

Editorial.....We Go With Our Arms Outstretched

# Congresswoman Is Colonialistic

Over the past few months, with the Guam Status Commission, and with the University of Guam Seminar, and with a rash of letters-to-the-editor, the subject of U.S. Colonialism has come up often.

Generally speaking, we don't believe that the U.S. is basically a colonialistic oriented society. Our nation is rooted too strongly in freedom for that. But there are individuals in the U.S. who sometime don't really give much thought to the subject, and thus appear as the worst kind of colonialist, on a par with Britian, France, Spain, Germany, and Portugal in the 16th, 17th, and 18th century.

A case in point would be members of the House Appropriations Committee, and their chairman Julia Butler Hansen, D-Washington, who sounds like she has had her head stuck in the sand for many years. While she told Guam officials at a recent budget hearing that she is pleased with the promptness of Guam in keeping up with its road and public works construction schedules she, and Rep. Sidney Yates, of Illinois, expressed concern about the degree to which Japanese, Chinese and other foreign interests are moving into Guam's hotel, tourism and commercial development fields.

"We've got a major Navy base in Guam and yet we're letting every country in Asia move there. If Moscow wanted to move in we'd probably let them, Mrs. Hansen said, calling the situation "damned foolishness" and "puzzling to me." She said Alaska is having the same experience with Japanese developers. "My question to you is who the hell won that war?" Mrs. Hansen asked. "We certainly did not."

Our question to the Honorable Mrs. Hansen is "what the hell difference does it really make where the capital to develop Guam comes from?" Ye Gods, we haven't heard that ridiculous remark about "who won the war" for 10 years, leading us to suspect that Mrs. Hansen is living in some kind of vacuum. The war has been over for nearly 30 years now, and we think it is an affront to our Japanese allies, customers, and friends to keep bringing the subject up.

