

LUKENS STEEL Co.,
Coatesville, Pa., June 24, 1968.

HON. WILBUR D. MILLS,
Chairman, Committee on Ways and Means,
U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, D.C.

DEAR CHAIRMAN MILLS: Lukens Steel Company is a manufacturer of plate steels which are used in petroleum, chemical and food processing; electrical and atomic power equipment; industrial machinery and machine tools; construction; missiles and ordnance; transportation; shipbuilding; boiler manufacturing mining and quarrying equipment, and bridge and dam construction.

It has annual sales of approximately \$130,000,000 and employment of 5,500. Since its inception in 1810, the company has played an important role in the economy of Coatesville, Pennsylvania, and Chester County, where it is the major manufacturing enterprise. Even so, its sales represent only 3.1 percent of the largest firm in the steel industry.

The company has been a reliable employer of Chester County people over the more than a century and half of its existence so that today among its employees are men and women whose parents, grandparents and great grandparents worked here.

Lukens competes vigorously and successfully in the plate steel market. In the past 10 years it has invested \$86 million in a continuing plant modernization and improvement program, and it plans to spend an additional \$50 million in the next five years. This is indicative of its firm resolve to strengthen further its competitive ability both presently and in the future.

There is cause for alarm, however, in the unfair advantage enjoyed by foreign competitors in our domestic market and the barriers other countries raise against the sale of our products there.

You and other members of the Ways and Means Committee heard Thomas F. Patton, chairman, Republic Steel Corporation, and I. W. Abel, president, United Steelworkers of America, testify on June 18. The joint appearance of those two men emphasized their concern over the impact of the growing increase in steel imports.

We at Lukens share that concern. For a company of our size to compete successfully with the major producers in the U.S.A., an extra measure of energy and ingenuity is required constantly. The problem is enlarged when the company also has to compete domestically with foreign steel producers which have advantages of home market protection, subsidies in prices and taxes and which are instruments of national policy.

It is our intense desire as individuals and corporate citizens to promote free and equitable world trade, but it is increasingly difficult to compete in an international environment which legislates against free market competition.

Therefore, we earnestly request your committee's favorable consideration of our views and ask Congress to enact the Iron and Steel Orderly Trade Act.

Sincerely,

CHARLES LUKENS HUSTON, Jr., *President.*

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, D.C., June 28, 1968.

HON. WILBUR D. MILLS,
Chairman, Committee on Ways and Means,
House of Representatives, Washington, D.C.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Enclosed is a statement prepared by Mr. Martin N. Ornitz, President of the Roblin Steel Company of North Tonawanda, New York, in my congressional district, in support of my bill H. R. 13277. I understand this bill is being considered along with other tariff and trade proposals in the hearings now being held by your Committee.

In order to save the time of the Committee, we are submitting this written statement and did not submit a request to be heard in person. I respectfully request that this statement be made a part of the hearing record and that it be given full consideration at the appropriate time.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely yours,

HENRY P. SMITH III,
Member of Congress.