

TAPE FOR WEEK OF APRIL 14

THIS IS YOUR CONGRESSMAN NICK RAHALL.

IN 1985, THE U.S. TRADE DEFICIT WAS \$148 BILLION. APROXIMATELY ONE THIRD OF THIS DEFICIT WAS ACCOUNTED FOR IN OUR TRADE WITH JAPAN. ONE OF THE MAJOR CAUSES OF THIS DEFICIT IS THE CONTINUED AND AGGRESSIVE EXPORTING OF STEEL PRODUCTS INTO THIS COUNTRY BY THE JAPANESE.

IN 1983, THE JAPANESE AGREED TO MAINTAIN PURCHASES OF U.S. METALLURGICAL COAL AS THEIR STEEL PRODUCTION INCREASED. WELL, THEIR PRODUCTION IS BOOMING YET THEIR PURCHASES OF U.S. COAL CONTINUES TO DECLINE.

I HAVE TAKEN STEPS TO ALLEVIATE THIS INDISCRETION BY INTRODUCING A BILL TO DIRECT THAT AN ENFORCEABLE AGREEMENT BE NEGOTIATED WITH JAPAN WHICH WILL FORCE THEM TO IMPORT U.S. COAL IN QUANTITIES EQUIVALENT TO THAT USED IN THE PRODUCTION OF JAPANESE STEEL EXPORTED TO THE U.S.

IF THE JAPANESE VALUE THEIR EXPORTS OF STEEL TO THE U.S., THEN THEY SHOULD PLACE EQUAL VALUE ON U.S. METALLURGICAL COAL EXPORTS TO JAPAN. I INTEND TO HELP THEM MAKE THIS CHOICE.

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