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DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR

Meeting of 22 June 1956. Subject: Alien Control - review of the present situation and project for new regulations.

I. Indians, Pakistanis, Arabs, etc.

1. Census: The census of aliens is closely related to the national security. The Immigration Service must rightly realize its role, which is to carry out itself the census, and, in any case, not to rely on the congregations whose role is only to collect taxes for the Government.

Indians should be registered as well as nationals of Pakistan, Yemen, Arabia, Cambodia, Laos, Indonesia, the Philippines, etc.

Method scheduled: by declaration on forms which shall be filled out by the concerned. Congregation chiefs and Consuls shall countersign. Police chiefs in cities and provinces shall be responsible for carrying out the census.

The Immigration Service shall establish identity indexes in order to watch over aliens in the most adequate way. We shall most appreciate the MSUG's assistance in setting up an up-to-date organization.

2. Entry and exit visas: Any alien must be the national of a recognized state. The, any alien entering Vietnam must have his passport legally issued by his government.

Entry or exit requests shall pass by the Security Service (along with a report from the Immigration Service), then to the Interior Department for final decision. As for Indians, there shall be an additional requirement: an introductory letter from the Indian Consul in Saigon. This is required in order to direct the Indian Government to recognize Free Vietnam in the very near future.

Indians who were natives of ex-French settlements in India and who were granted French citizenship shall choose between French and Indian citizenship. Such a choice should have the Indian Consul's agreement.

II. The Chinese.

1. Census: A census of the Chinese shall be carried out in the same way as that of the Indians, i.e., by means of declarations of identity. Congregation chiefs and the acting Chinese Consul in Saigon shall recognize their nationals.

This procedure shall be valid for Chinese coming from HongKong, Singapore, and Macao.

2. Entry and Exit visas: All Chinese, even those who have the status of permanent immigrants, shall be regarded as nationals of a State; otherwise, neither Communist nor National Chinese governments should be liable to assure them any diplomatic protection.

Entry and exit procedure shall be by survey of the Security Service (along with a report from the Immigration Service), then a decision from the Interior Department.

As for those Chinese coming from Continental China via HongKong, Macao, or Singapore, they shall be warranted by the concerned governments (British or Portugal) or the government of Free China, and have a passport issued by them. An affidavit shall be no longer necessary.

Chinese coming from any other country shall have a passport issued by the representatives of Free China.

The Chinese living in Vietnam and wanting to leave shall have a passport issued by the Chinese Minister in Saigon or reconfirmed by him. This means recognition by the Free Chinese government and renders the concerned Chinese liable for extradition to Taiwan.

The present system for issuing a certificate of departure shall be maintained. In addition, passports shall be presented in order to be stamped as is practiced with all other aliens.

In 1946, the French Government signed the Treaty of Chungking which granted the Chinese a lot of additional privileges. Such a treaty will be denounced by the Vietnamese government.

III. Concerning bi-annual cards.

For the time being, aliens are divided into non-immigrants (temporary sejour) and immigrants (permanent sejour). This remains from the period of foreign domination and is common to most Far East countries. Foreign rulers, as usual, did not pay much attention to the native's interests and opened the door wide to immigrants. So, in Vietnam, immigrants are only bound to pay some light taxes against which they are issued a bi-annual card. Such a card carries an automatic renewal. So it practically results in a recognized right of permanent stay.

The benefit of the automatic renewal of the bi-annual card shall be reviewed so that it shall not be against Vietnamese interests.