

Additional copies of the first two of these submissions are enclosed with a request that they be distributed to members of the Ways and Means Committee and to interested departmental and legislative staffs if the Committee should consider this appropriate.

The Apparel and Fashion Industries Association have indicated that they wish to be associated with the statement submitted on behalf of the Mantle and Costume Manufacturers' Export Group.

STATEMENT SUBMITTED BY THE MANTLE & COSTUME MANUFACTURERS' EXPORT GROUP OF LONDON, ENGLAND, FOR TRANSMISSION BY THE BRITISH EMBASSY, COMMERCIAL DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON, D.C., TO COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS, U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BLDG., WASHINGTON, D.C.

TEXT OF STATEMENT :

(i) Description of Interests Represented by Group—(U.K. Exporting Manufacturers of Women's and Girls' "Heavy" Outerwear).

This is an organisation representing the interests of United Kingdom exporting manufacturers of women's and girls' "heavy" outerwear (overcoats, suits, jackets, skirts, slacks, etc.). The garments they export to the United States market are almost entirely made from fabrics of wool (including of course camel hair, llama, mohair and other fine animal hair) and are chiefly of woven fabric, supplemented by some trade in garments cut out and make-up from knitted wool fabric. Among the Group's members are leading British manufacturers of the above-mentioned descriptions of women's and girls' apparel (particularly of the better grade and classical variety) producing in large modern factories.

(ii) *Purpose of Statement.*—(Opposition to Restriction of Imports from the United Kingdom).

The following Statement is submitted on behalf of this Export Group, through the British Embassy in Washington, to the Committee on Ways and Means, U.S. House of Representatives, for the printed record of the hearing before that Committee on the general subject of the balance of trade between the United States and foreign nations, now commenced.

In formulating this Statement note has been taken of the broad scope of the subjects to be encompassed by the hearing as set out in the Committee's press release of 9th May, 1968, as well as of the contents of the relevant Committee Print, issued by the U.S. Government Printing Office, which includes the draft Bill H.R. 17551. In relation thereto this Group wishes to state that it is satisfied that there can be no question that imports into the United States of the garments on which it is qualified to speak (described in paragraph (i) above) do not, and cannot in the foreseeable future, constitute any threat to the wellbeing of the United States and that there is no justification or necessity for *any* measures designed to restrict such imports. In support of this contention the Group offers the following information and views, which it considers very clearly demonstrate these facts and in the light of which it is hoped and believed that the Ways and Means Committee will report accordingly.

(iii) *Supporting Information and Conclusion.*—

1. *U.S. imports of U.K. women's and girls' outerwear a minute proportion of U.S. domestic production*

(a) In relation to the vast total production of the United States domestic clothing industry, imports from the United Kingdom into the United States of women's and girls' outerwear garments of the kind with which the Group is concerned are infinitesimal. Not only that, such imports are still minute even compared with U.S. production of garments of that particular description and, moreover, in the main such United Kingdom garments are different from and not competitive with the bulk of those produced in the United States.

(b) The imports into the U.S.A. from the United Kingdom of these women's, misses and junior heavy outerwear garments are believed in fact to amount to something in the region of only one-twentieth of one percent compared with the United States National production of such garments.

2. *Supporting statistical appendix*

The Appendix to this statement gives U.S. statistics of domestic production of apparel of the descriptions to which this case relates, together with U.S. statistics of imports of such apparel, on the basis of which the comparison given in Paragraph 1(b) above (indicating the proportion of one-twentieth of one percent) has been calculated.