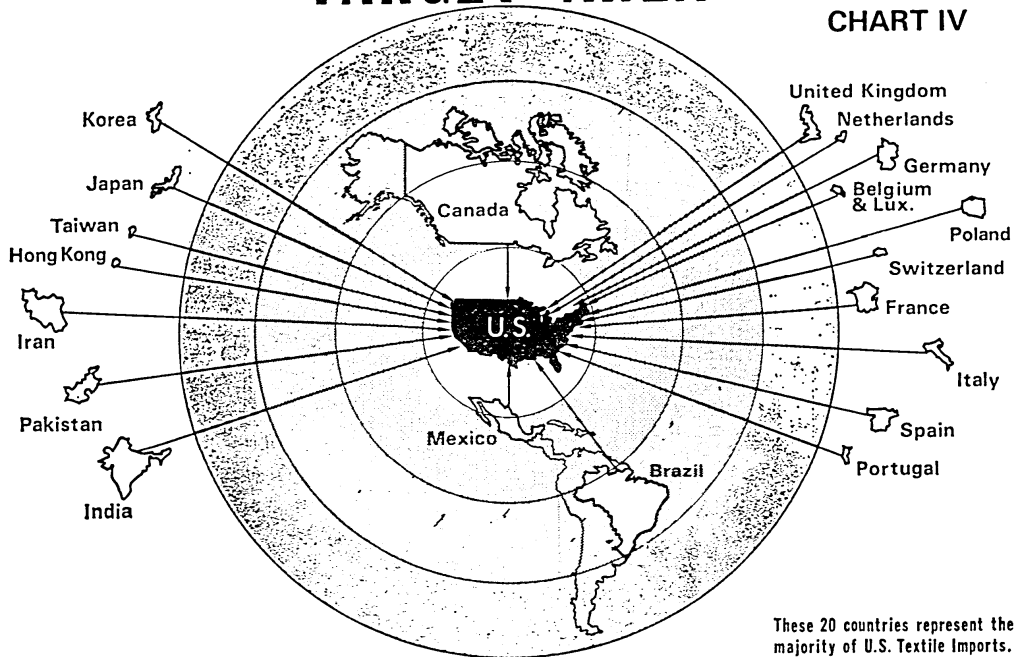


TARGET AREA

CHART IV



Mr. DENT. Mr. Chairman, at this time I would like to submit for the record the statement of Merle S. Robie, chairman, executive committee, Cordage Institute.

The CHAIRMAN. Without objection that will be done at this point.

STATEMENT OF MERLE S. ROBIE, CHAIRMAN, EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, CORDAGE INSTITUTE

The Cordage Institute, which is composed of practically all of the rope and twine producers of America, welcomes the opportunity to submit this statement to the Committee. Our position was included in the presentation of the American Textile Manufacturers Institute.

As the Committee is aware, cordage products have traditionally been included with other textile fibers and textile products for duty and customs purposes. The Tariff Commission also recognizes this fact and among other evidence on this point is the reference made to cordage in the recent report to the President on Textiles and Apparel. However, since certain of the problems of the Cordage Industry are unique, we feel it important that the Committee recognize the cumulative effects of growing imports of textile products and the ultimate effect on the ability of the Cordage Industry to produce rope and farm twines in the event of a national emergency. We are familiar with various bills that have been introduced in the House of Representatives to effect relief to the Textile Industry as a whole. We support the purposes of these bills and believe they are essential to the continuation of one of our country's basic industries.

The bill, H.R. 11578, introduced by Mr. Mills, is typical of those presently pending before this Body. However, we would earnestly recommend to the Committee that the definition of "textiles" used in H.R. 13256, introduced by Mr. Utt, and the identical bill, H.R. 13755, introduced by Mr. Stratton, be used in lieu of the definition in H.R. 11578. These two bills are the same as the bill introduced by Mr. Mills with the exception that their definition specifically includes cordage products. We believe that the Congress will continue to apply the same treatment to cordage products as it does to other textile products. However, in administering such legislation it would be possible, even though inaccurate, for the Federal Agencies to exclude the cordage products if the definition does not specifically include them. To repeat, cordage products are now