

THE SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE FOR  
TRADE NEGOTIATIONS  
WASHINGTON

JUL 6 1977

The Honorable Paul E. Tsongas  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Tsongas:

Recently, you and 43 House colleagues wrote to the President expressing your disappointment in his decision with respect to the non-rubber footwear import relief case. In that joint letter, however, you graciously noted that you were "willing to give the Special Trade Representative the opportunity to negotiate effective orderly marketing agreements (OMAs) and effect other arrangements which could serve to halt the devastation done to this vital domestic industry."

The letter then went on to suggest certain conditions that you thought should be included in such negotiations. We kept in close touch with many of you during our negotiations of OMAs with the Republics of China and Korea so that you would know where we stood at each step along the way. The agreements also give us authority to cope with any other countries that try to take advantage of these restrictions. Now that the OMAs have been formally proclaimed, I want to thank you for your faith and patience during this period. We hope you have by now concluded, as have the representatives of labor and the domestic footwear industry, that these agreements are balanced ones that go to the source of the industry's injury from imports that will give firms and workers an adequate period of time in which to adjust to foreign competition.

As has been noted publicly, the President will be announcing his new program of adjustment assistance for this basic industry in the near future.

Sincerely,

  
Robert S. Strauss