

We do not know at the present time what it is, because past the year that we pointed out, 1963, we have only two domestic producers of zinc in sheets, and we no longer report, so it is a question of exchange of information.

Mr. CURTIS. It is a very sizable portion of the domestic consumption?

Mr. DONEHOWER. Of zinc in sheets, that is right.

Mr. CURTIS. Could I pursue it just a little further?

Has zinc in sheets declined in usage, and isn't used as much by our fabricators? Is that one reason, or what is the reason?

Mr. DONEHOWER. Well, I would say that it is still a substantial item, but it has declined in recent years, due largely, I think, to the fact that most domestic producers have not found it possible to compete with this type competition.

Mr. CURTIS. I see.

Thank you very much.

The CHAIRMAN. Are there any further questions?

If not, we thank you again, Mr. Fletcher, and all of you who have stayed with us so long, representing this discussion of lead and zinc.

Mr. FLETCHER. Thank you very much.

The CHAIRMAN. We apologize for keeping you so long.

Without objection, the committee adjourns until 10 o'clock in the morning.

(The following letters and statements were received, for the record,, by the committee:)

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, D.C., July 2, 1968.

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

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: The Department of State has received from the Australian Embassy a statement of the views of the Australian Mining Industry Council concerning the United States market for lead and zinc. The Embassy has requested that the statement be transmitted to the Committee on Ways and Means for its consideration for possible inclusion in the record of the current hearings on tariff and trade proposals.

I am, therefore, pleased to forward three copies of the enclosed statement for your consideration.

Sincerely yours,

WILLIAM B. MACOMBER, JR.,
Assistant Secretary for Congressional Relations.

SUBMISSION BY THE AUSTRALIAN MINING INDUSTRY COUNCIL

U.S. MARKET FOR LEAD AND ZINC

The Australian Mining Industry Council has been informed that the United States Congressional Committee on Ways and Means was scheduled to commence public hearings on June 4 on the general subject of the balance of trade between the United States and foreign nations. The Council was concerned to note in the press release on the subject that the hearings would cover inter alia:

"(2) proposals relative to imposition of quotas either on an across-the-board basis or on named items or commodities".

Since the press release gives a separate listing to "measures directed at maintaining our favourable balance of trade in the context of our balance of payments problems", we can only assume that the hearings under (2) will be concerned with the possible introduction of quotas for protective purposes.

It is the Council's understanding that the rules of procedures of the Committee preclude the Council from submitting evidence to the Committee directly, or from briefing a representative to appear on its behalf. It is therefore taking this opportunity of requesting the Australian Government to put the Council's views to the relevant Departments in the United States Administration.