

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
WASHINGTON

18 JUN 1952



My dear Mr. Lawton:

Your enrolled bill transmittal sheet dated June 11, 1952, enclosing a facsimile of an enrolled enactment of Congress, H. R. 5678, "To revise the laws relating to immigration, naturalization, and nationality, and for other purposes," and requesting the comment of the Department of Defense, has been received. The Department of the Navy has been assigned the responsibility for the preparation of a report thereon expressing the views of the Department of Defense.

The Act repeals the Act of October 14, 1940 (54 Stat. 1137), as amended (8 U.S.C. 703), which made members of certain races ineligible for citizenship. The Act also repeals the Act of May 26, 1924 (43 Stat. 153), as amended, which, by section 13 (c), barred the admission of aliens who were ineligible for citizenship. These repeals and section 205 of the Act will make it possible for servicemen who may marry aliens of any race to petition the Attorney General for the admission into the United States of their spouses and children or stepchildren as non-quota immigrants. If the Act is approved, protracted separations of servicemen from their alien spouses and children no longer will be attributable to the immigration laws.

The Act explicitly defines membership in and affiliation with totalitarian parties and makes such membership or affiliation a basis for exclusion. Subsection 212 (d)(3)(B), however, authorizes in the discretion of the Attorney General and under certain circumstances the admission on a temporary basis of an alien who would be so excluded. In addition, subsection 212(d)(5) authorizes the Attorney General to parole into the United States temporarily for emergent reasons or for reasons deemed strictly in the public interests any alien applying for admission into the United States. While the Department of Defense concurs in the vesting of this discretion in the Attorney General to accommodate cases of aliens whose admission into the United States might be in the national interests even though they could not meet the political requirements established by the Act, it should be pointed out that the above mentioned sections do not adequately meet the needs of the Department in

connection with its so-called "Project Paper Clip."

Since the passage of the "Internal Security Act of 1950" (64 Stat. 987), the Department of Defense has found it necessary to curtail its so-called "Project Paper Clip" for the employment of certain outstanding foreign scientists and technicians in connection with the research and development programs of the Army, Navy and Air Force. The project was authorized by the State-War-Navy-Coordinating Committee, later the State-Army-Navy-Air-Coordinating Committee and has been in operation since the summer of 1946. Its purpose is to make available to the Department of Defense the results of research in those fields in which scientists of some European nations were admittedly in advance of American scientific thought. These fields include optics, aircraft design, jet propulsion, guided missiles, instruments, synthetic fuels, electronics, medicine, prosthetic devices, and some others and has resulted in an estimated saving of millions of dollars and years of trial-and-error research.

Further, it is pointed out that, from a review of the provisions of section 212, it is not possible to foretell whether the discretionary powers given to the Attorney General are sufficiently broad to preclude the possibility of discouraging persons seeking asylum from Iron Curtain countries. Nevertheless, it is deemed pertinent to note that the overall effect of the Act, even with these provisions, might be adverse to the best interests of the United States in this respect.

Sections 327, 328, and 329 adequately provide for the naturalization of (1) persons who lost their citizenship by service in the armed forces of foreign countries during World War II, (2) naturalization of present alien members of the Armed Forces of the United States, and (3) naturalization of alien veterans who served in the Armed Forces during World War I or World War II.

The Department of Defense has no information on which to base an estimate of the cost to the Government of the approval of this Act.

Sincerely yours,



*John F. Floberg*  
John F. Floberg  
Acting Secretary of the Navy

Honorable Frederick J. Lawton  
Director, Bureau of the Budget  
Washington 25, D.C.

RECEIVED

JUN 18 2 32 PM '52  
BUREAU OF THE BUDGET