

U.S. ends with worst trade deficit yet

WASHINGTON (AP)—The United States closed 1971 with its worst trade deficit on record, and its first in 83 years, the Commerce Department said Tuesday in a final report of last year's exports and imports.

The trade deficit swelled to \$2.046 billion as exports expanded by only 2 per cent and imports jumped 14 per cent.

It was the first calendar-year trade deficit since 1888, when the red ink was \$33 million, the department said.

The department said the deficit in December was \$273.7 million, marking the third straight month of unfavorable balances in trade and the eighth month for all of 1971.

The government blamed the worsening picture on dock strikes, the threat of strikes in the steel industry which expanded imports, and an economic slowdown in the major industrialized nations overseas.

A trade deficit results when the value of imports from foreign

companies exceeds that of U.S. exports. This adds to the U.S. balance-of-payments problems and puts American businesses into stiffer competition with foreign firms.

Exports in 1971 were valued at \$43.555 billion while imports were \$45.602 billion.

The 1971 deficit represented a massive turnaround from a year ago, when the nation recorded a \$2.7-billion surplus.

The Commerce Department conceded that the 1971 rise in imports was greater than had been expected even if the world economy was out of kilter.

"This suggests that transitory influences—anticipations of import restrictions and exchange rate uncertainties—may have been contributing factors," the department said.

It was in mid-1971 that President Nixon imposed the 10 per cent surcharge and announced the United States would no longer redeem dollars for gold. The surcharge was removed in late December when a new agreement on money-exchange rates was reached.

But the uncertainty during late 1971 may have retarded trade, the department indicated. It also of-

fered another reason: American consumers are expanding their taste for imported goods.

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Williams to greet foreign students

President Jack K. Williams will formally greet A&M international students Saturday.

The President's Reception for International Students will be a 7 to 8:30 p.m. event in the Memorial Student Center Ballroom.

Deans and department heads also have been extended special invitations to meet TAMU's 600

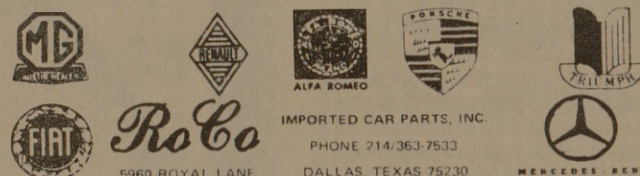
international students at the Hospitality Committee-conducted reception.

In the receiving line with Dr. and Mrs. Williams will be Miss Sadie Hatfield and Mrs. Joyce Cawley, Hospitality Committee co-chairwomen. Miss Hatfield said some of the students will be in native attire.

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S-T-U-V	Feb. 21-25
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later was stripped of one star for the My Lai aftermath, and that Koster forwarded the report to Henderson in an "eyes only" letter demanding he investigate the Vietnamese allegation.

But Koster, testifying before Peers, did not recall sending the letter and Henderson denied receiving it.

Compromise ruled out in Senate battle on enforcement of legislation

WASHINGTON (AP) — Leaders on opposing sides of a seaway Senate fight over enforcement of equal-employment legislation Tuesday ruled out any compromise.

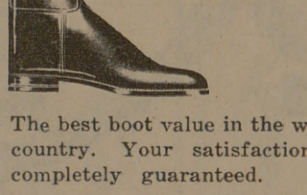
Earlier Republican Leader Hugh Scott of Pennsylvania told newsmen he hoped a sensible compromise could be reached, saying he understood talks were underway.

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Hersh writes also that Lt. Tran Ngoc Tan, the Son Tinh district chief, sent a report to his superior that "operational forces attacked the village, assembled the people, and shot and killed more than 400 people."

He says the report reached Maj. Gen. Samuel W. Koster, the division commander, who

the neighboring hamlet of My Khe in the same operation.

"After the Peers commission disbanded," Hersh writes, "the Army never did complete its investigation of My Khe 4, although even a cursory examination of the Bravo Co. testimony accumulated by Peers demonstrated that a significant atrocity had taken place. No further charges were filed in connection with My Khe 4."

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tion that he recalled seeing a number of reports on investigations specifically dealing with My Lai 4."

They were in a file of Camell's predecessor as intelligence sergeant for the division's 11th brigade, Hersh writes, adding:

"That spring, as the Inspector General's inquiry was getting under way, a senior officer of the 11th Brigade came to him for the complete file. When the folder was returned to him a day or two later, he (Camell) said, he noticed that some of the papers were missing. . . . In September 1969, the sergeant added, he was again asked for the file by a senior staff officer. He never saw the folder again."

In the first of his two articles, Hersh said an investigation by the Army's criminal Investigation Division put the figure of civilians killed at My Lai by Capt. Ernest Medina's Charlie Co. at 347 and that a second company killed as many as 100

My Lai evidence destroyed, reporter says

NEW YORK (AP)—Evidence about My Lai was destroyed by American Division officers who had no connection with the Vietnam massacre "to protect the officers who preceded them," says the reporter who first broke the story of the 1968 assault.

Seymour Hersh, who won a Pulitzer Prize for his My Lai disclosures, writes in the current New Yorker magazine that the Army had evidence some reports on My Lai 4 "were on file at the American Division headquarters as late as May 1969."

That was 14 months after the March 16, 1968, incident, a time when the Army's investigation was getting into full swing. The reports were never found, despite an exhaustive probe later by a commission headed by Lt. Gen. William R. Peers.

Hersh, quoting from what he says is a complete transcript of the still-classified Peers report, writes that a Sgt. Kenneth E. Camell "told the Peers commis-

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