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82D CONGRESS, 1st Session | SENATE | REPORT No. 815

DR. EUGEN JOSÉ SINGER AND MRS. FRIEDA SINGER

SEPTEMBER 24 (legislative day, SEPTEMBER 19), 1951.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. MCCARRAN, from the Committee on the Judiciary, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany H. R. 1420]

The Committee on the Judiciary, to which was referred the bill (H. R. 1420) for the relief of Dr. Eugen José Singer and Mrs. Frieda Singer, having considered the same, reports favorably thereon without amendment and recommends that the bill do pass.

PURPOSE OF THE BILL

The purpose of the bill is to grant the status of permanent residence in the United States to Dr. Eugen José Singer and his wife, Mrs. Frieda Singer. The bill provides for appropriate quota deductions and for the payment of the required visa fees and head taxes.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

The beneficiaries of the bill are 38- and 44-year-old natives of Rumania and citizens of Palestine. They entered the United States en route to Mexico on October 23, 1947, and were subsequently denied admission to Mexico because of the invalidity of their visas. Dr. Singer has been employed as a professor of music at Salem College, Salem, W. Va., since the latter part of 1948.

AUTHENTICATED U.S. GOVERNMENT INFORMATION GPO

A letter dated April 3, 1951, to the chairman of the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives from the Deputy Attorney General with reference to the case, reads as follows:

APRIL 3, 1951.

Hon. EMANUEL CELLER,
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary,
House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.

MY DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: This is in response to your request for the views of the Department of Justice relative to the bill (H. R. 1420) for the relief of Dr. Eugen Jose Singer and Mrs. Frieda Singer, aliens.

The bill would direct the Attorney General to cancel deportation proceedings in the cases of Dr. Eugen Jose Singer and Mrs. Frieda Singer and would provide that they shall not be subject to deportation by reason of the same facts upon which such proceedings were commenced. It would also provide that Dr. and Mrs. Singer shall be considered to have been lawfully admitted to the United States for permanent residence as of the date of its enactment upon payment of the required visa fees and head taxes. Finally, the Secretary of State would be directed to instruct the quota-control officer to deduct two numbers from the appropriate quota for the first year that such quota is available.

The files of the Immigration and Naturalization Service of this Department disclose that Dr. Singer was born on June 1, 1913, in Bucharest, Rumania, and that Mrs. Singer was born on August 13, 1907, in Cernawitz, Rumania. Both aliens are citizens of Palestine, having entered that country as refugees. They were admitted to the United States from Palestine on October 23, 1947, for a period of 14 days while en route to Mexico. They later attempted to enter the Republic of Mexico at Neuvo Laredo but were denied admission because of the invalidity of their visas. Dr. Singer has been employed as a professor of music at Salem College, Salem, W. Va., since the latter part of 1948. He testified on April 29, 1948, that he had again attempted to enter Mexico but had been unsuccessful. In addition he claimed to have tried to obtain permission to enter Chile, but without success.

A warrant of arrest was issued against the aliens on April 29, 1948, but action was deferred pending consideration of their applications for adjustment of their status as displaced persons. On February 19, 1951, Dr. Singer's application for adjustment of his immigration status under section 4 of the Displaced Persons Act of 1948, as amended, was denied by order of the Assistant Commissioner of Immigration and Naturalization. Action on Mrs. Singer's application for adjustment of her status under the same act has not been completed. The files further reveal that at a hearing held on his application, Dr. Singer stated that he would never take up arms in defense of this country against Israel in the event of war between the United States and that nation.

The quota of Rumania, to which the aliens are chargeable, is oversubscribed and immigration visas are not readily obtainable. There is nothing in the record, however, which would justify the enactment of special legislation to grant a preference to these aliens over other aliens who are awaiting an opportunity to enter the United States under established quotas. Their cases are similar to those of many other aliens who desire to enter the United States but who are unable to do so because of the oversubscribed condition of the quotas to which they are chargeable. To enact the proposed legislation would encourage others to enter this country as transients, remain here and seek exemption from the general immigration laws.

Accordingly, the Department of Justice is unable to recommend enactment of the measure.

Yours sincerely.

PEYTON FORD,
Deputy Attorney General.

Congressman Cleveland M. Bailey, the author of the bill, appeared before a subcommittee of the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives and submitted the following information in support of the bill:

THE SALEM KIWANIS CLUB,
Salem, W. Va., March 13, 1951.

Hon. CLEVELAND M. BAILEY,
House Office Building, Washington, D. C.

DEAR CONGRESSMAN BAILEY: It has come to the attention of the Salem Kiwanis Club that a bill has been introduced or is pending relating to the citizenship of Prof. Eugen Singer and his wife, Manon Singer. At a recent meeting of the board it was voted that a letter should go to you in their behalf.

Mr. Singer has been in the employ of Salem College since coming to Salem. He and Mrs. Singer have taken an active interest in the civic life of Salem and Clarksburg, he serving as director of the Clarksburg Symphony Orchestra and Community Chorus, she as a teacher of music. Mr. Singer has been an active member of the Kiwanis Club and serves as pianist of the local club.

It is our belief that these folk are distinctly of excellent background, that they are desirable as citizens of the United States, and that they would make thoughtful, dependable citizens of our country.

It is a pleasure to send this letter on their behalf. We trust that the bill making possible their citizenship will receive your wholehearted support.

Respectfully yours,

R. P. SEAGER, *President.*
ARLEN L. SWIGER, *Secretary.*

THE SALVATION ARMY,
Clarksburg, W. Va., February 7, 1951.

CLEVELAND M. BAILEY,
Congressman, House Office Building, Washington, D. C.

MY DEAR SIR: Recently our local papers have announced your special interest in the welfare of our two friends, Professor and Mrs. Singer, with reference to their becoming citizens of our great country.

We of the Salvation Army are very happy that steps are being taken in their interest, for since their coming to the city of Clarksburg they have made a definite impression on the hearts of the people in their zeal for the improvement of the community and they have given of their time and talents without thought of remuneration in the interest of all classes.

We do hope and pray that every success will attend your efforts on their behalf.

With kindest regards, I remain

Yours sincerely,

VICTOR FARMER, *Captain.*

MACDONALD'S,
Clarksburg, W. Va., March 13, 1951.

HON. CLEVELAND M. BAILEY,
Congressman from West Virginia,
House Office Building, Washington, D. C.

DEAR MR. BAILEY: I am writing you in behalf of Prof. Eugene Singer and his wife, Mrs. Manon Singer. He and Mrs. Singer are very anxious to become naturalized American citizens.

I understand from Mr. Bond, president of Salem College, that their application for citizenship at present is being considered. I know these folks and it is my sincere opinion that they both would make good citizens, the kind that we need.

Will greatly appreciate you doing whatever you can to help them attain their one big desire.

Sincerely yours,

M. E. MACDONALD,
President, Clarksburg Rotary Club.

FIRST METHODIST CHURCH,
Clarksburg, W. Va., February 9, 1951.

Hon. CLEVELAND M. BAILEY, M. C.
The House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.

DEAR MR. BAILEY: Through the columns of the Clarksburg Exponent I discover that you have introduced into the United States Congress a bill, which if passed, will hasten the admission of Prof. and Mrs. Eugene J. Singer, of Salem College, Salem, W. Va., to United States citizenship. I want to commend you for this action and trust that the bill may be pushed to early passage.

Professor and Mrs. Singer are choice people—gracious, intelligent, accomplished and thoroughly responsible. I know of no one who has made a greater contribution to the cultural enrichment of Harrison County and surrounding areas during the past 3 years than they have made. Professor and Mrs. Singer have given a number of programs in our church and, almost weekly, they are performing some worth-while and distinct service in the churches, schools, clubs, and civic organizations in Clarksburg and environs.

Professor Singer has organized and directs the Clarksburg symphony orchestra, the Clarksburg community chorus, and the Clarksburg junior symphony orchestra. This, I think, will help you to understand the valuable contributions Professor and Mrs. Singer have made and are making to the cultural life of Harrison County.

May I add, their standards of life and their moral ideals are high and their loyalty to the United States and its institutions are beyond question. They are held in highest esteem by citizens of the community.

I thank you for manifesting this interest in Professor and Mrs. Singer for they are most worthy and their spirit is as fine as could be found.

Sincerely yours,

JOHN E. HANIFAN.

In connection with the statement made in the report of the Deputy Attorney General that Dr. Singer would not take up arms for the United States against Israel in the event of war between the two countries, Dr. and Mrs. Singer have submitted the following affidavit:

STATE OF VIRGINIA,
County of Bath, ss:

Eugene José Singer, being duly sworn, deposes and says:

That I am an applicant for adjustment of status in the United States.

That I herewith state that I will defend the United States against all enemies, both foreign and domestic, without any reservation of any kind.

That I give this affidavit to affirm my loyalty to the United States and adherence to its Constitution and its institutions.

EUGENE JOSÉ SINGER.
FRIEDA M. SINGER.

Sworn to before me this 22d day of August 1951.

[SEAL] KATHERINE A. JOHNSON,
Notary Public.

My commission expires March 27, 1955.

The committee, after consideration of all the facts in the case, is of the opinion that the bill (H. R. 1420) should be enacted.

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