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APPROVED
JUN 15 1976

86/15/76

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

ACTION
Last Day: June 16

June 14, 1976

Posted
6/16/76
Archives
6/16/76

MEMORANDUM FOR

THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

JIM CANNON

SUBJECT:

S. 1699 - Relief of Mrs.
Hope Namgyal

Attached for your consideration is S. 1699, sponsored by Senator Mansfield, which would grant permanent resident status to Mrs. Hope Namgyal, the American-born wife of the deposed Crown Prince of Sikkim.

Mrs. Namgyal, the former Hope Cook of New York, renounced her U.S. citizenship in 1963 when she married the Crown Prince as Sikkim did not allow dual citizenship.

Additional information is provided in OMB's enrolled bill report at Tab A.

OMB, Max Friedersdorf, NSC, Counsel's Office (Lazarus) and I recommend approval of the enrolled bill.

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign S. 1699 at Tab B.





EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

JUN 9 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

Subject: Enrolled Bill S. 1699 - Relief of Mrs. Hope Namgyal
Sponsor - Sen. Mansfield (D) Montana

Last Day for Action

June 16, 1976 - Wednesday

Purpose

To grant permanent resident status to the American-born wife of the deposed Crown Prince of Sikkim.

Agency Recommendations

Office of Management and Budget	Approval
Immigration and Naturalization Service	Approval
Department of State	No objection

Discussion

Mrs. Hope Namgyal is a 35-year old native of the United States and citizen of India who was married to the then Crown Prince of Sikkim on March 20, 1963. On March 25, 1963, she renounced her U.S. citizenship in Calcutta because Sikkim law does not permit dual citizenship. Because of civil upheaval in Sikkim Mrs. Namgyal returned to the United States as a visitor on August 23, 1973 and currently resides in New York City with her 12-year-old son, 8-year-old daughter, and 20-year-old stepdaughter who were admitted on student visas. The Crown Prince and stepson remain in Sikkim under house arrest.

Mrs. Namgyal's visitors visa expired on May 24, 1975 and INS instituted deportation proceedings against her on May 29, 1975 on the ground that she had remained in the United States after



her visa had expired. However, the deportation proceedings were stayed pending the outcome of this private relief legislation.

S. 1699 as first introduced and passed in the Senate would have restored U.S. citizenship to her through naturalization. However, the bill was amended in the House and passed in both the House and Senate to grant her permanent residence rather than restore the U.S. citizenship which was renounced voluntarily. Absent approval of this measure, Mrs. Namgyal will be subject to deportation if she fails to leave the United States voluntarily.

James M. Frey
Assistant Director for
Legislative Reference

Enclosures



THE WHITE HOUSE

ACTION MEMORANDUM

WASHINGTON

LOG NO.:

Date: June 100

Time: 100pm

FOR ACTION: Dick Parsons *oh*
Max Friedersdorf *oh*
NSC/S *oh*
~~Max Friedersdorf~~
Ken Rogers oh

cc (for information): Jack Marsh
Jim Cavanaugh
Ed Schmults

FROM THE STAFF SECRETARY

DUE: Date:

June 11

Time:

200pm

SUBJECT:

S. 1699 - Relief of Mrs. Hope Namgyal

ACTION REQUESTED:

For Necessary Action

For Your Recommendations

Prepare Agenda and Brief

Draft Reply

For Your Comments

Draft Remarks

REMARKS:

Pleasereturn to Judy Johnston, Ground Floor West Wing

PLEASE ATTACH THIS COPY TO MATERIAL SUBMITTED.

If you have any questions or if you anticipate a delay in submitting the required material, please telephone the Staff Secretary immediately.

K. R. COLE, JR.
For the President

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE
Washington 25, D.C.

PLEASE ADDRESS REPLY TO

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

AND REFER TO THIS FILE NO.

4 JUN 1976

A20 820 857

TO : OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

SUBJECT: Enrolled Private Bill No. S. 1699 ; Office of Management
and Budget request dated June 3, 1976

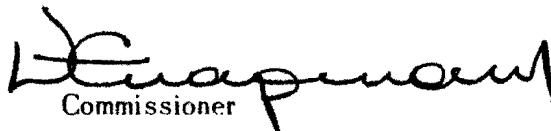
Beneficiary or Beneficiaries Mrs. Hope Namgyal

Pursuant to your request for the views of the Department of Justice on the subject bill, a review has been made of the facsimile of the bill, the relating Congressional Committee report or reports, and all pertinent information in the files of the Immigration and Naturalization Service

On the basis of this review the Immigration and Naturalization Service, on behalf of the Department of Justice:

- Recommends approval of the bill
- Interposes no objection to approval of the bill

Sincerely,


Commissioner



DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, D.C. 20520

JUN 4 1976

Dear Mr. Lynn:

Reference is made to Mr. Frey's communication of June 3, 1976, transmitting for comment enrolled bill, S. 1699, "For the relief of Mrs. Hope Namgyal".

This Department's files contain no information identifiable with the above cited bill, and in the absence of any derogatory information, this Department has no objection to the enactment of this bill.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert J. McCloskey".

Robert J. McCloskey
Assistant Secretary for
Congressional Relations

The Honorable
James T. Lynn
Director,
Office of Management
and Budget.

THE WHITE HOUSE

ACTION MEMORANDUM

WASHINGTON

LOG NO.:

Date: June 10

Time: 100pm

FOR ACTION: Dick Parsons
Max Friedersdorf
NSC/S
Ken Lazarus

cc (for information): Jack Marsh
Jim Cavanaugh
Ed Schmults

FROM THE STAFF SECRETARY

DUE: Date:

June 11

Time:

200pm

SUBJECT:

S. 1699 - Relief of Mrs. Hope Namgyal

ACTION REQUESTED:

For Necessary Action

For Your Recommendations

Prepare Agenda and Brief

Draft Reply

For Your Comments

Draft Remarks

REMARKS:

Please return to Judy Johnston, Ground Floor West Wing

No objection -- Ken Lazarus 6/10/76

PLEASE ATTACH THIS COPY TO MATERIAL SUBMITTED.

If you have any questions or if you anticipate a delay in submitting the required material, please telephone the Staff Secretary immediately.


James M. Cannon
For the President

MEMORANDUM

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

3380

June 10, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: JAMES M. CANNON
FROM: Jeanne W. Dav 
SUBJECT: Enrolled Bill S. 1699

The NSC Staff has no objection to the proposed Enrolled Bill S. 1699 -
Relief of Mrs. Hope Namgyal.

THE WHITE HOUSE

ACTION MEMORANDUM

WASHINGTON

LOG NO.:

Date: June 10

Time: 100pm

FOR ACTION: Dick Parsons
Max Friedersdorf
NSC/S
Ken Lazarus

cc (for information): Jack Marsh
Jim Cavanaugh
Ed Schmults

FROM THE STAFF SECRETARY

DUE: Date:

June 11

Time:

200pm

SUBJECT:

S. 1699 - Relief of Mrs. Hope Namgyal

ACTION REQUESTED:

For Necessary Action

For Your Recommendations

Prepare Agenda and Brief

Draft Reply

For Your Comments

Draft Remarks

REMARKS:

Approve. RB

Please return to Judy Johnston, Ground Floor West Wing

PLEASE ATTACH THIS COPY TO MATERIAL SUBMITTED.

If you have any questions or if you anticipate a delay in submitting the required material, please telephone the Staff Secretary immediately.

James M. Cannon
For the President

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 11, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: JIM CAVANAUGH
FROM: MAX L. FRIEDERSDORF *m.l.*
SUBJECT: S. 1699 - Relief of Mrs. Hope Namgyal

The Office of Legislative Affairs concurs with the agencies
that the subject bill be signed

Attachments

To: J. Casanough
6-9-76
4:30 P.M.



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

JUN 9 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

Subject: Enrolled Bill S. 1699 - Relief of Mrs. Hope Namgyal
Sponsor - Sen. Mansfield (D) Montana

Last Day for Action

June 16, 1976 - Wednesday

Purpose

To grant permanent resident status to the American-born wife of the deposed Crown Prince of Sikkim.

Agency Recommendations

Office of Management and Budget	Approval
Immigration and Naturalization Service	Approval
Department of State	No objection

Discussion

Mrs. Hope Namgyal is a 35-year old native of the United States and citizen of India who was married to the then Crown Prince of Sikkim on March 20, 1963. On March 25, 1963, she renounced her U.S. citizenship in Calcutta because Sikkim law does not permit dual citizenship. Because of civil upheaval in Sikkim Mrs. Namgyal returned to the United States as a visitor on August 23, 1973 and currently resides in New York City with her 12-year-old son, 8-year-old daughter, and 20-year-old stepdaughter who were admitted on student visas. The Crown Prince and stepson remain in Sikkim under house arrest.

Mrs. Namgyal's visitors visa expired on May 24, 1975 and INS instituted deportation proceedings against her on May 29, 1975 on the ground that she had remained in the United States after

MRS. HOPE NAMGYAL

OCTOBER 29, 1975.—Ordered to be printed

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

REPORT

[To accompany S. 1699]

The Committee on the Judiciary, to which was referred the bill (S. 1699) for the relief of Mrs. Hope Namgyal, having considered the same, reports favorably thereon with amendments and recommends that the bill, as amended, do pass.

AMENDMENTS

1. On page 1, in lines 8 and 9, beginning with the words "or before", strike the following language: "or before any diplomatic or consular officer of the United States abroad."
2. On page 2, line 2, change the period to a colon and add the following:

Provided, That nothing contained herein or in any other provision of law shall be construed as conferring United States citizenship retroactively upon the said Mrs. Hope Namgyal during any period in which she was not a citizen.

SEC. 2. The oaths prescribed by section 337 of the Act shall be entered in the records of the naturalization court, and a certified copy of the proceedings under the seal of the court shall be delivered to the said Mrs. Hope Namgyal upon payment of the \$25.00 naturalization fee, which certified copy shall be evidence of the facts stated therein before any court of record or judicial tribunal or in any department or agency of the government of the United States.

PURPOSE OF THE BILL

The purpose of the bill, as amended, is to provide for the restoration of U.S. citizenship to Mrs. Hope Namgyal which was lost when she married the then Crown Prince of Sikkim and was thereby obliged

to relinquish her U.S. citizenship. The bill has been amended so that the beneficiary's children will not automatically become U.S. citizens upon restoration of her U.S. citizenship.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

The beneficiary of the bill is a 35-year-old native of the United States and citizen of India who was married to the then Crown Prince of Sikkim on March 20, 1963. She renounced her U.S. citizenship on March 25, 1963 in Calcutta as she was obliged to do by Sikkimese law. A son and a daughter were born of this marriage in India February 20, 1964 and February 12, 1968, respectively. Because of disorders in Sikkim, the beneficiary returned to the U.S. as a visitor on August 23, 1973 and presently resides in New York City with her children who were admitted as students. Her 19-year-old stepdaughter, who was born in India, also resides with her. The beneficiary's husband and stepson are under house arrest in Sikkim.

A letter, with attached memorandum, dated August 14, 1975 to the chairman of the Senate Committee on the Judiciary from the Commissioner of Immigration and Naturalization with reference to the bill reads as follows:

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE,
IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE,
Washington, D.C., August 14, 1975.

A20 820 857.

HON. JAMES O. EASTLAND,
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary,
U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: In response to your request for a report relative to the bill (S. 1699) for the relief of Mrs. Hope Namgyal, there is attached a memorandum of information concerning the beneficiary.

The bill provides that the beneficiary may be naturalized by taking, within one year from the effective date of enactment, the oaths prescribed by section 337 of the Immigration and Nationality Act. It further provides that she shall have the same citizenship status as that which existed immediately prior to its loss.

Sincerely,

L. F. CHAPMAN, Jr.,
Commissioner.

Enclosure.

MEMORANDUM OF INFORMATION FROM IMMIGRATION AND
NATURALIZATION SERVICE FILES RE S. 1699

The beneficiary, Mrs. Hope Namgyal, a native of the United States and a citizen of India, was born on June 24, 1940. On March 20, 1963 she married Palden Thondup Namgyal, the Chogyal of Sikkim. She has a son and daughter from this marriage. Palden and Hope were born February 20, 1964 and February 12, 1968 respectively, in India.

When Mrs. Namgyal married the then Crown Prince of Sikkim, she was obliged by Sikkimese law to relinquish her United States citizenship. She renounced her United States citizenship in Calcutta, India on March 25, 1963. Because of

mob disorders in the principality, she returned to the United States as a nonimmigrant visitor on August 23, 1973 and subsequently received extensions of stay until May 24, 1975. On May 29, 1975 deportation proceedings were instituted against her on the ground that she had remained in the United States for a longer time than permitted.

Mrs. Namgyal is presently residing in New York City with her two children who were admitted as nonimmigrant students on September 6, 1974 and September 9, 1975. A stepdaughter, Yangchen Namgyal, who was born on February 28, 1956 in India, also resides with them. She was also admitted as a nonimmigrant student on September 14, 1974. Mrs. Namgyal's husband and stepson, Tenzing Namgyal, are under house arrest in Gangton, Sikkim. Another stepson, Wong Chuk, is a student in London, England. Mrs. Namgyal's parents are deceased. She has two half sisters, Harriet Townsend Olds and Hilary Coone.

The beneficiary is not employed. Her property consists of stocks and bonds valued at \$600,000.

Senator Mike Mansfield, the author of the bill, has submitted the following letter dated September 2, 1975 in connection with the case:

U.S. SENATE,
OFFICE OF THE MAJORITY LEADER,
Washington, D.C., September 2, 1975.

HON. JAMES O. EASTLAND,
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary,
U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: This will acknowledge receipt of your letter of August 21 relative to S. 1699 which I introduced on behalf of Mrs. Hope Namgyal.

Mrs. Namgyal is the wife of the ruler of Sikkim who was deposed some time ago by the Indian government. She is the former Hope Cook of New York and, I believe, is now forbidden to return to Sikkim. I am not sure, but I believe, because of the circumstances which have developed in that country, they are now divorced, but I do know that she wants to have her American citizenship restored and I would have no hesitation in recommending that she be given every consideration. It was under Section 349(a)(6) of the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952 that Mrs. Namgyal gave up her citizenship.

Furthermore, I believe that Congressman James Symington introduced a bill similar to mine last May or June and, if you need any further information, I would suggest that you get in touch with him, and for recommendations, I would suggest the names of Senator Stuart Symington and Mrs. Molly Thayer and Senator Claiborne Pell.

Must close now, but hoping this will be sufficient to answer your questions, and with best personal wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

MIKE MANSFIELD.

The committee, after consideration of all the facts in the case, is of the opinion that the bill (S. 1699), as amended, should be enacted.

MRS. HOPE NAMGYAL

MARCH 16, 1976.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House and ordered to be printed

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

REPORT

[To accompany S. 1699]

The Committee on the Judiciary, to whom was referred the bill (S. 1699), for the relief of Mrs. Hope Namgyal, having considered the same, report favorably thereon with amendment and recommend that the bill as amended do pass.

The amendment is as follows:

Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert in lieu thereof the following:

That, for the purposes of the Immigration and Nationality Act, Mr. Hope Mamgyal shall be held and considered to have been lawfully admitted to the United States for permanent residence as of the date of the enactment of this Act, upon payment of the required visa fee.

PURPOSE OF THE BILL

The purpose of this bill, as amended, is to grant the status of permanent residence in the United States to Mrs. Hope Namgyal. The bill has been amended to grant permanent residence rather than to restore United States citizenship which was renounced voluntarily.

GENERAL INFORMATION

The beneficiary of the bill is a 35-year-old native of the United States and citizen of India who was married to the then Crown Prince of Sikkim on March 20, 1963. She renounced her U.S. citizenship on March 25, 1963 in Calcutta as she was obliged to do by Sikkimese law. A son and a daughter were born of this marriage in India February 20, 1964 and February 12, 1968, respectively. Because of disorders in Sikkim, the beneficiary returned to the U.S. as a visitor on August 23, 1973 and presently resides in New York City with her children who were admitted as students. Her 19-year-old stepdaughter, who was

born in India, also resides with her. The beneficiary's husband and stepson are under house arrest in Sikkim.

A letter, with attached memorandum, dated August 14, 1975 to the chairman of the Senate Committee on the Judiciary from the Commissioner of Immigration and Naturalization with reference to the bill reads as follows:

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE,
IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE,
Washington, D.C. August 14, 1975.

A20 820 857.

HON. JAMES O. EASTLAND,
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary,
U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: In response to your request for a report relative to the bill (S. 1699) for the relief of Mrs. Hope Namgyal, there is attached a memorandum of information concerning the beneficiary.

The bill provides that the beneficiary may be naturalized by taking, within one year from the effective date of enactment, the oaths prescribed by section 337 of the Immigration and Nationality Act. It further provides that she shall have the same citizenship status as that which existed immediately prior to its loss.

Sincerely,

L. F. CHAPMAN, JR.,
Commissioner.

Enclosure.

MEMORANDUM OF INFORMATION FROM IMMIGRATION AND
NATURALIZATION SERVICE FILES RE S. 1699

The beneficiary, Mrs. Hope Namgyal, a native of the United States and a citizen of India, was born on June 24, 1940. On March 20, 1963 she married Palden Thondup Namgyal, the Chogyal of Sikkim. She has a son and daughter from this marriage. Palden and Hope were born February 20, 1964 and February 12, 1968 respectively, in India.

When Mrs. Namgyal married the then Crown Prince of Sikkim, she was obliged by Sikkimese law to relinquish her United States citizenship. She renounced her United States citizenship in Calcutta, India on March 25, 1963. Because of mob disorders in the principality, she returned to the United States as a nonimmigrant visitor on August 23, 1973 and subsequently received extensions of stay until May 24, 1975. On May 29, 1975 deportation proceedings were instituted against her on the ground that she had remained in the United States for a longer time than permitted.

Mrs. Namgyal is presently residing in New York City with her two children who were admitted as nonimmigrant students on September 6, 1974 and September 9, 1975. A stepdaughter, Yangchen Namgyal, who was born on February 28, 1956 in India, also resides with them. She was also admitted as a nonimmigrant student on September 14, 1974. Mrs. Namgyal's husband and stepson, Tenzing Namgyal, are

H.R. 912

under house arrest in Gangton, Sikkim. Another stepson, Wong Chuk, is a student in London, England. Mrs. Namgyal's parents are deceased. She has two half sisters, Harriet Townsend Olds and Hilary Coone.

The beneficiary is not employed. Her property consists of stocks and bonds valued at \$600,000.

Senator Mike Mansfield, the author of the bill, has submitted the following letter dated September 2, 1975 in connection with the case:

U.S. SENATE,
OFFICE OF THE MAJORITY LEADER,
Washington, D.C., September 2, 1975.

HON. JAMES O. EASTLAND,
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary,
U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: This will acknowledge receipt of your letter of August 21 relative to S. 1699 which I introduced on behalf of Mrs. Hope Namgyal.

Mrs. Namgyal is the wife of the ruler of Sikkim who was deposed some time ago by the Indian government. She is the former Hope Cook of New York and, I believe, is now forbidden to return to Sikkim. I am not sure, but I believe, because of the circumstances which have developed in that country, they are now divorced, but I do know that she wants to have her American citizenship restored and I would have no hesitation in recommending that she be given every consideration. It was under Section 349(a) (6) of the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952 that Mrs. Namgyal gave up her citizenship.

Furthermore, I believe that Congressman James Symington introduced a bill similar to mine last May or June and, if you need any further information, I would suggest that you get in touch with him, and for recommendations, I would suggest the names of Senator Stuart Symington and Mrs. Molly Thayer and Senator Claiborne Pell.

Must close now, but hoping this will be sufficient to answer your questions, and with best personal wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

MIKE MANSFIELD.

Mr. Symington, the author of a companion bill (H.R. 6855) submitted the following letter and statement in support of this legislation:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, D.C., May 13, 1975.

HON. JOSHUA EILBERG,
Chairman, Subcommittee on Immigration, Citizenship, and International Law, Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR JOSH: With reference to our brief conversation regarding Mrs. Hope Namgyal, I have introduced a bill, H.R. 6855, to reinstate Mrs. Namgyal's U.S. citizenship which she renounced in 1963 in order to marry the Crown Prince of Sikkim. Attached is a statement from Mrs. Namgyal explaining the background of her situation.

H.R. 912

Mrs. Namgyal last entered the U.S. on August 23, 1973, under a non-immigrant visa issued in Calcutta. She has been residing at 11 East 68th Street, New York, New York.

I am requesting that the Attorney General make a report on the bill. I realize that under the Subcommittee's Rule #4 a departmental report will not be requested on aliens who have been admitted under a nonimmigrant visa except in order to prevent undue hardship. As Mrs. Namgyal explains in her statement, both she and her children would face grave danger should they return to Sikkim. Mrs. Namgyal has delayed action to regain here U.S. citizenship because she did not want to prejudice her husband's position in Sikkim. However, as the enclosed newspaper articles indicate, recent events in Sikkim prohibit any further delay.

It is my understanding that Senator Mansfield has introduced a similar bill, S. 1699, for Mrs. Namgyal in the Senate. I realize special bills for this purpose are very rare. They should certainly not be lightly entertained. Hope's circumstances are completely unique. She gave up a precious citizenship only to place herself in a position to marry the man she loved. This very requirement would not have existed were this man not the head of a royal family which has now been dethroned by force by the Indian Government. The Government would now absorb Hope as a citizen of India, an understandably repugnant state of affairs. A nation which can embrace returning deserters and refugees from foreign lands can certainly, it seems to me, find it possible to welcome back one of its own whose only failure was to have followed the dictates of her heart. In all events, any help you can provide would be deeply appreciated.

With all best,
Sincerely,

JAMES W. SYMINGTON.

STATEMENT OF MRS. NAMGYAL TO CONGRESSMAN JAMES SYMINGTON IN SUPPORT OF PETITION FOR CITIZENSHIP AND STAY OF DEPORTATION

I, Mrs. Hope Namgyal, née Hope Cooke, make this statement in support of a stay of deportation and the granting of a private bill restoring U.S. citizenship to myself.

I was born in San Francisco on June 24, 1940, the child of Mr. and Mrs. John Cooke. After my mother died when I was approximately two years old, I was brought up in New York City by my maternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Winchester Noyes, who became my legal guardians. After both of my grandparents had passed away when I was fourteen (14) years of age, my aunt and uncle Mr. and Mrs. Selden Chapin became my guardians. My uncle, Selden Chapin, was the former U.S. Ambassador to the Netherlands, Iran and other countries.

I attended the following schools in the United States: The Chapin School in New York, N.Y.; The Madeira School in Greenway, Virginia; and Sarah Lawrence College, Bronxville, N.Y.

I lived for one (1) year with my uncle, Selden Chapin, at the U.S. Embassy when he was U.S. Ambassador to Iran, and while there attended the American School in Teheran from which I obtained my high school diploma.

I graduated from Sarah Lawrence College in February of 1963 with a Bachelor of Arts degree.

I married my husband the then Crown Prince of Sikkim in 1963. By Sikkimese law I had to give up my U.S. citizenship, as Sikkim, being a small country territorially, did not allow dual citizenship. I, not only by Sikkimese law had to relinquish my U.S. citizenship but also felt that that act would reflect my integrity as an American and a Sikkimese—that the involvement and energy I would put into work in Sikkim, although based upon my American education and ideals could then not be politically misconstrued as being the actions of an "American arm" in the Himalayas. To live in Sikkim was to be part of a wonderfully woven group—everyone shared and participated. I, too, was part of that fabric. My children, Palden, born in 1964, and Hope Leezum, born in 1968, went to a village school where most of the children were the sons and daughters of farmers and lower income government workers. I chose that school for my children instead of the several elite schools in Gangtok, because I wanted my children not just to be part of Sikkim but part of the very grass roots of the country.

The palace which was small was open to anyone who came and people did come freely all the time—to sit, talk, eat and simply be together.

In April, 1973, that harmony, that woven society was slashed by the unprecedented cruelly disruptive beginning of mob disorders—mobs and disorders are not a Sikkimese characteristic. I will say no more than that as to their inspiration and origin.

Life became hell. All the work that I and others had shared in to help develop: education, cottage industries, health, social services, etc. was shattered. Also by virtue of being born American I became an easy target for people who wanted to say that Sikkim's special identity and needs existed only in my mind and public relations. My being there seemed counter-productive, both for Sikkim's integrity, America's and my own. Day by day life deteriorated rapidly from 1973 on. My children who had once run through the town and countryside free as urchins were suddenly faced with ongoing physical danger. During the last two (2) years the danger has accelerated at a horrible rate. There have been murders, kidnappings, "people's jails" where victims are kept and tortured by organized youth gangs.

During this February there was an attempt on the life of my eldest stepson, Tenzing Namgyal, as well as against my husband.

During the past months the palace has been stormed by troops and my husband and his son placed under house arrest.

When I was in Sikkim I served it well and loyally, often at some cost and sacrifice to myself. Giving up my U.S. citizenship as required by Sikkim law was perhaps one of my greatest sacrifices. Now I deeply pray for the chance to regain my U.S. citizenship to make a small durable life for myself and children and to reinstall in them some measure of hope, confidence and idealism.

Since being here they and I are beginning to feel some sense of security and rootedness. There are times of great anxiety and depression over events in Sikkim, but underneath there is a real sense of joy and thanksgiving for being again part of America.

I urgently request that favorable consideration be given to my application for citizenship and stay of deportation of myself, because should I be required to return to Sikkim I and my children would be placed in grave danger of physical harm. Your kind consideration of this appeal is much appreciated.

BUDGETARY INFORMATION

This legislation does not provide new budget authority and no estimate or comparison has been received from the Director of the Congressional Budget Office.

OVERSIGHT STATEMENT

The Committee exercises general oversight jurisdiction with respect to all immigration and nationality matters but no specific oversight is contemplated in this instance.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Upon consideration of all the facts in this case, the Committee is of the opinion that S. 1699, amended, should be enacted and accordingly recommends that the bill do pass.

Ninety-fourth Congress of the United States of America

AT THE SECOND SESSION

*Begun and held at the City of Washington on Monday, the nineteenth day of January,
one thousand nine hundred and seventy-six*

An Act

For the relief of Mrs. Hope Namgyal.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That, for the purposes of the Immigration and Nationality Act, Mrs. Hope Namgyal shall be held and considered to have been lawfully admitted to the United States for permanent residence as of the date of the enactment of this Act, upon payment of the required visa fee.

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

*Vice President of the United States and
President of the Senate.*

June 4, 1976

Dear Mr. Director:

The following bills were received at the White House on June 4th:

S. 1699 ✓
H.R. 11438 ✓

Please let the President have reports and recommendations as to the approval of these bills as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Robert D. Linder
Chief Executive Clerk

The Honorable James T. Lynn
Director
Office of Management and Budget
Washington, D.C.