policy must presumably go over to next year for consideration. However, regardless of what may then be decided, I believe it of the most urgent importance that the Congress now give an effective expression of its wish, when debating future foreign trade policy, to be fully and authoritatively informed as regards the relevant problems and concerns of foreign governments and people.

I believe such a simple expression would reverse the deterioration that I now see taking place in the support for a trade policy for the national interest and in the atmosphere of intergovernmental discussion of trade problems.

In the 5 minutes allotted me for oral presentation, I will try to summarize the main points of the reasoning and analysis behind this contention, leaving the future proposal for inclusion in the record if I may do that.

1. Technology and interdependence—world growth perspective needed.

Technology, working through the ownership and management institutions evolved in the United States and other free world industrial countries, is integrating national economies into a world economy, a matter that has been touched upon by many of the witnesses. They must function as a single production-consumption process to achieve the enormous new possibilities—for example, the supply of a decent minimum of food, clothing, and shelter for every human being. And, due to advances in communication, that enable everyone to see what is going on, people everywhere expect governments to facilitate that kind of world growth. Every important economic policy and program must be reviewed in that perspective.