

Under the previous quota arrangements Australian zinc suffered severely. Australian zinc was not given a quota of its own, with the result that U.S. imports of Australian zinc were unpredictably and drastically curtailed.

The United States Tariff Commission summed up the position very succinctly in its report to Congress in May 1962 (Page 48) by stating "that the quotas were discriminatory in their effects, favouring some concerns while creating unusual difficulties for others and that they seriously interfered with normal trade relations".

Not only do quotas in themselves lead to discrimination between suppliers, but modifications to the quota regime can place the more distant suppliers in a disadvantageous position. This was the experience of Australian exporters under the previous quota arrangements.

CONCLUSION

The Australian Mining Industry Council has decided to put these views forward at this time because of its concern at the wide ranging nature of the House Ways and Means Committee hearings. The Council is completely opposed to the use of quota restrictions in world trade in lead and zinc. Its opposition to a quota control system is based on its belief that a free flow of trade in these commodities will maximise consumption and increase the welfare of the industry in all producing and consuming countries. Furthermore, the Council speaks in the light of the practical experience which member companies have had of the earlier United States quota system.

CANBERRA, June 14, 1968.

COPPER & BRASS FABRICATORS COUNCIL, INC.,
New York, N.Y., June 19, 1968.

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

DEAR MR. MILLS: I am sending you herewith a statement on behalf of the domestic brass mill industry in connection with the public hearings which your Committee is now holding on the general subject of the balance of trade between the United States and foreign nations. Additional copies are being sent to the Committee for distribution as indicated in the announcement of the hearings.

Because of the short time remaining for action, we urge the immediate consideration of H. Con. Res. 447 by your Committee, to prevent the International Antidumping Code, which is in conflict with the Antidumping Act of 1921 and which was agreed to on behalf of the United States without the authority of the Congress, from going into effect on July 1, 1968 without Congressional approval.

Yours sincerely,

T. E. VELTFORT,
Managing Director.

STATEMENT OF T. E. VELTFORT, MANAGING DIRECTOR, COPPER & BRASS
FABRICATORS COUNCIL, INC.

Purpose of statement.—The statement is being made on behalf of the domestic brass mill industry, to review its experience under the United States Foreign Trade Policy since 1934, and to offer its recommendations.

The domestic brass mill industry.—The brass mill industry is described and its importance in the national economy and national defense emphasized.

The brass mill industry is experienced in United States foreign trade policy.—The industry has been directly involved in important aspects of this policy since enactment of the Reciprocal Trade Agreements Act in 1934.

Why tariffs on brass mill products should not have been reduced.—A comparison of pertinent facts applicable to foreign trade involving brass mill products is presented, which emphasizes the inequity of the tariff reductions in the Kennedy Round.

Changes are needed in our foreign trade policy.—The statistics used by the Government in support of its trade policy are incomplete and when correct data are employed, the unqualified support for the policy fails and the need for changes is indicated.