

UNITED STATES TARIFF COMMISSION

SAFETY PINS

**Report to the President (No. TEA-IR-2-63)
Under Section 351(d)(1) of the
Trade Expansion Act of 1962**



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REPORT TO THE PRESIDENT

U.S. Tariff Commission,
December 31, 1963.

To the President:

Introduction

Following an escape-clause investigation by the Tariff Commission and report to the President under section 7 of the Trade Agreements Extension Act of 1951, 1/ as amended, the President, by proclamation dated November 29, 1957, 2/ increased the duty applicable to safety pins, effective after the close of business on December 30, 1957.

Section 351(d)(1) of the Trade Expansion Act of 1962 (76 Stat. 900), provides that--

So long as any increase in, or imposition of, any duty or other import restriction pursuant to this section or pursuant to section 7 of the Trade Agreements Extension Act of 1951 remains in effect, the Tariff Commission shall keep under review developments with respect to the industry concerned, and shall make annual reports to the President concerning such developments.

This is the fifth report to the President with respect to safety pins, since the proclamation of November 29, 1957, submitted either under paragraph 1 of Executive Order 10401 or under section 351(d)(1) of the Trade Expansion Act of 1962.

1/ U.S. Tariff Commission, Safety Pins: Report to the President on Escape-Clause Investigation No. 53 . . . , 1957 (processed); and Safety Pins: Supplemental Report to the President on Escape-Clause Investigation No. 53 . . . , 1957 (processed).

2/ Proclamation No. 3212, 3 CFR, 1954-1958 Comp., p. 137. The action taken by this proclamation is reflected in pt. 2 of the appendix to the Tariff Schedules of the United States (item 943.10).

U.S. tariff treatment

Pursuant to the aforementioned Presidential proclamation, the rate of duty originally provided for under paragraph 350 of the Tariff Act of 1930 on safety pins was restored. This rate--35 percent ad valorem--had previously been reduced to 22.5 percent ad valorem, effective April 21, 1948, pursuant to a concession negotiated at Geneva under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

Under the Tariff Schedules of the United States (TSUS), which became effective on August 31, 1963, safety pins are provided for in item 745.56 but are dutiable at the escape-clause rate of 35 percent ad valorem, as indicated in item 943.10 of part 2 of the appendix to the TSUS.

Description

The safety pins covered by the statistical data in this report are common all-metal pins made of steel and brass wire. Such pins account for the great bulk of U.S. production and probably all of the imports of safety pins. In recent years a small quantity of plastic-capped safety pins has been produced in the United States, all by companies other than those that make the all-metal types. 1/

Recent developments

The Commission has assembled statistical data for the calendar year 1962 and the first 6 months of 1963 with respect to safety pins, including U.S. consumption, production, sales, inventories, imports, prices, and employment. A review of all the information obtained indicates

1/ See 1957 supplemental report, table 2.

that there have been no significant changes in the trade since the Commission made its last review, the results of which were reported to the President on December 31, 1962. In general, conditions then manifest have continued. * * *

The report to the President contains statistical data for all domestic producers (six in 1956-60 and five in 1961-63). The Commission's earlier reports on safety pins, which were published, contained data for only four domestic producers, i.e., the members of the Pin, Clip and Fastener Association. In view of the publication of these data and the fact that the members regularly report data on their operations to the association, the Commission may not publish data for all producers because publication of such data would result in the disclosure of the operations of individual firms.7

Statistical Appendix

(Tables 1, 2, and 3 omitted from
this published report.)

Table 4.--Safety pins: Net prices to wholesalers quoted by
U.S. producers, specified periods, 1956-63 1/

Item	March 1956	October 1959	October 1960	October 1962	October 1963
Pins in bulk (price per gross pins):					
Hard steel, size 1, closed-----	\$0.16	\$0.19	\$0.19	\$0.19	\$0.19
Brass, size 00 gilt, open-----	\$0.20	\$0.22	\$0.22	\$0.20	\$0.20
Pins in retail bunches:					
Hard steel:					
Small bunch:					
Number of pins per bunch---	17	28	25	25	25
Price per gross bunches----	\$6.86	\$9.53	\$9.53	\$9.72	\$9.72
Price per gross pins-----	\$0.404	\$0.340	\$0.381	\$0.389	\$0.389
Large bunch:					
Number of pins per bunch---	72	72	60	60	60
Price per gross bunches----	\$18.42	\$18.46	\$18.46	\$18.84	\$18.84
Price per gross pins-----	\$0.256	\$0.256	\$0.308	\$0.314	\$0.314
Brass:					
Small bunch:					
Number of pins per bunch---	22	33	30	30	30
Price per gross bunches----	\$6.86	\$9.53	\$9.53	\$9.72	\$9.72
Price per gross pins-----	\$0.312	\$0.289	\$0.318	\$0.324	\$0.324
Large bunch:					
Number of pins per bunch---	72	72	66	66	66
Price per gross bunches----	\$18.42	\$18.46	\$18.46	\$18.84	\$18.84
Price per gross pins-----	\$0.256	\$0.256	\$0.280	\$0.285	\$0.285
Pins on retail cards: Brass,					
size 2:					
Number of pins per card-----	7	8	8	9	9
Price per gross cards-----	\$6.72	\$9.53	\$9.53	\$9.72	\$9.72
Price per gross pins-----	\$0.960	\$1.191	\$1.191	\$1.080	\$1.080

1/ These data are for the 4 producers that are members of the Pin, Clip and Fastener Association. * * *.

Source: Compiled from producers' pricelists.

Table 5.--Safety pins: U.S. imports for consumption, by specified sources, 1958-62 and January-September 1963

Country	1958	1959	1960	1961 1/	1962 1/	Jan.-Sept. 1/ 1963
	Quantity (gross)					
United Kingdom	1,824,392	2,237,796	2,277,375	1,959,008	2,084,219	1,779,855
West Germany	1,158,520	1,281,641	1,661,747	1,337,403	1,647,804	1,108,704
Japan	4,500	4,794	9,567	5,615	3,794	7,224
Czechoslovakia	49,011	139,775	433,612	273,906	312,560	172,000
Netherlands	11,500	37,850	-	32,100	16,709	-
All other	361	3,971	12,127	347	2,454	8,200
Total	3,048,284	3,705,827	4,394,428	3,608,379	4,067,550	3,075,983
	Foreign value					
United Kingdom	\$274,784	\$374,419	\$319,233	\$316,524	\$359,632	\$242,359
West Germany	132,692	149,374	162,687	143,105	185,744	130,357
Japan	2,608	2,200	4,063	1,786	6,496	2,377
Czechoslovakia	5,121	20,538	54,423	31,167	38,794	19,250
Netherlands	2,778	9,823	-	4,898	3,961	-
All other	836	2,247	3,071	850	3,239	1,377
Total	418,819	558,601	543,477	498,330	597,866	395,720
	Unit value (cents per gross)					
United Kingdom	15.1	16.7	14.0	16.2	17.3	13.6
West Germany	11.5	11.7	9.8	10.7	11.3	11.8
Japan	58.0	45.9	42.5	31.8	171.2	32.9
Czechoslovakia	10.4	14.7	12.6	11.4	12.4	11.2
Netherlands	24.2	26.0	-	15.3	23.7	-
All other	231.6	56.6	25.3	245.0	131.5	16.8
Average	13.7	15.1	12.4	13.8	14.7	12.9

1/ Preliminary.

Source: Compiled from official statistics of the U.S. Department of Commerce.

