

on the United States, and lists those items essential to national survival in the immediate post-attack period. The Order then lists the activities which are to be accorded priority over all other claims for resources, and the Order also states that "There is no significance in the order of the listing—all are important." One of the activities listed is the "Production and distribution of survival items and provision of services essential to continued survival and rapid recovery."

One of the survival items listed is "gloves and mittens."

In addition, Section III A of Annex 35 of the National Plan of Civil Defense and Defense Mobilization classifies a "work glove" as an "essential survival item."

Accurate import statistics relative to "work gloves", *as such*, are not available because the Bureau of the Census of the Department of Commerce does not classify imports as to end use. However, beginning on September 1, 1963, when new schedules were published relative to the classification of imported goods, a particular classification was included therein entitled:

"Gloves of Horsehide or Cowhide, Other Than Wholly of Leather". Since practically all of the gloves which might be classified under this heading are suitable only for work purposes, the following analysis will pertain to this particular style of glove from the beginning of 1964 through 1966 (1967 production figures are not yet available from the Department of Commerce).

During the year 1964 imports of leather and fabric combination work gloves amounted to 5.8% of domestic production. For the year 1965, imports amounted to 8.9% of domestic production. Then in 1966, imports amounted to 25.6% of domestic production. The question uppermost in one's mind is: "How long does an industry which produces an item which is currently classified as 'an essential survival item' by the Government of the United States have to wait before some relief is available?"

Further, imports during the year 1965 had an average dutiable value of \$8.57 per dozen. In 1966, the average dutiable value of these imports was \$5.62 per dozen. All of this information was obtained from official reports of the Department of Commerce. The average selling price of comparable gloves by two domestic manufacturers during 1965 was \$9.72 per dozen. In 1966, the average selling price of comparable gloves by the two domestic manufacturers was \$11.27 per dozen. So that you may appraise the impact which these imports may have on the domestic industry, the facts indicate that the import price was slightly less than 50% of the domestic price, and that the imports amounted to slightly more than 25% of the domestic production.

Heavy industry, particularly, is dependent upon work glove manufacturers to keep it going. There have been numerous instances in the United States where heavy industries have been threatened with a shutdown because of the lack of available work gloves.

Work gloves are used as a protection against cuts, bruises, lacerations, and—sometimes—loss of fingers. Many man-hours during the year are lost in industry when a worker sustains cuts by not using work gloves.

Industrial studies show that many cuts and lacerations can be avoided by the use of the proper hand protection. This is exemplified by plants supplying work gloves to the workers in the same manner as they supply safety goggles, hard hats, and other items of safety apparel. Numerous union contracts now require hand protection in the form of work gloves to be furnished to the plant personnel at no charge to the worker.

Ninety percent of the work that goes into the making of a work glove is hand labor, performed, usually, by female employees at sewing machines. It is necessary to train a sewing machine operator, who sews and manufacturers a work glove, from between six months to one year before she becomes proficient and can operate a sewing machine on a piece rate basis where she will earn her pay. Labor rates paid to these workers manufacturing gloves in the U.S. vary from the present minimum wage to \$2.50 per hour.

If work gloves are allowed to continue to be imported into the United States from low wage rate countries, i.e., ranging from 15 cents per hour in Taiwan to 55 cents per hour in Italy, the manufacturing of work gloves in the United States will become a lost art, as manufacturers cannot continue to pay minimum or higher wage rates and exist in competition with imports from low wage rate countries.