



MAR 17 1952

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. RICHARD NEUSTADT, SPECIAL ASSISTANT
THE WHITE HOUSE

SUBJECT: Proposed Message on Immigration and Escapees

1. With reference to your draft of a proposed message to Congress for a special immigration program and aids to Iron Curtain refugees, I would recommend the following:

a. That the last paragraph on page 10 be amended to read as follows:

"But the help we can give under existing legislation is not adequate to meet the needs. Under the terms of Public Law 597, the so-called Lodge Act of 1950, people of this type are permitted to enlist in the United States armed forces overseas. Only a handful, however, ~~have been through the necessary security screening and~~ have been allowed to enlist due to the necessary physical and mental requirements for enlistment. Further, security screening requirements are necessarily high due to the fact that each person under the provisions of this act is a potential U. S. citizen.

"Section 101(a)(1) of the ~~Mutual Security Act~~ Public Law 165, 82nd Congress authorizes ~~establishing national~~ the formation of escapees from behind the iron curtain into military units for such persons in the European supporting the NATO defense forces. But the formation of such units presents great administrative and political difficulties, and even if ~~it ultimately proves feasible~~ they are ultimately formed, it they will utilize only a relatively small number of these people. In any case, military service is an inadequate answer to the problem."

b. That the last sentence on page 14 be amended to read as follows:

"Our defense production program can easily absorb a limited number of ~~additional immigrants~~ certain skilled and trained personnel in the years immediately ahead."



2. As the proposed message is now written, the greater percentage of immigrants would be from Western Europe. It is believed that more emphasis should be placed on immigrants from behind the Iron Curtain with a minimum to come from Western Europe.

f.c.n.

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