textile products to Europe. The Kennedy Round did nothing for us here. Indeed, the import quota and export subsidy program recently announced by France undoubtedly will increase the pressure on the U.S. to accept even greater volumes of textile imports.

Most developed countries continue to use various non-tariff barriers to restrict their imports of textiles from the less developed countries and Japan. Indeed, the United States is the only major textile country which does not do so. However, even if the other developed countries substantially liberalized their imports of textiles from the less developed, our textile trade problem would not be solved. Studies by the OECD Textiles Committee in Paris, the International Textile Federation in Zurich, and others, indicate a rapid expansion of textile capacity in the less developed countries, and they can easily expand that capacity further to supply additional textiles to other developed countries as well as the United States.

The real solution to the United States textile trade problem is prompt enactment of the Mills Bill (H.R. 11578).

Sincerely yours,

FREDERICK B. DENT, *President.*

Mr. CURTIS. Questions I am asking most witnesses relate to the effect of the Kennedy round on their industries.

One of the things I hope that this committee will do is to evaluate the Kennedy round. I was very active in following it, but I was trying to follow essentially the working of the machinery. I did not get involved in the substantive decisions.

I deliberately didn't get involved in substantive decisions. I have told people that and it is very true that my mind is open on whether or not the Kennedy round was an overall success.

One way I can evaluate the Kennedy round is by listening to the testimony from the industries who themselves were involved as to what they think the impact has been. Essentially I would say the impact wasn't great on the textile industry because we left out of the Kennedy round, or left in it you might say, the extension of the long-term Cotton Textile Agreement right?

Mr. DENT. Mr. Curtis, I think that the record will have to speak clearly for itself. Imports of textile products into the United States reached a peak in 1966, and declined slightly in 1967. The only experience since the Kennedy round became effective is the period of this year since January 1, and during this period imports into this country have gone up 14 percent over the record rate of 1966. The decline of 1967 has been completely reversed.

Mr. CURTIS. Wait a second. The Kennedy round has not gone into effect yet.

Mr. DENT. The first of January the first cuts became effective.

Mr. CURTIS. This is what I want to know. Were there cuts that affected your industry. What were these cuts? What are your anticipations? This is what I would like to have on the record.

I don't know. Don't misunderstand me. I have had plenty of people tell me behind closed doors their views but the way to move this dialog forward is as we are trying to do here in a public hearing where a statement can be made, where those who disagree can rebutt and those who then disagree with the rebuttal can have the opportunity for rejoinder.

Here we are now in public hearings and I would like to, if the industry cares to, have you given us a critique of the Kennedy round. Perhaps the better method is through a considered memorandum.