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DEAR SECRETARY CLARK, JULY 15, 1997

I AM A 60 YEAR OLD RETIRED CONSTRUCTION WORKER (DISABLED), A COLLEGE GRAD, A U.S. ARMY VETERAN, AND A MEMBER IN HIS COMMUNITY THAT HAS ALWAYS BEEN BULLISH ON AMERICA. I BELIEVE I LIVE IN THE GREATEST COUNTRY IN THE WORLD, HAVING THE OPPORTUNITY ~~TO~~ BOTH SEE + LIVE IN OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD, I BELIEVE IN THE AMERICAN DREAM, THE AMERICAN WAY, AND SIMPLY PUT JUST ABOUT EVERYTHING THIS COUNTRY STANDS FOR. ONE OF THE WAYS I SUPPORT THIS COUNTRY IS TO BUY AMERICAN. I AM, HAVE ALWAYS BEEN, + WILL CONTINUE TO BE, AN INDIVIDUAL WHO LOOKS TO SUPPORT THE AMERICAN WORKER (BOTH UNION + NON-UNION) THROUGH MY PURCHASES OF GOODS MADE IN THE U.S. OF A. I'M NOT WORRIED ABOUT THE WORKER IN SRI LANKA, OR INDONESIA, OR PAKISTAN, OR BANGLADESH, AS MUCH AS THE WORKER IN CHICAGO OR DETROIT, OR SPRINGFIELD, MO., OR DAYTON, OHIO, OR COLUMBIA, S.C., OR N.Y.C. IT IS FOR THIS REASON I BUY AN AMERICAN CAR (PONTIAC BONNEVILLE) + MAKE SURE ALL THE PARTS ARE MADE HERE IN THE U.S. I COULD CARE LESS ABOUT THE AUTO WORKER IN NAGASAKI, JAPAN. LET HIS COUNTRY/GOVERNMENT WORRY ABOUT HIM/HER. I CARE ABOUT + LOOK FOR "MADE IN AMERICA" LABELS.

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I HAVE EDUCATED MY FAMILY, FRIENDS, + ANYONE WHO WILL LISTEN TO ME TO DO THE SAME - LOOK FOR THE "MADE IN AMERICA" LABEL TO ME BY BUYING PRODUCTS WITH THIS LABEL, I AM PROMOTING THE AMERICAN WAY OF LIFE, ONE WITH DIGNITY FOR THE WORKER, A DECENT STANDARD OF LIVING, + PRODUCTS RECOGNIZED FOR ITS "AMERICAN QUALITY". I BUY AMERICAN CARS FOR THIS REASON. I BUY AMERICAN TOOLS FOR THIS REASON. MY LIFE JUST MIGHT DEPEND ON IT (QUALITY) "MADE IN AMERICA" MEANS AN AWFUL GREAT DEAL TO ME - PERHAPS MORE THAN I COULD PUT DOWN IN A FEW PAGES OF THIS LETTER. I DON'T MIND PAYING A FEW DOLLARS MORE FOR A PAIR OF JEANS, AN ARTICLE OF CLOTHING, OR AN ELECTRICAL PRODUCT MADE HERE IN THE U.S., KNOWING IT'S SUPPORTING ANOTHER AMERICAN + HIS/HER AMERICAN FAMILY.

WHY YOU WOULD ALTER THE DEFINITION OF "MADE IN AMERICA" IS BEYOND ME. I'M LIVID AT THE THOUGHT THAT YOU WOULD ALLOW "SUBSTANTIALLY" OR "PARTIALLY" TO CREEP INTO THE PRODUCTS THAT WERE THE STANDARD FOR THE WORLD, BY ALLOWING CORPORATE GREED TO DILUTE THE MOST MEANINGFUL TERM IN INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION, "MADE IN AMERICA." I LOOK FOR THIS LABEL. I AM SURE MILLIONS OF OTHER AMERICANS

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Do ALSO, I'm sure like those other millions who BUY, we also vote. I'm DISGUSTED that my GOVERNMENT, SPECIFICALLY the F.T.C, would even ENTERTAIN the idea of DILUTING the DEFINITION of "MADE IN AMERICA." I'm ANGRY AS HELL that you (the F.T.C.) would allow the "MADE IN AMERICA" LABEL to be CHANGED to MEAN ANYTHING, BUT what it means NOW; BY ITS ACTUAL + IMPLIED DEFINITION. SHAME ON YOU GENTLEMEN, FOR ALLOWING CORPORATE GREED to lead your MINDS + PROSTITUTE your NUTS; will you PEOPLE SAY when there will be HIGHER UNEMPLOYMENT here, MORE HOMELESS PEOPLE, MORE PEOPLE LIVING AT BELOW POVERTY LEVELS, HIGHER DRUGS, CRIME, etc. Will you see NO CONNECTION to your SUPPLICATION for the "MADE IN AMERICA" LABEL? Who will have the MONEY AFTER it is said + done to BUY ALL this, "IMPORTED" JUNK, ESPECIALLY, AFTER these AMERICANS have lost their JOBS? THE IMPLICATIONS of the "RIPPLE EFFECT" ARE ENORMOUS in this ISSUE, I WANT TO THANK YOU FOR READING this letter;



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Sincerely
Arthur Beitz