ican tourists would save anything because of the expensive new bureaucracy that would be created to impose controls on the travel industry and the individual traveler.

Indeed, the President's proposal would save less than the $100 million loss sustained when the administration's negligence resulted in the hijacking of the U.S.S. *Pueblo* and its expensive equipment.

The measure outlined by the Secretary of the Treasury would be a first step toward a currency control law and all such a concept of expanded big government implies in terms of socialization. The new controls sought are the very same restrictive devices imposed in Great Britain years ago, and we are now painfully aware of what ensued in terms of the British decline throughout the world culminating in the devaluation of the pound.

Complex new machinery would obviously be required to administer the tax on tourists. The Associated Press has reported that the U.S. Customs Service would need an additional 535 employees to handle the increased workload. New office facilities would be required. The Internal Revenue Service would need so many more people and facilities it is not yet possible to estimate their needs. So much redtape would be initiated just to keep track of travelers checks, bank withdrawals, and so forth, that it would cost more to assess taxes on the individual tourist than his taxes would amount to.

If the administration is aiming at a back door technique of imposing a currency control law, telling us what we can spend, where we can spend it, and when, let the public know the truth.

The popular "package tours" now sponsored by our American travel agencies and airline companies would be hard hit. Individual travelers would be harassed and virtually forced into a situation which would promote fraud and evasion. Indeed, so much redtape would be created that the joys of travel would be undermined and each tourist would be turned into a combination bookkeeper and tax accountant.

Friendly ties with foreign nations would also be jeopardized by difficulties imposed on Americans of foreign background who would want to visit the homelands of their fathers. Foreign tourists and foreign governments would be less prone to promote tourism to the United States. The entire concept of equality and reciprocity would be negated, and the new law might even set off a wave of taxes imposed by other nations on travel to the United States.

Mr. Chairman, this proposal is a first step toward a dangerous "iron curtain" that would tell the world that America is so weak and so worried about the status of our dollar that American tourists must keep a record of every cup of coffee they drink abroad.

Mr. Chairman, I oppose this tax, because it would weaken our economy and undermine our national image. It is a drop in the bucket of the balance-of-payments deficit, creating more problems than it could possibly solve.

We need less restrictive Federal controls over the individual, certainly not more.

Mr. LANDRUM. The committee is adjourned until 10 o'clock Monday morning.

(Whereupon, at 11:10 a.m., the committee adjourned to reconvene at 10 a.m., Monday, February 26, 1968.)