STANDARD FORM NO. 64

UNCLASSIFIED *Office Memorandum* • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

INT288/1

TO   :   PA   DATE: December 29, 194?

FROM   :   F. Howe   (353)

SUBJECT:

This is CIA's draft revision of its basic enabling legislation.

The only part which I believe concerns us is the section which authorizes them to bring up to 100 individuals into the country each year without regard to the émigration or any other laws. You will remember that through Larry Houston we inquired informally whether this could be expanded so that possible needs of the Department could be included, probably with the legal concurrence of the Secretary of State, but CIA refused. Larry Houston has told me informally that Hillenkoetter is prepared to reduce the number to 50 at the first sign of Congressional objection to the number of 100.

You will remember also that, as is noted toward the end of the discussion, the Visa Division objected to this type of provision in the submission last year of proposed legislation. This objection seems to have been a gratuitous comment on matters outside of their competence, and Mr. Lovett in conversation with Hillenkoetter has recently concurred informally in the proposal. The Visa Division, however, may again put up an objection since it could be interpreted as an invasion of their tightly held responsibility of determining who gets a visa.

CFS should not find any objection to the administrative clauses which correspond to the Foreign Service Act of 1946.

The only question, therefore, is whether we wish at this juncture to make any further effort to broaden the scope of the émigration/visa clause. I am at a loss to make a firm recommendation to you on this but would like you to consider the advisability of discussing this question informally with Hillenkoetter. Among other things, the Secretary of State is excluded from any participation in the introduction of the proposed 100 a year, and unquestionably CIA would be under no obligation to comply with a request for them to apply this provision for an individual wanted by the Department of State.

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