
PARADE UNIFORMS FOR TROUBADORS CORPS OF
BRIDGEPORT, CONN.

APRIL 1, 1966.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. LONG of Louisiana, from the Committee on Finance, submitted
the following

R E P O R T

[To accompany H.R. 8647]

The Committee on Finance, to which was referred the bill (H.R. 8647) for the relief of the Troubadors Drum & Bugle Corps of Bridgeport, Conn., having considered the same, reports favorably thereon without amendment and recommends that the bill do pass.

PURPOSE

The purpose of H.R. 8647, as reported, is to permit the refund of duties paid on parade uniforms imported for the use of the Troubadors Drum & Bugle Corps of the Explorer Scout Post No. 152, Bridgeport, Conn.

GENERAL STATEMENT

The Explorer Scout Post No. 152 in Bridgeport, Conn., is made up largely of underprivileged boys in Bridgeport. As part of their activities the post founded a Troubadors Drum & Bugle Corps which is concentrating on the study and performance of music of Latin America. To strike a note of authenticity, it was decided to obtain colorful "troubador" uniforms and for this purpose the drum and bugle corps embarked on a fundraising project consisting largely of waste paper drives, cake sales, and similar low-profit, fundraising methods.

Uniforms of the type desired could not be found in retail establishments and to have such uniforms made in the United States it was found would be beyond the group's meager means. Upon inquiry it was found that authentic parade uniforms could be obtained from Mexico for about \$1,000.

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It was not anticipated, however, that the import duty would be as high as 42½ percent ad valorem, which is the rate that was determined to be applicable because of the "ornamentation," with the result that the duty collected amounted to almost half the cost of the uniforms. The uniforms covered by the bill were entered under Laredo, Tex., informal entry No. 68073, dated April 13, 1965, and Bridgeport, Conn., consumption entries No. 1502, dated June 9, 1965, and No. 1511, dated June 11, 1965.

Your committee, like the Committee on Ways and Means of the House, believes that because of the special circumstances the equities are in favor of this particular group and, accordingly, favorably reports this bill.

