

In 1967, as an example, the capacity for production of tubes was 10.4 million. The actual production was only 8.4. This was a capacity of 2 million out of 10 million or 20 percent of the capacity was unused, and this is contributing to the distress that has been experienced in the tube industry and there are bills pending before this committee, cosponsored by Members on both sides of the aisle, to cancel out that moratorium so that the proper duty may now be collected, and I respectfully submit that, as this committee has done in the past when it legislated on the basis of a mistake in fact, it ought promptly now to correct that mistake and to repeal the moratorium on the proper duty on color television picture tubes.

Mr. BETTS. Then that is the overall picture even though it might not be on this particular subject?

Mr. STEWART. Correct.

Mr. BETTS. I think this question was asked before. But I will ask it again. I am not sure whether you got into it or not in your presentation but do you have a comparison between Japanese wage scales, and American wage scales?

Mr. STEWART. Is there a difference?

Mr. BETTS. Yes.

Mr. STEWART. Not in our statement. I would be glad to submit that for the record.

Mr. BETTS. I would like it. Do you recall offhand what it is?

Mr. STEWART. Yes; I do generally. It is difficult to generalize it about Japan because people begin entering the work force in Japan, young girls in their teens, who live in company dormitories and who receive lower wage rates than adults, for example, but the general level of wages in Japan in the electronic industries as I understand it is in the approximate order of 50 to 60 cents an hour, in Hong Kong in the approximate order of 16 cents an hour, in South Korea in the approximate order of 14 cents an hour, and in Taiwan, about 12 cents an hour.

In the United States in the electronic components industry for 1967 the average hourly earnings were \$2.40 an hour, on the average for the whole industry in components, and our leaders have made the point frequently we can be very efficient, we can be more efficient even than the Japanese, let us say, but we can't be that much more efficient in producing products in a labor-intensive industry to overcome that amount of wage difference.

Mr. BETTS. Were you going to submit it?

Mr. STEWART. I will submit the actual statistics that I can develop on that subject, Mr. Betts.

(The following letter was received by the committee:)

LINCOLN & STEWART,
ATTORNEYS AT LAW,
Washington, D.C., July 3, 1968.

Hon. JACKSON E. BETTS,
House of Representatives,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR MR. BETTS: During my appearance before the Committee on Ways and Means on June 25, 1968, on behalf of the Parts and Distributor Products Divisions of the Electronic Industries Association and the American Loudspeakers Manufacturers Association, you asked if I could submit for the record information pertaining to wage rates in electronic manufacturing in Japan and other Asian nations which are supplying electronic imports to the United States.