

So I would like to have any comments that you could supply for the record during this hearing or that anyone else has as to what this whole package might do to the growth of tourism in this country.

Now, again I am just repeating questions that I have asked other witnesses. You refer on page 25 to the McKenney Task Force. I thought that it had recommended something in this area of modernizing our visa laws. Did they?

Mr. FRANKEL. This is a matter being treated by or recommended by the McKenney committee.

Mr. CURTIS. The reason I am a little critical is why you don't point up this fact because this will do more in my judgment to make something which is growing fast grow faster and in a healthy way.

Mr. FRANKEL. The American Society of Travel Agents is on record, has been for many years, as supporting the concept of making it as easy as possible for the movement of peoples between countries.

In other words, we have always supported that concept.

Mr. CURTIS. Yes, but here is the quorum and the issue and here is where to drive the thing home.

Mr. FRANKEL. I agree.

Mr. CURTIS. I would like to know a little more about this. I have heard by just talking with people that there is this problem. I have also heard that there have been recommendations. I don't know whether it needs legislation or it can be done by Executive order. Probably it is a combination.

But for heaven sakes if we want to improve this area of visas, this is a proper place to discuss it and at least let us know what can be done. Maybe action could be spurred if a little publicity were given to the fact that this administration, while it is talking, has been failing to act in an area where it could act right now.

This is in context, too, in your addenda here, your letter to Ambassador McKinney on January 10, 1968, recommendation 6:

Prompt consideration should be given to extending tax incentives for U.S. tour promoters . . .

Well, heavens, before you even get to asking for that kind of thing you had better be sure that you are not going to have impediments which are part of this package, thrown in the way of promoting them. Yet I have to bring this out in cross examination of the witnesses.

I would think if these points are valid they would be emphasized.

Mr. QUINN. Mr. Curtis, if I may—

Mr. CURTIS. Certainly.

Mr. QUINN. The recommendations to Ambassador McKinney were made on January 10 and the recommendations we are addressing ourselves to didn't come until February 5. I think you are perfectly right that we now double impediments and I can't get the tax incentives until you remove the burden of taxation itself, which the plan would do to those people who are now investing money in Europe.

Mr. CURTIS. Frankly, I would like to take a look at the growth of this industry which looks healthy to me. It looks like fast growth. It looks like you can make a good buck here. Why in the name of heaven do we need tax incentives and why do you come wanting us to spend more money through the Federal sector, through the USTS. I don't like this business of constantly running to the Government to do things