

COM Picks Sea Lawyer

Consultant

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SAIPAN (MNS) The Congress of Micronesia's Joint Committee on the Law of the Sea has retained San Francisco attorney Frederick Wyle as its consultant for the international

conference on Law of the Sea in Caracas, Venezuela.

Wyle, 45, is a former deputy assistant Secretary of Defense with responsibilities in European and NATO affairs during the Johnson administration. Since 1969 he has been in private practice in California.

According to congress staff attorney Fred Ramp, counsel to the joint committee, Wyle has headed numerous negotiating teams at international conferences and negotiations.

Wyle is a graduate of Harvard University Law School, where he also was a teaching fellow for a year. After six years in private practice in California and New York, he entered government service in 1962, becoming a member of the U.S. Mission to NATO in Paris. He was a member of the policy planning council of the Department of State for two years before becoming deputy assistant Secretary of State in 1965.

Wyle will be on Saipan next week for a meeting between the joint committee and members of the U.S. Department of State's task force on Law of the Sea. The Washington group, headed by former U.S. Rep. Howard Pollack, will meet May 21 and 22 with the Micronesian Law of the Sea delegation.

Sen. Andon Amaraich of Truk is chairman of the Joint Committee on Law of the Sea. Other members are Sen. Amata Kabua of Marshalls and Reps. Herman Guerrero of Marianas and Masao Nakayama of Truk.

Editorial Wednesday, May 15, 1974 The Seamy Paradise.....

"The Other Side of Paradise," an article about Hawaii printed in the many-million circulation Parade Magazine, should serve to put the fear of God into many people on Guam. In many ways Guam follows--on a much smaller scale--our big sister to the east.

Both Guam and Hawaii have always been big militarily, since World War II. Hawaii and Guam have gone into tourism in a large way, and in fact, tourism has overtaken the military in Hawaii as the number one income producer.

There are other similarities, the racial mix, the climate, the island atmosphere, the semi-isolation, the high living costs, the soaring crime rate. Guam even seems to be heading in the direction Hawaii took politically.

But the article, written by Lloyd Shearer, obviously designed to scare, succeeded in doing just that.

It starts out by saying: "Visit! Spend your money, but don't stay! That seems to be the current motto of the State of Hawaii. And with good reason. Almost 10 percent of the state's population of 850,000 is on welfare. As of March of this year, the unemployment rate for the state was 7.8 percent and nearly double that for young people. Over the past six years, Hawaii's welfare caseloads and costs have doubled and quadrupled, respectively, accounting for almost a third of the executive budget. Most of the welfare recipients come from the U.S. mainland. At the same time there is a constant increase of new welfare applicants from the Philippines, Samoa, China, Japan and Korea. The largest percentage of these foreign in-migrants are Filipinos who are arriving and settling in Hawaii at the rate of 4000 a year."

The article notes that in the past few years the number of Filipinos applying for welfare has increased a staggering 2100 percent, outstripping the almost equally dramatic increase of Samoans (555 percent).

Certainly, as Guam sees itself as a one-tenth Hawaii, the article becomes more and more relevant. In a sentence, Shearer says, too many people are moving to Hawaii--not to vacation--but to live. "We're getting the wrong kind of people," explained one social worker in the article, "the welfare chiselers. And maybe we have only ourselves to blame. We've advertised these islands so idyllically, painted them as such a paradise that anyone who can afford the plane fare comes over here, runs out of money in two or three days, then applies for relief."

Myron Thompson, director of the state's Department of Social Services and Housing, revealed that last year approximately 45,000 mainlanders from Continental U.S., a record breaking number for any one year, arrived in Hawaii to make their home.

He pointed out that Hawaii was just getting too many people. The mainland population, he said, doubled in the last 50 years, but ours here in Hawaii has tripled. Foreign population into the Continental U.S. has increased 25 percent in the last five years. Ours has increased 370 percent."

It isn't just the people that are the problem, the article says, but rather the type of people. In the past 10 years Hawaii's welfare costs have zoomed from \$12.2 million to \$102.6 million. Thompson said that back in 1971 they tried to make mandatory residency requirements, in which people had to reside in the state one year before they could apply for welfare. The U.S. Supreme Court ruled that such restrictions were unconstitutional. More recently Hawaii tried to make every able-bodied man on relief report for a job unless he had a medical certificate validating his absence. The Hawaii state court invalidated the medical certificate requirement.

The airlines, the Hawaii Visitors Bureau, hotels, and travel agencies spend an estimated \$100 million a year in advertising, publicity, and promotion for the very necessary tourism industry, but it is this same promotion which results in the increase of Hawaiian welfare clients.

One lady, interviewed in the article said that she was an alcoholic in Chicago "where it's very cold. But the climate is so bad back there that I came to Honolulu. But," she went on, "these Hawaiian welfare people aren't very understanding. How do they expect me to get along on \$150 a month? Everybody knows that outside of Alaska, this is the most expensive state in the nation." The lady said that she has no intention of returning to cold Chicago, which seems to be typical of most of the migrants on Hawaiian welfare. They have found a home, no matter how seedy and dilapidated, and they plan to stay.

This is particularly true of the Filipinos, Shearer says. There are now 120,000 there, and are outnumbered only by the Caucasians, and Japanese. In contrast to the hard working Filipinos on Guam, Shearer claims that Honolulu has a "Little Manila," a poverty-ridden slum area, with 10 or 12 Filipinos occupying a two or three room clap-board shack. He says that they are underprivileged, undereducated, unskilled, underfed, and like all new immigrants, severely handicapped, and thus the most likely candidates for relief rolls.

Social Service Director Thompson suggests limiting the number of out-of-state students attending Hawaii's state-supported educational institutions. He urges stricter requirements for professionals and technicians. He recommends controls on building permits for new housing. Most important, he advocates amending the U.S. Constitution to change state residency and federal migration requirements.

Hawaii is trying to discourage newcomers without jobs or skills. They point out "that no one should come here without a round-trip ticket." They tell everybody that it is an expensive place to live, there is a shortage of low cost housing, and the cops won't allow people to sleep on the beaches.

Still, Shearer concludes that Hawaii has become a victim of its own propaganda. "The state either revises its come-hither propaganda, differentiating between tourism and residency, or its problem will grow steadily worse."

Guam hasn't reached that same degree of worry and woe. But the welfare rolls have gone up to an extraordinary degree, and as we follow Hawaii down the road, it is something we should be looking at, and watching for. Guam needs all the working people we can get, because we need to develop the island--but we certainly don't need any more people on our welfare rolls. JCM.