The United States absorbed 82 percent of the total textile exports of 19 less-developed countries to the EEC, Japan and the United States. Japan let in 1 percent and the EEC, with about the same population as the United States took 17 percent of the total. These lesser developed countries together had large textile trade deficits with Japan and with the European Common Market. The lesser developed countries ran a surplus with us of a third of a billion dollars. We are already serving as an important textile market for many developed countries as well, as shown on chart IV.

THE NATIONAL INTEREST DEMANDS A GROWING TEXTILE INDUSTRY

The textile industry was described by the World War II Army Quartermaster General as second only to steel in essentiality. In 1959 the Office of Civil and Defense Mobilization made the following statement to the Senate Textile Subcommittee:

> The OCDM regards the textile industry as an essential industry and considers it an essential part of the Nation's mobilization base.

The textile industry is presently supplying an average of 200 yards of cloth for every man and woman in uniform. In all, some 25,000 textile items from socks to bulletproof vests are used by the military.

The textile industry is essential to the economic and social framework of the United States as well as to its military security.

The virtually unrestricted flow of textile imports into this country is working to nullify our strong commitment to provide more jobs for the unskilled in underdeveloped areas of our own country. When we have such critical needs at home the United States no longer can afford to use textile trade as a means of creating jobs and prosperity overseas.

A growing textile industry can be the vehicle for putting some of our underdeveloped areas on their feet economically by providing the needed jobs.

There is no area of the United States where the importance of the textile industry, and its hundreds of thousands of jobs for diverse skills, is better illustrated than in the Appalachia Development region. In the 373 counties which constituted the original Appalachia program area, some 453,000 people are employed by the textile industry. In many of these counties, textile employment accounts for as much as 75 percent or more of the manufacturing jobs. The national average for employment in the textile industry is 13 percent of all manufacturing jobs. In the Appalachian region 26 percent—better than one out of every four manufacturing jobs—are in the textile industry.

There are 118 counties contiguous to Appalachia and 85 of these have substantial textile employment—another 224,000 jobs directly in the textile industry. If one were to draw a line 50 miles outside the boundaries of Appalachia, this line would include an area with an additional 345,000 textile jobs. In short, there are more than 1 million textile jobs in Appalachia and a 50-mile area surrounding it.

The jobs the textile industry is providing in Appalachia have special significance. In many cases they spell the difference between self-support and welfare. Jobs in the textile industry have helped thou-