

Ryan Predicts 5000 Japanese Tourists in Alaska

Commissioner Irene E. Ryan of the Department of Economic Development has predicted a first-year total of up to 5,000 Japanese tourists in Alaska as a result of the new marketing program being carried out by her department and the Alaska Visitors Association.

The prediction was made as Commissioner Ryan spoke in Juneau to a group of 16 Northwest Orient and Pan American airlines interline staff members on a week-long tour of Alaska tourist attractions.

"Because of the liberalized currency regulations in Japan, we are assured an economic benefit amounting to millions of dollars, even during this first year of activity," said Mrs. Ryan. "This international effort cannot be stressed too much. It is simply the key to the growth rate of Alaska's fourth largest industry—tourism."