

OIL, CHEMICAL AND ATOMIC WORKERS INTERNATIONAL UNION,
Haledon, N.J., July 3, 1968.

Re American Selling Price System of Tariff Valuation Benzenoid Chemicals.

DEAR MR. MARTIN: Local 8-95 of the Oil, Chemical & Atomic Workers International Union A.F.L.-C.I.O.-C.L.C. represents approximately 230 employees at the Haledon (New Jersey) Works of Allied Chemical Corporation. This plant produces organic pigments which are subject to the American Selling Price (ASP) System of tariff valuation.

We firmly believe that the elimination of ASP, which is now being considered, would jeopardize the welfare of our members. Many of them have long years of service at this plant and face possible loss of jobs if tariff are based on foreign prices. We do not think the living standards of our members should be sacrificed so that foreign companies which pay substandard wages, may prosper.

Local 8-95 wanted to express its opposition to the elimination of ASP to you and ask that you have its views included in the record of the hearings.

Very truly yours,

RAYMOND RIKER,
President Local 8-95.

INTERNATIONAL UNION OF DISTRICT 50
 UNITED MINE WORKERS OF AMERICA, LOCAL 15143,
Newark, N.J., June 14, 1968.

Mr. JOHN M. MARTIN, Jr.,
*Chief Counsel, Committee on Ways and Means,
 Longworth House Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR SIR: International Union of District 50, United Mine Workers of America, Local 15143 requests the following statement be included in the official record of hearings presently conducted by the Committee on Ways & Means on Trade and Tariff Proposals and H.R. 17551.

The officers and members of our union are 100 per cent opposed to any legislation which would eliminate the American Selling Price.

We cannot emphasize too strongly our unanimous opposition to such a drastic and unwarranted move.

The repeal of ASP is a direct threat to our jobs, our seniority our livelihoods.

We urge that your Committee as not why Congress should eliminate ASP but why there is so much pressure from foreign countries for the elimination of ASP.

Foreign nations are not concerned about the American workingman. They don't care what happens to him or his family. They do know, however, that if ASP is repealed that they will be able to move in and take over the benzenoid chemical market in the United States.

Their key word in the ASP issue is "labor".

Labor produces benzenoid products in American plants and in foreign plants alike. Labor at \$3.00 and \$4.00 an hour cannot compete with labor that is paid 3 cents or 30 cents an hour.

ASP recognizes this economic fact of life and provides a practical means to equalize the labor cost.

Much attention has been focused recently on the employment problem in big cities with emphasis on the need to create new job opportunities for members of minority groups.

Our union membership is composed of 85 per cent minority group workers. Most of them live in the city of Newark, New Jersey, where the employment outlook for minority group members is critical, and where many programs under federal and state sponsorship are underway to improve job opportunities.

The elimination of ASP will certainly aggravate the already critical job situation. It will add fuel to the fire of those who ridicule the fact that all too frequently one agency of government is working to achieve goals and implement programs while other agencies of the same government are moving in the opposite direction.

Let us point out that our members, and they are mainly minority group workers, enjoy average earnings of more than \$7,500 a year. Many of them have moved up through the ranks, adding new skills through training on the job, and have achieved earning levels, of \$10,000 and \$15,000 a year. These skills, however, are highly specialized. They cannot be used in other jobs. A retraining program that will qualify our members for jobs at half the pay they are now receiving is