

high visitor records could easily show the "penny-wise pound-foolish" policy of the U.S.

3. Eliminate expensive, irritating and useless visitor entrance procedures (visa, etc.) which repel the foreign tourist, costs the U.S. greatly in bureaucratic expense and seem to serve as no deterrent to U.S.-deemed undesirables who are able to enter the U.S. in spite of the procedures.

4. Offer special inducements to foreign visitors as is done in many European countries. These could include all-inclusive, low rates for transportation and accommodations, discounts which allow the tourist to purchase gasoline less taxes, etc.

5. Expand much-needed U.S. employment for students by training schools to provide a pool for visitor services which peak during the summer.

Yours very truly,

W. H. BARTHOLD, *President.*
ELLEN W. BARTHOLD.

PROFESSIONAL TRAVEL SERVICE,
Los Angeles, Calif., February 22, 1968.

Mr. WILBUR D. MILLS,
Chairman, Committee on Ways and Means,
U.S. House of Representatives,
Longworth House Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

This is to inform you that we are strongly opposed to the intended Travel Tax bill being discussed by your Committee for these reasons:

It is discriminating and unjust.

It would be costly and cumbersome to operate, both for the Government and for the travel industry.

It restricts the American's right to travel.

It won't solve the Balance of Payments problem.

If we restrict Americans from traveling abroad, foreign governments will be forced to retaliate and restrict *their* nationals from visiting the USA. So everyone loses.

If people stop flying there will be widespread unemployment in the aircraft industry.

We need to encourage 2-way tourism—not build an iron-curtain to prevent our citizens from traveling abroad.

MANUEL G. RUIZ, *Coomer.*
KIT BARNARD, *Coomer.*

RESERVATIONS PLEASE! TRAVEL SERVICE INC.,
New York, N.Y., February 13, 1968.

Hon. WILBUR D. MILLS,
Chairman, Committee on Ways and Means,
U.S. House of Representatives,
Longworth House Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: We are travel agents quite concerned with the proposed legislation which concerns us directly.

As members of the Association of Retail Travel Agents, we are unequivocally opposed to the discriminatory and unjust taxes proposed on travel.

We believe that practically all of the valid arguments which have been offered by our Association together with the airlines, steamship companies, travel bureaus, etc. adequately express our feelings on this proposed legislation.

In addition to the above, our organization last year was one of the principal agencies in the United States that serviced and conducted a "Visit U.S.A." Program. During 1967, we handled over 2000 European visitors, who left in this country approximately \$75,000.00 and we have gone to great expense and time in promoting this phase of the travel business. We have published a wholesale and Confidential Tariff for foreign tourist agencies and travel bureaus. We have made two trips to Europe promoting our "Visit U.S.A." Program and we have enlisted the aid of the American and Foreign carriers for their support.

Based upon our conversations and correspondence with our foreign sources, we fear that in addition to the disastrous economic effect that this proposed tax