Had only scissors and shears valued over $4.80 per dozen been compared with imports valued over $1.75 per dozen the table would have been as follows:

[In percent]

Year or period	Ratio of imports to—	
	Consumption	Shipments
1953	38.2	61.0
1954	42.6	73.2
1955	38.2	60.9
1956	40.9	67.7
1957	45.0	79.3
January–September:		
1957	44.7	78.2
1958	47.7	89.2

The Tariff Commission report of 1959 noted that there had been an increase in shipments by domestic producers during the period under study: 1953 to 1957. However, the report did not note that even with the increase, the shipments in 1957 were still far below the level prior to the duty reductions in 1950 and 1951. Also, as shown in the table above, imports increased at a much more rapid rate, as imports went for 61 percent of shipments in 1953 to over 79 percent in 1957, and more than 89 percent during the first nine months of 1958.

The Tariff Commission in the 1959 report stated, "The increase in consumption was much greater than the increase in imports that also took place after the Commission's previous report of March 1954". This is not borne out by the statistics included in the report. The data developed by the Tariff Commission and included in the report shows that imports increased 72 percent from 1953 to 1957, while apparent consumption increased only 46 percent.

The Tariff Commission went on in the report to state that, "The significant general broadening of the total domestic market for scissors and shears was a development that could not be foreseen in 1954 when the Commission previously investigated the articles herein under consideration". The data developed by the Tariff Commission showed an increase of 54 percent from 1954 to 1955 in domestice shipments of scissors and shears valued over $4.80 per dozen. The U.S. Department of Commerce in a report prepared by the Bureau of the Census and released June 19, 1958, showed an increase of only 14 percent from 1954 to 1955 in the domestic shipments of scissors and shears valued over $4.80 per dozen. The statistics in the Bureau of the Census report were prepared from data obtained from 25 establishments, which was substantially complete coverage of the industry.

Also, it is important to note that the Tariff Commission investigation showed a *decrease* of 8 percent in the shipments of domestic scissors and shears valued over $4.80 per dozen from 1955 to 1957, while during the same period there was an *increase* of 20 percent in imports and 3 percent in apparent consumption.

Thus in the two "escape clause" cases on scissors and shears the industry was denied any relief from the impact of low cost imports because the Tariff Commission and the President ignored the facts. There is no wonder why the scissors and shears industry became disenchanted with the so-called "escape clause" and did not request a third investigation.

Since 1958 imports have continued to increase at a rapid rate and additional firms have been forced to close. As a direct result of our foreign trade policy there are only about 10 firms producing scissors and shears in the United States today. Before the import duties were slashed in 1950 and 1951 there were approximately 50 firms. Many of the firms that have gone out of business were family-owned and had been established for more than 50 years.

Since the end of World War II the industry has not just sat idly by watching imports grow and their production decline. In an effort to retain a fair share of the domestic market the domestic manufacturers have made large expenditures for improvement of equipment as well as for replacement. In spite of the strenuous efforts by domestic firms to reduce costs and regardless of the efficiency of their operations they have not been able to close the "wage gap" between the United States and other countries. The industry is competing in the production of a high labor content product with foreign producers that pay wages far below the minimum wage in the United States. This is evident from the imports report by the Department of Commerce for the past five years as shown below.