Second, we seek to voice our support of House Resolution 16936, known as the Fair International Trade Act of 1968, which is now before this committee and, third, we propose the strengthening of the requirement for identifying the country of origin on imports and deletion of the so-called "J" list from section 304 of the Tariff Act.

A brief review of our problems in the area of imports will help to clarify our position on these three points.

Imports of cast iron soil pipe and fittings was nil until after World War II when with the aid of the Marshall plan the plants in Europe were rebuilt. In connection with this we had visitations from European delegations at our plants at the request of our State Department and gave them the benefit of the latest production techniques available at that time. During this same period due to information received by the Iron Curtain countries from captured German plants, they expanded their production and by the early 1950's we began to experience serious economic pressure from imported material.

In 1952 we asked the Treasury Department to investigate an antidumping case against the importation of cast iron soil pipe and fittings at less than fair value from Mexico into southern California. In this case the Treasury Department ruled that there was no likelihood of injury because the quantity imported from this source was, in comparison to the total U.S. production, very negligible although none of it reached eastward beyond the western part of Nevada and Arizona. The effect on the California market was not considered. During this same period, wages and prices began moving rapidly upward in relation to output and far more rapidly than those in Europe. By 1954, European plants were exporting to the United States at prices lower than those existing here. It was about that time that the importation of cast iron soil pipe, especially from France, began in considerable quantity. Other European countries quickly followed and commenced to sell soil pipe in the United States at prices which appeared to be below those in their own countries. Importers aimed especially at those points in the United States where there was the greatest demand for housing and the situation became so unbearable in California that American producers of cast iron soil pipe asked the Customs to investigate imports from the United Kingdom which it was believed were being sold in this country at less than fair value within the meaning of the antidumping legislation.

In 1956, the Commissioner of Customs found that British pipe was, indeed, entering the United States at "less than fair value" and the case went before the U.S. Tariff Commission whose members found that there had definitely been injury caused American pipe producers in the west coast region.

During the late 1950's, imports commenced to arrive from non-European countries not previously engaged in the export of cast iron soil pipe and fittings. The U.S. foreign aid program had been extended far beyond Europe and had built a large iron and steel industry in India. To compete with India, Australia found it necessary to reduce export prices and, again, the American producers of cast iron soil pipe and fittings found it necessary to request the Bureau of Customs to investigate. It was determined that there was importation "at less than fair value" but, when the case reached the Tariff Commission, the Aus-