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Last Updated: 08/30/2023

**EXCLUDE AUTOMATED IDENTIFICATION SYSTEMS (AIS)
FROM SECTION 301 TARIFF**

On Monday, April 13, the U.S. Trade Representative held Section 301 tariff hearing to determine whether a 100% tariff increase should be imposed on certain Japanese electronic goods valued at \$300 million. One of the items affected by the proposed tariff is the Automated Identification Systems ("AIS"), a state-of-the-art criminal identification system supplied by NEC Corporation through its U.S. subsidiary, NEC Information Systems, Inc. The imposition of this added tariff on AIS would effectively preclude U.S. law enforcement agencies from employing this unique technology, thereby undermining public safety. President Reagan is expected to announce the final decision on these tariffs on Friday, April 17, 1987.

Currently, \$100 million of NEC's AIS hardware is being used by numerous law enforcement agencies in the U.S. to make criminal identifications within seconds that were impossible prior to this technology. In addition to fingerprint identification, AIS will soon be capable of high speed sorting and comparison of hundreds of thousands of mug shots and rap sheets. NEC's system is based on unique proprietary technology which cannot be duplicated by any company in the world. NEC's superiority in this field is demonstrated by the fact that users purchase the NEC system despite its higher cost. The only other suppliers in the U.S. are subsidiaries of foreign companies.

While the tariffs would make it essentially impossible for NEC to continue shipping AIS systems to the U.S., the total amount of AIS components covered by the tariff is only a small percentage of the total \$2 billion exported to the United States by Japan. As such, excluding AIS from the tariff would not significantly diminish the effect of the sanctions.

The imposition of the 100% tariff on AIS would result in the following:

- o Criminals who would otherwise be apprehended using AIS will remain at large.
- o Law enforcement agencies will be forced to turn to inferior products from alternative suppliers. Those agencies with NEC equipment will be unable to upgrade because the inferior products are not compatible with AIS. Reconversion to alternative systems will result in exorbitant costs to taxpayers.
- o The law enforcement agencies (Illinois, Virginia, St. Louis, Missouri) that have recently decided to purchase NEC equipment will be required to begin the procurement process anew, thus delaying by several years the installation of any AIS.
- o The envisioned nationwide criminal identification system linking federal, state and local agencies through the AIS technology will be impossible.

NEC**NEC Information Systems, Inc.****AFIS CUSTOMER REFERENCE LIST**

<u>CUSTOMER</u>	<u>CONTACT NAME</u>	<u>PHONE</u>
San Francisco Police Department 850 Bryant Street San Francisco, CA 94103	Capt. Henry Eidler Sgt. Ken Moses	415-553-1242
Alaska State Troopers 450 Whittier Janeau, AK 99801	Dep. Commissioner James D. Vaden	907-465-4322
Department of Justice State of California 4949 Broadway Sacramento, CA 95820	Mr. Tony Doonan	916-739-5644
Calgary Police Service 316 7th Avenue, SE Calgary, Alberta Canada T2G OJ2	Mr. Ken Collier	403-365-3300
Australia New South Wales Police Department Remington Building 12th Floor 196 Liverpool Street Sydney 2000	Mr. Malcolm Bell	02-219-3245 Ext. 3245
Milwaukee Police Department City Hall, Room 607 200 East Wells Street Milwaukee, WI 53202	Mr. Joseph Slawinski	414-935-7283
Chicago Police Department 1121 S. State Street Chicago, IL 60605	Lt. John Burzinski	312-774-8310
Massachusetts State Police 1010 Commonwealth Avenue Boston, MA 02215	Sgt. William Anderson	617-566-4500
Regional Justice Information Service 4255 West Pine Boulevard St. Louis, MO 63108	Ms. Patty Medley	314-535-1950

NEC

NEC Information Systems, Inc.

AFIS CUSTOMER REFERENCE LIST

<u>CUSTOMER</u>	<u>CONTACT NAME</u>	<u>PHONE</u>
Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department 211 West Temple Street, Room 304 Los Angeles, CA 90012	Lt. Frank Woodall	213-974-0151
Los Angeles Police Department 150 N. Los Angeles Street Los Angeles, CA 90012	Mr. Joseph P. Bonino	213-485-2601
Orange County Sheriff's Department 550 North Flower Street Santa Ana, CA 92702	Mr. Frank Fitzpatrick	714-834-3073
San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department 115 West Court Street San Bernardino, CA 92401	Lt. Jim Cox	714-387-6495
County of Alameda Sheriff's Department Central ID Bureau Police Administration Building 455 Seventh Street Room 313 Oakland, CA 94607	Lt. D. G. Schueller	415-874-5844
Illinois State Police 108 Armory Building Division of Forensic Service & ID Springfield, IL 62706	Deputy Superintendent Joseph E. Ginter	217-785-5796
Suffolk County Police Department Yaphank Avenue Yaphank, NY 11980	Det/Sgt. Larry Rooney	516-286-5487
Washington State Patrol 3310 Capital Boulevard Criminal Records Division Olympia, WA 98504-6502	Capt. William G. Keller	206-753-6858

NEC

NEC Information Systems, Inc.

AFIS CUSTOMER REFERENCE LIST

<u>CUSTOMER</u>	<u>CONTACT NAME</u>	<u>PHONE</u>
VA Department Criminal Justice 101 North 14th Street Department Information Technology Richmond, VA 23219	Ms. Elaine Zacharias	804-225-2442

TSUS Item No.

Article

Calculation machines; accounting machines, cash registers, postage-franking machines, ticket-issuing machines, and similar machines, all the foregoing incorporating a calculating mechanism:

Accounting, computing and other data processing machines

676.25 pt. . . .

Having a calculating mechanism accommodating words of 16 bit to 63 bit in length (except automated systems specifically designed for law enforcement identification purposes)

Office machines not specifically provided for:

Data processing machines:

Display units:

[with monochrome CRT; with color CRT]

676.3046

Other (except components destined solely for use in automated systems specifically designed for law enforcement identification purposes)

Disc drive units:

676.3055

Hard magnetic disc drives (except components destined solely for use in automated systems specifically designed for law enforcement identification purposes)

Taking a Byte out of Crime

Police hail computer system that cracked the Night Stalker case

Three minutes after California's new automated fingerprint identification system received its first assignment, the crime-stopping computer scored a direct hit. It matched a print lifted from an orange Toyota in Los Angeles to one taken from a 25-year-old drifter with a record of drug and auto-theft arrests. Two days later Richard Ramirez was caught and charged with one of 15 murders attributed to the Night Stalker, the serial killer who

Fingerprints can prove that a particular suspect was at the scene of a crime, but when investigators have only prints and no suspect, the odds of finding a match are greatly reduced. Los Angeles police estimate that it would have taken a single expert searching manually through the city's 1.7 million print cards 67 years to come up with Richard Ramirez's prints. "Frankly speaking," says Commander Bill Rathburn, "most of the dusting for



Digitized fingerprint shows key points where ridges stop or split in two

had been terrorizing the city for the past seven months.

The speedy identification of Ramirez was the latest and most dramatic example of a technique that has police officials across the U.S. clamoring for fingerprint computers of their own. Says Brooklyn District Attorney Elizabeth Holtzman: "It could revolutionize law enforcement in a way that no other technology has since radios were put in patrol cars."



Richard Ramirez

Fingerprint identification of criminals has been routine since the turn of the century, when Scotland Yard pioneered its systematic use. Computers were brought into the process in 1976, when the FBI began converting some 17 million prints to digital form. Today, every armchair detective knows better than to pick up a gun by its handle, lest he obliterate fingerprints that could identify the killer.

But real policemen know that they rarely get good prints from a handgun and that any they do find are often useless.

prints we do is for public relations purposes, to show people that we're doing something to pursue the criminal."

The problem is that it takes too long to pick out the intricate patterns of ridges that distinguish one person's fingertips from the millions on file. Before computers, these patterns were classified into eight categories of arches, loops and whorls. To speed up

the search, the FBI's system concentrates on simpler patterns: the so-called points of minutiae, where a ridge line ends or a single ridge splits into two. A thin beam of light scans each print and records the location of up to 100 minutiae. The computer then converts these data into numbers that can be stored on magnetic disks and retrieved for comparison with prints taken from the scene of a crime.

This method has scored some dazzling successes over the years. The Royal Canadian Mounted Police, for example, used it to trace prints from a box of pizza to a pro-

fessional hit man who had gunned down target while posing as a delivery boy. But some police complain that their computers are too slow and too undependable for routine police work. A typical computer search of the files can take more than six seconds per fingerprint and often overlooks prints that are even slightly smudged.

The computer that cracked the Night Stalker case was designed by the Nippo Electric Co. to overcome these deficiencies. It combines high-speed, custom-made silicon chips with a new technique for analyzing points of minutiae. Besides plotting each point, the computer also counts the number of ridge lines between that point and its four nearest neighbors. If two minutiae points are separated by eight ridge lines in a pristine print, chances are they will be separated by the roughly same number of lines in a print that has been distorted or blurred. The system's designers were certain that this extra measure would result in dramatic improvements in performance.

They were right. The city of San Francisco started using a NEC fingerprint system in 1984 and almost immediately began picking up prints that previous searches had missed. Flipping through 650 prints a second, the new computer took only seven minutes to identify a man who had fatally shot a 47-year-old woman during a 1978 robbery attempt. In its first four days of operation, the system cracked 34 unsolved cases. News of the computer's remarkable performance traveled quickly. One month later, NEC sold a second system to the state of Alaska, and eight months after that, California decided to scrap its existing system in favor of one built by NEC.

In the Night Stalker case, technicians in Sacramento were still loading records from the old system into the new when the suspect print was lifted from an automobile linked to the killer. At the urgent request of police, four NEC programmers worked all night to finish the job. The following day, after the fingerprint had been scanned and digitized, the computer compared it with 380,000 stored in its memory and spit out the names of the ten people whose prints most closely resembled it. At the top of the list, with a probability rating four times as high as that of the nearest contender, was Ramirez. Says Elton Johnson, NEC's West Coast manager: "We knew immediately that we had our man."

Los Angeles police, eyeing their roster of unsolved crimes—4,350 murders, 2,500 rapes, 20,000 burglaries—cannot wait to plug these cases into the state's new system. Other California lawmen share their enthusiasm. "There are a lot of people walking the streets out there who think they're home free," says Orange County Lieut. Richard Olson. "Once we get these computer systems working together, they're going to be in for a surprise." —By Philip Elmer-De Witt. Reported by Anne Constable/Washington and Dan Goodgame/Los Angeles

JOHN K. VAN DE KAMP
Attorney General

State of California
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE



P.O. BOX 903281
SACRAMENTO, CA 94203-2810
(916) 739-5241

April 8, 1987

The Honorable Edwin Meese III
Attorney General of the United States
United States Department of Justice
10th and Constitution Avenue N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20530

Dear Attorney General Meese:

On April 13, 1987, the Section 301 Committee will be meeting to consider the imposition of tariff sanctions against selected Japanese products currently being exported to the United States. While the imposition of sanctions pursuant to Section 301(b) is an appropriate means of addressing the trade imbalance between the United States and Japan, cause exists for exempting certain items.

Of immediate concern to law enforcement throughout California and the United States are computer systems that operate specifically in the interest of public safety.


In California, one such system is the California Identification (Cal-ID) System, an Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS) that is experiencing tremendous success in the identification of latent fingerprints recovered from crime scenes. Imposition of the proposed tariffs will have a deleterious effect on law enforcement's ability to install and maintain advanced technology such as Cal-ID.

I am sending Fred Wynbrandt of my staff to testify before the Section 301 Committee and urge them to exempt law enforcement contracts in favor of recreational products such as televisions and stereos. I believe this to be a responsible approach that will avoid negative impact on the U.S. consumer and taxpayer.

As Attorney General of the United States, your support for this position will have significant impact on the recommendations the Section 301 Committee makes to President Reagan.

Very truly yours,

JOHN K. VAN DE KAMP
Attorney General


G. W. CLEMONS, Director

STATEMENT OF FRED H. WYMBRANDT
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, CRIMINAL IDENTIFICATION AND INFORMATION BRANCH
CALIFORNIA ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE
BEFORE THE OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

APRIL 13, 1987

REGARDING: 301 COMMITTEE - TRADE IMBALANCE BETWEEN UNITED STATES AND JAPAN

Mr. Chairman, members of the committee, I am pleased to appear here today on behalf of the California Attorney General's Office. Under the leadership of Attorney General John K. Van de Kamp, I am responsible for the operations of the Division of Law Enforcement's Criminal Identification and Information Branch. Consisting of three separate bureaus -- Bureau of Criminal Identification -- Bureau of Justice Information services -- and Bureau of Criminal Statistics and Special Services -- this branch maintains and operates the California Criminal Justice Information System. This includes, but is not limited to, the maintenance of automated/nonautomated files on criminal history, wanted persons, vehicles, firearms, and dangerous weapons as well as a field training program, an audit program, and statistical reports on crime, delinquency, and the criminal justice system.

At this time, I would like to share with you some detailed information about the Bureau of Criminal Identification within the Criminal Identification and Information Branch, briefly describing the services they provide, how they are utilized and the importance of their continued development.

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The Bureau of Criminal Identification maintains an applicant and criminal history record system that contains over 7.6 million subjects. The Department receives and process approximately 800,000 criminal fingerprint cards per year and approximately 500,000 applicant fingerprint cards.

A part of this record keeping system is the Master Name Index. The Master Name Index is an automated on-line file that contains the personal description records for all subjects on file in the Bureau of Criminal Identification. The Master Name Index will indicate whether these records are maintained manually or in the Automated Criminal History System.

The Automated Criminal History System is a centralized, automated system designed to provide authorized criminal justice agencies on-line access to automated criminal offender and applicant record information from the Bureau of Criminal Identification automated files. The automated files are comprised of 2.2 million records established primarily for offenders and applicants with activity after 1973.

The Automated Criminal History System is part of the Criminal Justice Information System and through the California Law Enforcement Telecommunications System is accessed 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, from 4,500 computer terminals throughout California. The bureau responds to approximately 34,000 inquiries per day.

The bureau also maintains the record review program which provides the opportunity for an individual to review their own record.

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The most common and reliable method of identification used by the criminal justice system is fingerprints. Additionally, fingerprints are the most commonly retrieved item of physical evidence found at crime scenes.

To enhance and streamline its fingerprint file, the California Department of Justice, in December 1984, signed a multi-million dollar contract with a Japanese firm to purchase and install a large-scale Automated Fingerprint Identification System.

The Automated Fingerprint Identification System stores the fingerprint ridge characteristics (minutiae) data from two fingers of 5.0 million persons with dates of birth in 1940 and later. This data base of minutiae is used to conduct fingerprint searches for licensing and recordkeeping purposes. Besides the minutiae data, the Automated Fingerprint Identification System data base contains sex and date of birth information. The Automated Fingerprint Identification System is 96-100% accurate (i.e., if 100 searches are performed with the knowledge that all 100 subjects are in the data base, 96 - 100 will be identified), exceeding the accuracy rate of the current manual system by 25-30%.

The new California Identification System's Automated Latent Print System stores the minutiae data from eight fingers (omitting the little fingers of both hands) of 1.5 million known criminal offenders and is used to conduct latent fingerprint "cold searches" with no known suspects. The Automated Latent Print System has the capability to search individual and partial latent prints with at least 70% accuracy. The Automated Latent Print System will be capable of processing 50,000 latent cases each year, or about one search every five minutes.

The Digital Image Retrieval System is used in conjunction with the two previously described systems. The purpose of the image system is to store and retrieve and display on a screen the electronic image of fingerprints contained in the Automated Fingerprint Identification System and the Automated Latent Print System data bases.

This makes it possible for fingerprint examiners to visually compare the fingerprints of the searched print to the fingerprints of the person selected as possible matches by the Automated Fingerprint Identification System or Automated Latent Print System; and to confirm the identity of persons tentatively identified as a result of a name search. These comparisons are possible without inspecting the actual fingerprint cards. Without the fingerprint images in the Digital Image Retrieval System, it would not be possible for the California Identification System to feature remote access.

The fourth system component, the Remote Access Network, will provide sheriffs and police departments with the capability to access the state data base from their local jurisdiction to conduct fingerprint searches, latent "cold searches", and retrieve images.

Implementation of the California Identification System has improved service by increasing the accuracy of fingerprint searches, reducing the response time for identification requests, expanding the latent print "cold search" service to all

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California counties, and brought about operational savings through a reduction in Department of Justice personnel. Some of the current and anticipated benefits of the California Identification System are:

- Since fewer people will be needed to process routine fingerprint requests, the state will be able to reduce personnel and save almost \$2 million per year.
- The searching capability of the Automated Fingerprint Identification System will provide for a more thorough and detailed search of the fingerprints on file in the data base. Accuracy will improve by approximately 25%.
- The latent print "cold search" capability will be expanded to all California counties.
- Expansion of the latent print "cold search" service to the entire state and more than tripling the size of the data base (impossible with the current system) will result in a higher hit rate. The Department of Justice estimates that more than 7,500 additional criminals will be identified by the California Identification System's Automated Latent Print System each year than with the existing system.
- The current automated "cold search" latent print system shows that many of the burglars/thieves are identified and arrested before they can dispose of the stolen property. The California Identification System will increase the

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number of criminals identified and arrested with the stolen property still in their possession. Therefore, the amount of stolen property recovered and returned to its rightful owner will increase.

- Since most crimes are committed by a relatively small number of persons, the rapid identification, arrest, and incarceration of these individuals will benefit citizens and enhance public safety. Criminals cannot continue to commit crimes against the general population while they are in jail.

A number of local jurisdictions have purchased additional equipment pursuant to the master state contract. The result is that by June 30, 1988, the combined statewide investment will be in excess of \$40 million. This sophisticated network has been designed to support a statewide Criminal History System and to identify thousands of latent fingerprints annually to resolve crimes which may have otherwise remained unsolved.

The California Identification System has, to date, identified over 2,000 latent fingerprints, many of which were in homicide and rape cases spanning several years and with multiple victims.

While we recognize that the imposition of tariffs may be a desirable method of addressing the trade imbalance between the United States and Japan, we firmly believe that those tariffs should be restricted to recreational products (e.g., televisions, stereos, personal computers). Long-term contracts to provide and support law enforcement systems, such as the Automated Fingerprint

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Identification System, which is currently underway, should be exempt from the increased tariff. We feel the financial and operational impact of such tariffs will have an adverse effect upon the contracting agency as well as the general public.

For example, the Automated Fingerprint Identification System technology is specialized so that no two systems are compatible. Thus, the software and hardware maintenance must be provided by the contracting vendor.

Accordingly, the imposition of the proposed tariff on the major components of the system as described in TSUS or TSUSA items 676.15 pt., 676.3046, and 676.3055, could make it difficult or impossible for law enforcement agencies to protect their investment, either because the cost of an effective maintenance program would be too high or because the supplying vendor could no longer afford to support current installations since the broader market would be denied to them.

The operational impact of such tariffs would be a marked deterioration in the system over time by:

- 1) reduction in the number of crimes solved throughout the state due to the financial burden of maintaining established systems, and
- 2) requiring that planning be based on cost rather than performance standards.

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The cost of system replacement would be millions of dollars over and above a normal equipment replacement schedule and would result in tremendous backlogs and inefficiencies during the transitional period.

Since these systems are usually obtained through a competitive bid process, the imposition of prohibitive tariffs would have the net effect of reducing competition and denying government and law enforcement the full advantage of the competitive bid process and the full range of alternatives it offers. This would degrade law enforcement's ability to provide efficient and cost effective service to the public.

In light of the foregoing, on behalf of law enforcement throughout California and the nation, I strongly urge that you concentrate the proposed sanction on recreational products and exempt law enforcement programs. Such actions will surely satisfy the intent of the sanctions and, at the same time, avoid a negative impact on law enforcement, public safety, and the taxpayer.

STATE OF ALASKA

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

STEVE COWPER, GOVERNOR

P.O. BOX N
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811-1200
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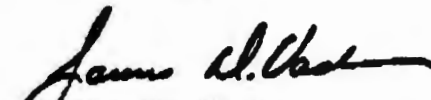
April 9, 1987

Ms. Carolyn Frank
Office of the U.S. Trade
Representative
600 17th Street, N.W.
Room 521
Washington, DC 20506

Dear Ms. Frank:

Enclosed are twenty copies of the testimony I intend to present orally to the Section 301 Committee on Monday, April 13, 1987.

Sincerely,


James D. Vaden
Deputy Commissioner

POSITION ON TRADE SANCTIONS
BEFORE
UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVES
SECTION 301 COMMITTEE

APRIL 13, 1987

Presented by

James D. Vaden
Deputy Commissioner
Department of Public Safety
State of Alaska
450 Whittier Street
Juneau, Alaska 99811
(907) 465-4322

Mr. Chairman. Honorable members of the Section 301 Committee:

My name, for the record, is James D. Vaden. I am presently employed as the Deputy Commissioner of the Alaska Department of Public Safety. The primary responsibility of this Department is to provide law enforcement services for the protection of our residents, visitors and our abundant fish, game and natural resources.

I am here today to request that trade sanctions not be invoked against NEC's Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS).

Major components of these systems are currently under consideration for sanction. These articles include TSUS item numbers 676.15pt processors, 676.3046 display units, and 676.3055 hard magnetic disc drives. Without these components, the AFIS functions could not be performed.

I would like to speak with you, both as a police officer and as an administrator.

I have been a commissioned officer for nearly 24 years. For 21 of those years, I was active in providing direct law enforcement services. These included patrol and investigative responsibilities.

I, along with most other law enforcement officers, knew that we, in most cases, had to identify a suspect before latent prints were useful. To search our manual records would have been like looking for the proverbial "needle in a haystack."

In the past three years, utilizing Alaska's Automated Fingerprint System, law enforcement in Alaska has solved more cases, without suspects, through the use of fingerprints than occurred during my 21 active years as an officer.

Officers describe it as magic.

Actually, it is one of the most advanced aids in criminal identification in this century.

Our system has been used to identify latents found during the investigations of the multiple homicides near Seattle. The Green River Task Force as well as other agencies have successfully identified latent prints using our system.

Recently, we were asked by the FBI to assist in identifying latents believed to have been left by a suspect in the murder of a Drug Enforcement Agent's wife.

Loss of these devices would have a crippling effect on law enforcement throughout the United States at all levels, thus adversely impacting the safety and security of our citizens.

Now I would like to speak with you as an administrator of a public agency.

I was fortunate to have the opportunity to compare the AFIS systems being marketed prior to making a selection for Alaska.

The systems I have viewed and tested include:

FOCUS:

A system developed for the New Scotland Yard by a British company. Logica Limited.

DE LA RUE PRINTRAK

An English firm that purchased the original concept and software from Rockwell International.

MORPHO INDUSTRIES:

A French system that is new to U.S. marketing; to the best of my knowledge, they have no systems operating in law enforcement agencies in the United States.

NECIS:

The parent company is NEC in Japan. The original design work was done for the Japanese National Police Agency.

When Alaska received its appropriation for a system, only one

AFIS system was, for the most part, being sold. That company offered Alaska a system for \$2.8 million.

NEC entered the market and that company had to bid competitively for Alaska's business. Their proposal contained a price tag of \$1.2 million to deliver primarily the same system previously priced at \$2.8 million.

I have personally participated in benchmarking and reviewing testing results from these companies. I can assure this Committee that the most accurate system on the market is NEC's.

The more accurate the system, the more criminals will be identified and removed from society by law enforcement. As a side benefit, fewer employees are needed by the governmental agency to verify prints against candidate lists. This provides a double benefit to the public.

In today's real world, Logica is not selling AFIS software and is not a viable candidate for the U.S. market.

Of the other two companies, only De La Rue Printrak can presently compete. No one knows if Morpho will become a serious contender in the future.

This competition has caused tremendous improvements in the systems being marketed, while driving the price down. These companies are very competitive, at present, in their proposals.

It would be adverse to public interest to eliminate competition in this small public market. Without competition, the only choice would be an expensive sole source system that is not the most accurate, with no incentive to the manufacturer to continue to improve his product.

Finally, I would like to discuss those public agencies who have invested in NEC Automated Fingerprint systems.

If the sanctions are imposed, are the maintenance contracts going to double as NEC passes these additional costs on to their customers? Will it be viable for NEC to continue maintenance?

What are the governmental agencies to do if they want to enhance their NEC Fingerprint systems in the future?

This is a new technology. We are still on the bottom step with a long staircase in front of us. Alaska's innovative enhancements of AFIS in 1984 have been surpassed by every other system sold in the last three years.

If these sanctions are applied, we could find ourselves not only buying a totally new system, but being forced to rebuild data files by converting hard copy records. This is both time consuming and expensive. It would be an unfortunate and unnecessary waste of our tax dollars.

In my opinion, a sanction of Automated Fingerprints Systems' components of these TSUS items, without exception, would not be in the public's or law enforcement's interest.

At present, and perhaps forever, you would give a monopoly to an English company who previously sold these systems at a much higher cost to governmental agencies. In fact, the cost was so high, most jurisdictions could not afford them.

I would request that the members of this Committee exclude NEC's Automated Fingerprint Identification System components from any sanction. I feel this would be in the public's best interest.

I thank each of you for your attention and I would be pleased to answer any questions.



CITY HALL
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(213) 485-3311

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

TOM BRADLEY
MAYOR

TESTIMONY

ON

100% U. S. CUSTOMS TARIFF

U. S. - JAPAN SEMICONDUCTOR ARRANGEMENT

BEFORE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

SECTION 301 COMMITTEE PUBLIC HEARING

April 13, 1987
Washington, D. C.

Submitted by

Rose Ochi
Executive Assistant to the Mayor
Director of Criminal Justice Planning Office
City of Los Angeles
Los Angeles, California

Testimony - U. S. Japan Semiconductor Arrangement

THANK YOU FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT ON THE PROPOSED TARIFF'S IMPACT ON THE NEC AUTOMATED FINGERPRINT IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM.

I AM ROSE OCHI, DIRECTOR OF THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE PLANNING OFFICE FOR THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES. I HAVE BEEN INVOLVED IN THE FIELD OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE FOR WELL OVER FOURTEEN YEARS. IN ALL OF MY YEARS, I HAVE NEVER ENCOUNTERED ANYTHING THAT REPRESENTS SUCH A MAJOR BREAKTHROUGH IN SOLVING CRIMES AS THE NEC AUTOMATED FINGERPRINT IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM. IT WILL REVOLUTIONIZE CRIME FIGHTING IN THIS COUNTRY. IN A FEW DAYS, THE LOS ANGELES SYSTEM WILL BECOME OPERATIONAL. LAW ENFORCEMENT, PUBLIC OFFICIALS, AND CITIZENS ARE ALL ANXIOUSLY AWAITING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS TERRIFIC TOOL TO CRIME FIGHTING.

DESPITE FACING A TIGHT BUDGET SITUATION, THE CITY SQUEEZED OUT OVER \$6 MILLION DOLLARS TO ACQUIRE THIS INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGY. DURING AN ERA OF DECLINING REVENUES, THIS REPRESENTS A HEALTHY CHUNK IN OUR BUDGET. YET, BALANCED AGAINST THE ANTICIPATED BENEFITS, WE DECIDED TO BUY THIS COST-EFFECTIVE EQUIPMENT TO HELP THE POLICE IN MAKING OUR COMMUNITY A SAFER PLACE TO LIVE. WE HAVE HIGH EXPECTATION THAT WE WILL SOON BE PUTTING MASSIVE NUMBERS OF CRIMINALS BEHIND BARS.

NOW, THE PROPOSED 100% TARIFF ON JAPANESE ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS STANDS TO JEOPARDIZE OUR INVESTMENT MADE IN AFIS AND, ULTIMATELY, CAN UNDERMINE ITS OPERATION, MAINTENANCE AND ENHANCEMENT. THE CITY WILL SUFFER A

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SUBSTANTIAL FINANCIAL LOSS, BUT THE MORE SIGNIFICANT CONCERN IS THAT THE PROMISE OF IMPROVED CRIME SOLVING, SO DESPERATELY NEEDED, MAY BECOME SHORT-LIVED. THE IMPOSITION OF A 100% DUTY WOULD BRING OUR BELEAGURED POLICE TO THE KNEES IN THEIR EFFORTS TO TURN BACK THE TIDE OF CRIME FLOODING OUR COMMUNITIES.

THIS IS NOT A PRESCRIPTION FOR EFFICIENT AND GOOD GOVERNMENT. IT IS INSTEAD A PRESCRIPTION FOR URBAN DECAY WITH A POTENTIAL FOR GRAVE NATIONAL CONSEQUENCES.

WE URGE THAT THE 100% TARIFF NOT APPLY TO NEC AFIS FOR PUBLIC SAFETY REASONS. THE SYSTEM IS VITAL TO LAW ENFORCEMENT FUNCTIONS AND THE WELFARE OF OUR CITIZENS.

AS YOU ARE WELL AWARE, LOS ANGELES, LIKE ALL MAJOR URBAN CENTERS, SUFFERS FROM A CRIME PROBLEM OF HORRENDOUS PROPORTIONS. IN THE PAST FEW YEARS, THE MAJOR FEDERAL DRUG INTERDICTION OPERATIONS IN FLORIDA HAVE DISRUPTED DRUG SMUGGLING LINES. THE TIDE OF COCAINE TRAFFICKING HAS SHIFTED TO ROUTES THROUGH MEXICO TO LOS ANGELES.

THERE CAN BE NO DOUBT THAT WE ARE FACING THE MOST SERIOUS DRUG AND CRIME EPIDEMIC IN OUR HISTORY- A CRISIS THAT POSES A CLEAR AND PRESENT DANGER TO FUTURE GENERATIONS.

THE NEC AUTOMATED FINGERPRINT IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM PROVIDES POLICE WITH AN EFFECTIVE INVESTIGATIVE TOOL TO COUNTERACT THE GROWING CRIME PROBLEM. AFIS GUARANTEES SPEED AND ACCURACY IN SOLVING CRIMES; BEFORE

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THE COMING OF THIS ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY, MOST OF WHICH WOULD HAVE GONE UNSOLVED. THIS IS THE MOST SINGULARLY SIGNIFICANT TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT IN LAW ENFORCEMENT IN ALL OF HISTORY.

AFIS SYSTEM TECHNOLOGY

HOW DOES THE SYSTEM WORK? WHAT MAKES IT SO REVOLUTIONARY?

NEC'S LATEST COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY BRINGS TOGETHER A MARRIAGE OF MATH AND MOTHER NATURE WHICH MAKES IT POSSIBLE FOR AN ELECTRONIC BRAIN TO COMPARE ONE FINGERPRINT WITH MILLIONS OF OTHERS AND COME UP WITH A MATCH IN SECONDS.

RECENTLY TWO COLLEGE STUDENTS WERE BRUTALLY EXECUTED GANG-LAND STYLE. FINGERPRINTS WERE LEFT AT THE SCENE OF THE CRIME. IT TOOK ONLY TEN MINUTES FOR THE CAL-ID NEC SYSTEM TO IDENTIFY THE SUSPECTS AT 5:30p.m. AND BY 10:30p.m. THAT SAME NIGHT FOUR "BAD GUYS" WERE IN JAIL. WITHOUT AN AFIS THE CASE PROBABLY WOULD HAVE REMAINED UNSOLVED.

AT THOUSANDS OF CRIME SCENES FINGERPRINTS ARE TAKEN BUT FEW LEAD DETECTIVES TO SUSPECTED KILERS, RAPIST OR THIEVES BECAUSE OF THE IMPOSSIBLE TASK OF COMPARING THEM AGAINST MILLIONS OF FINGERPRINT CARDS ON FILE.

COLD MAKES-LATENT SEARCHES WITH NO SUSPECTS, AND NO OTHER EVIDENCE-BATTLE IMPROBABLE ODDS, DEVOUR INCREDIBLE MAN-HOURS, AND ARE, FOR THE

-4-

MOST PART, FUTILE. IT IS LIKEN TO TRYING " TO FIND A NEEDLE IN THE PROVERBIAL HAYSTACK." A DETECTIVE TRYING TO UNRAVEL A SINGLE-PRINT CLUE CONFRONTS ROWS OF FILING CABINETS CONTAINING 1.7 MILLION FINGERPRINTS. MANUALLY SEARCHING THE FILE WOULD TAKE 67 YEARS AND YIELD LITTLE.

BEFORE NEC CORPORATION DESIGNED THE AFIS FOR THE NATIONAL POLICE AGENCY ABOUT TEN YEARS AGO. FINGERPRINT TECHNOLOGY UNDERWENT LITTLE CHANGE FOR OVER EIGHTY YEARS. THEN THE TECHNOLOGY FOR LIFTING PRINTS FROM THE CRIME SCENE AND THE AFIS TECHNOLOGY TOOK QUANTUM LEAPS.

WHAT MAKES THE NEC SYSTEM SO REVOLUTIONARY AND SO ACCURATE IS THE ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY FOR MAPPING THE MINUTIAE OF FINGERPRINTS AND FOR CONVERTING THAT DATA INTO THE SOPHISTICATED BINARY ALGORITHM THAT COMPARES A GIVEN LATENT PRINT TO THOSE IN THE DATA BASE.

WHILE EACH FINGERPRINT IS UNIQUE, IT IS ALSO VERY MUCH ALIKE- OFTEN CLOSE TO IDENTICAL TO THOUSANDS OF OTHERS. OLDER SYSTEMS LACKED THE CAPABILITY TO DISCRIMINATE FINELY ENOUGH AMONG PRINTS.

ACCURACY OF MATCHING LATENT PRINTS

NO FEATURE OF AN AFIS IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN ACCURACY. THE REAL TEST OF ANY SYSTEM LIES IN ITS PERFORMANCE ON LATENT FINGERPRINT SEARCHES.

BASED ON BENCHMARK TESTS CONDUCTED TO-DATE, WHEREIN A TEST SET OF

-5-

LATENTS IS SEARCHED ON EACH OF THE COMPETING SYSTEMS, NEC CLEARLY HAD THE EDGE ON ACCURACY OVER ALL SYSTEMS CURRENTLY ON-LINE BY MORE THAN THREE TO TWO TIMES OVER ITS COMPETITORS. THE AFIS HAS CONSISTENTLY DEMONSTRATED THAT ITS ADVANCE TECHNOLOGY IS ON THE CUTTING EDGE OF DEVELOPMENT. FOR CRIME INVESTIGATION PURPOSES ACCURACY IS ESSENTIAL.

CRIME-SOLVING ANTICIPATED RESULTS

ALTHOUGH POLICE MAY HAVE FINGERPRINT EVIDENCE FROM MANY CRIMES, UNLESS THERE ARE OTHER LEADS, THEY HAVE NO WAY OF NABBING SUSPECTS.

SINCE 1979, THE CITY HAD AN AVERAGE OF 336 UNSOLVED MURDERS ANNUALLY. THE AFIS IS EXPECTED TO PRODUCE DRAMATIC DECREASE IN THIS FIGURE.

RAMIREZ, A SUSPECT IN OVER TEN SERIAL MURDERS IS NOW ON TRAIL. THANKS TO AFIS HE WAS CAUGHT. IT IS POSSIBLE THAT IF WE HAD THE SYSTEM JUST A YEAR AGO, TEN HOMICIDES MAY HAVE BEEN PREVENTED.

AT THE PRESENT TIME, LAPD IS CLEARING APPROXIMATELY 16% OF REPORTED CRIMES. THIS CLEARANCE RATE CAN BE EXPECTED TO IMPROVE BY ABOUT 50% WITH THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AFIS.

IT IS ESTIMATED THAT LATENT PRINT EVIDENCE CAN BE RECOVERED AT ABOUT 40% OF ALL CRIME SCENES. BASED ON THE SAN FRANCISCO POLICE

-6-

DEPARTMENT'S EXPERIENCE, WITH THE AFIS, UP TO 20% OF ALL LATENT PRINTS LIFTED COULD BE LINKED TO A SUSPECT. THIS WILL PHENOMENALLY RAISE CLEARANCE RATES FOR CRIMES.

CURRENTLY, THE LAPD HAS IN FILE ABOUT 75,000 LATENT FINGERPRINTS FROM APPROXIMATELY 31,000 UNSOLVED CASES:

MURDERS - 4,350

BURGLARIES - 20,000

ROBBERIES - 4,000

RAPES - 2,500

WITH THE AID OF THE NEW SUPER SLEUTH, WE CAN REASONABLY EXPECT TO SOLVE UP TO 20% OF THESE CASES AS WELL AS UP TO 20% OF OUR UNSOLVED CASE BACKLOG (MURDERS-800, BURGLARIES-4,000, ROBBERIES-800, and RAPES-500). THE SYSTEM WILL IMPROVE THE EFFICIENCY OF DETECTIVES AND INCREASE CONVICTIONS. AFIS WILL SOON HELP SWEEP UP THOUSANDS OF CRIMINALS OFF OUR STREETS.

TARIFF SANCTIONS APPLICATION TO AFIS

AS YOU DELIBERATE, IN MAKING RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE PRESIDENT REGARDING PRODUCTS TO INCLUDE IN THE TARIFF LIST, I ASK THAT YOU BEAR IN MIND THE POSSIBLE NEGATIVE IMPACT ON LAW ENFORCEMENT AND PUBLIC SAFETY.

BASED ON DISCUSSIONS WITH SEVERAL FEDERAL OFFICIALS, IT IS UNCLEAR WHETHER THE AFIS SYSTEM FALLS WITHIN THE PRODUCTS CONSIDERED FOR INCREASED DUTIES. APPARENTLY, ONLY CERTAIN PARTS OF THE AFIS ARE COVERED BY THE

-8-

THE PRIMARY BASIS UPON WHICH WE ASK THAT AFIS BE DELETED FROM THE TARGETED LIST IS THAT THE IMPOSITION OF A PENALTY DUTY WILL HAVE AN ADVERSE IMPACT ON U.S. CONSUMERS. THE CONSUMERS, IN THE CASE OF AFIS, ARE PUBLIC AGENCIES; AND THE ULTIMATE BENEFICIARIES OF LAW ENFORCEMENT SERVICES ARE RESIDENTS OF OUR CITIES.

THE LIKELY OUTCOME, OF INCREASED TARIFF WOULD BE TO FORCE NEC OUT OF THE FINGERPRINT BUSINESS. THIS WOULD POSE AN ECONOMIC HARDSHIP ON US. AFTER "SHELLING OUT BIG BUCKS", WE COULD BE STUCK WITH A "WHITE ELEPHANT". THERE WILL BE MAINTENANCE PROBLEMS. IN TIME, WE WOULD NEED TO REPLACE HARDWARE AND SOFTWARE. THE OTHER EXISTING SYSTEMS ARE NOT COMPATIBLE AND THEIR PARTS ARE NOT INTERCHANGEABLE. THIS WOULD ALSO FORECLOSE SYSTEM ENHANCEMENTS AND HAMPER PROJECTED LINKAGES WITH OTHER AGENCIES. TO SALVAGE OUR INITIAL INVESTMENT, WE MAY HAVE TO ACCEPT EQUIPMENT OF AN INFERIOR QUALITY WITH DIMINISHED ACCURACY.

FOR OTHER JURISDICTIONS, WHO ARE CURRENTLY LOOKING TO PURCHASE AFIS, NEC'S PRICE WOULD BECOME PROHIBITIVELY TOO EXPENSIVE AND, AS A CONSEQUENCE, WOULD PUT AFIS OUT OF THEIR REACH. AND IF NEC AFIS SHOULD CLOSE DOWN THEN OBVIOUSLY THE MARKET WOULD BE CUTOFF TO NEW CUSTOMERS. MOREOVER, PROJECTED RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT WOULD BE CURTAILED SUCH AS, PALM PRINT IDENTIFICATION AND ON-SITE JAIL SCANNER TO IDENTIFY ARRESTEES.

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AS YOU EXERCISE YOUR DISCRETION IN PARING DOWN THE LIST OF TARGETED PRODUCTS, I STRONGLY URGE THAT YOU EXCLUDE NEC AFIS FROM THE APPLICATION OF THE 100% DUTY.

SUCH AN IMPOSITION OF AN INCREASED TARIFF, WILL DEPRIVE US OF AN IMPORTANT WEAPON OUT OF OUR ARSENAL TO FIGHT CRIME IN OUR CITIES-A WAR WHICH WE CAN ILL-AFFORD TO LOSE.

THANK YOU.



State of Illinois
DEPARTMENT OF STATE POLICE

James B. Zagel
Director
Christian R. Maerz
Assistant Director

April 8, 1987

Sam W. Nolen
Superintendent
Division of
Forensic Services
and Identification

Ms. Carolyn Frank
Office of the United States Trade Representative
600 17th Street NW, Suite 521
Washington, DC 20506

Dear Ms. Frank:

Enclosed is a copy of the testimony I plan to present at the hearing on tariff sanctions against Japan to be conducted by the Office of the United States Trade Representative on Monday, April 13, 1987.

We are seeking immunity from sanctions only for those components listed in the tariff schedules 676.15 pt., 676.3046, 676.3055, and 676.3077 as they relate to the acquisition of Automated Fingerprint Identification Systems (AFIS). AFIS systems are used almost exclusively for law enforcement and public safety purposes. The imposition of sanctions on these components would, in effect, place significantly increased costs on taxpayers and, in the case of Illinois, seriously jeopardize the many, many thousands of dollars and man-hours already spent in the acquisition process.

Thank you for your kind attention.

Very truly yours,

Sam W. Nolen
Superintendent

SWN:gs
Enclosure

Members of the 301 Committee, Ladies and Gentlemen:

The Illinois Department of State Police is deeply concerned about the effect of the proposed tariffs on some very specific Japanese electronic components.

We are currently involved in the acquisition of a statewide Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS) from NEC Information Systems, Inc., a subsidiary of NEC Corporation of Japan. AFIS systems are highly technical, extremely effective crime fighting tools. AFIS has no application other than fingerprint identification and is used exclusively for law enforcement and public safety purposes. AFIS has no business application and is not a consumer product.

Our acquisition process began over 2½ years ago. A 15 member task force spent many months doing research, site visits, and holding vendor presentations so that a formal Request For Proposal could be prepared which would detail our specific mandatory and desirable requirements. The document was released in February 1986 and formal bids were received in May 1986. After 2 months of benchmark testing and evaluation, Governor James R. Thompson publicly announced the award to NEC Information Systems, Inc., in July 1986.

Since that announcement, the Illinois Department of State Police Task Force and NEC Information Systems, Inc., have spent an untold number of man-hours in contract negotiations, arrangements for the conversion of the 1.55 million fingerprint cards in our masterfile which will form our digitized data base, and detailed system design. Additional latent print examiners and ten-print technicians are being and have been hired and their training has started. Extensive renovation of our regional forensic science laboratories to provide direct latent print identification service to city and county police agencies throughout the state is underway. Expensive leases have been signed and a total renovation, to NEC specifications, of the central site where the Bureau of Identification ten-print operations and central computers will be located is underway.

Our AFIS is targeted to be operational in December 1987. Thousands of dollars and man-hours have already been spent on this project and thousands more are committed. The imposition of sanctions on NEC AFIS components, in effect, significantly increases the cost to taxpayers or, in the case of Illinois, seriously jeopardizes the very large dollar investment already made and would deprive the State of Illinois for some years of a long-awaited tool considered by the Illinois law enforcement community to be the greatest technological advancement since the two-way radio.

Speaking on behalf of the hundreds of Illinois law enforcement agencies and their professional interest in the battle against crime and increased safety for our citizens, the Illinois Automated Fingerprint Identification System must be implemented as soon as possible. Therefore, we respectfully request your affirmative support in granting immunity from tariff sanctions for law enforcement related computer equipment. This exemption would then include the Automated Fingerprint Identification System and its related component parts.

We appreciate the opportunity to address this committee.

ADDRESS TO SECTION 301 COMMITTEE**APRIL 13, 1987****by JIM COX, COMMANDER
SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
SAN BERNARDINO, CALIFORNIA****REPRESENTING SHERIFF FLOYD TIDWELL**

Good afternoon, my name is Jim Cox. I am here representing the law enforcement interests of San Bernardino County, California, the largest bounded land mass in the Nation, and one of the fastest growing areas economically and industrially. I am also speaking on behalf of the millions of citizens who could be affected by the tariffs imposed on law enforcement goods. The issue today is simple: Public Safety.

I am the Commander of the Identification Division for my Department, which currently houses the Automated Fingerprint Identification System.

It is a historical fact that whenever a new innovation is introduced by law enforcement, the criminal element is able to nullify its benefit by utilizing it for their

own good, such as scanners, weaponry and the like. The greatest innovation yet to law enforcement, and one that cannot be used for any benefit to the criminal society, is now in danger of being priced from the market by our government. I speak of the newly developed Automated Fingerprint Identification System and the possible export tariff being placed upon it. If tariffs are placed upon this system and its components, it will have a devastating effect on many law enforcement agencies not only in my state, but across the entire Nation.

The system, which is exported by NEC Corporation and is one of my county's arsenal in the fight against crime, has already proven its worth in the short time we have been using it. Not only is it one of the greatest tools ever presented to law enforcement agencies, but statistics have shown a drastic drop in crimes. Police across the Nation and World have been keeping close watch on California and are excited over what they see. Murder, rape and other

major crimes with no leads other than one latent fingerprint are now being solved. Newspaper headlines and television programs extol the values and capabilities of the fingerprint system; "Computer Catches Night-stalker", "Murder Suspects of UCLA Students Caught by Computer in Two Hours", "Ten Year Old Homicide Solved by Computer," "Burglary Rate Down 23%, Thanks to Fingerprint Computer". I could take up many hours of this committee's valuable time by citing cases and examples of the advantages of the computer system, but I think the point has been made. The Automated Fingerprint Identification System catches crooks. It saves lives and prevents crimes. It leads to early apprehension of suspects. It saves the taxpayer countless dollars and provides something to a community never before realized; safety. We are not involved in the political machinations of business. Our interests lie solely in the safety of the citizens and the communities we have sworn to protect. The computerized fingerprint system has finally given law

enforcement the critical advantage it has long been awaiting.

We are concerned with talk about this tariff because

this giant stride finally made will be taken from us, as

agencies within California and across our great

Nation will not be able to afford the increase that will

inevitably be placed upon the product to offset

the taxes. A tremendous police tool will be lost, and once

again an advantage in the war on crime will be snatched from

our hands.

I appeal to you gentlemen, on behalf of my Department and all

law enforcement agencies across the Nation, and the citizens

they selflessly serve, to let us keep our advantage.

When considering the tariff, please consider the exemption of

those items listed under TSUS as 676.15PT, 676.3045 and

676.3055. Law Enforcement agencies throughout our country

are awaiting your favorable decision, and once this

decision is made plans will continue to maintain this

advantage over the criminal society, and keep the

ever-shifting pendulum on the war on crime permanently on our side. In order to maintain this advantage, we must keep this highly technical state of the art equipment affordable, which would be accomplished by exempting the much needed equipment from the tariff.

I thank you for your time and consideration in this matter.

Lt. James R. Cox
115 W. Court St.
San Bernardino, Ca. 92401
714/387-2480

**Testimony Prepared For The Section 301 Committee On The Issue Of A
Tariff On Japanese Goods**

Presented By:

**Mr. Ray Cummings, Ph.D.
Special Assistant to the Sheriff
San Diego County Sheriff's Department
222 West "C" Street
San Diego, CA 92101
(619) 236-3032**

Problem

San Diego County's criminal justice agencies, especially the Sheriff's Department and the San Diego City Police Department, have worked for 24 years to bring a multi-million dollar automated fingerprint identification program to the region. Any tariff on the Japanese goods that make up that program will kill a most critical public safety effort.

Discussion

Speaking for local criminal justice agencies, the San Diego County Sheriff agrees with the general intent of the proposed tariff. Its time has come. The Department feels, however, that exempting

articles destined for public safety use will not drastically hurt the tariff's purpose. We assume that these articles will be tariffed unless the Committee formally exempts them.

More specifically, I am testifying on behalf of San Diego County's automated fingerprint identification system (AFIS). This system brings new technology to crime fighting at a time when crime and, therefore, criminals are getting way out of hand. This computerized fingerprint system will have a significant and long-term effect on the public safety. It will identify criminals who now go undetected, even when we have them in hand in our local jails.

In a valiant joint effort, state and local governments, especially in California, have combined limited money resources to purchase this much needed and already costly fingerprint system. In San Diego County alone, the system's equipment will cost \$2,500,000. In addition, another \$2,000,000 is needed to install and start operating it. A delicately balanced financing plan has been put together to insure that areas like San Diego get the system. Any, and I emphasize any additional cost, such as that a tariff would bring, will kill this AFIS program.

The San Diego Sheriff's Department and the San Diego City Police Department have already sacrificed deputy and police officer positions to help pay for the system. We can stand no more cost! We also fear that if the goods are tariffed, competitors whose

(d) 676.3055

(e) 724.4565

and any other such items being considered for tariff which are part of law enforcement identification systems.

Section 301 Committee
Office of U.S. Trade Representative
Room 521
600 17th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20506

April 14, 1987

Dear Members of the 301 Committee:

During the public hearings on April 13, 1987 regarding the proposed tariffs on Japanese imports, the Committee requested the law enforcement group on automated identification systems to supply some additional information, which I submit here along with several points of rebuttal to certain items raised at the hearing.

1. Comparative accuracy of systems:

Attached please find several results of accuracy tests contained in an article, written by Inspector Kenneth Moses of the San Francisco Police Department and published by the International Association for Identification (Appendix A). As the article indicates, accuracy levels vary greatly among vendors of AFIS systems. Accuracy is a paramount feature of selection.

2. The FBI system:

In order to clarify the matter of who developed the FBI AFIS system, I would like to quote directly from Mr. C.D. Neudorfer, Section Chief, Automation and Research Section, Identification Division of the Federal Bureau of Investigation:

"The automated facilities in operation in the FBI Identification Division are the product of research and development efforts and equipment acquisitions from a variety of companies. The resulting [AFIS] system can not be identified as the product of any one company and the FBI has not authorized any company to represent that they supply our automated system or any of its subsystems."

3. System Uniqueness:

Mr. P. Wyatt of Identification and Security Systems stated in oral testimony at the April 13th hearing: "There is nothing 'unique' about the NEC AFIS products and there is no product or service that they provide to U.S., State or local police that ISS or any other competitor do not or cannot also provide."

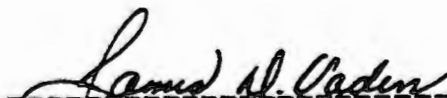
This statement is untrue. Each AFIS system uses unique proprietary technology. The NEC, Morpho, and Printrak algorithms have been patented. The I.S.S. algorithm is patent pending in England.

4. Compatibility:

In answer to your question regarding compatibility of systems, I have learned that Dr. Ray Moore of the National Bureau of Standards has submitted a position paper requesting exemption from the tariff for law enforcement equipment. The National Bureau of Standards is involved, with the cooperation of all vendors, in the development of standards by which non-compatible systems (using different data formats) can communicate indirectly by transmitting images. When the standards are met, the systems may communicate, but will not be capable of independent interaction, nor will the data bases be transferred between dissimilar systems. Attached is a copy of Mr. Moore's letter and the National Bureau of Standards standards document. (Appendix B)

5. Market Share:

In ~~answer~~^{response} to your questions regarding market share, I feel it is important to recognize that the NEC AFIS systems service a population in America of over fifty (50) MILLION (see the attached list of NEC user locations, Appendix C). It must be understood that AFIS systems hold as their data bases the fingerprint files of the law enforcement agencies. These files represent the data base against which "scene-of-the-crime" or "latent" prints are searched to make a match and identify criminals." It is noteworthy that the cost of reconverting the cards stored or to be stored in the NEC databases would mean the waste of tens of millions of dollars to U.S. taxpayers.



Colonel JAMES D. VADEN
Deputy Commissioner, Public Safety
State of Alaska



Department of Police

Robert J. Ziarnik
Chief of Police

April 7, 1987

Ms. Carolyn Frank
c/o Office of U.S. Trade Representative
600 17th Street N.W., Room 521
Washington, D.C. 20506

RE: TARIFF SANCTIONS

Dear Ms. Frank:

In reference to the proposed tariff sanctions on imported Japanese electronic components, please be advised that the undersigned is not concerned with tariffs relating to televisions, cameras, video recorders, etc.

HOWEVER, I am greatly concerned with tariffs on law enforcement equipment, such as, Automated Fingerprint Identification Systems (AFIS). We consider the aforementioned paramount in our fight against crime and the imposition of such tariffs would only serve to hamper the solution of major crimes.

I understand and appreciate your position on protecting the American computer industry. We do, however, need your understanding of our position. Since all "AFIS" computers are produced by non-domestic companies, it would be ludicrous to impose a tariff to protect a non-existent American industry.

Therefore, I support and advocate an exemption of the proposed tariff as it pertains to the "AFIS" industry. If you need further information concerning this matter, please feel free to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

ROBERT J. ZIARNIK
Chief of Police

JOSEPH F. SLAWINSKI
Inspector of Police
Research & Development Bureau

RJZ:JFS:RTW

International Association for Identification



Michael C. McDermott
Legal Representative
1810 Melbourne Drive
McLean, Va. 22101

April 9, 1987

Ms. Carolyn Frank
Office of United States Trade Representative
Room 521
600 17th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20506

Re: Section 301 Committee Hearings
TSUS# 676.1530, 676.----

Dear Ms. Frank:

I am writing on behalf of the International Association for Identification (IAI), its Board of Directors, Officers and twenty-five hundred law enforcement and forensic identification specialists. The IAI is an independent, non-profit organization. Though the membership of the IAI is worldwide, the majority are United States citizens working with every type of law enforcement agency from the FBI, CIA and DEA to the rural city and county police departments. Our members are engaged in the profession of forensic identification, investigation, and scientific examination of physical evidence. The IAI is dedicated to the enlargement and improvement of the science of forensic identification and crime detection.

While it may not be within the scope of the IAI's purpose to comment on the general effect of trade sanctions against Japan as a means to address the trade imbalance, we take a very serious view on the damage that such sanctions are allowed to cover technology used by law enforcement for identification purposes.

Specifically in reference to the Automated Fingerprint Identification Systems (AFIS), and their peripherals such as automated mug-shot systems, automated rap sheet systems, etc. we are of the opinion that trade sanctions against Japan

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Ms. Carolyn Frank
April 9, 1987

that apply to these types of law enforcement technologies will severely hamper the ability of police agencies to conduct effective criminal investigations. In recent years, these technologies have contributed greatly to law enforcement's ability to identify and apprehend criminal repeat offenders. AFIS, in particular, has dramatically improved police effectiveness and significantly added to public safety. In fact, it is no exaggeration to say that AFIS is saving lives in the United States and around the world.

Law enforcement systems such as AFIS are comprised of highly sophisticated proprietary technology. Only a few companies in the world are providing AFIS technology to law enforcement. In the United States, law enforcement has benefited by competition among suppliers of this technology who must vie with each other to constantly improve their systems to maintain the latest technological standard. The major suppliers in this country are all United States subsidiaries of foreign corporations. If competition is reduced by unilateral sanctions against one supplier, it is not so much that the competition will benefit as it is that the law enforcement agencies in the United States will suffer. We therefore take the position that trade sanction against the Japanese AFIS and related law enforcement technology will directly damage United States public agencies and have a detrimental effect on public safety in America

Furthermore, many United States law enforcement agencies are currently using Japanese technology for their identification systems. Most of these agencies have followed long and rigorous procedures for selecting the most effective technology and the one most appropriate for their needs. If this technology is now tariffed under the proposed sanctions, the maintenance of these systems will be in jeopardy. The expense of replacing or converting these systems, if it were possible to do so with an alternative supplier, would be overwhelmingly expensive. In fact these systems cannot be replaced because they are unique by virtue of their proprietary algorithms.

The IAI is an international organization committed to improving law enforcement's ability to identify criminals and solve crimes. Our purpose is to foster cooperation between nations in the universal fight against crime. Regardless of

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Ms. Carolyn Frank
April 9, 1987

trade conditions between particular nations, efforts to prevent crime and save lives remain the same. We should hold out this purpose as a universal interest above trade conflict. By taking a narrow view without regard to public safety, trade sanctions which inhibit or prevent the exchange of such technology not only damage United States law enforcement, but also the universal fight against crime.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael C. McDermott". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "M" and a long, sweeping tail.

Michael C. McDermott, Esq.
Legal Representative
International Association
for Identification

cc: Robert T. Grant, Chairman, Board of Directors
Clarence E. Phillips, President



State of Illinois
DEPARTMENT OF STATE POLICE

April 7, 1987

James B. Zagel
Director
Christian R. Maerz
Assistant Director

Sam W. Nolen
Superintendent
Division of
Forensic Services
and Identification

Ms. Carolyn Frank
Office of U. S. Trade Representatives
600 17th Street, N.W.
Suite 521
Washington, D. C. 20506

Dear Ms. Frank:

Over two and one-half years ago the Illinois Department of State Police began the acquisition process for an Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS). The vendor was selected through a competitive process, and in July 1986, Governor James Thompson awarded the contract to NEC Information Systems.

Since that public announcement, the State of Illinois and NECIS have spent arduous hours on contract negotiation, system design, and data base conversion. Eight state facilities are undergoing renovation to accommodate the new system. Latent print examiner and ten-print technicians are being hired and trained in anticipation of the increased workloads.

The culmination of hundreds of man-hours of work is at hand as the equipment configuration and system design is finalized, and public awareness of the potential of this innovative crime fighter grows. The law enforcement community in Illinois is dedicated to this project. They look upon it as the most effective criminal investigation tool developed in the past 30 years, and rate it as the greatest technological advancement in law enforcement history since the two-way radio.

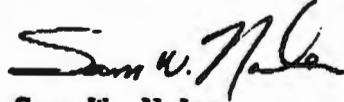
The Illinois AFIS must proceed on schedule for the benefit of the hundreds of law enforcement professionals in their continuous fight against crime, and for the increased safety of the citizens of Illinois; therefore, the Illinois Department of State Police respectfully requests your affirmative support for immunity from tariff sanctions for NEC AFIS related equipment.

Ms. Carolyn Frank
April 7, 1987

Page 2

Thank you for your consideration of our request regarding the importance of the Illinois Automated Fingerprint Identification System.

Very truly yours,



Sam W. Nolen
Superintendent

SWN:ms

April 7, 1987

Ms. Carolyn Frank
Office of the U.S. Trade Representative
Room 521
600 17th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20506

Dear Ms. Frank:

The purpose of this letter is to request that NEC's Automated Fingerprint Identification System be exempted from the Article 301 trade sanctions and tariffs. The components that should be exempted are Tariff Schedule of the United States items 676.15 pt., 676.3045, 676.3055, along with other such articles and products which are components of an automated fingerprint system.

The major users of the automated fingerprint system produced by NEC are state and local government agencies. Automated fingerprint systems have become an important tool in improving the criminal justice system by dramatically increasing the use of fingerprint evidence to identify and prosecute criminals. In St. Louis, we are in the process of acquiring an automated fingerprint system from NEC, and are confident that the St. Louis community will gain the same benefits from this product as other areas have experienced.

We believe that the proposed tariff will work to the detriment of the public and law enforcement. For St. Louis, the proposed tariff will double local government's cost to obtain an automated fingerprint system from NEC. This increase will make this technology unaffordable.

Regional Justice
Information Service

Paul W. Newhouse
General Manager

G. Duncan Bauman
Chairman

Judge Carl Gaertner

Mayor William D. Thompson

Col. Frank C. Bick
Vice Chairman

Col. Robert E. Scheetz

John A. Lucks
Secretary-Treasurer

Stephen P. Mullin

Ms. Carolyn Frank
April 7, 1987
Page 2

Therefore, we urge that NEC's automated fingerprint identification system be exempted from the tariff.

Sincerely,

Paul W. Newhouse
Paul W. Newhouse
General Manager

/smb

cc Senator Joseph R. Biden
Congressman William J. Hughes
Senator Patrick Leahy
Congressman Peter W. Rodino, Jr.

COUNTY OF SUFFOLK



MICHAEL A. LOGRANDE
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

DEWITT C. TREDER
POLICE COMMISSIONER

POLICE DEPARTMENT

April 13, 1987

Ms. Carolyn Frank
Office of the U.S. Trade Representative
Room 521
600 17th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20506

Dear Ms. Frank:

In January of this year, The Suffolk County Police Department began utilizing the Automated Fingerprint Identification System as an additional means of criminal investigation.

In spite of the relatively short period of time that the AFIS has been in use by this Department, it has already shown itself to be an invaluable investigative tool.

To date, the system has assisted in identifying more than one hundred (100) suspects in our criminal cases.

Without the aid of the AFIS these cases would have taken a considerably longer period of time to solve or possibly may never have been solved.

The AFIS is undoubtedly an asset in criminal investigation that should be accessible to all law enforcement agencies.

If a tariff on the components which comprise this system under TSUS #676.15pt., 676.3055, 676.3077 or any other number will adversely affect its availability to law enforcement personnel, I sincerely support its exemption from such tariffs.

Very truly yours,

DeWitt C. Treders
Police Commissioner

DCT:amc



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Bureau of Standards
Gaithersburg, Maryland 20899

April 9, 1987

U. S. Trade Representative
Room 521
600 17th St. N. W.
Washington, D.C. 20506

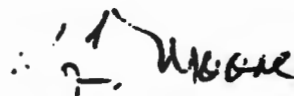
Gentlemen:

In connection with your consideration of tariffs on computers and computer related equipments, I believe that there is one product that may be deserving of special consideration. This product is automatic fingerprint identification systems.

While automatic fingerprint identification systems employ computers and certain computer peripheral equipments, these items are solidly linked with other special purpose hardware such as scanners and matchers to form a system that is dedicated to the single function of fingerprint identification. They are increasingly being used by State and local law enforcement and criminal justice agencies for forensic identification. They are not used for other purposes. For this reason, I would suggest that automatic fingerprint identification systems be assigned a specific, unique TSUS item number and be given special consideration in your deliberations.

All three major suppliers of automatic fingerprint identification systems are foreign owned (British, French and Japanese).

Sincerely,


R. T. Moore
Manager, Automated
Information Systems



POLICE DEPARTMENT
CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO
HALL OF JUSTICE
850 BRYANT STREET
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94103

April 10, 1987

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS:
FRANK M. JORDAN
CHIEF OF POLICE

IN REPLY, PLEASE REFER TO
OUR FILE: TSBCID

Ms. Carolyn Frank
Office of the U.S. Trade Representative
Room 521
600 - 17th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20506

Subject: TSUS Ref:676.15pt
676.3046
676.3055

Dear Ms. Frank:

The San Francisco Police Department is extremely concerned about the possible imposition of sanctions against NEC Fingerprint Systems. As the first such system installed in the United States, San Francisco has already invested over two million dollars in a system that has helped to significantly reduce crime in our city. We have budgeted additional funds to upgrade the fingerprint system in November so that it can tie into other law enforcement agencies throughout the State of California. A 100% tariff would prohibit us from expansion or upgrade of what we consider to be the most important crime fighting tool in our arsenal.

We selected the NEC A.F.I.S. system because it was unique in its configuration and tested far superior to its main competitor in matching fingerprints from crime scenes with known fingerprints on file. The biggest impact of these systems is on the crime of burglary, and since our implementation of the NEC system in 1984, the crime rate for burglary has been driven down 26% in San Francisco. No competing system has even come close to matching these results.

The market for these systems is very limited when compared to consumer items, and any sanctions placed on AFIS would be a far greater detriment to U.S. law enforcement and public safety than it would be to the Japanese manufacturer. Only two other companies in the world actively market these systems, and neither Printrak of England nor Morpho of France has installed a fingerprint machine that has demonstrated any effectiveness in reducing crime in jurisdictions where they are used.

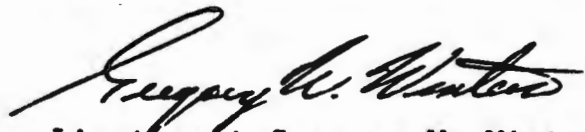
Ms. Carolyn Frank
Letter
April 10, 1987
Page 2 of 2

It is our belief that no effective domestic alternative to NEC exists at this time. It is clearly in the public interest that this fingerprint system be excluded from sanctions.

Based upon our research we further believe that the components of this system, and the previously ordered upgrades are unique and not manufactured nor available domestically.

Sincerely yours,

VICTOR MACIA
Deputy Chief of Police
Technical Services Bureau



Lieutenant Gregory W. Winters
Commanding Officer
General Office Division



King County
Technical Services Division
Department of Public Safety
W 150 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, Washington 98104-2312

April 10, 1987

Ms. Carolyn Frank
Office of the United States Trade Representative
Room 521
600 - 17th Street Northwest
Washington, D.C. 20506

RE: 15 C.F.R. 2006.8

Dear Ms. Frank:

The King County Department of Public Safety is of the opinion that the proposed trade sanctions may cause a severe hardship on the general public's procurement of necessary state of the art fingerprint identification equipment.

It is King County's belief that the NEC Automated Fingerprint Identification System should be deemed exempt from the proposed trade sanctions due to the consideration of public safety.

The King County Department of Public Safety has spent considerable time and effort in evaluating all available automated fingerprint systems and participated with the Washington State Patrol in testing these systems. Through our analysis of benchmark results, King County selected the proprietary NEC Automated Fingerprint Identification System. This selection was based on the fact that the accuracy rate of matching and identifying of the crime prints was 100% more accurate than the next competitor.

King County currently has in excess of 70,000 unsolved crime scene prints on file, 700 of which are from the unsolved serial Green River homicide case. The Green River suspect is presumed to be responsible for at least 46 homicides in the State of Washington.

Funding for the acquisition of the Automated Fingerprint Identification System was accomplished by a general vote of the taxpayers authorizing a property tax assessment to purchase this equipment.

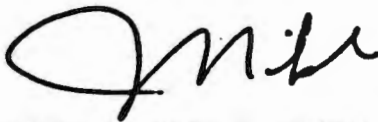
Ms. Carolyn Frank
April 10, 1987
Page Two

If the tariff sanctions prevent King County from purchasing NEC's superior Automated Fingerprint Identification System, King County would be forced to go to the next competitor which has a significant reduction in its matching and identification capabilities. If this occurs, it is the King County Department of Public Safety's belief that many crimes will remain unsolved and criminals will remain at large, thereby jeopardizing the general safety of the public.

With this concern of public safety in mind, it is requested that a trade sanction/tariff not be imposed on the NEC Automated Fingerprint Identification System and it be excluded from increased duties under TSUS 676.15 and that components destined for use in such systems be excluded under TSUS numbers 676.3046 and 676.3055.

In view of the information provided, the King County Department of Public Safety would appreciate your consideration and cooperation regarding this matter.

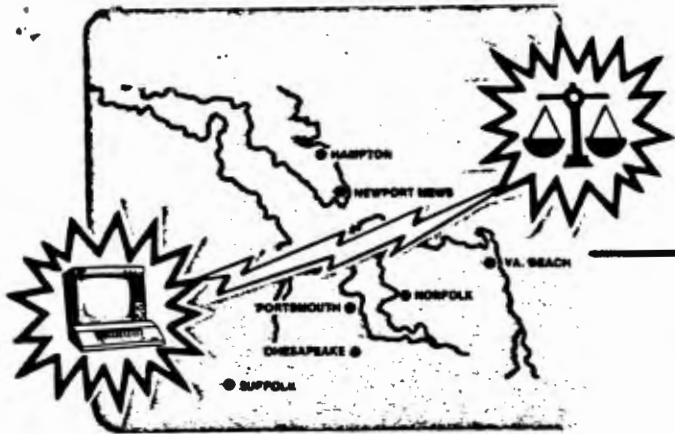
Sincerely,



JAMES J. NICKLE, CHIEF
TECHNICAL SERVICES DIVISION

JJN:ss

cc: Det. Bruce Kalin, AFIS Project Coordinator



Hampton Roads Regional Criminal Justice
/Data Processing Committee

April 10, 1987

U.S. Trade Representative Office
600 17th Street N.W.
Room 521
Washington D. C. 20506
Attention Carolyn Frank

Dear Ms. Frank:

Concerning proposed trade tariffs against Japanese imports being considered by the Section 301 committee, we are in favor of exempting products that may be used in the administration or execution of law enforcement duties and responsibilities. Exemption is specifically requested for those items that may be used in the design, development and implementation of Automated Fingerprint Identification Systems (AFIS) and Automated Mugshot Systems (AMS), reference Customs Numbers TSUS 676.1530, 676.3055, 676.3077 and the like.

The above mentioned systems are composed of "State of the Art" computer hardware and software that is on the leading edge of technology. These systems and the technologies associated with them have the potential to revolutionize law enforcement operations. More pointedly, AFIS and AMS will aid in the solving of crimes that before the invention of these systems, would have gone unsolved.

AFIS and AMS will save lives and reduce injuries, damages and losses to the public caused by acts of violence, theft and robbery. These acts will be reduced because the perpetrators will be identified, apprehended and incarcerated sooner, than is now possible, because of the advantages evolving from the uses of this highly advanced computer and systems technology. Criminals will be more rapidly removed from operation and therefore will not be on the streets where they can continue to prey on society.

AFIS and AMS will enable the police to more readily and rapidly identify and arrest, without investigative lead, those individuals responsible for the commission of crimes. Since research indicates that 25 per cent of the criminals known to the police commit more than 50 per cent of the crime, the impact of speedily removing these recidivist from operation is fairly obvious. A criminal can not while incarcerated commit the crimes he would have committed while out on the street.

Tariffs
April 10, 1987
Page 2

I am currently coordinator of the Hampton Roads Regional Criminal Justice Data Processing Committee working on a project to develop a regional computer system known as the Comprehensive Regional Information Management Exchange System (CRIMES). Components of this system will embrace all agencies of the criminal justice system such as the police, courts and corrections. Some of the modules of the system are: automated fingerprint identification, booking and court docketing, case management and coordination, jail management, mugshots and crime and traffic analysis. CRIMES will also interface with state and federal systems.

There are seven cities that are participating in this project as follows: Chesapeake, Hampton, Newport News, Norfolk, Portsmouth, Suffolk and Virginia Beach. Imposition of tariffs against Japan concerning the previously mentioned products could definitely impact negatively on this project, especially since our planned interface of CRIMES with the State of Virginia AFIS involves utilization of equipment purchased from Nippon Electronics Corporation (NEC), a Japanese company.

If you need additional information I may be reached at 811 E. City Hall Avenue, Norfolk, Virginia, 23510. Phone 441-5224.

Your favorable consideration of this request is appreciated.

Sincerely,



B. Rogerson, Coordinator
Hampton Roads Regional
Criminal Justice
Data Processing Committee

JOHN K. VAN DE KAMP
Attorney General

State of California
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE



P.O. BOX 903281
SACRAMENTO, CA 94203-2810
(916) 739-5241

April 8, 1987

The Honorable Edwin Meese III
Attorney General of the United States
United States Department of Justice
10th and Constitution Avenue N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20530

Dear Attorney General Meese:

On April 13, 1987, the Section 301 Committee will be meeting to consider the imposition of tariff sanctions against selected Japanese products currently being exported to the United States. While the imposition of sanctions pursuant to Section 301(b) is an appropriate means of addressing the trade imbalance between the United States and Japan, cause exists for exempting certain items.

Of immediate concern to law enforcement throughout California and the United States are computer systems that operate specifically in the interest of public safety.

In California, one such system is the California Identification (Cal-ID) System, an Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS) that is experiencing tremendous success in the identification of latent fingerprints recovered from crime scenes. Imposition of the proposed tariffs will have a deleterious effect on law enforcement's ability to install and maintain advanced technology such as Cal-ID.

I am sending Fred Wynbrandt of my staff to testify before the Section 301 Committee and urge them to exempt law enforcement contracts in favor of recreational products such as televisions and stereos. I believe this to be a responsible approach that will avoid negative impact on the U.S. consumer and taxpayer.

As Attorney General of the United States, your support for this position will have significant impact on the recommendations the Section 301 Committee makes to President Reagan.

Very truly yours,

JOHN K. VAN DE KAMP
Attorney General

G. W. Clemons
G. W. CLEMONS, Director



**SHERIFF-CORONER DEPARTMENT
COUNTY OF ORANGE
CALIFORNIA**

**BRAD GATES
SHERIFF-CORONER**

April 8, 1987

**OFFICE OF
SHERIFF-CORONER**

Ms. Carolyn Frank
Office of the United States Trade Representative
600 17th Street, N.W., Room 521
Washington, D.C. 20506

Dear Ms. Frank:

The recently proposed trade sanctions against Japan will have a serious effect on crime solving throughout the country.

Many law enforcement agencies here in California and in the rest of the nation rely upon Automated Fingerprint Identification Systems (AFIS) to aid in the identification of criminals and the solution of crimes. In California, the statewide California Identification System (CAL-ID) uses AFIS equipment from a Japanese vendor, NEC Information Systems. Similar equipment is not available from any American vendor.

By increasing the price of this equipment, purchase of AFIS systems will be curtailed, depriving law enforcement of the installation of new systems and expansion of present systems. This will seriously hamper the effort of local law enforcement in combating crime.

I request your consideration to exempt equipment used as a part of automated fingerprint identification systems from the proposed trade sanctions.

Sincerely,

**BRAD GATES
Sheriff-Coroner**

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TONY

DOONAN



OFFICE OF THE
SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE
CHICAGO

April 8, 1987

Mr. Robert Caldwell
Midwest Area Manager
Fingerprint Systems
NEC Information Systems
5509 North Cumberland Avenue
Suite 501
Chicago, Illinois 60656

Dear Mr. Caldwell:

I am responding to your letter of April 2, 1987, directed to Deputy Superintendent Matt L. Rodriguez, Bureau of Technical Services, which contained NECIS' request for Chicago Police Department support in seeking immunity from the imposition of tariff sanctions on imported Japanese electronics products.

I would not deign to comment on the efficacy or propriety of national economic policies which are obviously designed to redress a trade imbalance that has consistently grown over the past several years between Japan and the United States. The causes of these imbalances are many; however, I must restrict the scope of my concern in this area.

I would concur in NECIS' efforts to limit the imposition of these tariffs, however, it is my sincere opinion that this exemption should be limited to electronics equipment and their components that are utilized exclusively in the law enforcement or criminal justice area. Governments at all levels face the horrendous task of combatting crime. The cost of these efforts are already monumental and consistently increasing. The imposition of the suggested tariff on electronics equipment utilized solely in these crime fighting efforts would significantly increase the already staggering burden to taxpayers.

Another aspect of the increased cost of such electronic equipment would be the resulting restriction in the number of law enforcement agencies that would have the resources to acquire it. This would naturally reduce the size of any possible network that might be established in the future through which the transference of electronically stored data, such as, but not limited to, fingerprint identification data would be facilitated.

It is my sincere hope that the U. S. Congress will deem it advisable to exempt from the proposed tariff sanction all electronic equipment and components thereto which are utilized strictly in the law enforcement and criminal justice fields.

Sincerely,

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Fred Rice".

FRED RICE
Superintendent of Police

April 7, 1987

Honorable Paul Simon
Senator - United States Senate
Judiciary Committee
462 Dirksen Senate Building
Washington, D.c. 20510

Dear Sir:

I am writing this letter to solicit your assistance, as my representative in Congress, in exempting from tariffs one of the products that is assisting law enforcement agencies in apprehending offenders of heinous crimes. The product is the Automated Fingerprint Identification System, commonly referred to as AFIS, or the fingerprint computer.

The fingerprint computer assists in the identification of the murderer or burglar, from a single fingerprint left at the crime scene. This task was virtually impossible to do prior to this recent technology.

Although, I am a police officer I do not write this letter in my official capacity, rather I write it as a tax payer and citizen of Chicago.

The tariffs, which would mean an increase in price of the automated fingerprint identification system equipment, would come at a time when most municipalities are in fiscal crisis. The impact of the tariffs would be that struggling municipalities would not be able to afford the AFIS equipment which has said to be the greatest advancement in criminal investigation in the past three decades. Chicago, as you know is one of the struggling municipalities, therefore any improvement in technology or additional equipment would be unattainable.

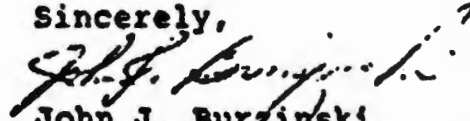
I know since the Chicago Police Department has acquired AFIS in November of 1986, over one hundred suspects of various crimes have been identified. Two murder suspects have been arrested, one for a murder that occurred in 1972 and the other for a brutal slaying of a sixty-five year old widow.

Enclosed are articles which describe the technology and its recent results in Chicago.

For over fifteen years I have been involved in different police labor organizations therefore, this request comes with mixed emotions. I would not request that President Regan's decision

to impose certain tariff sanctions to be lifted on items other than that which is needed as an aid to law enforcement agencies and therefore, a tool for the good and safety of society.

Sincerely,



John J. Burzinski
2449 W. Berneau
Chicago, Illinois 60618

JJB/gg

cc: Office in Chicago
230 S. Dearborn
Suite 3892 - 60604



State of Illinois
Office of the Attorney General
Chicago 60601

Neil F. Hartigan
Attorney General

April 13, 1987

Ms. Carolyn Frank
Office of the United States
Trade Representative
Room 521
600 17th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 30506

Re: Automated Identification System (AIS)

Dear Ms. Frank:

As the Attorney General of the State of Illinois I am writing in opposition to the proposed tariff on the major components of the Automated Identification System (AIS) as described in TSUS items 676.5 pt., 676.3046, and 676.3055. That tariff on this specific product would effectively preclude law enforcement officials from utilizing this state-of-the-art criminal identification system, thereby severely hampering criminal investigations, apprehensions, prosecutions and convictions.

AIS allows law enforcement agencies to make criminal identification through fingerprints within seconds that were impossible prior to this technology being available. Expectations are that AIS will also soon be capable of high-speed sorting and comparison of hundreds of thousands of mug shots and rap sheets. NEC Corporation, the supplier of this technology, envisions a nationwide AIS criminal identification system to be in place in the future that would link federal, state and local law enforcement agencies. This will allow law enforcement agencies to achieve an unprecedented level of criminal identification. Prompt identification allows for immediate apprehension and thereby reduces the offender's ability to continue criminal conduct.


Ms. Carolyn Frank
April 13, 1987
Page 2

In 1986, the City of Chicago purchased the AIS system from NEC Corporation through that company's U.S. subsidiary, NEC Information Systems, Inc. Based in part on the success the Chicago Police and other law enforcement agencies have had with the system, the Illinois State Police have contracted for the purchase of AIS, to be operational in December, 1987. If AIS were unavailable due to the proposed tariffs, the citizens of Illinois would lose both this state-of-the-art technology and the large investment already made in the implementation of system. Moreover, the safety of citizens of Illinois would be effected.

I can fully appreciate the need for effective measures directed against Japan as a means of addressing the trade imbalance. However, in light of the critical need for this technology and the fact that the only other suppliers of the technology are subsidiaries of foreign companies, I respectfully request that the United States Trade Representative exclude the components of AIS from the Section 301 tariff.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



NEIL F. HARTIGAN
Attorney General
State of Illinois

THE WHITE HOUSE
Office of the Press Secretary
(Santa Barbara, California)

For Immediate Release

April 17, 1987

INCREASE IN THE RATES OF DUTY FOR CERTAIN
ARTICLES FROM JAPAN

- - - - -

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

A PROCLAMATION

1. On April 17, 1987, I determined pursuant to section 301 of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended ("the Act") (19 U.S.C. 2411), that the Government of Japan has not implemented or enforced major provisions of the Arrangement concerning Trade in Semiconductor Products, signed on September 2, 1986, and that this is inconsistent with the provisions of, or otherwise denies benefits to the United States under, a trade agreement; and is unjustifiable and unreasonable and constitutes a burden or restriction on United States commerce. Specifically, the Government of Japan has not met its commitments to increase market access opportunities in Japan for foreign-based semiconductor producers or to prevent "dumping" through monitoring of costs and export prices of exports from Japan of semiconductor products. I have further determined, pursuant to section 301(b) of the Act (19 U.S.C. 2411(b)), that the appropriate and feasible action in response to such failure is to impose increased duties on certain imported articles that are the products of Japan.

2. Section 301(a) of the Act (19 U.S.C. 2411(a)) authorizes the President to take all appropriate and feasible action within his power to obtain the elimination of an act, policy, or practice of a foreign government or instrumentality that (1) is inconsistent with the provisions of, or otherwise denies benefits to the United States under, a trade agreement; or (2) is unjustifiable, unreasonable, or discriminatory and burdens or restricts United States commerce. Section 301(b) of the Act authorizes the President to suspend, withdraw, or prevent the application of benefits of trade agreement concessions with respect to, and to impose duties or other import restrictions on the products of, such foreign government or instrumentality for such time as he determines appropriate. Pursuant to section 301(a) of the Act, such actions can be taken on a nondiscriminatory basis or solely against the products of the foreign government or instrumentality involved. Section 301(d)(1) of the Act (19 U.S.C. 2411(d)(1)) authorizes the President to take action on his own motion.

3. I have decided, pursuant to section 301(a), (b), and (d)(1) of the Act, to increase U.S. import duties on the articles provided for in the Annex to this Proclamation that are the products of Japan.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RONALD REAGAN, President of the United States of America, acting under the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the statutes of the United States, including but not limited to sections 301(a), (b), and (d)(1) and section 604 of the Act (19 U.S.C. 2483), do proclaim that:

more

1. Subpart B of part 2 of the Appendix to the Tariff Schedules of the United States (19 U.S.C 1202) is modified as set forth in the Annex to this Proclamation.

2. The United States Trade Representative is authorized to suspend, modify, or terminate the increased duties imposed by this Proclamation upon publication in the Federal Register of his determination that such action is in the interest of the United States.

3. This Proclamation shall be effective with respect to articles entered, or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption, on or after April 17, 1987, except that it shall not apply with respect to articles that were admitted into a U.S. foreign trade zone on or before March 31, 1987.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this seventeenth day of April, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and eighty-seven, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and eleventh.

RONALD REAGAN

more

ANNEX

Subpart B of part 2 of the Appendix to the Tariff Schedules of the United States is modified by inserting in numerical sequence the following new items and superior heading, set forth herein in columnar form, in the columns designated "Item", "Articles", "Rates of Duty 1", and "Rates of Duty 2", respectively:

Effective with respect to articles entered, or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption, on or after April 17, 1987

"Articles the product of Japan:

- 945.83 Automatic data processing machines, of the type of which the constituent units are integrated in the same housing, whether finished or unfinished, which incorporate a microprocessor-based calculating mechanism, are capable of handling data words of at least 16-bits off the microprocessor, and are designed for use with a non-CRT display unit, whether or not capable of use without an external power source (provided for in item 676.15, part 4G, schedule 6) 100% ad val. No change
- 945.84 Automatic data processing machines, of the type of which the constituent units are separately housed, whether finished or unfinished, which incorporate a microprocessor-based calculating mechanism, are capable of handling data words of at least 16-bits off the microprocessor, designed for use while affixed to or placed on a table, desk, or similar place (provided for in item 676.15, part 4G, schedule 6) 100% ad val. No change
- 945.85 Rotary drills, not battery powered, with a chuck capacity of 1/2 inch or more; electropneumatic rotary and percussion hammers; and grinders, sanders, and polishers (except angle grinders, sanders, and polishers, belt sanders, and orbital and straight-line sanders), the foregoing which are hand-directed or -controlled tools with self-contained electric motor (provided for in item 683.20, part 5, schedule 6)..... 100% ad val. No change
- 945.86 Complete color television receivers containing in a single housing apparatus for receiving and displaying off-the-air each standard U.S. broadcast channel, with or without external speakers, having a single picture tube intended for direct viewing, with a video display diagonal of 18, 19, or 20 inches (all the foregoing provided for in item 684.92, part 5, schedule 6)..... 100% ad val. No change

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semiconductor
301

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(Santa Barbara, California)

For Immediate Release

April 17, 1987

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT

I am today releasing the list of Japanese exports to the United States upon which tariffs are being raised, effective today, in response to Japan's inability to enforce our September 1986 agreement on semiconductor trade.

I announced my intent to take these actions on March 27 after it became apparent that Japan has not enforced major provisions of the agreement aimed at preventing dumping of semiconductor chips in third country markets and improving U.S. producers' access to the Japanese market. The health and vitality of the U.S. semiconductor industry are essential to America's future competitiveness. We cannot allow it to be jeopardized by unfair trading practices.

In my March 27 announcement, I said we would impose tariffs on \$300 million in Japanese exports to the United States to offset losses suffered by American semiconductor producers as a result of the agreement not being fully implemented. The products upon which the tariffs are being raised were chosen to minimize the impact on American consumers and businesses. All these products are available from domestic or other foreign producers.

These actions are being taken to enforce the principles of free and fair trade.

I regret that these actions were necessary. We will eliminate them as soon as we have firm and continuing evidence that the dumping in third-country markets has stopped and that access to the Japanese market has improved.

I am encouraged by recent actions taken by the Government of Japan to improve their compliance with the U.S.-Japan semiconductor agreement. I believe the agreement is in the best interests of both Japan and the United States and I look forward to the day when it is working as effectively as it should.

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