

CARBON STEEL WIRE ROD FROM POLAND, PORTUGAL, AND VENEZUELA

**Determinations of the Commission in
Investigations Nos. 701-TA-243 and
244 (Preliminary) Under the Tariff Act of
1930, Together With the Information
Obtained in the Investigations**

**Determinations of the Commission in
Investigations Nos. 731-TA-256 through
258 (Preliminary) Under the Tariff Act of
1930, Together With the Information
Obtained in the Investigations**

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UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

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Note:--Information which would reveal confidential operations of individual concerns may not be published and therefore has been deleted from this report. Deletions are indicated by asterisks.

UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION
Washington, DC

Investigations Nos. 701-TA-243 and 244 (Preliminary)
and 731-TA-256, 257, and 258 (Preliminary)

CARBON STEEL WIRE ROD FROM POLAND, PORTUGAL,
AND VENEZUELA

Determinations

On the basis of the record 1/ developed in the subject investigations, the Commission determines, pursuant to section 703(a) of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. § 1671b(a)), that there is a reasonable indication that an industry in the United States is materially injured, 2/ or threatened with material injury, 3/ by reason of imports from Portugal and Venezuela of carbon steel wire rod, provided for in item 607.17 of the Tariff Schedules of the United States, which are alleged to be subsidized by the Governments of Portugal and Venezuela.

In addition, on the basis of the record 1/ developed in the subject investigations, the Commission determines, pursuant to section 733(a) of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. § 1673b(a)), that there is a reasonable indication that an industry in the United States is materially injured, 2/ or threatened with material injury, 3/ by reason of imports from Poland, Portugal, and Venezuela, provided for in item 607.17 of the Tariff Schedules of the United States, which are alleged to be sold in the United States at less than fair value (LTFV).

Background

On April 8, 1985, petitions were filed with the Commission and the Department of Commerce by Atlantic Steel Co., Atlanta, GA; Continental Steel

1/ The record is defined in sec. 207.2(i) of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (19 CFR § 207.2(i)).

2/ Chairwoman Stern and Vice Chairman Liebler determine that there is a reasonable indication that an industry in the United States is threatened with material injury.

3/ Commissioner Eckes and Commissioner Rohr determine that there is a reasonable indication that an industry in the United States is materially injured.

Corp., Kokomo, IN; Georgetown Steel Corp., Georgetown, SC; North Star Steel Texas, Inc., Beaumont, TX; and Raritan River Steel Co., Perth Amboy, NJ, alleging that an industry in the United States is materially injured and threatened with material injury by reason of subsidized imports of carbon steel wire rod from Portugal and Venezuela, and by reason of LTFV imports of carbon steel wire rod from Poland, Portugal, and Venezuela. Accordingly, effective April 8, 1985, the Commission instituted preliminary countervailing duty investigations on carbon steel wire rod from Portugal (investigation No. 701-TA-243 (Preliminary)) and Venezuela (investigation No. 701-TA-244 (Preliminary)), and preliminary antidumping investigations on carbon steel wire rod from Poland (investigation No. 731-TA-256 (Preliminary)), Portugal (investigation No. 731-TA-257 (Preliminary)), and Venezuela (investigation No. 731-TA-258 (Preliminary)).

Notice of the institution of the Commission's investigations and of a public conference to be held in connection therewith was given by posting copies of the notice in the Office of the Secretary, U.S. International Trade Commission, Washington, DC, and by publishing the notice in the Federal Register of April 17, 1985 (50 FR 15234). The conference was held in Washington, DC, on April 30, 1985, and all persons who requested the opportunity were permitted to appear in person or by counsel.

VIEWS OF THE COMMISSION

We determine that there is a reasonable indication that an industry in the United States is materially injured or threatened with material injury by reason of imports of carbon steel wire rod from Portugal and Venezuela which are allegedly subsidized by the Portuguese and Venezuelan governments. 1/ We also determine that there is a reasonable indication that an industry in the United States is materially injured or threatened with material injury by reason of imports of carbon steel wire rod from Poland, Portugal, and Venezuela which are allegedly sold at less than fair value (LTFV). 2/

In the following analysis, we determine that the appropriate domestic industry for the purpose of making a material injury assessment consists of the domestic producers of all carbon steel wire rod. Although the performance of the domestic industry has recently shown some improvement, we conclude that it is continuing to show a reasonable indication of material injury. 3/ We

1/ Chairwoman Stern and Vice Chairman Liebeler determine that there is a reasonable indication that an industry in the United States is threatened with material injury by the subject imports of carbon steel wire rod from Portugal and Venezuela. Commissioner Eckes and Commissioner Rohr determine that there is a reasonable indication that an industry in the United States is materially injured by the subject imports of carbon steel wire rod from Portugal and Venezuela. Commissioner Lodwick determines that there is a reasonable indication that an industry in the United States is materially injured or threatened with material injury by the subject imports of carbon steel wire rod from Portugal and Venezuela.

2/ Chairwoman Stern and Vice Chairman Liebeler determine that there is a reasonable indication that an industry in the United States is threatened with material injury by the subject imports of carbon steel wire rod from Poland, Portugal, and Venezuela. Commissioner Eckes and Commissioner Rohr determine that there is a reasonable indication that an industry in the United States is materially injured by the subject imports of carbon steel wire rod from Poland, Portugal, and Venezuela. Commissioner Lodwick determines that there is a reasonable indication that an industry in the United States is materially injured or threatened with material injury by the subject imports of carbon steel wire rod from Poland, Portugal, and Venezuela.

3/ Chairwoman Stern does not believe it necessary or desirable to make a determination on the question of material injury separate from the consideration of causality. She joins her colleagues by concluding that the domestic industry is experiencing economic problems.

also conclude that the cumulative impact of imports provides a reasonable indication of material injury or threat thereof by reason of such imports.

Like product and the domestic industry

Section 771(4)(A) of the Tariff Act of 1930 defines the term "industry" as "the domestic producers as a whole of a like product, or those producers whose collective output of the like product constitutes a major proportion of the total domestic production of that product." 4/ Section 771(10), in turn, defines "like product" as a "product which is like, or in the absence of like, most similar in characteristics and uses with, the article subject to an investigation" 5/

The imported and the domestic products covered by these investigations are carbon steel wire rod, a hot-rolled, semifinished, coiled product of solid, approximately round, cross section, not under 0.20 inch nor over 0.74 inch in diameter, that has not been tempered, treated, or partly manufactured. Carbon steel wire rod is manufactured in a variety of grades, sizes, and qualities. It can be differentiated according to carbon content, i.e., low-, medium-high-, and high-carbon-steel wire rod, as well as by process of manufacturing. "Rimmed" wire rod is produced by the more traditional ingot method while "cast" wire rod is produced by the continuous casting method. Imports of carbon steel wire rod from Poland, Portugal, and Venezuela have been all low carbon. 6/ Accordingly, we conclude that under § 771(10) the subject imports are like the domestic products covered by these investigations.

In prior investigations concerning the same product, the Commission determined that low-, medium-high-, and high-carbon-steel wire rod are

4/ 19 U.S.C. § 1677(4)(A).

5/ 19 U.S.C. § 1677(10).

6/ Report of the Commission (Report) at A-7.

separate like products. 7/ In those investigations, however, the Commission found that, despite the existence of three separate like products, the data available from the domestic producers of carbon steel wire rod could not be broken out on the basis of profitability or employment for the three domestic industries corresponding to the three like products. Accordingly, the Commission assessed the effect of the imports under investigation upon the domestic producers of all carbon steel wire rod, in accordance with section 771(4)(D) of the Tariff Act, 8/ and defined the domestic industry as all producers of carbon steel wire rod, regardless of carbon content. 9/

In these investigations, the Commission has received no new information indicating that the domestic producers are now able to allocate costs. Rather, the domestic producers are still unable to provide the Commission with data broken out by carbon content categories except for the production and shipment information. 10/ Accordingly, we conclude, under section 771(4)(D)

7/ See, e.g., Carbon Steel Wire Rod from the German Democratic Republic, Inv. No. 731-TA-205 (Preliminary), USITC Pub. 1607 (Nov. 1984); Carbon Steel Wire Rod from Argentina and Spain, Invs. Nos. 731-TA-157 and 160 (Final), USITC Pub. 1598 (Nov. 1984); Carbon Steel Wire Rod from Poland, Inv. No. 731-TA-159 (Final), USITC Pub. 1574 (Sept. 1984); Carbon Steel Wire Rod from Spain, Inv. No. 701-TA-209 (Final), USITC Pub. 1544 (June 1984).

8/ Section 771(4)(D) provides, in pertinent part, that:

[i]f the domestic production of the like product has no separate identity in terms of such criteria [as production process or producer's profits], then the effect of the subsidized or dumped imports shall be assessed by the examination of the production of the narrowest group or range of products, which includes a like product, for which the necessary information can be provided.

9/ See Carbon Steel Wire Rod from the German Democratic Republic, Inv. No. 731-TA-205 (Preliminary), USITC Pub. 1607 (Nov. 1984); Carbon Steel Wire Rod from Argentina and Spain, Invs. Nos. 731-TA-157 and 160 (Final), USITC Pub. 1598 (Nov. 1984); Carbon Steel Wire Rod from Spain, Inv. No. 701-TA-209 (Final), USITC Pub. 1544 (June 1984); Carbon Steel Wire Rod from Brazil and Trinidad and Tobago, Invs. Nos. 731-TA-113 and 114 (Final), USITC Pub. 1444 (Oct. 1983).

10/ Report at A-17.

that the domestic industry consists of the domestic producers of all carbon steel wire rod.

Condition of the domestic industry

The Tariff Act of 1930 directs the Commission to determine whether there is a reasonable indication that an industry in the United States is materially injured or is threatened with material injury. 11/ In making a material injury determination, the Commission considers, among other factors, whether there are declines in production, capacity utilization, employment, and profitability. 12/

In recent title VII investigations that have involved wire rod, the Commission has concluded that, despite its improved performance in 1983 and the interim period January-June 1984, the domestic carbon steel wire rod industry as a whole was experiencing difficulties, particularly in terms of financial performance, during most of the period under investigation. 13/ The most recent data show a flattening out in performance, and in fact many of the economic indicators declined during the latter part of 1984 and the first quarter of 1985.

Aggregate production of carbon steel wire rod increased from 3.1 million tons in 1982 to 3.6 million tons in 1983, then increased to 3.8 million tons in 1984. Production during the most recent period, January-March 1985,

11/ 19 U.S.C. §§ 1671b and 1673b. The statute defines "material injury" as "harm which is not inconsequential, immaterial, or unimportant." 19 U.S.C. § 1677(7)(A).

12/ 19 U.S.C. § 1677(7)(C).

13/ See Carbon Steel Wire Rod from the German Democratic Republic, Inv. No. 731-TA-205 (Preliminary), USITC Pub. 1607 at 5 (Nov. 1984); Carbon Steel Wire Rod from Argentina and Spain, Invs. Nos. 731-TA-157 and 160 (Final), USITC Pub. 1598 at 6 (Nov. 1984); Carbon Steel Wire Rod from Poland, Inv. No. 731-TA-159 (Final), USITC Pub. 1574 at 5 (Sept. 1984).

decreased to 890,561 tons, as compared with 1.1 million tons in the corresponding period of 1984. 14/ Commercial (open-market) shipments increased from 2.2 million tons in 1982 to 2.7 million tons in 1983, then increased to 2.8 million tons in 1984. During January-March 1985, however, commercial shipments decreased to 649,017 tons, as compared with 852,877 tons in the corresponding period of 1984. 15/ Capacity utilization increased from 44.8 percent in 1982 to 55.7 percent in 1983, and then to 68.9 percent in 1984. In January-March 1985, capacity utilization decreased to 64.5 percent as compared with 81.0 percent in January-March 1984. 16/

Both the level of employment and the number of hours worked increased from 1982 to 1983, then decreased during 1984 and the first quarter of 1985. The level of employment increased from 3,521 in 1982 to 3,794 workers in 1983, then decreased to 3,498 in 1984. The number of hours worked increased from 7.2 million in 1982 to 7.6 million in 1983, and then decreased to 6.9 million in 1984. Data for January-March 1985 show a significant decrease over the corresponding period in 1984. Average employment in January-March 1985 decreased to 3,088 as compared with 4,282 during the corresponding period in 1984, while hours worked decreased to 1.5 million in January-March 1985 as compared with 2.1 million during the corresponding period in 1984. 17/

The profitability of the domestic industry improved slightly during the period of investigation. This industry suffered operating losses of \$92.7 million in 1982 and \$62.7 million in 1983. In 1984, it reported an operating profit of \$16.0 million. The industry recorded operating profits of \$3.9

14/ Report at A-18, Table 5.

15/ Id. at A-20, Table 7.

16/ Id. at A-18, Table 5.

17/ Id. at A-22, Table 9.

million in January-March 1985 as compared with operating profits of \$0.8 million during the corresponding period in 1984. 18/ The ratio of these operating profits to net sales, however, during the January-March 1985 period was only 1.5 percent. 19/ Although the domestic industry has reached the breakeven point and has even shown some modest profitability, its overall performance weakened in the fourth quarter of 1984 and the first quarter of 1985, thereby providing a reasonable indication of material injury. 20/ 21/

Reasonable indication of material injury by reason of allegedly subsidized imports from Portugal and Venezuela and imports allegedly sold at LTFV from Poland, Portugal, and Venezuela

For purposes of our preliminary countervailing duty determinations, we have cumulated imports from Portugal and Venezuela. For purposes of our

18/ Id. at A-25, Table 12.

19/ Id.

20/ Chairwoman Stern believes that it is most appropriate to conclude that the domestic industry's weakened performance in the fourth quarter of 1984 and the first quarter of 1985 indicates that problems continue. She does not believe that title VII mandates the two-step test followed by her colleagues. See supra n.3.

21/ Commissioner Eckes believes that the Commission is to make a finding regarding the question of material injury in each investigation. The Court of International Trade recently held that:

The Commission must make an affirmative finding only when it finds both (1) present material injury (or threat to or retardation of the establishment of an industry) and (2) that the material injury is "by reason of" the subject imports. Relief may not be granted when the domestic industry is suffering material injury but not by reason of unfairly traded imports. Nor may relief be granted when there is no material injury, regardless of the presence of dumped or subsidized imports of the product under investigation. In the latter circumstance, the presence of dumped or subsidized imports is irrelevant, because only one of the two necessary criteria has been met, and any analysis of causation of injury would thus be superfluous.

American Spring Wire Corp. v. United States, 590 F. Supp. 1273, 1276 (Ct. Int'l Trade 1984) (emphasis supplied), aff'd sub nom., Armco Inc. v. United States, No. 84-1715 (C.A.F.C. May 2, 1985).

preliminary antidumping determinations, we have cumulated imports from Poland, Portugal, and Venezuela. 22/

Our determinations in these preliminary investigations have been made under section 612 of the Tariff and Trade Act of 1984 ("the 1984 Act"), which amends section 771(7)(C)(iv) of the Tariff Act of 1930. 23/ The new provision states:

(iv) Cumulation--For the purposes of clauses (i) and (ii), the Commission shall cumulatively assess the volume and effect of imports from two or more countries of like products subject to investigation if such imports compete with each other and with like products of the domestic industry in the United States market.

To cumulate these imports, we found that: (1) they compete with each other and the domestic like product; (2) the marketing of imports is reasonably coincident; 24/ and (3) the imports are subject to investigation. 25/ 26/ To determine whether the imports compete with each other and the domestic product, we considered factors similar to those we considered when analyzing cumulation prior to the 1984 Act. No single one of

22/ Chairwoman Stern and Vice Chairman Liebler found, on a cumulative basis, a reasonable indication of threat of material injury by reason of allegedly dumped imports from Poland, Portugal, Venezuela, and the German Democratic Republic. See infra discussion of threat of material injury.

23/ 19 U.S.C. § 1677(7)(C)(iv).

24/ This requirement is expressed in the conference agreement on the House and Senate versions of the bill. H.R. Rep. No. 1156, 98th Cong., 2d Sess. 173 (1984). The conference agreement uses the phrase "marketing of imports that are . . . reasonably coincident." In determining whether the marketing of imports is reasonably coincident, we considered such factors as: (1) geographic markets; (2) channels of distribution; and (3) simultaneous presence in the market.

25/ We note that imports from all three countries are currently before the Commission in these investigations.

26/ Chairwoman Stern and Vice Chairman Liebler found that imports from the German Democratic Republic also are subject to investigation. See supra n.22. The Commission has instituted its final investigation regarding imports of carbon steel wire rod from the German Democratic Republic.

the factors we considered is determinative, but they provide a structure for reaching a determination. The factors are:

- the degree of fungibility between imports from different countries and between imports and the domestic like product, including consideration of specific customer requirements and other quality related questions;
- the presence of sales or offers to sell in the same geographic markets of imports from different countries and the domestic like product;
- the existence of common or similar channels of distribution for imports from different countries and the domestic like product;
- whether the prices of imports and the domestic like product are within a reasonable range;
- whether the imports are simultaneously present in the market.

We found that imports of carbon steel wire rod from Poland, Portugal, and Venezuela are fungible products. 27/ Further, the imports and the domestic product are directed to the same end users and to the same geographical market. 28/ Finally, the imports were simultaneously present in the market during these investigations.

In making a determination of material injury by reason of allegedly unfair imports, section 771(7)(B) of the Tariff Act of 1930 directs the Commission to consider, among other factors, the volume of imports of merchandise under investigation, the effect of such imports on domestic

27/ Report at A-7.

28/ Although 57 percent of imports from Venezuela entered the United States through customs districts located on the West Coast, 43 percent of the Venezuelan rod entered the United States through other customs districts during the period of 1984 through the first quarter of 1985. Id. at A-31. See infra n.30.

prices, and the impact of such imports on the relevant domestic industry. 29/ 30/

In these preliminary countervailing duty investigations, the cumulative ratio of imports from Portugal and Venezuela to total apparent consumption was 0.7 percent in 1984 and 3.4 percent in the first quarter of 1985. In these preliminary antidumping investigations, the cumulative ratio of imports from Poland, Portugal, and Venezuela to total apparent consumption was 0.2 percent in 1982, 0.6 percent in 1983, 0.7 percent in 1984, and 3.8 percent in the first quarter of 1985.

At the same time the industry was experiencing performance declines in late 1984 and the first quarter of 1985, these imports were either entering the United States market for the first time or were reentering the market after a sustained period of absence. Further, these imports rose quickly, particularly during the second half of 1984 and the first quarter of 1985. 31/

Certain conditions of trade in the carbon steel wire rod market are important in establishing the framework for our analysis of the impact of the imports under investigation on U.S. prices. One fundamental characteristic of

29/ 19 U.S.C. § 1677(7)(B).

30/ Respondents have again argued that the Commission's causation analysis should disregard imports consumed in the Western States area. We have concluded that their arguments do not warrant a negative determination in these preliminary investigations. Although 57 percent of imports from Venezuela entered the United States through customs districts located on the West Coast, 43 percent of the Venezuelan rod entered through other customs districts during the period of 1984 through the first quarter of 1985. Additionally, the geographical distribution of Venezuelan imports does change from year to year. Report at A-31. Further, the information developed in the course of these investigations indicates that the importers of the Venezuelan product do not enjoy a significant transportation cost advantage over domestic producers located outside the area. Transcript of hearing in Carbon Steel Wire Rod from Poland, Portugal, and Venezuela (Tr.) at 89-90. See also the additional discussion of the Western States issue in Carbon Steel Wire Rod from Spain, supra n.8, at 11-12.

31/ Report at A-14-A-16.

carbon steel wire rod is its basic fungibility and price sensitivity within each of the three carbon categories. Although quality may be a factor in some purchasers' decisions to purchase low carbon steel wire rod, once the minimum quality requirements are satisfied, price becomes a major factor in the purchasing decision. 32/

Although prices of carbon steel wire rod generally fluctuated during the period of investigation, integrated producers' f.o.b. prices showed an increasing trend through the end of 1984, before decreasing in January-March 1985. Average f.o.b. prices paid by purchasers of carbon steel wire rod from integrated producers increased by 19.1 percent from \$288 per short ton in January-March 1983 to \$343 per short ton in October-December 1984. Prices declined, however, by 14.6 percent to \$293 per short ton in January-March 1985. Nonintegrated producers' f.o.b. prices decreased from \$294 per short ton in January-March 1983 to \$274 per short ton in October-December 1983, then increased to \$307 per short ton in July-September 1984. In January-March 1985, prices decreased to \$287 per short ton. 33/ This decrease in producers' prices was preceded by price undercutting from all three countries as they entered or reentered the marketplace.

In every quarter for which information is available the Polish prices were lower than both the integrated and nonintegrated producers' prices. Further, although the margins of underselling fluctuated throughout the period of investigation, they remained fairly significant. 34/

32/ Id. at A-35.

33/ Id. at A-39-A-41, Tables 19-21.

34/ Id. at A-39. Price data in most instances are confidential and, therefore, the prices of imports are discussed in general terms only.

Although the Portuguese prices were higher than those of the nonintegrated producers during the third quarter of 1984 and the first quarter of 1985, imports from Portugal undersold the nonintegrated producers in the last quarter of 1984. Imports from Portugal undersold the integrated producers during July-December 1984. 35/ Further, the Commission staff has confirmed one instance of a lost sale as a result of imports from Portugal. 36/

The Venezuelan prices showed evidence of underselling based upon the information provided to the Commission. 37/ There were also two confirmed lost sales to imports from Venezuela. 38/

For the foregoing reasons, we conclude that there is a reasonable indication that an industry in the United States is materially injured by allegedly subsidized imports of carbon steel wire rod from Portugal and Venezuela. We further conclude that there is a reasonable indication that an industry in the United States is materially injured by allegedly LTFV imports of carbon steel wire rod from Poland, Portugal, and Venezuela.

Reasonable indication of threat of material injury by reason of allegedly subsidized imports from Portugal and Venezuela and imports allegedly sold at LTFV from Poland, Portugal, and Venezuela 39/

Section 612 of the 1984 Act adds a new subparagraph 771(7)(F) which directs the Commission to consider a number of economic factors in assessing threat of material injury. Such factors include any rapid increase in penetration of the U.S. market by the imports, the ability of the foreign

35/ Id. at A-39, Table 19.

36/ Id. at A-41.

37/ Id. at A-40.

38/ Id. at A-41.

39/ Commissioner Eckes, having found a reasonable indication of material injury in these investigations, does not reach the further question of a reasonable indication of threat of material injury.

producers to increase the level of exports to the United States and the likelihood they will do so, and any substantial increases in inventories of imported merchandise in the United States.

Although each country is either entering the United States market for the first time or is reentering the market after a sustained period of absence, exports from all three countries rose quickly, particularly during the last half of 1984 and the first quarter of 1985. 40/ As previously noted, these imports were priced aggressively, undercutting average domestic prices in most of the available price comparisons. In addition, production of carbon steel wire rod in Portugal and Venezuela increased significantly during the period of investigation. Complete data on production in Poland in 1984 was not provided. 41/ Further, the data indicate underutilized capacity in all three countries. Finally, there were some importer inventories of wire rod from Portugal and Venezuela during 1984 through the first quarter of 1985. 42/

40/ Report at A-14-A-16.

41/ Id. at A-13.

42/ Id. at A-27-A-28, Table 14.

INFORMATION OBTAINED IN THE INVESTIGATIONS

Introduction

On April 8, 1985, antidumping and countervailing duty petitions were filed with the United States International Trade Commission and the U.S. Department of Commerce 1/ by counsel on behalf of Atlantic Steel Co., Continental Steel Corp., Georgetown Steel Corp., North Star Steel Texas, Inc., and Raritan River Steel Co. The petitions allege that an industry in the United States is materially injured and is threatened with material injury by reason of imports from Portugal and Venezuela of carbon steel wire rod, provided for in item 607.17 of the Tariff Schedules of the United States (TSUS), which are alleged to be subsidized by the Governments of those countries, and by reason of imports of carbon steel wire rod from Poland, 2/ Portugal, and Venezuela, which are alleged to be sold at less than fair value (LTFV). Accordingly, the Commission instituted countervailing duty investigations on carbon steel wire rod from Portugal (investigation No. 701-TA-243 (Preliminary)) and from Venezuela (investigation No. 701-TA-244 (Preliminary)) and antidumping investigations on carbon steel wire rod from Poland (investigation No. 731-TA-256 (Preliminary)), Portugal (investigation No. 731-TA-257 (Preliminary)), and Venezuela (investigation No. 731-TA-258 (Preliminary)) under the Tariff Act of 1930 to determine whether there is a reasonable indication that an industry in the United States is materially injured, or is threatened with material injury, or the establishment of an industry in the United States is materially retarded, by reason of imports of carbon steel wire rod from Poland, Portugal, and Venezuela into the United States. The statute directs that the Commission make its determinations within 45 days after its receipt of the petitions, or in these cases, by May 23, 1985.

Notice of the institution of the Commission's investigations and of a public conference to be held in connection therewith was given by posting copies of the notice in the Office of the Secretary, U.S. International Trade Commission, Washington, DC, and by publishing the notice in the Federal Register on April 17, 1985 (50 F.R. 15234). 3/ The conference was held in Washington, DC, on April 30, 1985. 4/ The briefing and votes were held on May 15, 1985.

1/ In response to a petition filed under the provisions of the Trade and Tariff Act of 1984 by the petitioners in the instant investigations, Commerce is establishing an informal monitoring procedure on imports of carbon steel wire rod. Commerce is arranging periodic meetings with industry representatives in order to review nonconfidential information regarding trends in imports of carbon steel wire rod. Information will be in a form that will permit early warning of import surges or shifts, and will be developed and followed on the following nine countries: Czechoslovakia, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Taiwan, Turkey, Venezuela, and Zimbabwe.

2/ * * *.

3/ A copy of the Commission's notice is presented in app. A. Copies of Commerce's notices are presented in app. B.

4/ A list of witnesses appearing at the conference is presented in app. C.

Previous Investigations

On February 8, 1982, following the filing of a petition by domestic producers of carbon steel wire rod, the Commission instituted three preliminary countervailing duty investigations on carbon steel wire rod from Belgium (No. 701-TA-148 (Preliminary)), Brazil (No. 701-TA-149 (Preliminary)), and France (No. 701-TA-150 (Preliminary)). ^{1/} The Commission made affirmative determinations that there was a reasonable indication of injury or the threat of injury in all three cases. Final investigations were instituted by the Commission in all three cases following preliminary affirmative subsidy determinations by Commerce. On October 1, 1982, the Commission suspended investigation No. 701-TA-149 (Final) following an agreement with Brazil to offset the amount of the subsidy with an export tax. Investigations Nos. 701-TA-148 (Final) and 701-TA-150 (Final) were terminated on October 21, 1982, when the U.S. producers withdrew their petitions in response to an arrangement whereby the European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC) agreed to limit its exports of certain steel products (47 F.R. 49059, Oct. 29, 1982). Under the arrangement, ECSC exports of wire rod to the United States are limited annually to 4.29 percent of apparent U.S. consumption, which is projected on a quarterly basis. The arrangement is effective through December 31, 1985.

On February 8, 1982, following the filing of a petition by domestic producers, the Commission instituted a preliminary antidumping investigation on carbon steel wire rod imports from Venezuela (investigation No. 731-TA-88 (Preliminary)). The Commission made an affirmative determination on March 25, 1982, that there was a reasonable indication that an industry in the United States was being materially injured or threatened with material injury by reason of the subject imports. Following an affirmative LTFV determination by Commerce, the Commission made a final negative injury determination on February 14, 1983 (Carbon Steel Wire Rod from Venezuela . . . , USITC Publication 1338) (48 F.R. 7821, Feb. 24, 1983). In connection with that investigation, the Commission was advised that the significant increase in exports from Venezuela to the United States in 1981 consisted of a "one-time excess inventory disposal created through extraordinary sales by foreign producers into Venezuela," and further that "SIDOR has no intention or capability of selling wire rod to any user which may import it into the United States in the range of the foreseeable future." ^{2/}

On May 16, 1982, the U.S. Department of Commerce initiated a countervailing duty investigation concerning carbon steel wire rod imports from Trinidad and Tobago upon receipt of a petition from domestic producers.

^{1/} Imports from Argentina and the Republic of South Africa were also included in these petitions. Because Argentina and the Republic of South Africa are not signatories to the GATT Subsidies Code, they are not entitled to injury findings by the Commission. The Department of Commerce issued affirmative preliminary determinations for Argentina and South Africa on July 8, 1982 (47 F.R. 30539). A suspension agreement was entered into by Argentina premised on the elimination of the subsidies found to be bestowed on the production, manufacture, and export of wire rod (47 F.R. 42393, Sept. 27, 1982). Commerce issued a final affirmative determination for South Africa on Sept. 27, 1982 (47 F.R. 42396).

^{2/} Letter addressed to Chairman Alberger dated Mar. 2, 1982.

Since Trinidad and Tobago is not a "country under the Agreement," the Commission was not required to make an injury determination. Commerce, on December 27, 1983, determined that subsidies equivalent to 6.74 percent had been granted on exports of carbon steel wire rod from Trinidad; Commerce's notice of its final determination of countervailable subsidies was published in the Federal Register of January 4, 1984 (49 F.R. 480).

On October 1, 1982, following the filing of a petition by domestic producers, the Commission instituted preliminary antidumping investigations on carbon steel wire rod from Brazil (investigation No. 731-TA-113 (Preliminary)) and Trinidad and Tobago (investigation No. 731-TA-114 (Preliminary)). The Commission determined that there was a reasonable indication that an industry in the United States was materially injured by reason of such imports. Following affirmative LTFV determinations by Commerce, the Commission also made final affirmative injury determinations (Carbon Steel Wire Rod from Brazil and Trinidad and Tobago . . ., USITC Publication 1444, October 1983) (48 F.R. 51178, Nov. 7, 1983).

On November 23, 1983, the petitioners in the instant investigations filed antidumping petitions for carbon steel wire rod from Argentina, Mexico, Poland, and Spain, and countervailing duty petitions for carbon steel wire rod from Czechoslovakia, Poland, and Spain. The Commission instituted antidumping investigations on carbon steel wire rod from Argentina (investigation No. 731-TA-157 (Preliminary)), Mexico (investigation No. 731-TA-158 (Preliminary)), Poland (investigation No. 731-TA-159 (Preliminary)), and Spain (investigation No. 731-TA-160 (Preliminary)), and a countervailing duty investigation on carbon steel wire rod from Spain (investigation No. 701-TA-209 (Preliminary)). Czechoslovakia and Poland were not entitled to an injury determination by the Commission for countervailing duty purposes, because they were not signatories to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) Subsidies Code. On January 9, 1984, the Commission issued affirmative preliminary determinations on the antidumping investigations for Argentina, Mexico, Poland, and Spain, and on the countervailing duty investigation for Spain. Following an affirmative final countervailing duty determination by Commerce for Spain on May 1, 1984, the Commission made an affirmative final injury determination on June 12, 1984 (Carbon Steel Wire Rod from Spain . . ., USITC Publication 1544, June 1984) (49 F.R. 27640, July 5, 1984). On May 1, 1984, Commerce issued negative final countervailing duty determinations for Czechoslovakia and Poland; affirmative preliminary LTFV determinations for Argentina, Poland, and Spain; and a negative preliminary LTFV determination for Mexico. Subsequently, on June 14, 1984, the petition for Mexico was withdrawn. The Commission made a negative final injury determination for Poland on August 28, 1984 (49 F.R. 35870, Sept. 12, 1984), and affirmative final determinations for Argentina and Spain on November 5, 1984 (Carbon Steel Wire Rod from Argentina and Spain . . ., USITC Publication 1598, November 1984) (49 F.R. 45273, Nov. 15, 1984).

On September 26, 1984, following the filing of a petition by the petitioners in the instant investigations, the Commission instituted a preliminary antidumping investigation on carbon steel wire rod from the German Democratic Republic (investigation No. 731-TA-205 (Preliminary)). On November 13, 1984, the Commission issued an affirmative preliminary determination on the investigation, and on March 12, 1985, Commerce made a

preliminary affirmative determination of sales at LTFV. Effective March 12, 1985, the Commission instituted a final investigation on carbon steel wire rod from the German Democratic Republic (investigation No. 731-TA-205 (Final)). The Commission is scheduled to make its final determination on that investigation by August 14, 1985.

The Product

Description and uses

The product that is the subject of the petitioners' complaint is carbon steel wire rod, a hot-rolled, semifinished, coiled product of solid, approximately round, cross section, not under 0.20 inch nor over 0.74 inch in diameter, that has not been tempered, treated, or partly manufactured. Carbon steel wire rod can be differentiated by its chemistry, diameter, and the process by which it is manufactured. The American Iron & Steel Institute (AISI) categorizes carbon steel wire rod into three series: 1000, 1100, and 1200. The 1000 series, which includes most carbon steel wire rod consumed in the United States, can be further subdivided according to carbon content. Low-carbon rod, which encompasses grades 1006 through 1022, has a maximum carbon content of 0.23 percent; medium-high-carbon rod, which encompasses grades 1023 through 1040, has a carbon content of 0.24 to 0.44 percent; and high-carbon rod, which encompasses grades 1041 through 1095, has a carbon content that exceeds 0.44 percent. The 1100 series refers to resulfurized carbon steel grades, and the 1200 series includes both rephosphorized and resulfurized carbon steel grades. Prices for 1100 and 1200 series wire rod are generally substantially higher than prices for 1000 series wire rod.

The traditional method of making wire rod is the ingot method. In this process, pig iron and/or scrap steel are charged into basic oxygen, open hearth, or electric furnaces. The resultant molten steel is poured into ladles that transport the liquid steel to ingot molds (typically 3 or 4 feet square by 6 feet deep) into which the steel is poured and allowed to solidify. When solid, the ingots are removed from the molds and placed in soaking pits for uniform heating. From the soaking pits the ingot is gradually reduced (rolled) into billets and then transferred to the rod mill. Wire rod produced by this ingot method is known as rimmed wire rod.

Continuous casting is a newer method of converting raw steel into billets. Continuous casting is more efficient than the ingot method of billet making, as it forms the billet directly from molten steel, bypassing the need to form, reheat, and reduce ingots. Molten steel is transferred in preheated ladles to the continuous-casting facilities by overhead cranes. Here the molten steel is poured into a receiving basin (known as a tundish), which channels the molten steel into spigots. At this stage the steel is "killed" ^{1/} with silicon or aluminum, so that the molten steel is able to flow evenly through

^{1/} "Killed" is an expression used to describe steel to which deoxidizing agents, such as aluminum or silicon, have been added in order to stop the evolution of gases during cooling. The process also causes residual impurities to be more evenly distributed throughout the billet.

the spigots and into the continuous-casting molds. In the molds, the steel is cooled by water sprays and partially solidified into a moving continuous strand of steel 4 or 5 inches square. This strand proceeds to the end of the billet preparation line and is cut into lengths of 40 to 50 feet. These billets are normally cooled and stored before being rolled into wire rod. Wire rod produced from the continuous-casting process is referred to as cast wire rod.

Billets produced by both processes are then converted into wire rod by a hot-rolling process. The first step is the heating of the billet in the reheat furnace to uniform temperatures of 2,200° F to 2,400° F. The billets are then moved into the roughing, intermediate, and finishing stands that reduce them, at exiting speeds of up to 15,000 feet per minute, to predetermined diameters. A typical billet will produce about 4.5 miles of 7/32-inch diameter wire rod.

After exiting from the last finishing stand, the rod is coiled into concentric loops on a conveyor that moves the hot wire rod along while it cools. The speed at which the wire rod is cooled affects the formation of its metallurgical structure, which may be varied according to the rod's intended end use. The loops of wire rod are fed into various devices, depending on the particular plant, and collected into coils, which are compacted, tied, and readied for shipment. The time span from the exiting of the billet from the reheat furnace to the loading of a finished coil may be as little as 10 minutes.

The two methods of billet making produce different types of steel, which may be preferred, or even specified, by consumers of wire rod, depending on the wire rod's intended end use and the wire fabricators' wire-drawing facilities. Wire rod produced by the ingot process may be either killed to stop the evolution of gases and segregation of residuals or "rimmed," in which gas evolution and residual segregation are allowed to occur; cast steel is, of necessity, always killed. 1/

Since the amount of oxygen dissolved in molten steel varies inversely with its carbon content, ingot or cast steel intended for use in the production of high-carbon wire rod can be readily killed or semikilled (in the case of ingots) by the introduction of deoxidation agents, principally silicon or aluminum. Besides increasing the cost of the steel, the presence of the deoxidizing agents results in a product higher in nonmetallic inclusions (residuals), which make the resultant billet less ductile. Since the killing process also prevents segregation of these residuals, a killed steel will be inherently less ductile than a rimmed steel of the same carbon content, and conversely, will possess a higher tensile strength. 2/ Thus, wire rod produced from continuous-cast billets, although more economical to produce, is sometimes not preferred by customers for end uses where ductility is required

1/ Cast steel must be killed to prevent solidification of the molten steel in the tundish as it is slowly being poured into the strand caster.

2/ Raw steel may also contain higher residuals if it is the product of an electric arc furnace, which utilizes scrap as a raw material instead of pig iron produced in the blast-furnace process. The nonintegrated producers of wire rod use the electric arc furnace exclusively.

or desired. Rimmed wire rod, although it may sell for a premium over cast rod, 1/ can provide a greater yield and normally results in less die wear for the wire drawer. 2/

The differences between cast and rimmed wire rod and the end uses for which the rimmed rod is preferred or required were discussed extensively at the hearing in investigations Nos. 701-TA-148 and 150 (Final) on carbon steel wire rod from Belgium and France and in interested party submissions in the same investigations. Data from these and other industry sources contacted by the Commission indicate a consumer preference for rimmed wire rod in applications where ductility is important. Such customers will weigh the price advantage of the cast product against the workability and greater yield of the rimmed product in making purchasing decisions. 3/ However, aside from consumer preference, only limited end uses of wire rod actually require the rimmed product. These include very fine wire that is used to make such products as door and window screens, certain chemistries of welding-quality wire, where control of residuals (especially copper) is critical, and aluminum-killed wire, which is used for some industrial fasteners. These applications represent less than 5 percent of the total market for wire rod, according to industry sources.

Carbon steel wire rod is distinguished by its chemical composition as well as its method of manufacture. In all phases of production, various practices are employed that determine the characteristics and quality of the finished product. The internal structure, surface quality, and physical properties of wire rod are affected by the method of casting the steel from which the rod is made and by altering the chemical composition of the steel. Some common qualities of carbon steel wire rod and their end uses are discussed below.

Low-carbon steel wire rod is used where malleability is required. The low-carbon steel wire rod is typically drawn into wire for wire mesh, home appliance shelving, shopping carts, nails, screws and bolts, baling wire, and chain link fences. Standard industrial-quality rod and fine-wire-quality rod are low-carbon wire rod. Some cold-heading quality, welding-quality, and

1/ The premium charge for rimmed wire rod has been estimated to be \$25 to \$30 per ton under normal market conditions. The premium decreases or is eliminated in times of slack demand.

2/ Producers of both rimmed and cast wire rod assert that through scrap selection, enrichment of the charge with direct-reduced-iron (DRI) pellets, and other practices, cast wire rod producers can make a substitute for rimmed steel with ductility approaching that of the rimmed product. However, such practices increase the cost of cast rod, which lessens its cost advantage compared with that of the rimmed product. Transcript of the hearing in investigations Nos. 701-TA-148 and 150 (Final), Carbon Steel Wire Rod From Belgium and France, pp. 126-130.

3/ In addition, some end users have equipment that employs a mechanical descaling process to clean wire rod. Such a process works best on rimmed rod because of the type of scale and higher ductility of rimmed rod. Other end users employ chemical cleaning, best suited for continuous cast rod. Changing cleaning procedures would require additional expense for new equipment.

cold-finishing-quality rod may also be low-carbon rod. Low-carbon steel wire rod accounts for most of the U.S. market for carbon steel wire rod, with standard industrial quality rod as the industry's mainstay. Standard industrial quality steel wire rod is used primarily in the production of wire mesh, clothes hangers, and chain link fences, where the tolerances required of the product are relatively low. Thus, because product differentiation is less significant, standard industrial-quality rod is a fungible product, and the market for this product is highly competitive.

Medium-high-carbon steel wire rod is used in applications where greater strength and hardness is desired. Major end uses include bolts and screws, snap-tie wire, bicycle spokes, and high-tensile bale wire.

High-carbon steel wire rod is used where even greater strength is desired. Typical uses include mechanical springs, upholstery springs, tire bead, tire cord wire, and bridge cables. Traditionally, high-carbon steel wire rod is sold at higher prices than is medium-high carbon or low-carbon steel wire rod and is sold to different end users.

U.S.-produced carbon steel wire rod (both ingot and cast) is available in all grades and qualities. Data received from nonintegrated U.S. producers show that U.S. production of 1000 series carbon steel wire rod consisted of about 77 percent low carbon, 3 percent medium-high carbon, and 20 percent high carbon in 1984. Imports of wire rod from Poland, Portugal, and Venezuela during the period under investigation were all low carbon.

U.S. tariff treatment

Carbon steel wire rod is classified under TSUS items 607.14 and 607.17. TSUS item 607.14 provides for wire rod of iron or steel, other than alloy iron and steel, not tempered, not treated, and not partly manufactured, and valued at not over 4 cents per pound. However, because there have been no imports from Poland, Portugal, or Venezuela under TSUS item 607.14, this tariff item was not included in the petitioners' complaint and is not covered by these investigations. TSUS item 607.17 provides for wire rod of iron or steel, other than alloy iron or steel, not tempered, not treated, and not partly manufactured, and valued over 4 cents per pound. The column 1 (most-favored-nation) rate of duty for this item is an ad valorem rate of 1.9 percent. The column 2 rate of duty assessed on products of enumerated Communist countries (including Poland) is an ad valorem rate of 5.5 percent. If manufactured in and imported from a beneficiary country, carbon steel wire rod is eligible for duty-free entry under the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act.

Nature and Extent of Alleged Subsidies and Sales at LTFV

Alleged subsidies

The petitioners allege that the Governments of Portugal and Venezuela confer benefits on carbon steel wire rod producers in those countries and that such benefits constitute subsidies under the countervailing duty law.

Portugal.--Petitioners stated 1/ that the Government of Portugal directly owns 100 percent of the stock of Siderurgia Nacional (SN), the Portuguese producer of carbon steel wire rod, and that the Government of Portugal confers the following benefits on SN: (1) export financing at preferential rates, (2) export tax incentives, (3) several types of investment incentive programs or "regimes" established under Decree law 132/83, and (4) various domestic business subsidies.

Venezuela.--Petitioners stated 2/ that in Commerce's preliminary affirmative countervailing duty determination in investigation No. C-307-403, Certain Carbon Steel Products From Venezuela, (50 F.R. 11227, Mar. 20, 1985), Commerce found that the Venezuelan producer SIDOR is provided with benefits that constitute subsidies within the meaning of the countervailing duty law. Petitioners allege that those subsidies also benefit wire rod production and, therefore, are countervailable as to that product. The Venezuelan programs cited by the petitioners are (1) Ministry of Finance loans paid directly to SIDOR at preferential interest rates, (2) loans through the Venezuelan Investment Fund, (3) export certificates for credit against income taxes, (4) municipal sales tax exemptions, (5) multiple exchange rates, (6) Government equity infusions, and (7) tax contributions to cover service costs. The petitioners have stated that Commerce has estimated the ad valorem benefit of the first six subsidies to be 72.26 percent and that the petitioners believe that the production and export of wire rod also benefits from subsidies of at least equal magnitude.

Alleged sales at LTFV

According to the petition, imports of carbon steel wire rod from Poland, Portugal, and Venezuela are being sold in the United States at LTFV. The petition presented comparisons of adjusted U.S. prices of wire rod from Poland, Portugal, and Venezuela with their foreign-market values. For Portugal and Venezuela, the foreign-market value used by the petitioners was the cost of production of an allegedly highly efficient U.S. mill (* * *), a procedure that is authorized by section 353.36(a)(7) of Commerce's regulations. For Poland, the foreign-market value used by the petitioners was the average price of wire rod in Australia. 3/ The resulting dumping margin alleged by the petitioners for Portugal and Venezuela is 39.25 percent, and the resulting alleged dumping margin for Poland is 36.51 percent.

1/ Petition for the imposition of countervailing duties on carbon steel wire rod, Apr. 8, 1985, p. 15.

2/ Ibid., p. 18.

3/ Australia was used for the foreign-market value, because the statute requires the foreign-market value of imported merchandise from a country with a State-controlled economy to be determined by reference to the price at which such or similar merchandise of a country with a non-State-controlled economy is sold. Australia was recently utilized in Commerce's investigation of wire rod imports from the German Democratic Republic (GDR). Petitioners do not necessarily concur with the selection of Australia nor with the adjustments to the Australian price in the preliminary determination in the GDR proceeding.

The Domestic Market

U.S. producers

There are currently 14 firms operating a total of 15 U.S. plants in which carbon steel wire rod is produced. The U.S. producers' wire rod plants are located throughout the United States but are concentrated in the industrial belt south of the Great Lakes ranging from Wisconsin to Pennsylvania. Of the 14 firms, 4 (U.S. Steel Corp., Armco Steel Corp., Bethlehem Steel Corp., and CF&I Corp.) are fully integrated. The integrated producers manufacture raw steel and produce a wide variety of steel products. The remaining producers, which produce a narrower range of steel products, include the petitioners.

Table 1 lists all known U.S. carbon steel wire rod producers by types of producers, their plant locations, each firm's carbon steel wire rod production capacity on December 31, 1984, and whether the firms produce rimmed wire rod (R) or cast wire rod (C). All of the firms produce several types of steel products in addition to carbon steel wire rod.

U.S. importers

Information provided by the U.S. Customs Service identified three importers of carbon steel wire rod from Poland, four importers from Portugal, and five importers from Venezuela during fiscal years 1983, 1984, and 1985 (up to December, 1984). Commission questionnaires were sent to each of the importers and to one additional importer cited by the petitioner as a possible importer. Nine importers responded to the Commission's questionnaire; the three nonrespondents imported negligible amounts of carbon steel wire rod, according to the unverified data provided by Customs.

Customs listed three importers of carbon steel wire rod from Poland:

* * * * *

Of the importers from Poland, only * * * and * * * returned the Commission's questionnaire. * * * claims not to have imported any carbon steel wire rod. * * * was listed by the Customs data as accounting for * * * percent of imports of carbon steel wire rod from Poland. * * *, which is fully owned by * * *, imported carbon steel wire rod from Poland in * * *. * * * also * * *. All of * * *'s imports * * * consisted of low-carbon steel wire rod. * * * also imported carbon steel wire rod from * * * during the period covered by the investigations.

In response to a question on the Commission's questionnaire, * * * indicated that it had * * * concerning the quality of its Polish carbon steel wire rod. There were " * * * ." * * * Polish carbon steel wire rod " * * * ." 1/

Customs listed four importers of carbon steel wire rod from Portugal:

* * * * *

1/ Two purchasers of Polish carbon steel wire rod answered questions on quality that were asked in the Commission purchaser's questionnaire. * * *.

Table 1.--Carbon steel wire rod: U.S. producers, plant locations, end-of-year capacity, and types of wire rod produced, 1984

Item	Location(s)	Capacity	Share of total	Types of wire rod produced 1/
		1,000 short tons	Percent	
Nonintegrated producers:				
Petitioners:				
North Star Steel Texas, Inc. <u>2/</u>	Beaumont, TX	***	***	C
Georgetown Steel Corp.	Georgetown, SC	***	***	C
Raritan River Steel Co.	Perth Amboy, NJ	***	***	RC <u>3/</u>
Continental Steel <u>4/</u>	Kokomo, IN	***	***	R
Atlantic Steel Co. <u>5/</u>	Atlanta, GA	***	***	C
Subtotal, petitioners	-	***	***	-
All other:				
Northwestern Steel & Wire <u>6/</u>	Sterling, IL	***	***	C
Ameron Steel <u>7/</u>	Etiwanda, CA	<u>8/</u>	<u>8/</u>	C
Keystone Consolidated Industries, Inc.	Peoria, IL	<u>8/</u>	<u>8/</u>	C
Laclede Steel Co. <u>9/</u>	Alton, IL	***	***	R
Charter Rolling	Saukville, WI	***	***	RC <u>10/</u>
Subtotal, all other	-	***	***	-
Total, nonintegrated producers	-	3,170	57.0	-
Integrated producers:				
U.S. Steel Corp. <u>11/</u>	Cuyahoga, OH Fairless Hills, PA. Gary, IN Joliet, IL Lorain, OH	***	***	R
Armco Steel Corp.	Kansas City, MO	***	***	RC <u>12/</u>
Bethlehem Steel Corp.	Johnstown, PA Sparrows Point, MD.	***	***	R
CF&I Corp.	Pueblo, CO	***	***	C
Subtotal, integrated producers <u>13/</u>	-	2,392	43.0	-
Grand total	-	5,562	100.0	-

See footnotes on p. A-11.

Footnotes for table 1.

- 1/ "R" denotes rimmed steel; "C" denotes cast steel.
- 2/ Formerly Georgetown Texas Steel Corp. On Aug. 25, 1983, Cargill, Inc., Minneapolis, MN, purchased this firm from Korf Industries, which owns Georgetown Steel Corp., and renamed it North Star Steel Texas, Inc. In 1984, the firm * * *.
- 3/ Raritan River's wire rod production is * * *.
- 4/ Continental installed an additional mill in April 1984, which * * *.
- 5/ Atlantic Steel Co. is * * * owned by * * *.
- 6/ Northwestern * * * closed a rod mill in June 1983. Northwestern opened a new * * * in April 1984, with an annual capacity of * * * tons.
- 7/ On Feb. 28, 1983, Ameron sold a 50-percent interest in its rod-rolling mill to Tamco. Ameron had joined with Mitsui Ltd. and Tokyo Steel in 1977 to form Tamco, which produced billets.
- 8/ Not available.
- 9/ Laclede Steel Co. is * * * percent owned by * * *.
- 10/ Charter Rolling's wire rod production is * * *.
- 11/ On Apr. 1, 1984, U.S. Steel closed its rod mills at South Works (Gary, IN), Cuyahoga, and Fairless Hills. In addition, during 1984, production * * *.
- 12/ The percentages of cast and rimmed wire rod produced by Armco were not obtained.
- 13/ Republic Steel Corp. has produced small quantities of wire rod for captive consumption.

Source: Compiled from data submitted in response to questionnaires of the U.S. International Trade Commission.

All four of the importers from Portugal returned the Commission's questionnaire. * * * was * * * of Portuguese wire rod, accounting for * * * percent of reported imports of the Portuguese carbon steel wire rod during the period under investigation; * * * accounted for * * * percent, * * * accounted for * * * percent, and * * * accounted for * * * percent. * * * claims not to have imported any carbon steel wire rod from Portugal.

* * * is affiliated with * * *. * * * imported carbon steel wire rod from Portugal in * * *. * * * reported that * * * concerning the quality of its Portuguese carbon steel wire rod; there were "* * *." Portuguese carbon steel wire rod was "* * *. * * *." 1/

* * * imported carbon steel wire rod from Portugal in * * *. * * * did not report * * * with the Portuguese wire rod. * * * also reported that it had to reduce its price on Portuguese carbon steel wire rod because of shipment delays of nine months.

1/ Two purchasers of Portuguese carbon steel wire rod answered questions on quality that were asked in the Commission purchaser's questionnaire. * * *. * * * indicated that the quality of the Portuguese wire rod it purchased was "* * * *."

Customs listed five importers of carbon steel wire rod from Venezuela:

* * * * *

* * *, * * *, and * * * returned the Commission's questionnaire. * * * claims not to have imported carbon steel wire rod from Venezuela. * * * imported carbon steel wire rod from Venezuela in * * * and also imported carbon steel wire rod from * * * during the period under investigation. * * * uses its imports of wire rod for captive consumption, i.e., for transformation into * * *; none of the wire rod is resold. * * * imported carbon steel wire rod from Venezuela in 1984 only. * * * also imported carbon steel wire rod from * * * in 1984. The wire rod imported from Venezuela by * * * and * * * was all low carbon. Neither company reported quality problems with the Venezuelan wire rod.

Apparent U.S. consumption

The following tabulation, compiled from data submitted in response to questionnaires of the U.S. International Trade Commission and from official statistics of the U.S. Department of Commerce, presents information collected on the total apparent U.S. consumption (including captive consumption) of carbon steel wire rod (in thousands of short tons):

<u>Period</u>	<u>U.S. producers' domestic shipments</u> 1/	<u>U.S. imports</u>	<u>Apparent U.S. consumption</u>
1982-----	3,070	830	3,900
1983-----	3,620	1,061	4,681
1984-----	3,790	1,360	5,150
January-March--			
1984-----	1,090	384	1,474
1985-----	906	318	1,224

1/ Includes captive consumption.

Total apparent U.S. consumption of carbon steel wire rod increased by 20.0 percent in 1983 and by 10.0 percent in 1984. Consumption in January-March 1985 decreased by 17.0 percent from the level in the corresponding period in 1984.

The following tabulation, also compiled from data submitted in response to questionnaires of the U.S. International Trade Commission and from official statistics of the U.S. Department of Commerce, presents information collected on apparent U.S. open-market consumption of carbon steel wire rod (in thousands of short tons):

<u>Period</u>	<u>U.S. producers'</u> <u>commercial</u> <u>shipments</u>	<u>U.S.</u> <u>imports</u>	<u>Apparent</u> <u>U.S. open-market</u> <u>consumption</u>
1982-----	2,202	830	3,032
1983-----	2,728	1,061	3,789
1984-----	2,822	1,360	4,182
January-March--			
1984-----	853	384	1,237
1985-----	649	318	967

Apparent U.S. open-market consumption of carbon steel wire rod increased by 25.0 percent in 1983 and by 10.4 percent in 1984. Consumption in January-March 1985 decreased by 21.8 percent from the level in the corresponding period of 1984.

Channels of distribution

Most carbon steel wire rod manufactured by U.S. producers is sold to wire drawers, i.e., firms that draw the rod into wire. Wire drawers either use the wire in the manufacture of wire products or sell it for such a purpose to other firms. Some U.S. producers of wire rod produce primarily for conversion into wire for use in the production of their own wire products and sell only excess production in the open market. Thus, wire rod producers that own wire-fabricating facilities frequently compete with wire drawers for sales of wire products to customers. In 1984, U.S. producers captively consumed approximately 25 percent of their wire rod production in this fashion.

The Foreign Industries

Poland

Poland produced 18 million short tons of crude steel in 1984, an increase of 110,000 tons over its 1983 production level. According to official Polish statistics, there are 35 ferrous metal and steel facilities and 20 blast furnaces in Poland. The Polish steel industry has two converter steelmaking plants (average age 14 years) and three electric steelmaking plants (average age 29 years); the remaining facilities are outdated, open-hearth furnaces (average age 62 years). Only two blast furnaces, those at Huta Katowice, are fully modern.

There are two enterprises in Poland that are known to produce carbon steel wire rod--Nowa Huta and Huta Cedlera. Huta Warszawa is listed by the publication Iron and Steel Works of the World as a carbon steel wire rod producer; however, further information on this enterprise is not available. Huta Cedlera is believed to have accounted for all Polish exports of carbon steel wire rod to the United States during the period under investigation. Data regarding Polish capacity, production, and exports of carbon steel wire rod are shown in table 2. Full-year 1984 and partial-year 1985 data have not been obtained; the Polish exporter has not retained counsel in the preliminary investigation.

Table 2.--Carbon steel wire rod: Poland's production and exports, 1982, 1983, and January-June 1984

Item	1982	1983	January-June 1984
Capacity-----1,000 short tons--	***	***	***
Production-----do-----	***	***	***
Capacity utilization-----percent--	***	***	***
Exports to--			
United States----1,000 short tons--	8	26	0
All other-----do-----	***	***	***
Total-----do-----	***	***	***
Share of production that is exported-----percent--	***	***	***
Share of total exports to--			
United States-----do-----	***	***	-
All other-----do-----	***	***	100.0
Total-----do-----	100.0	100.0	100.0

Source: Exports to the United States compiled from official statistics of the U.S. Department of Commerce; Polish production, capacity, and exports to all other countries from Carbon Steel Wire Rod from Poland . . . , USITC Publication No. 1574, September 1984.

From 1982 through June 1984, Polish capacity to produce carbon steel wire rod remained at slightly over * * * million short tons per annum. Polish production increased by * * * percent from 1982 to 1983, from * * * percent of capacity to * * * percent. However, production as a share of capacity during January-June 1984 decreased to * * * percent. As a share of its total production, Poland's exports remained between * * * and * * * percent in 1982 and 1983 but decreased to * * * percent in January-June 1984. The U.S. share of Poland's exports was * * * percent in 1982 and * * * percent in 1983. There were no exports to the United States in January-June 1984; by the end of 1984, Poland's exports to the United States amounted to 1,113 tons. Exports during January-March 1985 amounted to 4,417 tons. ^{1/}

Portugal

The Portuguese steel industry has an annual steelmaking capacity of approximately 1 million tons. Crude steel production increased from 509,000 tons in 1982 to 800,000 tons in 1984, or by 57 percent. Capacity utilization in 1984 was approximately 80 percent.

Steel is produced by Portugal's only integrated steelmaker, State-owned Siderurgia Nacional. The company was granted an exclusive charter for steelmaking in 1955 and was nationalized in the mid-1970's. The Government of

^{1/} Counsel for the petitioners stated at the public conference that the Commerce Department and the United States Trade Representative have confirmed that 9,000 tons of Polish wire rod, which have not appeared in official trade statistics, have been imported from Poland since October 1984.

Portugal had planned to increase steel production by expanding SN's Seixal works, but financial problems have several times caused cutbacks and delays of the plans. The latest available information to the Commission indicates that * * *; however, any such increase in capacity would not exist before 1990.

Wire rod is produced at SN's Seixal works and also at its Maia works. Production of wire rod in Portugal increased from * * * short tons in 1982 to * * * short tons in 1983, or by * * * percent, and to * * * short tons in 1984, or by * * * percent (table 3). The only available production capacity data for wire rod * * *. * * * capacity at the Seixal works has been * * * short tons since 1972, and * * * capacity at the Maia works has been * * * short tons since 1979. Capacity utilization at Seixal was reportedly * * * percent in 1984, and at Maia, reportedly * * * percent in 1984. ^{1/} Total wire rod exports increased from * * * in 1982 to * * * short tons in 1983 and * * * short tons in 1984. Wire rod exports to the United States increased from zero in 1982 and 1983 to * * * short tons in 1984. During January-March 1985, Portugal's exports of wire rod to the United States amounted to 15,093 short tons (according to official import statistics of the U.S. Department of Commerce).

Table 3.--Carbon steel wire rod: Portugal's production and exports, 1982-84

Item	1982	1983	1984
Production-----short tons--	***	***	***
Exports to--			
United States-----do----	0	0	***
EC-----do----	0	***	***
All other countries-----do----	0	***	***
Total-----do----	0	***	***
Share of production			
that is exported-----percent--	-	***	***
Share of total exports to--			
United States-----do----	-	-	***
EC-----do----	-	***	***
All other-----do----	-	***	***
Total-----do----	-	100.0	100.0

Source: Postconference brief of counsel for SN, and telephone conversation with counsel for SN, May 6, 1985. Data in metric tons, provided by counsel for SN, were converted to short tons by the Commission staff.

Venezuela

Crude steel production in Venezuela increased from 2.2 million tons in 1980 to about 3 million tons in 1984, or by 36 percent. Venezuela's crude

^{1/} Postconference brief of counsel for SN, p. 20.

steel capacity is about * * * million tons per year, with CVG Siderurgica del Orinoco (SIDOR), the Government-owned and only integrated steel firm, accounting for nearly * * * percent of the capacity. With production reaching 3 million tons in 1984, the steel industry has been operating at about * * * percent capacity utilization.

As indicated, the Venezuelan steel market is dominated by SIDOR, which in 1984 produced approximately * * * percent of all raw steel in Venezuela. The remaining * * * percent is produced by three minimills, Sivensa, Sidetur, and Sizuca. The remainder of the steel industry, approximately eight firms, is composed of companies that further process steel into other finished products, such as pipes and tubes and galvanized sheets.

The Venezuelan steel market experienced a serious recession in 1983. Apparent consumption of finished steel products fell by 48 percent, from 2.5 million tons in 1982 to 1.3 million tons in 1983. In 1984, domestic sales of steel recovered by over 40 percent from the depressed 1983 level. SIDOR estimates that it supplied * * * percent of domestic steel requirements in 1984. Apparent consumption figures for 1984 are not yet available, but such consumption is generally believed to have recovered to at least 2 million tons.

The only producer of carbon steel wire rod is SIDOR, which began production in * * *. Production of wire rod increased from * * * tons in 1982 to * * * tons in 1983 and * * * tons in 1984 (table 4). Annual production capacity * * *. SIDOR's capacity utilization for wire rod increased from * * * percent in 1982 to * * * percent in 1983 and * * * percent in 1984. Total exports of wire rod from Venezuela increased from * * * tons in 1982 to * * * tons in 1983 but decreased to * * * tons in 1984. There were no exports to the United States in 1982 or 1983. Exports to the United States in 1984 amounted to * * * tons. ^{1/} Counsel for SIDOR stated in the postconference brief for these investigations that "SIDOR has no plans to increase wire rod productive capacity at any time in the future."

Consideration of Alleged Material Injury

The information in this section of the report has been compiled from responses to questionnaires of the U.S. International Trade Commission. The Commission sent producer's questionnaires to the 14 known domestic producers of carbon steel wire rod. Completed questionnaire responses were received from 12 of the producers, accounting for over an estimated 95 percent of U.S. production of carbon steel wire rod in 1984.

U.S. production, capacity, and capacity utilization

Total U.S. production of carbon steel wire rod increased from 3.1 million short tons in 1982 to 3.6 million short tons in 1983, or by 18.9 percent (table 5). Production increased to 3.8 million short tons in 1984, or by 5.0

^{1/} These are Venezuelan exports as reported by counsel for SIDOR. The difference between this figure and the official U.S. Department of Commerce data for 1984 imports from Venezuela is apparently due to the time lag between export from Venezuela and import into the United States.

Table 4.--Carbon steel wire rod: Venezuela's capacity, production, and exports, 1982-84

Item	1982	1983	1984
Capacity-----1,000 short tons--	***	***	***
Production-----do-----	***	***	***
Capacity utilization-----percent--	***	***	***
Domestic consumption			
1,000 short tons--	***	***	***
Exports to--			
United States-----do-----	0	0	***
All other-----do-----	***	***	***
Total-----do-----	***	***	***
Share of production			
that is exported-----percent--	***	***	***
Share of total exports to--			
United States-----do-----	-	-	***
All other-----do-----	100.0	100.0	***
Total-----do-----	100.0	100.0	100.0

Source: Postconference brief of counsel for SIDOR, p. 22.

percent. Production in January-March 1985 totaled 890,561 short tons, representing a decrease of 15.3 percent from the level of production in the corresponding period of 1984. Production by nonintegrated producers increased in both 1983 and 1984; production by integrated producers increased in 1983 and decreased in 1984. From January-March 1984 to January-March 1985, nonintegrated and integrated producers' production decreased by 7.2 and 29.6 percent, respectively.

Nonintegrated producers' production of low-, medium-high-, and high-carbon steel wire rod as a share of their total production is shown in table 6. Only one integrated producer, * * *, provided production data by low-, medium-high-, and high-carbon content. Because U.S. producers consider low, medium-high-, and high-carbon steel wire rod to be interdependent products, they do not treat them as separate profit centers. Resource allocation and marketing decisions that affect one will affect the others. They are produced with the same labor and equipment, and their relative shares of production are frequently adjusted in response to the market so that their total contribution to the income of the firm is maximized.

U.S. producers' total end-of-period capacity to produce carbon steel wire rod decreased from 6.9 million short tons in 1982 to 6.6 million short tons in 1983, or by 4.4 percent, and to 5.6 million short tons in 1984, or by 15.1 percent. Quarterly capacity on March 31, 1985, was 1.4 million short tons, representing an increase of 6.4 percent compared with such capacity on March 31, 1984.

Table 5.--Carbon steel wire rod: U.S. production, end-of-period capacity, and capacity utilization, by types of producers, 1982-84, January-March 1984, and January-March 1985 1/

Item	1982	1983	1984	January-March--	
				1984	1985
Production:					
Nonintegrated---short tons--:	1,954,251	2,333,830	2,621,420	670,699	622,656
Integrated-----do-----:	1,116,332	1,315,960	1,210,506	380,647	267,905
Total-----do-----:	3,070,583	3,649,790	3,831,926	1,051,346	890,561
End-of-period capacity:					
Nonintegrated-----do-----:	3,019,000	2,719,000	3,170,400	700,100	783,300
Integrated-----do-----:	3,832,000	3,832,000	2,392,000	598,000	598,000
Total-----do-----:	6,851,000	6,551,000	5,562,400	1,298,100	1,381,300
Ratio of production to capacity:					
Nonintegrated-----percent--:	64.7	85.8	82.7	95.8	79.5
Integrated-----do-----:	29.1	34.3	50.6	63.7	44.8
Average-----do-----:	44.8	55.7	68.9	81.0	64.5

1/ The data do not include * * *.

Source: Compiled from data submitted in response to questionnaires of the U.S. International Trade Commission.

Table 6.--Carbon steel wire rod: Nonintegrated producers' production of low-, medium-high-, and high-carbon grades as a share of total nonintegrated producers' production, 1982-84, January-March 1984, and January-March 1985 1/

Grade	(In percent)				
	1982	1983	1984	January-March--	
				1984	1985
Low-carbon-----:	75.5	77.6	76.7	78.7	77.5
Medium-high-carbon-----:	2.6	2.7	3.1	3.3	3.4
High-carbon-----:	21.9	19.7	20.2	18.1	19.0
Total-----:	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

1/ Does not include * * *.

Source: Compiled from data submitted in response to questionnaires of the U.S. International Trade Commission.

End-of-period capacity trends for nonintegrated and integrated producers differ somewhat. Nonintegrated producers' end-of-year capacity decreased from 3.0 million short tons in 1982 to 2.7 million short tons in 1983, or by 9.9 percent, but increased in 1984 to 3.2 million short tons, or by 16.6 percent. The capacity decrease in 1983 was due to * * *, and the increase in 1984 was due to (1) Northwestern's April 1984 * * *, (2) Continental's * * * ^{1/} in April 1984, and (3) an expansion in capacity by * * *. Nonintegrated producers' quarterly capacity on March 31, 1985, was 783,300 short tons, representing an increase of 11.9 percent compared with capacity on March 31, 1984; the increase was due to * * * expansions in capacity.

Integrated producers' end-of-year capacity remained constant at 3.8 million short tons in 1982 and 1983 but decreased to 2.4 million short tons in 1984, or by 37.6 percent, * * * U.S. Steel's shutdown of rod mills at its Fairless, Cuyahoga, and South Works in April 1984. Integrated producers' quarterly capacity on March 31 of 1984 and 1985 remained constant at 598,000 short tons.

Capacity utilization for the production of carbon steel wire rod increased from 44.8 percent in 1982 to 55.7 percent in 1983 and 68.9 percent in 1984. From January-March 1984 to January-March 1985, capacity utilization decreased from 81.0 to 64.5 percent.

U.S. producers' shipments and exports

The trend in U.S. producers' total shipments, including captive shipments, parallels that for production (table 7). Total shipments by all U.S. producers increased from 3.1 million short tons in 1982 to 3.6 million short tons in 1983, or by 16.5 percent, and increased to 3.8 million short tons in 1984, or by 4.7 percent. From January-March 1984 to January-March 1985, U.S. producers' total shipments decreased by 16.9 percent. Open-market and captive shipments increased in both 1983 and 1984, but during January-March 1985, open-market shipments decreased and captive shipments increased compared with those in the corresponding period of the previous year.

Nonintegrated producers' open-market and captive shipments each increased in both 1983 and 1984. Nonintegrated producers' open-market shipments decreased in January-March 1985 compared with those in the corresponding period of 1984, but these producers' captive shipments increased. Integrated producers' open-market shipments increased in 1983 but decreased in 1984 and in January-March 1985 compared with those in the corresponding period of 1984. Integrated producers' captive shipments decreased in 1983 and 1984, as well as in January-March 1985 compared with those in the corresponding period of the previous year.

The value of U.S. producers' total open-market shipments (excluding * * *, * * *, and * * *, none of which provided value data) increased from \$625.6 million in 1982 to \$682.8 million in 1983, or by 9.1 percent, and to

^{1/} * * *.

Table 7.--Carbon steel wire rod: U.S. producers' U.S. open-market shipments, captive shipments, and exports of U.S. production, by types of producers, 1982-84, January-March 1984, and January-March 1985 ^{1/}

(In short tons)						
Item	1982	1983	1984	January-March--		
				1984	1985	
U.S. open-market shipments:						
Nonintegrated-----	1,503,987	1,818,386	1,983,756	568,933	475,513	
Integrated-----	697,863	909,524	838,178	283,944	173,504	
Total-----	2,201,850	2,727,910	2,821,934	852,877	649,017	
Captive shipments:						
Nonintegrated-----	435,775	488,813	579,307	128,716	160,139	
Integrated-----	432,575	403,508	388,402	108,538	96,483	
Total-----	868,350	892,321	967,709	237,254	256,622	
Exports:						
Nonintegrated-----	36,766	0	0	0	0	
Integrated-----	1,489	351	552	0	30	
Total-----	38,255	351	552	0	30	
Total:						
Nonintegrated-----	1,976,528	2,307,199	2,563,063	697,649	635,652	
Integrated-----	1,131,927	1,313,383	1,227,132	392,482	270,017	
Total-----	3,108,455	3,620,582	3,790,195	1,090,131	905,669	

^{1/} The data do not include * * *.

Source: Compiled from data submitted in response to questionnaires of the U.S. International Trade Commission.

\$734.2 million in 1984, or by 7.5 percent. The value of open-market shipments in January-March 1985 was \$157.8 million, representing a decrease of 29.9 percent from the \$225.2 million shipped in the corresponding period of 1984.

U.S. producers' exports remained at less than 1.5 percent of total shipments throughout the period. * * * reported exports of * * * short tons in 1982; otherwise, reported exports were negligible during the period under investigation.

U.S. producers' inventories

U.S. producers' end-of-period inventories of carbon steel wire rod increased by 11.5 percent in 1983 and 36.4 percent in 1984 (table 8). Inventories were 41.2 percent higher at the end of March 1985 than at the end of March 1984. As a share of total shipments during the preceding period, inventories decreased from 3.7 percent in 1982 to 3.5 percent in 1983, and increased to 4.6 percent in 1984. The ratio was 3.9 percent for January-March 1985, compared with 2.4 percent for January-March 1984.

Table 8.--Carbon steel wire rod: U.S. producers' inventories of U.S. production, by types of producers, as of Dec. 31 of 1982-84, Mar. 31, 1984, and Mar. 31, 1985 1/

Item	As of Dec. 31--			As of Mar. 31--	
	1982	1983	1984	1984	1985
Inventories:					
Nonintegrated-----short tons--	67,636	78,237	141,175	64,980	114,029
Integrated-----do-----	46,467	49,044	32,418	37,209	30,306
Total-----do-----	114,103	127,281	173,593	102,189	144,335
Ratio of inventories to					
total shipments during					
the preceding period:					
Nonintegrated-----percent--	3.5	3.4	5.5	<u>2/</u> 2.4	<u>2/</u> 4.4
Integrated-----do-----	4.1	3.7	2.6	<u>2/</u> 2.4	<u>2/</u> 2.8
Average-----do-----	3.7	3.5	4.6	<u>2/</u> 2.4	<u>2/</u> 3.9

1/ The data do not include * * *.

2/ Annualized.

Source: Compiled from data submitted in response to questionnaires of the U.S. International Trade Commission.

U.S. producers' employment, wages, and productivity

The average number of production and related workers producing carbon steel wire rod increased from 3,521 in 1982 to 3,794 in 1983, or by 7.8 percent, but decreased to 3,498 in 1984, or by 7.8 percent (table 9). The number of workers in January-March 1985 was 3,088, representing a decrease of 27.9 percent from the number of workers in the corresponding period of 1984. The decreases in 1984 and January-March 1985 were caused by decreases in the number of workers for integrated producers. The trend for hours worked is similar to that for average employment.

Hourly output of carbon steel wire rod increased from 0.36 short ton in 1982 to 0.41 short ton in 1983 and 0.47 short ton in 1984. Output per hour was 0.49 short ton in January-March 1985, representing an increase compared with output in the corresponding period of 1984. Output per hour for nonintegrated producers is well above the output per hour for integrated producers in all periods surveyed.

Total wages paid to production and related workers producing carbon steel wire rod increased by 6.8 percent in 1983 but decreased by 0.8 percent in 1984 (table 10). Wages decreased by 28.7 percent in January-March 1985 compared with those in the corresponding period of 1984. The average hourly wage paid to workers increased throughout the period under investigation, from \$13.46 in 1982 to \$15.17 in January-March 1985.

Table 9.--Average number of production and related workers producing carbon steel wire rod in U.S. establishments, hours worked by such workers, and output per hour, by types of producers, 1982-84, January-March 1984, and January-March 1985 1/

Item	1982	1983	1984	January-March--	
				1984	1985
Average number of production and related workers producing carbon steel wire rod in U.S. establishments:					
Nonintegrated-----number--	1,465	1,495	1,544	1,551	1,554
Integrated-----do-----	2,056	2,299	1,954	2,731	1,534
Total-----do-----	3,521	3,794	3,498	4,282	3,088
Hours worked by production and related workers producing carbon steel wire rod in U.S. establishments:					
Nonintegrated--1,000 hours--	3,117	3,015	3,136	787	776
Integrated-----do-----	4,087	4,603	3,749	1,354	725
Total-----do-----	7,204	7,618	6,885	2,141	1,501
Output:					
Nonintegrated short tons per hour--	.47	.60	.65	.67	.61
Integrated-----do-----	.27	.29	.32	.28	.37
Average-----do-----	.36	.41	.47	.42	.49

1/ The data do not include * * *.

Source: Compiled from data submitted in response to questionnaires of the U.S. International Trade Commission.

Total compensation paid to production and related workers increased by 9.7 percent in 1983 but decreased by 10.3 percent in 1984 (table 11). Compensation decreased by 29.4 percent during January-March 1985 compared with that in the corresponding period of 1984.

The average hourly compensation paid to workers increased in 1983, decreased in 1984, and increased somewhat in January-March 1985 compared with that in the corresponding period of 1984. Unit labor costs declined throughout the period under investigation, from \$53.56 per short ton in 1982 to \$42.04 per short ton in January-March 1985. Unit labor costs for nonintegrated producers were well below those for integrated producers throughout the period.

Table 10.--Wages paid to production and related workers producing carbon steel wire rod in U.S. establishments and average hourly wages, by types of producers, 1982-84, January-March 1984, and January-March 1985 1/

Item	1982	1983	1984	January-March--	
				1984	1985
Total wages paid to production and related workers producing carbon steel wire rod:					
Nonintegrated-1,000 dollars--	40,788	42,766	45,283	11,571	11,191
Integrated-----do-----	56,208	60,862	57,471	20,352	11,577
Total-----do-----	96,996	103,628	102,754	31,923	22,768
Average hourly wages:					
Nonintegrated-----	\$13.09	\$14.18	\$14.44	\$14.70	\$14.42
Integrated-----	13.75	13.22	15.33	15.03	15.97
Average-----	13.46	13.60	14.92	14.91	15.17

1/ The data do not include * * *.

Source: Compiled from data submitted in response to questionnaires of the U.S. International Trade Commission.

Workers in all carbon steel wire rod facilities, except those of Charter and Raritan, are members of the United Steelworkers of America. Workers at Charter and at Raritan are not unionized.

Financial experience of U.S. producers

Operations on carbon steel wire rod.--Eleven firms furnished income-and-loss data on their carbon steel wire rod operations during 1982-84 and for the interim periods ended March 31, 1984, and March 31, 1985. 1/ The 11 responding producers accounted for 97 percent of the reported carbon steel wire rod capacity in the United States in 1984. The data indicate a steady growth in sales from 1982 to 1984, with increases of \$75 million from 1982 to 1983, an 8-percent growth, and \$109 million from 1983 to 1984, a 10-percent growth. Most of the sales growth has been experienced by the nonintegrated producers. Of the total \$184 million growth from 1982 to 1984, \$166 million, or 90 percent, was in nonintegrated producers' sales.

1/ Eight producers responded to a question in the Commission's questionnaire concerning whether they maintain their accounting records to a level that would allow them to provide income-and-loss data on carbon steel wire rod by low-, medium-high-, and high-carbon content. Two producers answered in the affirmative, and six answered in the negative. Of the six answering in the negative, two said that they could estimate a breakout of profit-and-loss data by low-, medium-high-, and high-carbon content.

Table 11.--Total compensation paid to production and related workers producing carbon steel wire rod in U.S. establishments, hourly compensation, and unit labor costs, by types of producers, 1982-84, January-March 1984, and January-March 1985 ^{1/}

Item	1982	1983	1984	January-March--	
				1984	1985
Total compensation paid to production and related workers producing carbon steel wire rod:					
Nonintegrated-1,000 dollars--	52,077	52,087	57,813	15,157	14,815
Integrated-----do-----	86,821	100,283	78,922	28,641	16,103
Total-----do-----	138,898	152,370	136,735	43,798	30,918
Hourly compensation paid to production and related workers producing carbon steel wire rod:					
Nonintegrated-----	\$16.71	\$17.28	\$18.44	\$19.26	\$19.09
Integrated-----	21.24	21.79	21.05	21.15	22.21
Average-----	19.28	20.00	19.86	20.46	20.60
Unit labor cost:					
Nonintegrated-per short ton--	\$35.55	\$28.80	\$28.37	\$28.75	\$31.30
Integrated-----do-----	78.67	75.14	65.78	75.54	60.03
Average-----do-----	53.56	48.78	42.26	48.71	42.04

^{1/} The data do not include * * *.

Source: Compiled from data submitted in response to questionnaires of the U.S. International Trade Commission.

In 1982, three firms reported operating income and eight firms incurred operating losses. ^{1/} The net result for the 11 firms was an operating loss of \$93 million. In 1983, operating income was \$9 million for the nonintegrated producers, but this amount was more than offset by operating losses of \$72 million for the integrated producers. In 1984, the nonintegrated producers reported operating income of \$36 million, while the integrated producers lost \$20 million. The 1984 aggregate operating income of \$16 million was 1.4 percent of sales. Table 12 summarizes the operating performance of the 11 firms.

^{1/} The nonintegrated producers reported interest expense. However, three of the four integrated producers do not allocate interest expenses to their operating units, and the other firm did not provide interest expense separate from other income or expense. Therefore, net income or loss before taxes for the integrated producers would either significantly overstate a profit or understate a loss, and its use would not provide a valid comparison with pretax income or loss of the nonintegrated producers.

Table 12.--Profit-and-loss experience of 11 U.S. producers on their operations producing carbon steel wire rod, by types of producers, 1982-84, January-March 1984, and January-March 1985 ^{1/}

Period and type of producer	Net sales	Cost of goods sold	Gross profit or (loss)	General, selling, and administrative expenses	Operating profit or (loss)	Ratio to net sales of--	
						Gross income or (loss)	Operating income or (loss)
Million dollars						Percent	
1982:							
Nonintegrated-----	542.5	528.4	14.1	24.4	(10.3)	2.6	(1.9)
Integrated-----	424.3	489.7	(65.4)	17.0	(82.4)	(15.4)	(19.4)
Total or average-----	966.8	1,018.1	(51.3)	41.4	(92.7)	(5.3)	(9.6)
1983:							
Nonintegrated-----	587.7	556.2	31.5	22.4	9.1	5.4	1.5
Integrated-----	454.0	503.9	(49.9)	21.9	(71.8)	(11.0)	(15.8)
Total or average-----	1,041.7	1,060.1	(18.4)	44.3	(62.7)	(1.8)	(6.0)
1984:							
Nonintegrated-----	709.0	636.0	73.0	36.8	36.2	10.3	5.1
Integrated-----	442.0	445.5	(3.5)	16.7	(20.2)	(0.8)	(4.6)
Total or average-----	1,151.0	1,081.5	69.5	53.5	16.0	6.0	1.4
January-March 1984:							
Nonintegrated-----	185.9	170.6	15.3	5.7	9.6	8.2	5.2
Integrated-----	142.6	145.9	(3.3)	5.5	(8.8)	(2.3)	(6.2)
Total or average-----	328.5	316.5	12.0	11.2	.8	3.7	.2
January-March 1985:							
Nonintegrated-----	175.9	164.2	11.7	8.2	3.5	6.7	2.0
Integrated-----	90.1	86.1	4.0	3.6	.4	4.4	.4
Total or average-----	266.0	250.3	15.7	11.8	3.9	5.9	1.5

^{1/} Profit-and-loss data for * * *.

Source: Compiled from data submitted in response to questionnaires of the U.S. International Trade Commission.

Value of property, plant, and equipment.--Ten firms supplied data relative to the value of their property, plant, and equipment (investment in productive facilities) during 1982-84. The value of the 10 firms' net book value of assets employed in the production of carbon steel wire rod dropped significantly from 1982 to 1983 owing to * * *. The net book value of assets employed then increased from 1983 to 1984 owing to * * * (table 13). Ratios of operating profits or loss to investments in productive facilities followed the same trend as the ratio of operating profit or loss to sales, improving each year from 1982 to 1984. 1/

Table 13.--Value of plant, property, and equipment (investment in productive facilities) by 10 U.S. producers of carbon steel wire rod, 1982-84

Item	1982	1983	1984
Investment in productive facilities:			
Original cost-----1,000 dollars--:	***	***	***
Net book value-----do-----:	***	***	***
Operating profit or (loss)-----do-----:	(***)	(***)	***
Ratio of net operating profit or (loss) to--			
Net sales-----percent--:	(***)	(***)	***
Net book value of investment in productive facilities---do-----:	(***)	(***)	***

Source: Compiled from data submitted in response to questionnaires of the U.S. International Trade Commission.

Capital expenditures.--Ten firms supplied data relative to their expenditures for land, buildings, machinery, and equipment used in the production of carbon steel wire rod. As shown in the following tabulation, expenditures fell by \$6.3 million from 1982 to 1983 but increased by \$29.0 million in 1984. The increase was * * *. * * *.

<u>Period</u>	<u>Capital expenditures</u> <u>(1,000 dollars)</u>
1982-----	25,761
1983-----	19,511
1984-----	48,457
Jan.-Mar.--	
1984-----	8,880
1985-----	4,715

Research and development expenses.--Of the firms reporting, only * * * had research and development expenses during 1982-84. * * *. Aggregate research and development expenses are presented in the following tabulation:

1/ The significant difference between table 12 and table 13 in operating income is due to * * *.

<u>Period</u>	<u>Research and development expenses</u> <u>(1,000 dollars)</u>
1982-----	***
1983-----	***
1984-----	***
January-March--	
1984-----	***
1985-----	***

Consideration of Alleged Threat of Material Injury

Among the relevant economic factors that may contribute to the threat of material injury to the domestic industry are the ability of the foreign producers to increase the level of exports to the United States and the likelihood they will do so, any substantial increases in inventories of imported merchandise in the United States, and any rapid increase in penetration of the U.S. market by the imports.

The available data concerning the capacity to produce and export carbon steel wire rod from Poland, Portugal, and Venezuela are presented in the section of this report entitled "The Foreign Industries." The available data concerning U.S. importers' inventories of carbon steel wire rod from Poland, Portugal, and Venezuela are presented in table 14. There were no reported inventories of carbon steel wire rod from Poland in any of the periods under investigation, and there were no reported inventories of carbon steel wire rod from Portugal and Venezuela as of December 31, 1982, and December 31, 1983. Inventories of Portuguese carbon steel wire rod on December 31, 1984, amounted to * * * short tons; they then increased to * * * short tons on March 31, 1985, or by * * * percent. Inventories of Venezuelan carbon steel wire rod on December 31, 1984, amounted to * * * short tons; such inventories decreased to * * * short tons on March 31, 1985, or by * * * percent. The following affirmative responses were provided to a question on the Commission's importer's questionnaire on whether importers have placed orders for carbon steel wire rod from Poland, Portugal, or Venezuela:

<u>Importer</u>	<u>Quantity</u> <u>(short tons)</u>	<u>Country of origin</u>	<u>Delivery date</u>
*	*	*	*
*	*	*	*

A discussion of the level of imports and their market penetration is presented in the following section of this report.

Table 14.--Carbon steel wire rod: U.S. importers' inventories of Polish, Portuguese, and Venezuelan merchandise, as of Dec. 31 of 1982-84, Mar. 31, 1984, and Mar. 31, 1985

Item and source	As of Dec. 31--			As of Mar. 31--	
	1982	1983	1984	1984	1985
Inventories:					
Poland-----short tons--	0	0	0	0	0
Portugal-----do-----	0	0	***	0	***
Venezuela-----do-----	0	0	***	0	***
Total-----do-----	0	0	***	0	***
Ratio of inventories to domestic producers' open-market shipments during the preceding period:					
Poland-----percent--	-	-	-	-	-
Portugal-----do-----	-	-	***	-	1/ ***
Venezuela-----do-----	-	-	***	-	1/ ***
Total-----do-----	-	-	***	-	1/ ***

1/ Annualized.

Source: Compiled from data submitted in response to questionnaires of the U.S. International Trade Commission.

Consideration of the Causal Relationship Between Allegedly
Subsidized and LTFV Imports and the Alleged
Material Injury or Threat Thereof

U.S. imports

All sources.--Total U.S. imports of carbon steel wire rod increased from 829,804 short tons (tons) in 1982 to 1.1 million tons in 1983, or by 27.8 percent, and increased to 1.4 million tons in 1984, or by 28.3 percent (table 15). Imports in January-March 1985 totaled 318,013 tons, representing a decrease of 17.1 percent from the level of imports in the corresponding period of 1984. The unit value of imports was \$320.08 per ton in 1982, \$275.38 in 1983, \$296.20 in 1984, and \$307.48 in January-March 1985.

Poland.--U.S. imports from Poland of carbon steel wire rod increased from 7,987 tons, valued at \$1.5 million, in 1982 to 25,843 tons, valued at \$4.8 million, in 1983, or by 223.6 percent in terms of quantity and by 221.6 percent in terms of value. U.S. imports from Poland decreased in 1984 to 1,113 tons, valued at \$237,000, or by 95.7 percent in quantity and by 95.0 percent in value. Imports from Poland during January-March 1985 amounted to 4,417 tons, valued at \$944,000; there were no imports from Poland in the corresponding period of 1984. Poland's share of total U.S. imports of carbon steel wire rod was 1.0 percent in 1982, 2.4 percent in 1983, 0.1 percent in 1984, and 1.4 percent in January-March 1985. The unit value per short ton of imports from Poland was \$185.80 in 1982, \$184.12 in 1983, \$213.19 in 1984, and \$213.64 in January-March 1985.

Table 15.--Carbon steel wire rod: U.S. imports for consumption from selected countries, 1/ 1982-84, January-March 1984, and January-March 1985

Source	1982	1983	1984	January-March--	
				1984	1985
Quantity (short tons)					
Canada-----	279,987	272,653	334,437	75,319	72,334
Japan-----	141,930	175,279	251,508	66,528	56,234
Mexico-----	30,401	102,635	122,019	59,326	6,459
Spain-----	6,689	82,385	119,362	54,652	6,333
France-----	105,068	68,868	94,060	28,663	31,390
German Democratic Rep.--	--	1,173	84,896	3,060	5,313
Venezuela-----	--	--	21,620	303	27,432
Portugal-----	--	--	15,478	--	15,093
Poland-----	7,987	25,843	1,113	--	4,417
All other-----	257,742	331,807	316,007	95,892	93,008
Total-----	829,804	1,060,643	1,360,500	383,743	318,013
Percent of total quantity					
Canada-----	33.7	25.7	24.6	19.6	22.7
Japan-----	17.1	16.5	18.5	17.3	17.7
Mexico-----	3.7	9.7	9.0	15.5	2.0
Spain-----	.8	7.8	8.8	14.2	2.0
France-----	12.7	6.5	6.9	7.5	9.9
German Democratic Rep.--	--	.1	6.2	.8	1.7
Venezuela-----	--	--	1.6	.1	8.6
Portugal-----	--	--	1.1	--	4.7
Poland-----	1.0	2.4	.1	--	1.4
All other-----	31.1	31.3	23.2	25.0	29.2
Total-----	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

See footnote at end of table.

Table 15.--Carbon steel wire rod: U.S. imports for consumption from selected countries, 1/ 1982-84, January-March 1984, and January-March 1985--Continued

Source	1982	1983	1984	January-March--	
				1984	1985
Value (1,000 dollars)					
Canada-----	91,192	84,332	112,585	24,054	24,029
Japan-----	55,237	62,371	92,980	23,971	19,962
Mexico-----	7,050	21,411	26,354	12,590	1,494
Spain-----	2,899	21,765	30,356	13,229	1,567
France-----	32,886	21,064	30,544	8,367	10,734
German Democratic Rep.--	--	224	18,415	643	1,176
Venezuela-----	--	--	4,345	82	6,669
Portugal-----	--	--	3,627	--	3,642
Poland-----	1,484	4,758	237	--	944
All other-----	74,860	76,158	83,538	23,343	27,567
Total-----	265,608	292,083	402,981	106,279	97,784
Unit value (per short ton)					
Canada-----	\$325.70	\$309.30	\$336.64	\$319.36	\$332.20
Japan-----	389.18	355.84	369.69	360.32	354.99
Mexico-----	231.91	208.61	215.98	212.21	231.37
Spain-----	433.36	264.19	254.31	242.05	247.39
France-----	313.00	305.86	324.73	291.90	341.96
German Democratic Rep.--	--	190.86	216.91	210.22	221.31
Venezuela-----	--	--	200.99	272.40	243.09
Portugal-----	--	--	234.34	--	241.34
Poland-----	185.80	184.12	213.19	--	213.64
All other-----	290.45	229.52	264.35	243.43	296.39
Total-----	320.08	275.38	296.20	276.95	307.48

1/ The table shows imports from the top 6 sources in 1984, and from Poland, Portugal, Venezuela, and all other countries.

Source: Compiled from official statistics of the U.S. Department of Commerce. Includes a correction for imports in May 1984 previously assigned to Venezuela that were actually imported from Argentina (13,423 tons, valued at \$2,727,729).

Note.--Because of rounding, figures may not add to the totals shown.

Portugal.--There were no U.S. imports from Portugal in either 1982 or 1983. Imports from Portugal in 1984 totaled 15,478 tons, valued at \$3.6 million. Imports from Portugal during January-March 1985 totaled 15,093 tons, valued at \$3.6 million, which in terms of quantity nearly equaled, and in terms of value, surpassed imports from Portugal for all of 1984. Portugal's share of total U.S. imports of carbon steel wire rod was 1.1 percent in 1984 and 4.7 percent in January-March 1985. The unit value per short ton of imports from Portugal was \$234.34 in 1984 and \$241.34 in January-March 1985.

Venezuela.--There were no U.S. imports from Venezuela in either 1982 or 1983. Imports from Venezuela in 1984 totaled 21,620 tons, valued at \$4.3 million. Imports from Venezuela during January-March 1985 were 27,432 tons, valued at \$6.7 million, or significantly greater than imports from Venezuela for all of 1984 in terms of both quantity and value. Venezuela's share of total U.S. imports of carbon steel wire rod was 1.6 percent in 1984 and 8.6 percent in January-March 1985. The unit value of imports from Venezuela was \$200.99 per ton in 1984 and \$243.09 in January-March 1985.

Counsel representing SIDOR, the Venezuelan producer and exporter of carbon steel wire rod to the United States, questions whether the Venezuelan carbon steel wire rod competes with domestic production, since most of the shipments from Venezuela in 1984, and allegedly all in 1985 to date, are destined for the west coast of the United States, where there is only a captive domestic producer and where other domestic producers are allegedly not competitive because of relatively high transportation costs. The following tabulation indicates the Customs districts through which imports of carbon steel wire rod from Venezuela were entered in two recent periods (in short tons):

Period	Los Angeles	Other west coast 1/	Total west coast	All other districts	Total
1984-----	1,986	3,289	5,275	16,345	21,620
1985 (January-March)----	18,643	4,157	22,800	4,632	27,432
Total-----	20,629	7,446	28,074	20,977	49,052

1/ San Francisco, CA, and Seattle, WA.

Customs districts on the west coast accounted for 24.4 percent of imports of carbon steel wire rod from Venezuela in 1984, 83.1 percent in January-March 1985, and 57.2 percent during January 1984-March 1985.

The customs districts through which carbon steel wire rod from Venezuela was imported during 1984 and January-March 1985 were Los Angeles, CA (20,629 tons), New York, NY (5,717 tons), Tampa, FL (5,516 tons), San Juan, PR (4,231 tons), San Francisco, CA (4,157 tons), Cleveland, OH (3,313 tons), Seattle, WA (3,289 tons), and Chicago, IL (2,201 tons).

The customs districts through which carbon steel wire rod from Poland was imported during 1984 and January-March 1985 were New Orleans, LA (3,316 tons), Mobile, AL (1,113 tons), and Houston, TX (1,101 tons).

The customs districts through which carbon steel wire rod from Portugal was imported during 1984 and January-March 1985 were Houston, TX (17,331 tons), Bridgeport, CT (5,037 tons), Baltimore, MD (3,349 tons), New Orleans, LA (2,184 tons), Philadelphia, PA (2,097 tons), Charleston, SC (552 tons), and Los Angeles, CA (21 tons).

Market penetration of imports

All sources.--The share of total apparent U.S. consumption (including captive consumption) accounted for by U.S. imports of carbon steel wire rod from all sources increased from 21.3 percent in 1982 to 22.7 percent in 1983 and 26.4 percent in 1984. Imports accounted for 26.0 percent of consumption in January-March 1984, as well as in January-March 1985. The share of apparent U.S. open-market consumption (i.e., noncaptive consumption) accounted for by imports increased from 27.4 percent in 1982 to 28.0 percent in 1983 and 32.9 percent in 1984. Imports accounted for 32.9 percent of open-market consumption in January-March 1985, representing an increase from the 31.0-percent share in the corresponding period of 1984.

Poland.--The ratio of imports of carbon steel wire rod from Poland to total apparent consumption increased from 0.2 percent in 1982 to 0.6 percent in 1983 and decreased to less than 0.05 percent in 1984. The ratio was 0.4 percent in January-March 1985. The ratio of imports from Poland to apparent open-market consumption followed a similar trend, increasing from 0.3 percent in 1982 to 0.7 percent in 1983, decreasing to less than 0.05 percent in 1984, and increasing to 0.5 percent in January-March 1985.

Portugal.--The ratio of imports of carbon steel wire rod from Portugal to total apparent consumption was 0.3 percent in 1984 and 1.2 percent in January-March 1985. The ratio of imports from Portugal to apparent open-market consumption increased from 0.4 percent in 1984 to 1.6 percent in January-March 1985.

Venezuela.--The ratio of imports of carbon steel wire rod from Venezuela to total apparent consumption was 0.4 percent in 1984 and 2.2 percent in January-March 1985. The ratio of imports from Venezuela to apparent open-market consumption increased from 0.5 percent in 1984 to 2.8 percent in January-March 1985.

Counsel for Davis Walker, Inc., a major wire drawer with facilities in the southeastern Gulf states and on the west coast and which is * * * of carbon steel wire rod, alleged that the Venezuelan wire rod is produced by the DRI method of production and has greater ductility and drawing ability than scrap-fed cast rod, and is therefore not comparable to the East German wire rod, and also allegedly not subject to cumulation with the Polish and Portuguese wire rod, which are allegedly sold in different markets.

Table 16 shows imports and the ratio of imports to total apparent consumption and to open-market consumption for all countries that have been the subject of antidumping or countervailing duty investigations since 1982. Tables 17 and 18 summarize outstanding countervailing and antidumping orders, by countries and by companies.

Table 16.--Carbon steel wire rod: U.S. imports and ratio of imports to total apparent U.S. consumption and to apparent U.S. open-market consumption, by sources that have been the subject of antidumping or countervailing duty investigations since 1982, 1982-84, January-March 1984, and January-March 1985

Source	1982	1983	1984	January-March--	
				1984	1985
Quantity (short tons)					
Mexico 1/-----	30,401	102,635	122,019	59,326	6,459
Spain 2/-----	6,689	82,385	119,362	54,652	6,333
France 3/-----	105,068	68,868	94,060	28,663	31,390
German Democratic Rep. 4/---	0	1,173	84,896	3,060	5,313
Trinidad and Tobago 5/-----	56,338	63,961	62,601	17,418	21,637
Argentina 6/-----	12,238	68,335	61,990	44,252	0
Brazil 7/-----	111,025	76,649	31,279	14	1,983
Czechoslovakia 8/-----	2,245	18,992	22,123	5,574	6,948
Venezuela 9/-----	0	0	21,620	303	27,432
Belgium 10/-----	27,567	8,199	16,693	5,964	6,905
Portugal 11/-----	0	0	15,478	0	15,093
Rep. of South Africa 12/---	1,470	9,754	12,676	48	1,369
Poland 13/-----	7,987	25,843	1,113	0	4,417
Total-----	361,028	526,794	665,910	219,274	135,279
Ratio of imports to total apparent U.S. consumption (percent)					
Mexico-----	0.8	2.2	2.4	4.0	0.5
Spain-----	.2	1.8	2.3	3.7	.5
France-----	2.7	1.5	1.8	1.9	2.6
German Democratic Rep.-----	-	14/	1.6	.2	.4
Trinidad and Tobago-----	1.4	1.4	1.2	1.2	1.8
Argentina-----	.3	1.5	1.2	3.0	-
Brazil-----	2.8	1.6	.6	14/	.2
Czechoslovakia-----	.1	.4	.4	.4	.6
Venezuela-----	-	-	.4	14/	2.2
Belgium-----	.7	.2	.3	.4	.6
Portugal-----	-	-	.3	-	1.2
Rep. of South Africa-----	14/	.2	.2	14/	.1
Poland-----	.2	.6	14/	-	.4
Total-----	9.3	11.3	12.9	14.9	11.1

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 16.--Carbon steel wire rod: U.S. imports and ratio of imports to total apparent U.S. consumption and to apparent U.S. open-market consumption, by sources that have been the subject of antidumping or countervailing duty investigations since 1982, 1982-84, January-March 1984, and January-March 1985--Continued

Source	1982	1983	1984	January-March--	
				1984	1985
	Ratio of imports to apparent U.S. open-market consumption (percent)				
Mexico-----	1.0	2.7	2.9	4.8	0.7
Spain-----	.2	2.2	2.9	4.4	.7
France-----	3.5	1.8	2.2	2.3	3.2
German Democratic Rep.-----	-	14/	2.0	.2	.5
Trinidad and Tobago-----	1.9	1.7	1.5	1.4	2.2
Argentina-----	.4	1.8	1.5	3.6	-
Brazil-----	3.7	2.0	.7	14/	.2
Czechoslovakia-----	.1	.5	.5	.5	.7
Venezuela-----	-	-	.5	14/	2.8
Belgium-----	.9	.2	.4	.5	.7
Portugal-----	-	-	.4	-	1.6
Rep. of South Africa-----	14/	.3	.3	14/	.1
Poland-----	.3	.7	14/	-	.5
Total-----	11.9	13.9	15.9	17.7	14.0

1/ Affirmative preliminary determination by the Commission (Jan. 9, 1984) and negative preliminary LTFV determination by Commerce (May 1, 1984); petition withdrawn on June 14, 1984.

2/ Affirmative final subsidy determinations by Commerce and the Commission (June 1984) and countervailing duty order in effect. Affirmative final LTFV determinations by Commerce and the Commission (Nov. 5, 1984) and antidumping duty order in effect.

3/ Countervailing duty investigation terminated on Oct. 21, 1982, following the withdrawal of petitions in response to an export-limiting arrangement.

4/ Affirmative preliminary determination by the Commission (Nov. 13, 1984) and affirmative preliminary LTFV determination by Commerce.

5/ Affirmative final subsidy determination by Commerce (December 1983), and countervailing duty order in effect. Affirmative final LTFV determinations by Commerce and the Commission (October 1983) and antidumping duty order in effect.

6/ Countervailing duty investigation suspended in September 1982 following an agreement to eliminate the countervailable subsidies. Affirmative final LTFV determinations by Commerce and the Commission (Nov. 5, 1984) and antidumping duty order in effect. The table includes a correction for imports (13,423 tons) in May 1984 previously assigned to Venezuela that were actually imported from Argentina.

7/ Countervailing duty investigation suspended on Oct. 1, 1982, following an agreement with Brazil to offset amount of subsidy with an export tax. Affirmative final LTFV determinations by Commerce and the Commission (October 1983) and antidumping duty order in effect.

Footnotes for table 16--Continued

8/ Negative final subsidy determination by Commerce on May 1, 1984.

9/ Negative final LTFV determination by the Commission on Feb. 14, 1983. Venezuela is one of the sources of imports in the instant investigations. The table includes a correction for imports (13,423 tons) in May 1984 previously assigned to Venezuela which were actually imported from Argentina.

10/ Countervailing duty investigation terminated on Oct. 21, 1982, following the withdrawal of petitions in response to an export limiting arrangement.

11/ Portugal is one of the sources of imports in the instant investigations.

12/ Affirmative final subsidy determination by Commerce on Sept. 27, 1982; countervailing duty order in effect.

13/ Negative final subsidy determination by Commerce on May 1, 1984. Negative final LTFV determination by the Commission (Aug. 28, 1984). Poland is also one of the sources of imports in the instant investigations.

14/ Less than 0.05 percent.

Source: Compiled from official statistics of the U.S. Department of Commerce and from data submitted in response to questionnaires of the U.S. International Trade Commission.

Prices

According to the petitioners, wire rod is normally sold to the customer a month or more prior to production. The petitioners and respondents agree that wire rod of the same carbon content, whether imported or domestically produced, is fungible. Therefore, within a given market, the price of wire rod is usually the most important factor in purchasers' decisions to buy from a particular source. If competition occurs in the west coast, then the cost of transportation appears to have an important bearing on purchasers' decisions. Although price lists are issued by some producers and importers, such prices were not, according to petitioners, adhered to during the period covered by these investigations.

Most U.S.-produced carbon steel wire rod is shipped by commercial truck; however, shipments to the west coast are generally made by rail. Although rail rates are often cheaper than truck rates, trucking is usually the preferred method of transportation, because wire rod so shipped is less subject to damage, and many customers do not have rail unloading facilities. Freight equalization allowances occur in the wire rod industry. However, available information indicates that freight equalization probably is not used in the west coast states for two reasons: producers reported that the range of competition for each producer is about 500 miles because of transportation costs 1/ and because the only producer of wire rod on the west coast produces for captive use only.

F.o.b. price comparisons generally reflect actual price competition in all areas but the west coast. On the west coast, delivered prices would be

1/ Information from past wire rod investigations confirms that the cost of transportation to the west coast exceeds 10 percent of the f.o.b. price of wire rod.

Table 17.--Carbon steel wire rod: Outstanding antidumping orders and pending antidumping investigations, with dumping margins as of May 7, 1985, and U.S. market penetration, by countries and by companies, 1982-84, January-March 1984, and January-March 1985

Item and country	Effective date of antidumping duty	Weighted-average margin	Date of bond	Ratio of imports to total apparent consumption				
				1982	1983	1984	January-March--	
							1984	1985
				Percent		Percent		
Pending investigations:								
German Democratic Republic:	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	Mar. 12, 1985	-	<u>2/</u>	1.6	0.2	0.4
Dumping order issued:								
Spain-----	Nov. 23, 1984	Empresa Nacional-Siderurgica, S.A.--17.93 <u>3/</u> Nueva Montana Quijano, S.A.--25.33 <u>4/</u> Forjas Alavesas--0.00 <u>5/</u> All other producers/importers/manufacturers--20.12 <u>6/</u>	May 8, 1984	0.2	1.8	2.3	3.7	.5
Argentina-----	Sept. 27, 1984	ACINDAR--119.11 <u>7/</u>	May 8, 1984	.3	1.5	1.2	3.0	-
Brazil-----	Nov. 8, 1983	Cosigua--49.61 <u>8/</u> Belgo-Mineria--76.49 <u>9/</u> All other producers/importers/manufacturers--63.51 <u>10/</u>	May 4, 1983	2.8	1.6	.6	<u>2/</u>	.2
Trinidad and Tobago-----	Nov. 8, 1983	ISCOTT--9.79 <u>11/</u>	May 4, 1983	1.4	1.4	1.2	1.2	1.8

1/ The Department of Commerce is scheduled to make its final determination by July 1, 1985. As of Mar. 12, 1985, imports of carbon steel wire rod from Metallurgiehandel Ve Aussen-und-Binnenhandelsbetrieb der DDR, the only exporter of carbon steel wire rod from the German Democratic Republic to the United States, are subject to a cash deposit or bond of 26.3 percent.

2/ Less than 0.05 percent.

3/ From May 8, 1984, to Nov. 22, 1984, imports of carbon steel wire rod from this company were subject to a cash deposit or bond of 17.4 percent.

4/ From May 8, 1984, to Nov. 22, 1984, imports of carbon steel wire rod from this company were subject to a cash deposit or bond of 13.7 percent.

5/ From May 8, 1984, to Nov. 22, 1984, there was no cash deposit or bond on imports of carbon steel wire rod from this company.

6/ From May 8, 1984, to Nov. 22, 1984, imports of carbon steel wire rod from these companies were subject to a cash deposit or bond of 12.3 percent.

7/ From May 8, 1984, to Sept. 26, 1984, imports of carbon steel wire rod from this company were subject to a cash deposit or bond of 176.1 percent.

8/ From May 4, 1983, to Nov. 7, 1983, imports of carbon steel wire rod from this company were subject to a cash deposit or bond of 49.61 percent.

9/ From May 4, 1983, to Nov. 7, 1983, imports of carbon steel wire rod from this company were subject to a cash deposit or bond of 76.49 percent.

10/ From May 4, 1983, to Nov. 7, 1983, imports of carbon steel wire rod from these companies were subject to a cash deposit or bond of 63.51 percent.

11/ From May 4, 1983, to Nov. 7, 1983, imports of carbon steel wire rod from this company were subject to a cash deposit or bond of 9.79 percent.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, and compiled from responses to questionnaires of the U.S. International Trade Commission.

Table 18.--Carbon steel wire rod: Outstanding countervailing duty orders, with countervailing margins as of May 7, 1985, and U.S. market penetration, by countries and by companies, 1982-84, January-March 1984, and January-March 1985.

Item and country	Effective date	Weighted-average margin	Date of bond	Ratio of imports to total apparent consumption				
				1982	1983	1984	January-March--	
							1984	1985
		<u>Percent</u>				<u>Percent</u>		
Countervailing duty order issued:								
Spain-----	July 10, 1984	Empresa Nacional-Siderurgica, S.A.--29.94. Nueva Montana Quijano, S.A.--17.13. Forja's Alavesas, S.A.--16.03 All other producers/exporters/manufacturers--16.95.	Feb. 24, 1984	0.2	1.8	2.3	3.7	0.5
Trinidad and Tobago-----	Jan. 4, 1984	ISCOTT-6.738 <u>1/</u>	Oct. 20, 1983	1.4	1.4	1.2	1.2	1.8
Rep. of South Africa-----	Sept. 27, 1982	Before Apr. 1, 1982--11.1 After Apr. 1, 1982--0.35 <u>2/</u>	July 14, 1982	<u>1/</u>	.2	.2	<u>1/</u>	.1

1/ Less than 0.05 percent

2/ Currently, after preliminary first review, the rate is 7.57 percent. Customs is not collecting the duties as of now.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, and compiled from responses to questionnaires of the U.S. International Trade Commission.

more representative of price competition because of the likelihood that there are no freight equalization allowances. All imports of wire rod from Poland were to either the east or gulf coasts, and virtually all imports of wire rod from Portugal were to the east and gulf coasts (0.1 percent went to the west coast in 1984). However in the case of Venezuela, approximately 24 and 83 percent of the wire rod was imported into the west coast in 1984 and January-March 1985, respectively.

The Commission requested data on f.o.b. U.S. point of shipment prices, net of all discounts and allowances and excluding U.S. inland freight, from both domestic producers and importers. Usable data were received from four importers of wire rod produced in Portugal, one importer of wire rod produced in Poland, two importers of wire rod produced in Venezuela, and seven U.S. producers. Price data for low-carbon steel wire rod, AISI grade 1008, 7/32 inch to 27/64 inch in diameter, are shown in tables 19-21.

Price trends.--Integrated domestic producers' f.o.b. prices, although fluctuating during the entire period, showed an increasing trend through October-December 1984 before decreasing in January-March 1985. There was a 19.1-percent increase in the weighted-average price from \$288 per ton in January-March 1983 to \$343 in October-December 1984. The weighted-average price then decreased by 14.6 percent, to \$293 per ton, in January-March 1985.

Nonintegrated domestic producers' f.o.b. prices fluctuated from January-March 1983 to January-March 1985. The nonintegrated domestic producers' f.o.b. prices were lower than integrated producers' prices for low-carbon steel wire rod, AISI grade 1008, 7/32 inch to 27/64 inch in diameter, from April-June 1983 through January-March 1985. The nonintegrated producers' weighted-average price was higher than the integrated producers' price weighted-average price only in January-March 1983. Nonintegrated domestic producers' prices decreased by 6.8 percent from January-March 1983 to October-December 1983 but then increased by 12.0 percent by July-September 1984. Prices then decreased through January-March 1985, by 6.5 percent.

As table 19 indicates, no sales of wire rod from Portugal were reported until July-September 1984. The Portuguese prices fluctuated from \$320 per ton in July-September 1984 to \$286 per ton in October-December 1984 and \$301 per ton in January-March 1985. The price in January-March 1985 was 5.9 percent below the July-September 1984 price. 1/

1/ There was one reported price of \$*** per ton from Portugal for AISI grade 1008, 9/16-inch or greater. The price was reported for January-March 1985 and produced a margin of underselling of *** percent against nonintegrated producers. There were two reported prices of \$*** per ton from Portugal for low-carbon mesh-quality wire rod. These prices were reported for October-December 1984 and January-March 1985. There was a margin of underselling of *** percent for October-December and a margin of overselling of *** percent for January-March against nonintegrated producers. There were no reported prices for these two products from integrated producers. A purchaser reported that it paid \$*** per ton for Portuguese low-carbon, mesh-quality wire rod in January-March 1985 compared with a price of \$*** per ton for domestically produced wire rod it purchased during the same period.

Table 19.-Carbon steel wire rod: U.S. producers' and Portugal's weighted-average prices for low-carbon steel wire rod, AISI grade 1008, 7/32 inch to 27/64 inch in diameter, by quarters, January 1983-March 1985

Period	Domestic producers		Imported from Portugal	Margin of underselling or (overselling)	
	Integrated	Non-integrated		Integrated	Non-integrated
	Per short ton			Percent	
1983:					
Jan.-Mar-----	\$288	\$294	1/	1/	1/
Apr.-June-----	284	282	1/	1/	1/
July-Sept-----	295	279	1/	1/	1/
Oct.-Dec-----	292	274	1/	1/	1/
1984:					
Jan.-Mar-----	323	282	1/	1/	1/
Apr.-June-----	336	306	1/	1/	1/
July-Sept-----	328	307	\$320	2.4	(4.2)
Oct.-Dec-----	343	296	286	16.6	3.4
1985:					
Jan.-Mar-----	293	287	301	(2.7)	(4.9)

1/ No reported prices.

Source: Compiled from data submitted in response to questionnaires of the U.S. International Trade Commission.

As table 20 indicates, no sales of wire rod from Poland were reported from January-March 1984 through July-September 1984. The Polish prices generally increased, from \$*** per ton in January-March 1983 to \$*** per ton in January-March 1985, or by *** percent. There were no other reported prices from Poland.

As table 21 indicates, no sales of wire rod from Venezuela were reported until July-September 1984. The Venezuelan price *** the periods in which prices were reported. In July-September, the Venezuelan price was \$*** per ton; it was \$*** per ton during October-December 1984, and \$*** per ton during January-March 1985. There were no other reported prices from Venezuela.

Margins of underselling.--Carbon steel wire rod imported from Portugal undersold the comparable product manufactured by integrated U.S. producers by 2.4 and 16.6 percent during July-September and October-December 1984, respectively, but oversold the integrated producers' price by 2.7 percent in January-March 1985. Portuguese prices were higher than those received by the nonintegrated producers by 4.2 and 4.9 percent in July-September 1984 and January-March 1985, respectively, but were lower than the nonintegrated producers' price by 3.4 percent in October-December 1984.

Polish prices were * * *. Polish products undersold the integrated producers' by *** percent in January-March 1983. By October-December 1983, the margin of underselling by Polish imports had *** to *** percent. Polish products undersold the integrated producers' by *** percent in October-December 1984 and by *** percent in January-March 1985. Polish

Table 20.-Carbon steel wire rod: U.S. producers' and Poland's weighted-average prices for low-carbon steel wire rod, AISI grade 1008, 7/32 inch to 27/64 inch in diameter, by quarters, January 1983-March 1985

Period	Domestic producers		Imported from Poland	Margin of underselling or (overselling)	
	Integrated	Non-integrated		Integrated	Non-integrated
	Per short ton			Percent	
1983:					
Jan.-Mar	\$288	\$294	***	***	***
Apr.-June	284	282	***	***	***
July-Sept	295	279	***	***	***
Oct.-Dec	292	274	***	***	***
1984:					
Jan.-Mar	323	282	1/	1/	1/
Apr.-June	336	306	1/	1/	1/
July-Sept	328	307	1/	1/	1/
Oct.-Dec	343	296	***	***	***
1985:					
Jan.-Mar	293	287	***	***	***

1/ No reported prices.

Source: Compiled from data submitted in response to questionnaires of the U.S. International Trade Commission.

margins of underselling vis-a-vis the nonintegrated producers ranged from a high of *** percent in January-March 1983 to a low of *** percent in January-March 1985.

Venezuelan wire rod undersold comparable merchandise produced by the integrated U.S. producers by *** percent, *** percent, and *** percent during July-September 1984, October-December 1984, and January-March 1985, respectively. Venezuelan prices were lower than the nonintegrated producers' prices by *** percent in July-September 1984, *** percent in October-December 1984, and *** percent during January-March 1985.

Exchange rates

Quarterly data reported by the International Monetary Fund indicate that during January 1982-March 1985 the nominal value of the Venezuelan bolivar and the Portuguese escudo depreciated relative to the U.S. dollar by 42.8 and 61.1 percent, respectively (table 22). 1/ Because the levels of inflation in Venezuela and Portugal were substantially higher than that in the United States over the 11-quarter period ended September 1984, the real value of the respective currency of each country depreciated significantly less than the nominal depreciation, or by 27.5 and 26.6 percent, respectively.

1/ Since the value of the currency of Poland is determined by the Polish Government rather than by the free market, meaningful measures of Poland's exchange rate as discussed in this section cannot be presented.

Table 21.-Carbon steel wire rod: U.S. producers' and Venezuela's weighted-average prices for low-carbon steel wire rod, AISI grade 1008, 7/32 inch to 27/64 inch in diameter, by quarters, January 1983-March 1985

Period	Domestic producers		Imported from Venezuela	Margin of underselling or (overselling)	
	Integrated	Non-integrated		Integrated	Non-integrated
Per short ton			Percent		
1983:					
Jan.-Mar-----	\$288	\$294	1/	1/	1/
Apr.-June-----	284	282	1/	1/	1/
July-Sept-----	295	279	1/	1/	1/
Oct.-Dec-----	292	274	1/	1/	1/
1984:					
Jan.-Mar-----	323	282	1/	1/	1/
Apr.-June-----	336	306	1/	1/	1/
July-Sept-----	328	307	***	***	***
Oct.-Dec-----	343	296	***	***	***
1985:					
Jan.-Mar-----	293	287	***	***	***

1/ No reported prices.

Source: Compiled from data submitted in response to questionnaires of the U.S. International Trade Commission.

Lost sales

Domestic producers were asked to furnish the Commission with customer names, quantities, and dates relating to any sales of wire rod they have lost since January 1, 1983, to imports of comparable products from Portugal, Poland, and Venezuela. Three producers, * * *, * * *, and * * *, provided specific allegations of lost sales. There were 19 quantified lost sales allegations totaling 53,500 tons of wire rod. Portugal accounted for 20,500 tons, Venezuela accounted for 30,600 tons, and Poland accounted for 2,400 tons of the alleged lost sales.

* * * * *

Lost revenues

Domestic producers were asked to furnish the Commission with customer names, quantities, and dates relating to any lost revenues on sales of wire rod they have incurred since January 1, 1983, as a result of offers for sale of imports of comparable products from Portugal, Poland, and Venezuela. Two producers, * * * and * * *, provided specific allegations of lost revenues. There were six quantified lost revenue allegations totaling 10,000 tons of wire rod, of which Portugal accounted for 3,000 tons, Venezuela for 3,000 tons, and Poland for 4,000 tons.

* * * * *

Table 22.--Nominal exchange rate equivalents 1/ of the Venezuelan bolivar and the Portuguese escudo in U.S. dollars, real-exchange-rate equivalents, and Producer Price Indexes in the United States, Venezuela, and Portugal, 2/ by quarters, January 1982-March 1985

(January-March 1982=100)

Period	U.S.		Venezuela		Portugal		
	Pro- ducer Price Index	Pro- ducer Price Index	Nominal- exchange- rate index 3/	Real- exchange- rate index 4/	Pro- ducer Price Index	Nominal- exchange- rate index	Real- exchange- rate index 4/
1982:							
Jan.-Mar--:	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Apr.-June-:	100.1	101.3	100.0	101.2	124.8	92.4	115.2
July-Sept-:	100.5	104.7	100.0	104.2	116.4	79.7	92.3
Oct.-Dec--:	100.6	102.7	100.0	102.1	111.2	75.7	83.7
1983:							
Jan.-Mar--:	100.7	104.5	100.0	103.8	119.0	74.1	87.6
Apr.-June-:	101.0	106.9	99.9	105.7	124.8	67.5	83.4
July-Sept-:	102.0	110.8	99.8	108.4	137.8	56.0	75.7
Oct.-Dec--:	102.5	112.9	99.8	109.9	146.2	53.4	76.2
1984:							
Jan.-Mar--:	103.6	116.9	77.0	86.9	157.8	51.3	78.1
Apr.-June-:	104.3	122.3	57.2	67.1	164.9	49.4	78.1
July-Sept-:	104.1	131.9	57.2	72.5	169.4	45.1	73.4
Oct.-Dec--:	103.9	<u>5/</u>	57.2	<u>5/</u>	<u>5/</u>	42.0	<u>5/</u>
1985:							
Jan.-Mar--:	103.7	<u>5/</u>	<u>6/</u> 57.2	<u>5/</u>	<u>5/</u>	<u>6/</u> 38.9	<u>5/</u>

1/ Exchange rates expressed in U.S. dollars per unit of foreign currency.

2/ Producer price indicators--intended to measure final product prices--are based on average quarterly indexes presented in line 63 of the International Financial Statistics.

3/ The Venezuelan bolivar, because it had been pegged to the U.S. dollar at a ratio of 4.3 to 1, maintained its nominal value relative to the dollar during the period January 1982-March 1983 and then depreciated by 42.8 percent during April 1983-March 1985.

4/ The real value of a currency is the nominal value adjusted for the difference between inflation rates in the United States and the respective foreign country. Producer prices in the United States increased by approximately 4 percent between January-March 1982 and July-September 1984 compared with 32 percent in Venezuela and 69 percent in Portugal during the same period.

5/ Not available.

6/ Based on data for January and preliminary data for February only.

Source: International Monetary Fund, International Financial Statistics, April 1985.

APPENDIX A

NOTICE OF THE COMMISSION'S INSTITUTION OF PRELIMINARY
COUNTERVAILING DUTY AND ANTIDUMPING INVESTIGATIONS

carbon steel wire rod, provided for in item 607.17 of the Tariff Schedules of the United States, which are alleged to be subsidized by the Governments of Portugal and Venezuela, and of carbon steel wire rod from Poland, Portugal, and Venezuela which are alleged to be sold in the United States at less than fair value. As provided in sections 703(a) and 733(a), the Commission must complete preliminary countervailing duty and antidumping investigations in 45 days, or in this case by May 23, 1985.

For further information concerning the conduct of these investigations and rules of general application, consult the Commission's rules of practice and procedure, part 207, subparts A and B (19 CFR Part 207), and Part 201, Subparts A through E (19 CFR Part 201, as amended by 49 FR 32569, Aug. 15, 1984).

EFFECTIVE DATE: April 8, 1985.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: George L. Deyman (202-523-0481), Office of Investigations, U.S. International Trade Commission, 701 E Street NW., Washington, DC 20436.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background.

These investigations are being instituted in response to petitions filed on April 8, 1985, by Atlantic Steel Co., Atlanta, GA; Continental Steel Corp., Kokomo, IN; Georgetown Steel Corp., Georgetown, SC; Nother Star Steel Texas, Inc., Beaumont, TX; and Raritan River Steel Co., Perth Amboy, NJ.

Participation in the Investigations.

Persons wishing to participate in these investigations as parties must file an entry of appearance with the Secretary to the Commission, as provided in § 201.11 of the Commission's rules (19 CFR 201.11), not later than seven (7) days after publication of this notice in the Federal Register. Any entry of appearance filed after this date will be referred to the Chairwoman, who will determine whether to accept the late entry for good cause shown by the person desiring to file the entry.

Service list.

Pursuant to § 201.11(d) of the Commission's rules (19 CFR 201.11(d)), the Secretary will prepare a service list containing the names and addresses of all persons, or their representatives, who are parties to these investigations upon the expiration of the period for filing entries of appearance. In accordance with § 201.16(c) of the rules (19 CFR 201.16(c), as amended by 49 FR 32569, Aug. 15, 1984), each document filed by a party to the investigations must be served on all other parties to

the investigations (as identified by the service list), and a certificate of service must accompany the document. The Secretary will not accept a document for filing without a certificate of service.

Conference.

The Commission's Director of Operations has scheduled a conference in connection with these investigations for 9:30 a.m. on April 30, 1985 at the U.S. International Trade Commission Building, 701 E Street NW., Washington, DC. Parties wishing to participate in the conference should contact George L. Deyman (202-523-0481) not later than April 26, 1985 to arrange for their appearance. Parties in support of the imposition of countervailing and/or antidumping duties in these investigations and parties in opposition to the imposition of such duties will each be collectively allocated one hour within which to make an oral presentation at the conference.

Written submissions.

Any person may submit to the Commission on or before May 3, 1985 a written statement of information pertinent to the subject of the investigations, as provided in § 207.15 of the Commission's rules (19 CFR 207.15). A signed original and fourteen (14) copies of each submission must be filed with the Secretary to the Commission in accordance with § 201.8 of the rules (19 CFR 201.8, as amended by 49 FR 32569, Aug. 15, 1984). All written submissions except for confidential business data will be available for public inspection during regular business hours (8:45 a.m. to 5:15 p.m.) in the Office of the Secretary to the Commission.

Any business information for which confidential treatment is desired must be submitted separately. The envelope and all pages of such submissions must be clearly labeled "Confidential Business Information." Confidential submissions and requests for confidential treatment must conform with the requirements of section 201.6 of the Commission's rules (19 CFR 201.6, as amended by 49 FR 32569, Aug. 15, 1984).

AUTHORITY: These investigations are being conducted under authority of the Tariff Act of 1930, title VII. This notice is published pursuant to § 207.12 of the Commission's rules (19 CFR 207.12).

Issued: April 11, 1985.

By order of the Commission.

Kenneth R. Mason,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 85-9232 Filed 4-16-85; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7020-02-M

[Investigation Nos. 701-TA-243 and 244 (Preliminary) and 731-TA-256 Through 258 (Preliminary)]

Carbon Steel Wire Rod From Poland, Portugal, and Venezuela

AGENCY: United States International Trade Commission.

ACTION: Institution of preliminary countervailing duty and antidumping investigations and scheduling of a conference to be held in connection with the investigations.

SUMMARY: The Commission hereby gives notice of the institution of preliminary countervailing duty investigations Nos. 701-TA-243 and 244 (Preliminary) under section 703(a) of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1671b(a)) and of preliminary antidumping investigations Nos. 731-TA-256, 257, and 258 (Preliminary) under section 733(a) of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1673b(a)) to determine whether there is a reasonable indication that an industry in the United States is materially injured, or is threatened with material injury, or the establishment of an industry in the United States is materially retarded, by reason of imports from Portugal and Venezuela of

APPENDIX B

THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE'S NOTICES OF INSTITUTION
OF INVESTIGATIONS

normally, the ITC will make its preliminary determination on or before May 23, 1985, and we will make ours on or before September 16, 1985.

EFFECTIVE DATE: May 3, 1985.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Steven S. Lim, Office of Investigations, Import Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20230; telephone (202) 377-1776.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

The Petition

On April 8, 1985, we received a petition from counsel for Atlantic Steel Company, Continental Steel Corporation, Georgetown Steel Corporation, North Star Steel Texas, Inc., and Raritan River Steel Company on behalf of the domestic wire rod industry. In compliance with the filing requirements of § 353.36 of the Commerce Regulations (19 CFR 353.36), the petition alleges that imports of the subject merchandise from Portugal are being, or are likely to be, sold in the United States at less than fair value within the meaning of section 731 of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (19 U.S.C. 1673) (the Act), and that these imports are materially injuring, or are threatening to materially injure, a United States industry.

The petitioners based the United States prices on offers for sale of wire rod to U.S. purchasers, less estimated inland freight, ocean freight, handling, off-loading, United States duty and broker commission.

The petitioners based foreign market value on constructed value. The petitioners calculated constructed value based on United States factors of production for raw materials, labor, general selling and administrative expenses and profit.

By comparing the values calculated by the foregoing methods, petitioners alleged dumping margins of 39 percent.

Initiation of Investigation

Under section 732(c) of the Act, we must determine, within 20 days after the petition is filed, whether it sets forth the allegations necessary for the initiation of an antidumping investigation and whether it contains information reasonably available to the petitioner supporting the allegations. We have examined the petition on wire rod and we have found that it meets the requirements of section 732(b) of the Act. Therefore, we are initiating an antidumping investigation to determine whether wire rod from Portugal is being, or is likely to be, sold at less than fair

[A-471-501]

Carbon Steel Wire Rod From Portugal; Initiation of Antidumping Investigation

AGENCY: International Trade Administration, Import Administration, Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: On the basis of a petition filed in proper form with the United States Department of Commerce, we are initiating an antidumping investigation to determine whether carbon steel wire rod ("wire rod") from Portugal is being, or is likely to be, sold in the United States at less than fair value. We are notifying the United States International Trade Commission ("ITC") of this action so that it may determine whether imports of this merchandise are materially injuring, or are threatening to materially injure, a United States industry. If the investigation proceeds

due in the United States. If our investigation proceeds normally, we will make our preliminary determination by September 16, 1985.

Scope of Investigation

The merchandise covered by this investigation is carbon steel wire rod, a cold-chamber, semi-finished, hot-rolled carbon steel product of approximately round solid cross section, not under 0.20 inch diameter, not over 0.74 inch in diameter, not galvanized, not treated, not partly manufactured, and valued over 4 cents per pound. Wire rod is currently classifiable under item 607.17 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedules of the United States.

Notification to ITC

Section 732(d) of the Act requires us to notify the United States International Trade Commission of this action and to provide it with the information we used to arrive at this determination. We will notify the ITC and make available to it nonprivileged and nonconfidential information. We will also allow the ITC access to all privileged and confidential information in our files, provided it certifies that it will not disclose such information either publicly or under an administrative protective order without the consent of the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Import Administration.

Preliminary Determination by ITC

The ITC will determine by May 23, 1985, whether there is a reasonable indication that imports of wire rod from Portugal are materially injuring, or are threatening to materially injure, a United States industry. If its determination is negative, this investigation will terminate; otherwise, it will proceed according to the statutory procedures.

Alan F. Holmer,

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Import Administration.

April 29, 1985.

RR Doc. 85-10837 Filed 5-2-85; 8:45 am]

CLASSIFICATION CODE 3510-08-M

to determine whether carbon steel wire rod ("wire rod") from Venezuela is being, or is likely to be, sold in the United States at less than fair value. We are notifying the United States International Trade Commission ("ITC") of this action so that it may determine whether imports of this merchandise are materially injuring, or are threatening to materially injure, a United States industry. If the investigation proceeds normally, the ITC will make its preliminary determination on or before May 23, 1985, and we will make ours on or before September 16, 1985.

EFFECTIVE DATE: May 3, 1985.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Steven S. Lim, Office of Investigations, Import Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20230; telephone (202) 377-4776.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

The Petition

On April 8, 1985, we received a petition from counsel for Atlantic Steel Company, Continental Steel Corporation, Georgetown Steel Corporation, North Star Steel Texas, Inc., and Raritan River Steel Company on behalf of the domestic wire rod industry. In compliance with the filing requirements of § 353.36 of the Commerce Regulations (19 CFR 353.36), the petition alleges that imports of the subject merchandise from Venezuela are being, or are likely to be, sold in the United States at less than fair value within the meaning of section 731 of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (19 U.S.C. 1673) (the Act), and that these imports are materially injuring, or are threatening to materially injure, a United States industry.

The petitioners based the United States prices on actual sales of wire rod to U.S. purchasers, less estimated inland freight, ocean freight, handling, off-loading, United States duty and broker commission.

The petitioners based foreign market value on constructed value. The petitioners calculated constructed value based on United States factors of production for raw materials, labor, general selling and administrative expenses and profit.

By comparing the values calculated by the foregoing methods, petitioners alleged dumping margins of 39 percent.

Initiation of Investigation

Under section 732(c) of the Act, we must determine, within 20 days after the petition is filed, whether it sets forth the allegations necessary for the initiation

of an antidumping investigation and whether it contains information reasonably available to the petitioner supporting the allegations. We have examined the petition on wire rod and we have found that it meets the requirements of section 732(b) of the Act. Therefore, we are initiating an antidumping investigation to determine whether wire rod from Venezuela is being, or is likely to be, sold at less than fair value in the United States. If our investigation proceeds normally, we will make our preliminary determination by September 16, 1985.

Scope of Investigation

The merchandise covered by this investigation is carbon steel wire rod, a coiled, semi-finished, hot-rolled carbon steel product of approximately round solid cross section, not under 0.20 inch nor over 0.74 inch in diameter, not tempered, not treated, not partly manufacture, and valued over 4 cents per pound. Wire rod is currently classifiable under item 607.17 of the Tariff Schedules of the United States Annotated.

Notification to ITC

Section 732(d) of the Act requires us to notify the United States International Trade Commission of this action and to provide it with the information we used to arrive at this determination. We will notify the ITC and make available to it all nonprivileged and nonconfidential information. We will also allow the ITC access to all privileged and confidential information in our files, provided it confirms that it will not disclose such information either publicly or under an administrative protective order without the consent of the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Import Administration.

Preliminary Determination by ITC

The ITC will determine by May 23, 1985, whether there is a reasonable indication that imports of wire rod from Venezuela are materially injuring, or are threatening to materially injure, a United States industry. If its determination is negative, this investigation will terminate; otherwise, it will proceed according to the statutory procedures.

Alan F. Holmer,

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Import Administration.

April 29, 1985.

[FR Doc. 85-10836 Filed 5-2-85; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-DS-M

[A-307-505]

Carbon Steel Wire Rod From Venezuela; Initiation of Antidumping Investigation

AGENCY: International Trade Administration, Import Administration, Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: On the basis of a petition filed in proper form with the United States Department of Commerce, we are initiating an antidumping investigation

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**The Petition**

On April 8, 1985, we received a petition in proper form from Atlantic Steel Company, Continental Steel Company, Georgetown Steel Corporation, North Star Steel Company Texas, and Raritan River Steel Company, filed on behalf of the domestic producers of carbon steel wire rod. In compliance with the filing requirements of § 353.36 of the Commerce Regulations (19 CFR 353.36), the petition alleges that imports of the subject merchandise from Poland are being, or are likely to be, sold in the United States at less than fair value within the meaning of section 731 of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (19 U.S.C. 1673) (the Act), and that these imports are materially injuring or are threatening to materially injure, a United States industry. The petition further alleges that Poland is a state-controlled economy within the meaning of the Act. It alleges that sales of carbon steel wire rod in Poland do not permit a determination of foreign market value and that the Department of Commerce must choose a surrogate country for the purposes of determining the foreign market values of this product. The petitioners suggest Australia as a surrogate country. The allegation of sales at less than fair value is supported by comparing the average price obtained by the petitioners for ex-plant price charged for the product in Australia to the Polish offers for sale of U.S. purchasers (less amounts for foreign inland freight, ocean freight, handling, off loading, U.S. duty and broker commission). In comparing the United States prices with the foreign market value, the petition alleges a dumping margin of 36.51 percent.

In case involving a state-controlled economy country, the foreign market value of carbon steel wire rod exported from that country must be determined in accordance with section 773(c) of the Act. The surrogate procedure, as prescribed by the Department's regulations (19 CFR 353.8), contemplates the use of prices for such or similar merchandise when sold for consumption in a market economy at a comparable stage of economic development to the non-market economy country, or a constructed value.

Initiation of Investigation

Under section 732(c) of the Act, we must determine, within 20 days after a petition is filed, whether it sets forth the allegations necessary for the initiation of an antidumping duty investigation

and whether it contains information reasonably available to the petitioner supporting the allegation. We have examined the petition on carbon steel wire rod and we have found that it meets the requirements of section 732(b) of the Act. Therefore, in accordance with section 732 of the Act, we are initiating an antidumping investigation to determine whether carbon steel wire rod from Poland is being, or is likely to be, sold in the United States at less than fair value. If our investigation proceeds normally, we will make our preliminary determination by September 16, 1985.

Scope of Investigation

The merchandise covered by this investigation is carbon steel wire rod, a coiled, semi-finished, hot-rolled carbon steel product of approximately round solid cross section, not under 0.20 inch nor over 0.74 inch in diameter, not tempered, not treated, not partly manufactured, and valued over 4 cents per pound. Wire rod is currently classifiable under item 607.17 of the Tariff Schedules of the United States Annotated.

Notification of ITC

Section 732(d) of the Act requires us to notify the ITC of these actions and to provide it with the information we used to arrive at the determination. We will notify the ITC and make available to it all nonprivileged and nonconfidential information. We will also allow the ITC access to all privileged and confidential information in our files, provided it confirms that it will not disclose such information either publicly or under an administrative protective order without the consent of the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Import Administration.

Preliminary Determinations by ITC

The ITC will determine by May 23, 1985, whether there is a reasonable indication that imports of carbon steel wire rod from Poland are materially injuring, or are likely to materially injure, a United States industry. If its determination is negative, the investigation will terminate; otherwise, it will proceed according to the statutory procedures.

Alan F. Holmer,

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Import Administration.

April 29, 1985.

[FR Doc. 85-10838 Filed 5-2-85; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-08-M

-455-501]

**Carbon Steel Wire Rod From Poland;
Initiation of Antidumping Duty
Investigation**

AGENCY: International Trade Administration, Commerce.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: On the basis of a petition filed in proper form with the United States Department of Commerce, we are initiating an antidumping duty investigation to determine whether carbon steel wire rod from Poland is being, or is likely to be, sold in the United States at less than fair value. We are notifying the United States International Trade Commission (ITC) of this action so that it may determine whether imports of this product injure or threaten material injury to, a United States industry. If the investigation proceeds normally, the ITC will make its preliminary determination on or before May 23, 1985, and will make ours on or before September 16, 1985.

EFFECTIVE DATE: May 3, 1985.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Steven Lim, Office of Investigations, Import Administration, International Trade Administration, United States Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, D.C. 20230; telephone (202) 7-0184.

[C-471-502]

Initiation of Countervailing Duty Investigation; Carbon Steel Wire Rod From Portugal

AGENCY: Import Administration, International Trade Administration, Commerce.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: On the basis of a petition filed in proper form with the U.S. Department of Commerce, we are initiating a countervailing duty investigation to determine whether manufacturers, producers, or exporters in Portugal of carbon steel wire rod, as described in the "Scope of the Investigation" section of this notice, receive benefits which constitute subsidies within the meaning of the countervailing duty law. We are notifying the U.S. International Trade Commission (ITC) of this act, so that it may determine whether imports of the subject merchandise from Portugal materially injure, or threaten material injury to, a U.S. industry. The ITC will make its preliminary determination on or before May 23, 1985. If our investigation proceeds normally, we will make our preliminary determination on or before July 2, 1985.

EFFECTIVE DATE: May 6, 1985.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Laura Winfrey or Mary Martin, Office of Investigations, Import Administration, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20230; telephone: (202) 377-0160 or 377-3464.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Petition

On April 8, 1985, we received a petition in proper form from Atlantic Steel Co., Continental Steel Corp., Georgetown Steel Corp., North Star Steel Texas, Inc., and Raritan River Steel Co. filed on behalf of the U.S. industry producing carbon steel wire rod. In compliance with the filing requirements of § 355.28 of the Commerce Regulations (19 CFR 355.28), the petition alleges that manufacturers, producers, or exporters in Portugal of carbon steel wire rod receive subsidies within the meaning of section 701 of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Act). Since Portugal is a "country under the Agreement" within the meaning of section 701(b) of the Act, Title VII of the Act applies to this investigation, and the ITC is required to determine whether imports of the subject merchandise from Portugal materially injure, or threaten material injury to, a U.S. industry.

Initiation of Investigation

Under section 702(c) of the Act, we must determine, within 20 days after a petition is filed, whether the petition sets forth the allegations necessary for the initiation of a countervailing duty investigation, and whether it contains information reasonably available to the petitioner supporting the allegations. We have examined the petition on carbon steel wire rod from Portugal, and we have found that the petition meets these requirements. Therefore, we are initiating a countervailing duty investigation to determine whether manufacturers, producers, or exporters in Portugal of carbon steel wire rod, as described in the "Scope of the Investigation" section of this notice, receive subsidies. If our investigation proceeds normally, we will make our preliminary determination on or before July 2, 1985.

Scope of Investigation

The merchandise covered by this investigation is carbon steel wire rod, a coiled, semi-finished, hot-rolled carbon steel product of approximately round solid cross section, not under 0.20 inch nor over 0.74 inch in diameter, not tempered, not treated, not partly manufactured, and valued over 4 cents per pound. Wire rod is currently classifiable under item 607.17 of the *Tariff Schedules of the United States* (TSUS).

Allegations of Subsidies

The petition alleges that manufacturers, producers, or exporters in Portugal of carbon steel wire rod receive benefits under the following

programs which constitute subsidies.
We are initiating an investigation on the following allegations:

- Export financing at preferential rates.
- Export tax incentives.
- Integrated investment incentives system:

- General regime
- Regional/sectoral priority regime
- Extraordinary regime of capital donations
- Contractual regime for projects of high economic and social impact
- subsidy regime for research and technical development
- Domestic business incentives:
- Ruling 316/78 (November 30, 1978)
- Decree 353-E/77 (August 29, 1977)
- Decree 24/77 (April 1, 1977)

Notification of ITC

Section 702(d) of the Act requires us to notify the ITC of this action, and to provide it with the information we used to arrive at this determination. We will notify the ITC and make available to it all nonprivileged and nonconfidential information in our files. We will also allow the ITC access to all privileged and confidential information in our files, provided it confirms in writing that it will not disclose such information, either publicly or under an administrative protective order, without the written consent of the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Import Administration.

Preliminary Determination by ITC

The ITC will determine by May 23, 1985, whether there is a reasonable indication that imports of carbon steel wire rod from Portugal are causing material injury, or threaten material injury, to a U.S. industry. If its determination is negative, this investigation will terminate; otherwise, it will proceed according to the statutory procedures.

Jan F. Holmer,
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Import Administration.

April 29, 1985.

FR Doc. 85-10960 Filed 5-3-85; 8:45 am

CALLING CODE 3510-02-01

SUMMARY: On the basis of a petition filed in proper form with the U.S. Department of Commerce, we are initiating a countervailing duty investigation to determine whether manufacturers, producers, or exporters in Venezuela of carbon steel wire rod, as described in the "Scope of the Investigation" section of this notice, receive benefits which constitute subsidies within the meaning of the countervailing duty law. We are notifying the U.S. International Trade Commission (ITC) of this action, so that it may determine whether imports of the subject merchandise from Venezuela materially injure, or threaten material injury to, a U.S. industry. The ITC will make its preliminary determination on or before May 23, 1985. If our investigation proceeds normally, we will make our preliminary determination on or before July 2, 1985.

EFFECTIVE DATE: May 6, 1985.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Terry Link or Barbara Tillman, Office of Investigations, Import Administration, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20230; telephone: (202) 377-0189 or 377-1785.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Petition

On April 8, 1985, we received a petition in proper form from Atlantic Steel Co., Continental Steel Corp., Georgetown Steel Corp., North Star Steel Texas, Inc., and Raritan River Steel Co. filed on behalf of the U.S. industry producing carbon steel wire rod. In compliance with the filing requirements of § 355.26 of the Commerce Regulations (19 CR 355.26), the petition alleges that manufacturers, producers, or exporters in Venezuela of carbon steel wire rod receive subsidies within the meaning of section 701 of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Act). Since Venezuela is a "country under the Agreement" within the meaning of section 701(b) of the Act, Title VII of the Act applies to this investigation, and the ITC is required to determine whether imports of the subject merchandise from Venezuela materially injure, or threaten material injury to, a U.S. industry.

Initiation of Investigation

Under section 702(c) of the Act, we must determine, within 20 days after a petition is filed, whether the petition sets forth the allegations necessary for the initiation of a countervailing duty investigation, and whether it contains information reasonably available to the petitioner supporting the allegations. We

have examined the petition on carbon steel wire rod from Venezuela, and we have found that the petition meets these requirements. Therefore, we are initiating a countervailing duty investigation to determine whether manufacturers, producers, or exporters in Venezuela of carbon steel wire rod, as described in the "Scope of the Investigation" section of this notice, receive subsidies. If our investigation proceeds normally, we will make our preliminary determination on or before July 2, 1985.

Scope of the Investigation

The merchandise covered by this investigation is carbon steel wire rod, is a coiled semi-finished, hot-rolled carbon steel product of approximately round solid cross section, not under 0.20 inch in diameter, not tempered, not treated, not partly manufactured, and valued over 4 cents per pound. Wire rod is currently classifiable under item 807.17 of the *Tariff Schedules of the United States* (TSUS).

Allegations of Subsidies

The petition alleges that manufacturers, producers, or exporters in Venezuela of carbon steel wire rod receive benefits under the following programs which constitute subsidies. We are initiating an investigation on the following allegations:

- Preferential Government Loans.
- Government Equity Infusions.
- Sales Tax Exemption.
- Tax Contributions to Cover Debt Service Costs.
- Export Subsidies:
 - Preferential Exchange Rates
 - Export Certificates for Credit Against Income Taxes

Notification of ITC

Section 702(d) of the Act requires us to notify the ITC of this action, and to provide it with the information we used to arrive at this determination. We will notify the ITC and make available to it all nonprivileged and nonconfidential information in our files. We will also allow the ITC access to all privileged and confidential information in our files, provided it confirms in writing that it will not disclose such information, either publicly or under an administrative protective order, without the written consent of the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Import Administration.

Preliminary Determination by ITC

The ITC will determine by May 23, 1985, whether there is a reasonable indication that imports of carbon steel wire rod from Venezuela are causing

[C-307-506]

Initiation of Countervailing Duty Investigation; Carbon Steel Wire Rod From Venezuela

AGENCY: Import Administration, International Trade Administration, Commerce.

ACTION: Notice.

aterial injury, or threaten material
jury, to a United States industry. If its
etermination is negative, this
vestigation will terminate; otherwise,
will proceed according to the statutory
ocedures.

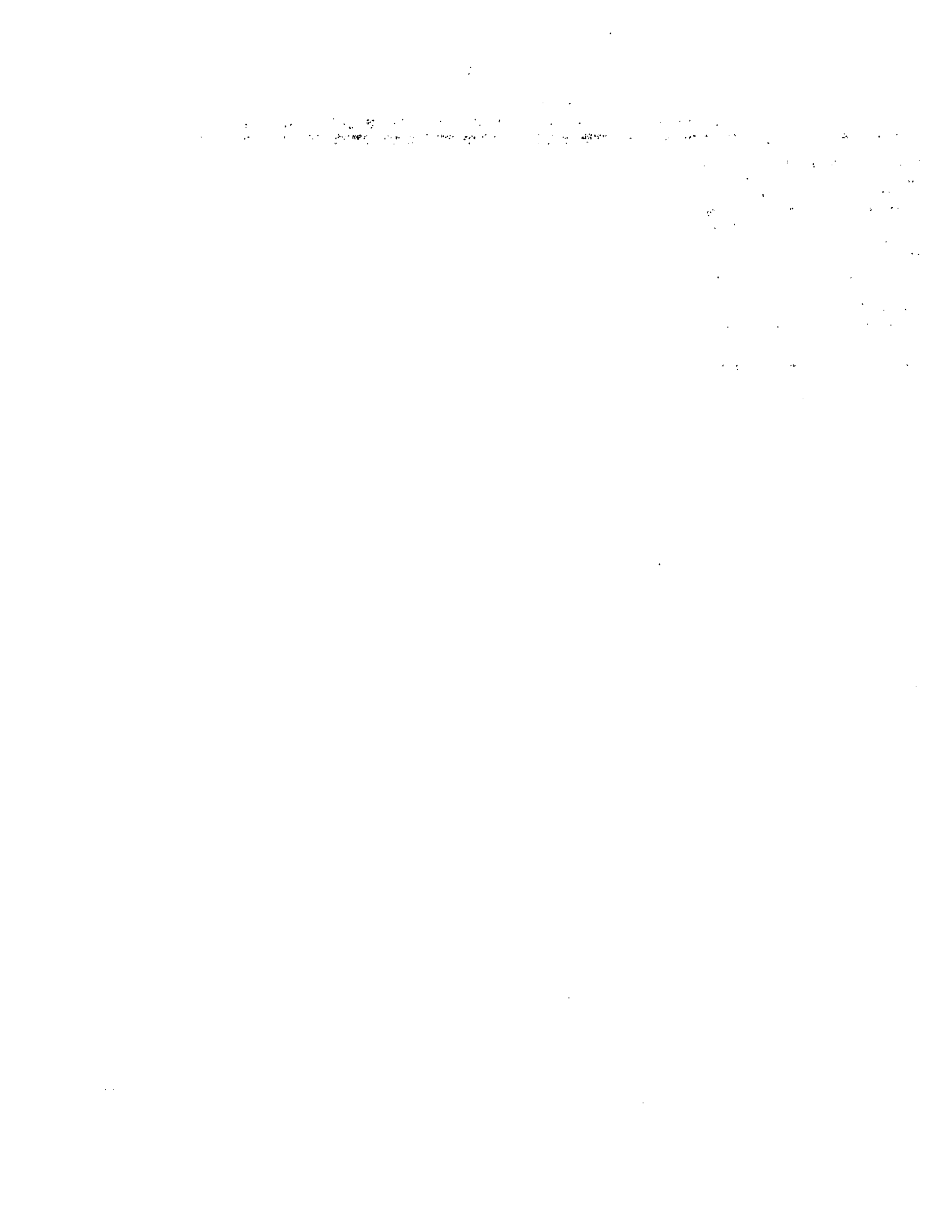
lan F. Holmes,

*Deputy Assistant Secretary for Import
Administration.*

April 29, 1985.

R Doc. 85-10081 Filed 5-3-85; 8:45 am]

U.S. GPO CODE 3970-08-81



APPENDIX C

CALENDAR OF WITNESSES AT THE COMMISSION'S
PUBLIC CONFERENCE

CALENDAR OF PUBLIC CONFERENCE

Investigations Nos. 701-TA-243 and 244 (Preliminary)
and 731-TA-256 through 258 (Preliminary)

CARBON STEEL WIRE ROD FROM POLAND, PORTUGAL, AND VENEZUELA

Those listed below appeared as witnesses at the United States International Trade Commission's conference held in connection with the subject investigations on April 30, 1985, in the Hearing Room of the USITC Building, 701 E Street, NW, Washington, DC.

In support of the imposition of countervailing and antidumping duties

Wiley & Rein--Counsel
Washington, DC
on behalf of

Continental Steel Corp.
Georgetown Steel Corp.
North Star Steel Texas, Inc.
Raritan River Steel Co.

Isaac N. Burch, General Manager of
Sales and Marketing
Georgetown Steel Corp.

William C. Swift, General Sales Manager
North Star Steel Texas, Inc.

Charles Owen Verrill, Jr.)
Robert E. Nielsen) --OF COUNSEL

Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver & Jacobson
Washington, DC
on behalf of

Atlantic Steel Co.

Alan Kashdan--OF COUNSEL

In opposition to the imposition of countervailing and antidumping duties

Dow, Lohnes & Albertson
Washington, DC
on behalf of

Siderurgia Nacional EP

James A. Treanor, III--OF COUNSEL

In opposition to the imposition of countervailing and antidumping
duties--Continued

Mudge Rose Guthrie Alexander & Ferdon
Washington, DC
on behalf of

SIDOR, C.A.

N. David Palmeter--OF COUNSEL

Sharretts, Paley, Carter & Blauvelt
Washington, DC
on behalf of

Davis Walker Corp.

Peter O. Suchman--OF COUNSEL

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