



United States Senate

Import Quotas Robo

January 23, 1968

Dear :

The Finance Committee has completed three days of hearings on various trade legislation that has been introduced during the past Session. These hearings were held because of the complaints of a dozen or more industries over the impact that the swelling volume of imports is having on their ability to compete in our domestic market. Labor spokesmen for the steel workers indicated the impact that imports of steel is having on domestic employment. The witnesses also indicated that various foreign countries are resorting more and more to non-tariff barriers as a means of keeping American products out of foreign markets.

I believe everyone agrees that the exploration now in progress by the Senate Finance Committee is, in itself, an excellent thing. The entire trade picture has long been in need of a thorough review, and the interest manifested by the number of people who have appeared at the hearings is an assurance that the economic health of the country, whether it relates to agriculture, steel, mining, oil, manufacturing or any other item, will be very carefully considered.

The Committee plans to continue its work on this problem over the next few weeks and I anticipate that sometime this year, a decision will be made as to how we should meet this problem that the American industry faces.

Sincerely,

Everett McKinley Dirksen