STAINLESS STEEL AND ALLOY TOOL STEEL: U.S. PROFITS, UNSHIPPED ORDERS, INVENTORIES, CAPACITY, CAPITOL EXPENDITURES AND RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT EXPENDITURES ANNUAL SURVEY, 1977

Report to the President on Investigation No. 332-94 Under Section 332 of the Tariff Act of 1930

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## USITC REPORTS RESULTS OF SURVEY OF THE SPECIALTY STEEL INDUSTRY

The United States International Trade Commission has completed its second annual survey of U.S. producers in connection with the quantitative limitations imposed on imports of specialty steel. The survey, required by Presidential Proclamation No. 4445, covers the year of 1977.

Major findings of the Producers' survey indicate that total stainless steel and alloy tool steel net operating profits increased \$61.9 million (84 percent) in 1977 compared to 1976.

- U.S. producers' unshipped orders of stainless steel and alloy steel were 173,800 as of January 1, 1978, an increase of 20,100 tons (13 percent) compared to January 1, 1977.
- U.S. producers' inventories of stainless steel and alloy tool steel were 363,000 tons as of January 1, 1978, an increase of 9,200 tons (3 percent) compared to January 1, 1977.
- U.S. producers' capacity to melt, roll, and manufacture stainless steel and alloy tool steel was relatively unchanged in 1977 compared to 1976.

Capital expenditures reported by U.S. producers of stainless steel and alloy tool steel declined by \$26.6 million (24 percent) and research and development expenditures increased \$1.4 million (11 percent) in 1977 compared to 1976.

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