

There is a very interesting member of this panel who is talking to a large number of 10,000 people. His subject matter is, a country-by-country critique of apparel production opportunities in Southeast Asia. This gentleman will cover the more important aspects of general investment conditions, including such factors as political stability, tax rates, incentives, freedom to remit profits, and repatriate capital and who is investing.

I don't know whether or not all the members of your committee, and I am so sorry they are not here, realize how critical and—

Mr. BURKE. Before you proceed, there is a debate going on in the House on a expenditure bill that runs into the billions, and the chairman and the other members of the committee are conferees, and have some problems on a tax bill coming up tomorrow. Everything you say here today will be looked over by the committee, and each member is advised by his staff exactly what is said here, so don't be discouraged about the attendance here because it is just as through the entire committee was here.

By the way, would you like to have that put in the record?

Mr. PHILLIPS. Yes; I would, sir. If I may I would like to have the morning program of the AAMA convention in Atlantic City inserted in the record.

Mr. BURKE. It will be inserted following your statement.

Mr. PHILLIPS. That doesn't change the fact that I am sorry because there is a certain kind of critical, almost emotional part of this that gets triggered, gets triggered in me personally, when I listen to the previous testimony. I get very angry. I get angry as an American. I get angry as a manufacturer. I don't like a gun being held to our head. I am sick and tired of their threats. And I am sick and tired of certain members of our administration who have constantly negotiated more as though they were representatives of some other country than representatives of our own country.

It is a combination of this progressive and snowballing depression and frustration which has brought the American apparel industry to the point of decision and that point of decision is now, the decision that won't be discussionable a year from now, and I would like to tell you about what they are doing and why they are about to do it, and I make it urgent before you because, as you know, we have gone through every single alternative open to us not to leave this country.

We have appeared, and our association has appeared, the individuals have appeared, and presented the case in detail that would bore you to tears. I don't propose to do that today. It has been done a million times.

I propose to show you on this map, gentlemen, the representation of this particular association that I am talking about. Those happen to represent, each one of those dots, a plant facility of one of the 500 members of our organization, or their 200 associates. The point, quite obviously, is that this association which represents in excess of half a million employees, is a terribly crucial one. Apparel is an easy item to manufacture abroad. It is very easy for an apparel manufacturer to move abroad and when an apparel manufacturer moves abroad he takes with him everything that he would normally procure in this country and he procures that abroad. That is linings, piecegoods, buttons, cartons. The whole kit and caboodle is suddenly purchased from the local suppliers in Japan, Taiwan, Hong Kong, South Korea;