

1 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
2 WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 1996
3 U.S. Senate,
4 Committee on Finance,
5 Washington, DC.

Gilmour 6 The meeting was convened, pursuant to notice, at
27 pp 7 10:13 a.m., in room SD-215, Dirksen Senate Office
8 Building, Hon. William V. Roth, Jr., (chairman of the
9 committee) presiding.

10 Also present: Senators Chafee, Grassley, D'Amato,
11 Moynihan, Baucus, Bradley, Rockefeller, Breaux, Graham
12 and Moseley-Braun.

13 Also present: Lindy L. Paull, Staff Director and
14 Chief Counsel; Mark A. Patterson, Minority Staff Director
15 and Chief Counsel.

16 Also present: Erik Autor, International Trade
17 Counsel; Deborah Lamb, Minority Trade Counsel.

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1 OPENING STATEMENT OF THE HONORABLE WILLIAM V. ROTH, JR.,
2 A U.S. SENATOR FROM DELAWARE, CHAIRMAN, COMMITTEE ON
3 FINANCE
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5 The Chairman. Well, today, Pat, is the last meeting
6 of the Committee on Finance for the 104th Congress. I
7 would like to thank all of you for your cooperation
8 during the last year when I took over as Chairman.

9 I very much appreciate that cooperation. We have
10 worked hard on a lot of different issues, some on which
11 we agreed, some on which we did not agree, but I think in
12 the end the committee accomplished a lot. That is due,
13 in very large part, to Pat Moynihan's contribution. I
14 once again want to express my appreciation for his valued
15 advice and assistance. He was always there when one
16 needed him.

17 Now, we have seen a lot of changes in the Finance
18 Committee. We have lost two valued members, two former
19 Chairmen, Senator Packwood and, of course, Senator Dole.
20 But I also would like to express my public appreciation
21 to three members who are leaving us. Alan Simpson. He
22 is not here now. If he comes later, I will extend my
23 remarks.

24 But I do want to point out what a valued member he
25 has been of this committee, particularly in pointing out

1 the problems we face in the area of entitlements. He is,
2 of course, as I understand, going to the Kennedy School
3 at Harvard. I expect he will continue his articulation
4 of this issue.

5 Senator Moynihan. Oh, no, Mr. Chairman. We will
6 change him completely.

7 [Laughter]

8 The Chairman. That will be duly noted. But we
9 certainly are going to miss his advice and counsel.

10 Bill Bradley has been a tireless advocate, watchdog
11 for the low-income. I must say, he has done that for as
12 long as I can remember, practically.

13 But, in addition, we can always count on him to be
14 for pro-growth policies to expand our international
15 trading opportunities. Bill, I want to personally
16 express my appreciation to you for your valued advice and
17 contributions to this committee. We will miss you.

18 Of course, the same is true of Dave Pryor, who has
19 been, among other things, the taxpayers' best friend,
20 watchdog, has contributed so much in assuring that there
21 has been a bill of rights for our taxpayers. He has also
22 been a valued member or excellent advocate for our senior
23 citizens. I know that we will miss his contributions,
24 particularly in the health area.

25 So, I once again want to thank each and every one of

1 you here for your cooperation, and advice, and help, and
2 look forward to continuing working with all of you.

3 Senator Bradley?
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1 OPENING STATEMENT OF THE HON. BILL BRADLEY, A U.S.
2 SENATOR FROM NEW JERSEY

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4 Senator Bradley. Just to say a word. Let me, first
5 of all, thank you very much for your comments. I also
6 thank you on behalf of Senator Pryor and Senator Simpson,
7 if they do not show up to their last Finance Committee
8 meeting.

9 I remember when I was running for the Senate, I had a
10 conversation with then first-term Senator Moynihan, who
11 told me the most significant accomplishment of his first
12 term was that he was on the Finance Committee and that he
13 thought that would put him in good stead for the rest of
14 his Senate career.

15 As we chatted, he advised me I should try to get on
16 the Finance Committee. I managed to do that, with the
17 help of a lot of friends. I looked at this committee,
18 and I really think it is the most important committee in
19 the United States Senate, without any question.

20 It has through history been controlled by gracious
21 Southerners, in many cases. When I came to the committee
22 it was run by Russell Long, whom I think is an
23 extraordinary legislator of unappreciated breadth and
24 skill, who always gave you a good time at the same time
25 he achieved his objectives, no matter how you thought to

1 thwart him.

2 I feel that, through the other chairmanships--Senator
3 Dole, Senator Packwood, Senator Bentsen, Senator
4 Moynihan, and Senator Roth--that the committee has been
5 in extraordinarily able hands.

6 I have watched how people change when they become the
7 chairman of the Finance Committee. They have more power
8 than virtually any Senator, except the Majority Leader,
9 if they decide to exert it and they respond, I think, in
10 a way that does them well time and time again. I know
11 that that will be your experience, Mr. Chairman, as it
12 has been others' as well.

13 Being a member of this committee has been a
14 tremendous growth experience for me. When I came in, I
15 remember the first issue we dealt with was the trade
16 agreement in 1979, the Tokyo Round. I came in to the
17 committee and I sat way down where Carol Moseley-Braun is
18 now seated. Except we did not meet up here then, we met
19 down there; therefore, I was truly in the audience.

20 I came in day after day and heard Senator Danforth
21 and late Senator Heinz, Senator Moynihan, Senator Chafee,
22 and you, Mr. Chairman, and of course Senator Talmadge and
23 Senator Long, ask questions. I would sit there for an
24 hour or two, and I would not have the faintest idea what
25 anybody said. I literally sat there bewildered by a

1 language that I did not understand.

2 I was never really good in foreign languages, even
3 though my wife is a professor of comparative literature
4 and language, and I decided I had to learn the language
5 in order to understand the committee's work, which I
6 proceeded to do in trade, in tax, in Medicare, and in a
7 variety of other issues that this committee deals with.
8 This committee deals with extremely complex issues.

9 The subtlety of skill in this committee is not
10 appreciated by most people because you have to have
11 control of the substance, at the same time see the
12 procedural opportunities move, and know your colleagues
13 like you know the palm of your hand, and bring it all
14 together at the right moment in order to move things
15 forward an inch or two.

16 So I leave this committee with a great debt to the
17 members of the committee, to the Chairs that I have
18 served under, and with great respect for the Senate and
19 for the Finance Committee and the work that we have done
20 in these 18 years.

21 I am glad, Mr. Chairman, that you asked me to stay,
22 because I had not expected to say this. But I wanted to
23 put it there in the record and express my appreciation,
24 first, to the people of New Jersey, then to the Chairs of
25 this committee, and then to the members of this committee

1 for allowing me to delve into the substance to my heart's
2 fullest content every day as a job. I could not imagine
3 a better job. Thank you.

4 Senator Moynihan. Mr. Chairman, before Senator
5 Bradley has to depart, may I just make one remark?

6 The Chairman. Please.

7 Senator Moynihan. It is about that meeting we had
8 in Princeton, New Jersey in 1978, when he was running for
9 the first time. I told him, indeed, about the Finance
10 Committee, but I also brought with me a quotation from
11 Woodrow Wilson when Wilson was then president of
12 Princeton University, a great scholar of the Presidency
13 itself, and he had observed how difficult the
14 Presidential campaigns had become, or were becoming.

15 I mean, Presidents were meant to make speeches, move
16 around. They did not have to go to conventions or
17 anything like that, but they had to go from State to
18 State from time to time. Well, this had not happened
19 before. He said, "If this continues, we shall be reduced
20 to choosing our Chief Magistrates from among wise and
21 prudent athletes, a small class."

22 [Laughter]

23 Senator Moynihan. Now, I do not want him to leave
24 without being reminded of that prophecy.

25 Senator Bradley. Thank you very much. Thank you.

1 Senator Chafee. Mr. Chairman?

2 The Chairman. Senator Chafee.

3 Senator Chafee. Mr. Chairman, I will be very brief.

4 One, I don't think since you've been Chairman of this
5 committee we have had a picture of this committee. Is
6 there a chance of getting one, with the members who are
7 leaving, Senator Bradley, Senator Pryor, Senator Simpson?
8 Is there a chance of getting a picture of the committee
9 before you leave?

10 The Chairman. Yes. We planned to do that off the
11 floor. We will schedule that. At that time we think we
12 can get more members.

13 Senator Bradley. Senator Chafee, I will be glad to
14 send you a picture of me. Do you want me in shorts, or
15 do you want me wearing ----

16 [Laughter]

17 The Chairman. We lack one member who is coming, so
18 if you could just wait a couple of more minutes.

19 Senator Moynihan. Mr. Chairman, I believe we have a
20 fairly straightforward agenda. We have your mark, and we
21 might get to it rather directly.

22 The Chairman. I agree, Senator Moynihan. We are
23 pleased to convene this Executive Session of the Finance
24 Committee to mark up this miscellaneous trade bill. As
25 you know, Pat, last May during the mark-up of trade

1 legislation then, several members wanted to offer an
2 amendment on miscellaneous trade items.

3 At that time I asked members to wait to offer those
4 items until we had an opportunity to consider the House
5 legislation. The miscellaneous trade bill at that time
6 was working its way through the Ways and Means Committee.

7 In preparation for consideration of the House bill, I
8 asked members who had particular miscellaneous trade
9 items they were interested in to file them as bills, and
10 on June 7th I requested public comment on the bills that
11 had been filed up to that point.

12 Based on the comments we received, we have put
13 together a package for the Chairman's mark that includes
14 all those items that are non-controversial. A small
15 number of items that turned out to be controversial are
16 not included in the mark.

17 One of these items was a bill dealing with the
18 country of origin marking of hand-tooled forgings, which
19 received many comments in opposition. Now, I know that
20 Senator Gramm and Senator Lott strongly support the
21 marking exemption for hand-tooled forgings and would like
22 to see the House provision in the committee's
23 modification of the bill. Nonetheless, it is clear that
24 if this were included as part of the legislation there is
25 no way the bill could pass the Senate.

1 So, I would just say to Senator Gramm and Lott that I
2 am prepared to work with them in the Ways and Means
3 Committee to arrange an exchange of letters between the
4 two committees and the Department of Treasury to seek a
5 satisfactory resolution of this matter.

6 In addition, I have removed two other items, the
7 epoxide esters and the normal trade relations provision
8 that were originally a part of this mark-up data. Again,
9 I have eliminated them or deleted them because we have
10 found out that they are controversial.

11 I think I can say, Pat ----

12 Senator Moynihan. Mr. Chairman, could I say
13 something?

14 The Chairman. Yes, please do.

15 Senator Moynihan. Am I correct in saying that the
16 controversy is with a rather small number of members of
17 the House side?

18 The Chairman. That is absolutely right, Pat. We
19 had total support here of the full committee; all 20
20 members supported it. The Senate passed it by unanimous
21 consent and I know that the Chairman of the House Ways
22 and Means Committee supports it, but there are other
23 members who are very much in opposition to this proposal
24 and it would jeopardize the entire legislation. So, for
25 that reason, I regretfully withdrew it.

1 Senator Chafee. Mr. Chairman?

2 The Chairman. Yes.

3 Senator Chafee. This is something that you, Senator
4 Moynihan, and I have worked on for a long time. It is
5 just, the term MFN is totally a distortion of the
6 situation as it exists. I feel very sorry that the term
7 Normal Trade Relations is being dropped, but I can
8 understand why.

9 Can we not do something about that next year? Can we
10 not bring it up as a separate bill?

11 The Chairman. It is my full intent to move ahead,
12 with the support of the committee. I agree with you,
13 John. This is an important change in the name. I think
14 it is something that deserves our attention early next
15 year.

16 I am hopeful that we will have a better chance to
17 allay the concerns of those in opposition next year than
18 trying to push it through now. But you are absolutely
19 right, it is certainly my intent to push ahead with this
20 proposal and I value your aid and assistance in this
21 matter.

22 Senator Chafee. Thank you.

23 Senator Rockefeller. Mr. Chairman?

24 The Chairman. Yes.

25 Senator Rockefeller. Could I just ask, we have nine

1 or 10 people, and I also am going to have to disappear at
2 about 10:30.

3 Senator Moynihan. We now have had our 11.

4 Senator Rockefeller. Eleven. Can we act?

5 The Chairman. Yes. I would propose, Senator
6 Moynihan, that we report out this legislation as amended
7 by the modification of the Chairman.

8 Senator Moynihan. And I second that motion.

9 Senator Baucus. Mr. Chairman, might I ask, is the
10 duty-free provision in this bill? That is, the provision
11 which allows Americans to buy goods and count it against
12 their \$400 duty-free exemption for goods purchased at
13 American duty-free shops as well as foreign duty-free
14 shops?

15 The Chairman. The Senator is correct, that is
16 included.

17 Senator Baucus. Thank you. Thank you.

18 The Chairman. Those in favor of the motion of the
19 Chairman, seconded by Senator Moynihan, please signify by
20 saying aye.

21 (A chorus of ayes.)

22 The Chairman. Opposed, nay.

23 (No response.)

24 The Chairman. The ayes have it. The legislation is
25 accordingly reported out.

1 Again, I want to say, Senator Moynihan, that this
2 effort has been truly bipartisan. I appreciate the help,
3 not only your personal help, but that of your staff, and
4 at this time would call upon you for any comments you
5 might have.

6 Senator Moynihan. Well, thank you, Mr. Chairman. I
7 would ask those who can remain just to do so a second.
8 We have had a difficult Congress in the Finance
9 Committee. We are losing a quarter of our membership.

10 We have lost, in the course of these two years, two
11 beloved chairmen, and three of our finest members are
12 going to now retire. It had to be one of the more
13 difficult, if not most difficult, transitions of this
14 104th Congress for Senator Roth to leave the chairmanship
15 of another committee in which he was deeply involved in
16 its matters and come to the Finance Committee, with all
17 its complexities and diversities.

18 You have done so masterfully as evidenced by this,
19 our concluding event, a unanimous decision in which you
20 have contrived to get difficult legislation through
21 earlier, saying with respect to tariff matters there
22 would be a bill and it would come before this committee
23 and get to the floor. It will do.

24 I think the last three major measures that we have
25 had in this committee have been reported out unanimously.

1 Either something is wrong, we are not reading these
2 drafts, or you are doing a masterful job. I prefer to
3 think the latter.

4 The Chairman. I do, too.

5 [Laughter]

6 Senator Moynihan. I speak only for myself, but I
7 know I reflect the views of our colleagues on this side.
8 We thank you for what you have done. We know how
9 difficult it has been. We have tried to support you in
10 that difficulty. If it should happen that in the next
11 Congress our relations are reversed, we will look forward
12 to the same spirit of cooperation.

13 [Laughter]

14 The Chairman. Well, I am not looking forward to
15 that kind of a change.

16 [Laughter]

17 The Chairman. But I think what is remarkable about
18 this committee is the bipartisan spirit that has
19 generally motivated it, and certainly I could not have
20 accomplished what this committee has done without the
21 support of everyone, but particularly the Ranking Member.
22 For that I am indeed grateful, and look forward to
23 working together next year, in whatever precedent, as a
24 team.

25 Senator Chafee. Mr. Chairman?

1 The Chairman. Senator Chafee?

2 Senator Chafee. Mr. Chairman, briefly, I would just
3 like to thank the staff, Erik Autor and Debbie Lamb, for
4 their wonderful help. They have done an excellent job
5 and have been key players in seeing that this legislation
6 was completed.

7 I had a difficult problem myself that was of concern
8 dealing with a chemical known as TAB, which is used to
9 make a flame-resistant fiber, and we were able to work
10 that out thanks to Debbie Lamb and Erik Autor. I join
11 with you, Mr. Chairman, in your high commendation of
12 everybody on this committee for working together. I must
13 say, it is refreshing.

14 Senator Breaux and I have been working together for
15 many years in trying to reach consensus on various
16 matters, and this is one of the few committees where you
17 really find bipartisanship. I am a chairman of a
18 committee and I try to have the same level of
19 bipartisanship in that committee as we have here. This
20 is a model for us.

21 So thank you, Mr. Chairman, for your skillful
22 guidance and fairness, and the same to Senator Moynihan
23 in everything that he has done. When he was chairman,
24 when he is Ranking, no matter what his role is, he is a
25 very fair and a thoroughly decent and honorable person to

1 deal with.

2 Senator Moynihan. We thank you. Senator Moseley-
3 Braun, expressly.

4 The Chairman. Senator Moseley-Braun.

5 Senator Moseley-Braun. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
6 Perhaps my remarks would have been better timed before we
7 voted on the bill, but I just wanted to point out that I
8 understand that this bill, we had worked on it for
9 awhile, you had worked on it for awhile, and you wanted
10 to have it passed without controversy, so an issue that I
11 had raised with you on the floor yesterday regarding
12 Virgin Island watches did not get picked up, but I do
13 hope that we can keep that under consideration for the
14 next Congress.

15 The Chairman. As I indicated on the floor, we will
16 be happy to work with you. I know this is a matter of
17 importance to you, and so we will look forward to trying
18 to work out a solution.

19 Senator Moynihan. Is there any prospect that we
20 might go down and have an on-site inspection?

21 [Laughter]

22 Senator Moseley-Braun. Well, I can tell you, I
23 cannot think of a better group than this committee. I
24 want to say to both the Chairman and the Ranking Member,
25 as the newest member--well, I guess I am no longer the

1 newest member on this committee--it has been just
2 absolutely delightful to work with the leadership of this
3 committee, the staff of this committee.

4 It is truly, hopefully not the last vestige, but
5 certainly an example of what we can do working in a
6 bipartisan way on behalf of the people in this country.
7 I think that, in and of itself, is important leadership
8 for the rest of the Senate, and indeed for the rest of
9 the Congress.

10 So I just want to thank both of you for what has been
11 just a wonderful learning experience in my first year on
12 the Finance Committee, and I hope to be here for at least
13 another ---- how long have you been here, Senator
14 Moynihan?

15 Senator Moynihan. Twenty years.

16 Senator Moseley-Braun. A while. Okay.

17 The Chairman. It will not be too long before you
18 are sitting where Bill Bradley is.

19 Senator Moseley-Braun. Thank you, sir.

20 The Chairman. We thank you for your assistance and
21 support.

22 I think maybe at this stage we might proceed with a
23 quick run-down of the legislation. Erik, do you want to
24 outline it?

25 Mr. Autor. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Since we have

1 quite a few items on the mark, I am going to proceed as
2 expeditiously as possible, but I would be happy to
3 elaborate on any issues if there are questions.

4 The first item, is with respect to when Customs will
5 pay interest when a NAFTA preferential tariff is claimed
6 by an importer. The second item, is technical and
7 conforming amendments to the Tariff Act of 1930. The
8 third item, is a clarification regarding the application
9 of Customs user fees.

10 The fourth item, is a technical amendment to the
11 Customs and Trade Act of 1990. The fifth item, is a
12 clarification of fees for certain Customs services. The
13 sixth, is special rule for extending time for filing duty
14 drawback claims.

15 The seventh, is a liquidation/reliquidation of
16 certain entries of color televisions. Number eight, is a
17 temporary duty suspension for personal effects of
18 participants in the 1998 Goodwill Games.

19 Number nine, is another technical correction to the
20 Tariff Act of 1930. Number 10, is a technical correction
21 to a provision in the Uruguay Round Agreements Act.
22 Number 11 deals with imports of civil aircraft parts.
23 Number 12, is a technical correction to a certain
24 chemical description in the Harmonized Tariff Schedule.

25 Number 13, is a marking exception for imported

1 articles in containers, specifically coffee, tea, and
2 spice. The provision on bulk pharmaceuticals has been
3 stricken, due to the fact that this was an item that had
4 come up recently and there was a concern expressed that
5 this had not been vetted.

6 Number 14 deals with tariff treatment of silver,
7 gold, and platinum bars. Number 15, is a duty
8 suspension. This has been modified as well. A temporary
9 duty suspension on certain semi-manufactured forms of
10 gold.

11 Number 16 would eliminate the ITC's East-West Trade
12 Statistics Monitoring System and Report. Number 17
13 covers a retroactive election to reconcile entries,
14 Customs provision.

15 Number 18 deals with the tariff treatment for certain
16 motor vehicles. Number 19, are a variety of technical
17 amendments relating to the Uruguay Round Agreements Act.
18 Number 20, are a number of technical amendments relating
19 to the NAFTA implementing legislation.

20 Number 21 deals with a technical amendment regarding
21 judicial review under the Tariff Act of 1930. Number 22,
22 is a reliquidation of certain entries of warp knitting
23 machines. Number 23, a temporary duty suspension on
24 Dichlorofomopmethyl, a chemical.

25 Number 24, duty elimination on another chemical, 2-

1 Amino-3-chlorobenzoic acid, methyl ester. Number 25, a
2 duty elimination on TAB. Number 26, extension of
3 exemption for certain unliquidated vessel repair entries,
4 the LASH barge provision.

5 Number 27, a change in tariff classifications of
6 certain fireworks. Number 28, personal allowance duty
7 exemption for merchandise purchased in a duty-free sales
8 enterprise, which is the item that Senator Baucus asked
9 about.

10 Number 29, is a duty suspension on motorcycles used
11 in the Sturgis Motorcycle Rally and Races. Number 30, a
12 deferral on duty payment on production equipment admitted
13 into U.S. foreign trade zones.

14 Number 31, a duty suspension on thidiazuron. Number
15 32, a duty suspension on indolenine. Number 33, a duty
16 suspension on a chemical, Bis (4-amino-3-methylcyclohexyl)
17 methane.

18 Senator Moynihan. Very good.

19 [Laughter]

20 Mr. Autor. Number 34, is limitation on eligibility
21 under the GSP program for countries supporting terrorism.
22 Number 35, a temporary duty suspension on certain
23 chemicals used in the formulation of an HIV Protease
24 Inhibitor. Number 36, is treatment of certain entries of
25 buffalo leather under the GSP program.

1 Number 37, processing fees for certain Customs
2 services. Number 38, is a technical correction regarding
3 injury determinations for certain countervailing duty
4 orders. Number 39, is a technical correction with
5 respect to treatment of the difference between
6 collections of estimated antidumping and final assessed
7 duties under an antidumping duty order. Number 40, is a
8 refund of duties on certain lead fuel test assemblies.

9 Number 41. This one is now being modified as a
10 temporary duty suspension on epoxide resins. I am sorry.
11 This is the one that the Chairman had mentioned would be
12 stricken, that a controversy had arisen on this. 42, is
13 a temporary duty suspension on certain injection molding
14 machines. 43, is a reliquidation of certain frozen
15 concentrated orange juice entries. 44, is a
16 reliquidation on certain entries of imported television
17 sets. 45, tariff treatment of certain articles used to
18 provide repair and maintenance services.

19 46, a tariff suspension on inorganic products used as
20 luminophores. 47, reliquidation of certain entries of
21 phospholipids. 48, permits duty-free treatment on parts
22 and components used and imported on the Gemini Telescope
23 Project.

24 49, a similar provision with respect to a radio
25 telescope from the Max Planck Institute in Germany. 50,

1 is the change in tariff classification of certain twine
2 cordage and cables. 51, is a duty suspension on fatty
3 acid esters. And, as the Chairman noted, number 52,
4 Normal Trade Relations has been stricken.

5 In addition to these items, there were a few
6 additional items that came up on short notice that have
7 gone through the vetting process and are being included
8 as a modification, and I will run through these very
9 quickly.

10 The first one, would provide duty-free entry on a
11 mobile bison slaughter unit. The next one, is with
12 respect to tariff treatment of aircraft and aircraft
13 parts and equipment. The next one, is reliquidation of
14 certain entries of live swine.

15 The next one, a reliquidation of certain entries on
16 sewing machines. The next, a temporary duty suspension
17 on a chemical called DEMT, N, n-diethyl-m-toluidine.
18 Next, a temporary duty suspension on textured rolled
19 glass sheets used on stove tops.

20 Then there was a request from the committee that the
21 ITC conduct a Section 332 study on imports of beef.
22 Finally, a technical correction with respect to the
23 competitive need limit waivers under the Generalized
24 System of Preferences.

25 The Chairman. Senator Moseley-Braun.

1 Senator Moseley-Braun. Thank you very much, Mr.
2 Chairman. I had seen the earlier documents with regard
3 to the Chairman's mark, but I had not seen these new
4 additions. Maybe that is my fault; I do not know if we
5 had them. But, in any event, I had not seen this before.

6 I just wanted to ask just a quick question with
7 regard to the Section 332 study on beef imports. This is
8 just Canada and Mexico under the NAFTA, this is not
9 having to do with other countries that might want to
10 import beef into the United States.

11 Mr. Autor. No, I believe it is actually broader
12 than that and would examine the effect of the Uruguay
13 Round Agreements as well as NAFTA.

14 Senator Moseley-Braun. All right. Well, in that
15 case would it in any way touch on the issues that have
16 been taken up in the European Community regarding the
17 transshipment of beef products there?

18 Mr. Autor. My understanding is that it would.

19 Senator Moseley-Braun. It would. Does this report
20 come to us, or to whom is this report going to be given?

21 Mr. Autor. To the committee.

22 Senator Moseley-Braun. To this committee.

23 Mr. Autor. Yes.

24 Senator Moseley-Braun. Is there a time line on it?
25 Oh, 90 days.

1 Mr. Autor. That has been modified to 180 days, at
2 the request of the ITC.

3 Senator Moseley-Braun. Again, maybe some of these
4 questions I can ask you later or talk to my staff, but I
5 come from a largely agricultural State, as you can
6 imagine. Some of the issues, particularly with regard to
7 beef imports, that have been raised in the European
8 Community are still very much on the minds here, and so
9 this is something that I think we would like to be
10 apprised of on any developments in this area.

11 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

12 The Chairman. Thank you.

13 Any other questions or comments?

14 (No response.)

15 The Chairman. If not, I congratulate the staff for
16 the excellent job they have done. With the permission of
17 the committee ----

18 Senator Moynihan. Mr. Chairman?

19 The Chairman. Yes.

20 Senator Moynihan. May I just note, I believe that
21 this is Debbie Lamb's first appearance at the table and
22 we welcome her very much.

23 The Chairman. Yes. I was going to ask if she had
24 any comments she would care to make.

25 Ms. Lamb. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and thank you,

1 Senator Moynihan. On the Minority Staff, we have worked
2 very closely with the Majority Staff in putting this
3 package together and are in full agreement with the
4 decisions that have been made with respect to the
5 Chairman's mark and the supplement to the mark.

6 The Chairman. I would like to express my
7 appreciation for her assistance, wise counseling, and
8 cooperation.

9 With the permission of the committee, we would give
10 the customary authority to make any technical and
11 conforming changes to the legislation language and
12 committee report.

13 Before we conclude, I would just like to say, since
14 time is obviously short, Senator Moynihan and I will seek
15 passage of the bill by unanimous consent. In order to
16 expedite matters, I shall make a statement on the floor
17 today informing the full Senate of the Finance Committee
18 action on this bill, and also place the committee report
19 language in the record rather than formally filing it.

20 We have already been preconferecing with the Ways
21 and Means Committee and the bill, as amended, contains
22 nearly all the provisions that were in the House version.
23 Although we still have a few issues to resolve, I am
24 hopeful that the House will pass this bill by unanimous
25 consent. Again, I appreciate the assistance of everyone

1 to expedite the process.

2 The committee is in recess.

3 [Whereupon, at 10:50 a.m., the meeting was concluded.]

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