

In addition, since other important segments of the textile industry depend on the services performed by this industry for the disposal of their textile by-products, the adverse results we fear will not be limited to the exporters and their employees alone. A chain reaction will be initiated which will be felt throughout the entire domestic economy. Far from protecting American business and assisting the U.S. balance-of-payments problem, the proposed legislation will only set off a restrictive cycle that will limit exports and seriously damage U.S. business interests.

The utilization of secondary textiles is an important factor in the country's solid waste disposal network. Erosion of secondary markets only breaks down the collection system on which the industry—and public—depends and compounds the problems of finding sufficient economic usage of the nation's industrial and household by-products.

Protectionist measures will disturb efforts to expand international trade at a very time when such international marketing is vital. It has been a basic policy of the Government to foster American competition in world markets. The need for improvement in our balance-of-payments position with other countries cannot be overstressed. The passage of this proposed import tax will lead to violent inter-actions in textile markets here and abroad, and eventually will result in an undesirable economic backlash for American industry and prove detrimental to our best interests as a nation.

We believe there is no need to support the imposition of such import restrictions at this time, and for all these reasons we urge the Ways and Means Committee to disapprove any such legislative proposals.

We ask that the preceding statement be placed in the record of the hearings.
Respectfully submitted.

TEXTILE DIVISION,
HAROLD KURTIN, *President*.

STATEMENT OF GEORGE BALDANZI, INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT, UNITED TEXTILE WORKERS OF AMERICA, AFL-CIO

In lieu of personal appearance by the United Textile Workers of America, AFL-CIO, I am herewith submitting a statement of our position on International Trade.

First of all, we would call to the attention of the Committee that the AFL-CIO has submitted the position and the action of the 1967 Convention on the entire question of International Trade, Tariffs, etc. and our union is in agreement with the basic principles.

We desire, however, to emphasize sections of the statement directly applicable to the textile workers and the textile industry. Quote: "The AFL-CIO cannot ignore the fact that rising imports have disrupted some domestic markets and resulted in adverse impacts on some industries. These developments have imposed severe hardships on thousands of American workers. Agreements with other countries, like the International Cotton Agreement, should be concluded, covering trade in textiles and apparel of wool and man-made fibers. The Cotton Textile Arrangements should be effectively enforced and no erosion permitted in its safeguards against disruption."

The AFL-CIO continues "that it is a matter of growing concern to note the sharp rise of imports of non-durable goods such as textiles, apparel, shoes, toys, etc. from low-wage countries for sale at U.S. prices in this market. This relationship may be controlled by a relatively few integrated firms with international subsidiaries or other investment and sales arrangements. To look at aggregate country data in the United States and determine that the U.S. Textile Industry is thriving because some large firms are making big profits,—or to determine that the United States shoe industry as a whole is doing well,—is to ignore the specific impact on United States production and employment in many parts of the country."

The United Textile Workers of America, AFL-CIO, would call and ask for the particular attention of the Congress to the following resolution adopted by the unanimous vote of the delegates at our International Convention held last month. This resolution embodies the desires and struggles of men and women who are striving to hold their jobs against those many in high places who are willing and ready to sacrifice the workers in the textile and garment industries. They