The original documents are located in Box 24, folder "Sugar Imports" of the Loen and Leppert Files at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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THE WHITE HOUSE

fice

September 20, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

L. WILLIAM SEIDMAN

SUBJECT:

Implementation of your decision

on sugar

In accordance with your decision to seek an expedited USITC study of sugar imports and to triple the tariff on sugar imports the following documents are attached for your signature: 1) a letter to USITC Chairman Leonard requesting an expedited investigation by the USITC (Tab A) and, 2) a Proclamation tripling the tariff on imported sugar (Tab B).

In accordance with our pattern on previous sugar policy matters, your decision will be announced in a White House press release (Tab C). Copies of your letter to Chairman Leonard and the Proclamation will also be released by the White House Press Office.

I will handle domestic industry prenotification and congressional prenotification in coordination with Max Friedersdorf's office.

Recommendation:

That you sign the letter to Chairman Leonard and the Proclamation which are attached. Both of these documents as well as the Presidential statement have been cleared by the Editorial Office (Smith).

Attachments

The Honorable
Will E. Leonard, Jr.
Chairman
U.S. International Trade Commission
Washington, D. C. 20436

Dear Mr. Chairman:

It is my understanding that the Senate Finance Committee, acting pursuant to Section 201(b)(l) of the Trade Act of 1974, has requested that the U.S. International Trade Commission begin an investigation under Section 201 of the Trade Act to determine whether United States sugar producers are being harmed or threatened with harm by imports of sugar. I urge the Commission to promptly make such an investigation in view of recent trends in the sugar industry.

As a separate action, within the limits of my authority to establish appropriate rates of duty for sugar provided for in TSUS items 155.20 and 155.30, I have proclaimed a rate of duty applicable to such sugar imports of approximately 1.9 cents per pound. This action is not intended to prejudge the results of the Commission's investigation.

I request that the Commission expedite its investigation and submit its report to me as quickly as possible.

Sincerely,

Gerald R. Ford

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT

since July the price of raw sugar has steadily declined and is now below the cost of production for most U.S. sugar producers. At current price levels many U.S. sugarbeet and sugarcane producers are unable to operate profitably. I have watched these developments with growing concern, mindful of the important contribution that our sugar industry makes to the national economy. Consequently, when prices plummeted in August, the interagency Task Force on Sugar Policy was reconstituted to update the supply, demand and price outlook for the remainder of 1976 and to consider the policy implications of these projections. The Task Force has now completed its review and has reported to me its analysis of the problem and the policy options.

After reviewing the work of this Task Force, and determining the views of members of Congress from the affected areas, I have decided to give my full support to the request of the Senate Finance Committee for an escape clause investigation by the U.S. International Trade Commission under Section 20% of the Trade Act of 1974. I fully agree with the Finance Committee that this matter requires a full and complete examination by the USITC. Further, because of the urgency of the problem for America's sugar producers, I am asking the USITC to expedite its review and to report its findings as soon as possible.

In addition, in view of the depressed state of the sugar industry, I have decided, pending completion of the USITC investigation, to raise the duty on imported sugar from .625 cents per pound to 1.875 cents per pound effective immediately. Increased custom duties will offer domestic producers some protection from imports while the USITC investigation is underway. I emphasize that this is an interim measure which I will review following receipt of the findings of the USITC, and that I am not prejudging the eventual findings and recommendations of the USITC with respect to the question of injury or possible remedial measures.

MODIFICATION OF TARIFFS ON CERTAIN SUGARS, SIRUPS AND MOLASSES

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

A PROCLAMATION

- 1. By Proclamation 4334 of November 16, 1974, the President modified Subpart A, Part 10, Schedule 1 of the Tariff Schedules of the United States (19 U.S.C. 1202, hereinafter referred to as the "TSUS") to establish, effective January 1, 1975, following expiration of the Sugar Act of 1948, a rate of duty and quota applicable to sugars, syrups, and molasses described in items 155.20 and 155.30 of the TSUS.
 - The President took the action described in recital 1 pursuant to the authority vested in him by the Constitution and statutes of the United States, including Section 201(a)(2) of the Trade Expansion Act of 1962 (19 U.S.C. 1821(a)(2)) and in conformity with Headnote 2 of Subpart A of Part 10 of Schedule 1 of the TSUS, which was added to the TSUS by Proclamation No. 3822 of December 16, 1967 (82 Stat. 1455), to carry out a trade agreement concluded pursuant to section 201(a) of the Trade Expansion Act of 1962 (19 U.S.C. 1821(a)) consisting of the 1957 Geneva Protocol to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, including annexed thereto "Schedule XX", a schedule of United States trade concessions, together with the Final Act Authenticating the Results of the 1964-67 Trade Conference Held under the Auspices of the Contracting Parties to the General Agreement.

- 3. Headnote 2, Subpart A, Part 10 of Schedule 1 of the TSUS, which is based upon said trade agreement, provides in relevant part as follows:
 - "(i) That, if the President finds that a particular rate not lower than such January 1, 1968, rate, limited by a particular quota, may be established for any articles provided for in item 155.20 or 155.30, which will give due consideration to the interests in the United States sugar market of domestic producers and materially affected contracting parties to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, he shall proclaim such particular rate and such quota limitation, . . .
 - "(ii) That any rate and quota limitation so established shall be modified if the President finds and proclaims that such modification is required or appropriate to give effect to the above considerations; . . ."
- 4. Section 201(a)(2) of the Trade Expansion Act authorizes the President to proclaim the modification or continuance of any existing duty or other import restriction or such additional import restrictions as he determines to be required or appropriate to carry out any trade agreement entered into under the authority of that Act.
- 5. I find that the modifications hereinafter proclaimed of the rates of duty applicable to items 155.20 and 155.30 of the TSUS, as established by Proclamation 4334, are appropriate to carry out the portion of a trade agreement referred to in recitals 2 and 3, and give due consideration to the interests in the United States sugar market of domestic producers and materially affected contracting parties to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

NOW THEREFORE, I, GERALD R. FORD, President of the United States of America, acting under the authority vested in me by the Constitution and statutes, including Section 201(a)(2) of the Trade Expansion Act of 1962 and in conformity with Headnote 2, Subpart A of Part 10 of Schedule 1 of the TSUS, do hereby proclaim until otherwise superseded by law:

- Q. 1. That part of Proclamation 4334 of

 November 16, 1974 which establishes a rate of duty inconsistent with that provided for in paragraph (2) below is hereby terminated.
- for items 155.20 and 155.30 of Subpart A, Part 10,
 Schedule 1 of the TSUS, are modified, and the following rates are established:
 - 155.20. 1.9875¢ per lb. less
 0.028125¢ per lb.
 for each degree under
 100 degrees (and
 fractions of a degree
 in proportion) but
 not less than
 1.284375¢ per lb.
 - 155.30...... Dutiable on total sugars at the rate per 1b. applicable under Item 155.20 to sugar testing 100 degrees
- \mathcal{C} . 3. The provisions of this proclamation shall become effective with respect to articles entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on and after

the date of this Proclamation and shall remain in effect until the President otherwise proclaims or until otherwise superseded by law.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this day of September, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and seventy six and of the Independence of the United States of America, the two hundred first.

file

THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

House--sugar Virginia Smith Charles Thone James Abdnor, Joe Skubitz, Steve Symms Jim Snatini Harold Runnels Manuel Lujan Keith Sebelius Teno Roncalio Larry Pressler Bill Ketchum Gunn McKay Harold Johnson Jack Hightower Mark Andrews John McCollister Patsy Mink James Johnson John Krebs ✓Guy Vander Jagt Harold Johnson John Rhodes Paul Rogers Bob Traxler ✓W. Henson Moore Teno Roncalio ✓Gillis Long Elford Cederberg Joe Waggonner

THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

House--sugar p. 2

Marilyn Lloyd
Ron Sarasin
Dawson Mathis
Frank Annunzio

THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

Jam Johnson Tom Steiger - Patry minh



MEMORANDUM OF CALL

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THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

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THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

House--sugar p. 2

Marilyn Lloyd Ron Sarasin Dawson Mathis Frank Annunzio

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Bob Marjorie

Ed

Guy

Keith

Guy Vander Jagt Koith C. Scholing

Marjorie S. Holt

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Larry Pressler Pete Paul N. McCloskey, Jr. James H. (Jimmy) Quillen Jimmy

William M. Ketchum

Robin Robin L. Beard Charles Thone Charley

Bill William L. Armstrong

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Ed Edward R. Madigan

Guy Guy Vander Jagt Keith Kaith C. Sabalius Carlos

Carlos J. Moorhead

John Y. McColline William L. Dickinson Jack Edwards Albert W. Johnson

Tim Lee Carter

Cong. makon called and requested, so I read statement to him

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