TABLE 14.—FIG PASTE: U.S. IMPORTS, AVERAGE ANNUAL VALUE

[In cents per pound][1]

Year beginning Aug. 1	Turkey	Portugal	Spain	Greece	Average
1951	13.4				13.4
1952	11.0				11.0
1953	9.2	9.2			9.2
1954	9.1	7.7			9.0
1955	9.9	7.3			8.5
1956	10.0	7.7			9.2
1957	12.4	7.7			9.4
1958	11.5	8.9			10.3
1959	8.6	7.9			8.3
1960	7.7	7.0		8.3	7.5
1961	7.2	7.1	7.3	6.8	7.2
1962	6.8	6.5	4.9	7.9	6.3
1963	11.4	7.4	7.1	8.0	8.3
1964	10.8	7.4	7.1	8.0	8.2
1965	14.4	9.1	8.9	9.3	9.7
1966	8.0	7.6	7.8		7.8

[1] These values represent for some shipments the foreign value (i.e., the f.o.b. values in the exporting country) and for others, cost-and-freight values at New York.

Source: Compiled from official statistics of the U.S. Department of Commerce as reported in various issues of the U.S Tariff Commission dried figs report and other information reported by the Commission.

The California Dried Fig Industry realizes the fact that it can not supply the needs of all Dried Fig and Fig Paste users in the United States and that imports are necessary to satisfy a percentage of this demand, although even small amounts of low priced imports can and do have a price depressing effect on the domestic industry. Any additional tonnage available in this country, after consumption requirements have been met, can only continue to depress the domestic price and, because of the large supply of Dried Figs and Fig Paste available in Mediterranean countries, this excess tonnage will, in all probability, continue in spite of the existing tariff.

Generally, Dried Fig Imports (Table 15) have been rather stable with two exceptions: during World War II imports were zero, however, in 1949 imports increased over 1,000 tons from the preceding year and in 1950 increased an additional 2,400 tons. This increase in Dried Fig Imports coincides with the downward modification of the tariff during those years and after the tariff concessions were partially restored, Dried Fig Imports returned to normal.

In recent years slightly in excess of 80% of the Dried Fig Imports were of the Greek String Variety. Since Greek Strings have their own special market, they do not directly compete with the domestic product and, therefore, the consensus of opinion is that imports of Dried Figs will probably not injure the domestic industry as long as the duty remains at its present level and in the same relation to the Fig Paste Tariff.

WORLD PRODUCTION AND CONSUMPTION

Although it is difficult to determine the world's production of Dried Figs, a conservative estimate would place the figure between 150 and 160,000 tons. The recap of the World's Dried Fig production figures, Table 16, does not include Spain which, according to various estimates, has an annual production of close to 30,000 tons and would, therefore, be the largest fig producing country excluded.