The original documents are located in Box 17, folder "Meat Import Quotas" of the Loen and Leppert Files at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Winn - Cong. Winn - 12:45

Sebelius - Pat Roberts - 11:50

Virginia Smith - Dan Harrant
11:55



STATEMENT ON MEAT IMPORT QUOTA

The President today issued a Proclamation imposing a quota on meat imports for calendar year 1976 under the Meat Import Act. The quota was set at 1,233 million pounds -- the trigger point under the Act for the imposition of quotas in 1976.

The President's action was based on an estimate by Acting Secretary of Agriculture John A. Knebel that calendar year 1976 imports of meats subject to the Meat Import Act would total 1,250 million pounds. The Department of Agriculture estimate was 17 million pounds above the level requiring the imposition of quotas under the Act.

The quota level of 1,233 million pounds will permit slight—
ly larger_imports in 1976 than in 1975 when meat imports totalled
1,209 million pounds. It is expected that today's action will have
little if any adverse effect on consumer prices.

In recent years, imports of meats covered by the Act have accounted for about 6 percent of 'U.S. consumption. This proportion will remain approximately the same under the import quota announced today. The United States will undertake consultations on the details of the program with countries supplying meat to the U.S. within the next few days.