

To assist further this committee in its understanding of the current complexion of the domestic textile industry and its relative position in world trade, we have appended to this statement, as supplementary material for your consideration, a detailed statistical appendix which sets forth what may be considered the basic economic data for the domestic textile industry and the manmade fiber sector of that industry. We respectfully request that this appendix be included in the formal record of these hearings.

Mr. BURKE. Without objection, it will be included.

Mr. BROWN. To place this discussion within the proper context, initial consideration must be given to certain basic facts concerning the manmade fiber producers of the United States and the role which they play within the interdependent multifiber textile industry.

THE INTERDEPENDENT MULTIFIBER TEXTILE INDUSTRY

All sectors of the U.S. textile industry complex agree that it is properly defined to mean all establishments engaged in the production in the United States of "textile articles" and that such term includes manmade staple fiber, filaments, and filament yarn, as well as wool tops; cotton, wool, and manmade fiber spun yarn; fabric, apparel and all other textile manufacturers, whether of cotton, wool or manmade fiber, or a combination or blend of these fibers with each other or in combination with other fibers.

This concept of a contemporary interdependent multifiber industry was recognized and subscribed to by the U.S. Tariff Commission in its textile and apparel study¹ released this January. The Commission's study recognized the fact that, in view of the changing composition of the fiber market, the former distinctions as to "fiber components" were rapidly becoming less meaningful due to the increased use of manmade fibers on wool- and cotton-spinning systems. Textile mills have found that, with a minimum adjustment of equipment, natural and synthetic fiber blends can be efficiently produced. The net result is that it has become increasingly difficult, if not impossible, to consider separately the producers of textile articles by the kind of fibers which they consume in their operations.

The emergence of this multifiber industry during the past decade has also witnessed the dramatic shift of the U.S. textile industry from a once predominantly cotton-oriented industry to a predominantly manmade-fiber-oriented industry. This trend is continuing.

The ultimate consumption of manmade fibers, which is also true of the natural fibers, is principally in the textile products which are purchased by the consumer. Within the textile manufacturing complex the efforts of the apparel and home furnishing sector of the textile industry to supply this consumer demand results in the principal use of our manmade fibers, although meeting defense requirements is also of great importance.

The strength of this domestic demand for manmade fibers is necessarily affected by the supply from abroad of semifinished and finished textile articles containing manmade fiber as well as by the foreign supply of manmade fibers in their primary form. Therefore, it may

¹ Report to the President on investigation No. 332-55 under section 332 of the Tariff Act of 1930—U.S. Tariff Commission—"Textiles and Apparel"; TC publication 226, Washington, D.C., January 1968.