

COPY

September 2, 1950

S 4037
Aliens
Ramspeck, Robert

SEN. L. C. HUNT
ACCT. NO. 270

Dear Mr. Ramspeck:

Acknowledgement is made of your letter of September 1, and the proposed amendment to Senate file 4037, to protect the internal security of the United States, which is the next order of unfinished business on the Senate calendar.

I am pleased to have a copy of the proposed amendment pertaining to the deportation of subversive aliens, and will give it most careful consideration during the deliberations of the measure.

Sincerely yours,

LESTER C. HUNT
United States Senator

Mr. Robert Ramspeck
Executive Vice President
Air Transport Association
of America
1107 Sixteenth Street, N. W.
Washington 6, D. C.

S. 4037



AIR TRANSPORT ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

1107 SIXTEENTH STREET, N. W. • WASHINGTON 6, D. C. • EXECUTIVE 6161

EMORY S. LAND, President • ROBERT RAMSPECK, Executive Vice President

September 1, 1950

REC'D SEP 2 1950

The Honorable Lester C. Hunt
United States Senate
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Senator Hunt:

Enclosed is a proposed amendment to S. 4037, together with a statement explaining it, which I have sent to Chairman Johnson, of the Senate Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce.

I have asked Senator Johnson to sponsor the amendment, if Senator McCarran does not offer it. We would be most grateful to you if you will consider this amendment and support its adoption.

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Robert Ramspeck
Executive Vice President

Enclosures

SEN. L. C. HUNT
ACC. NO. 270

Amendment to S. 4037

Section 23 of the above bill, commencing at page 56, amends section 20 of the Immigration Act of 1917 so as to impose heavy penalty on a carrier, even though the carrier has done nothing to merit such a penalty and could not, by any exercise of diligence, avoid it. No person should be subjected to a penalty for the commission of an act which is completely beyond his control.

The bill provides in general for the deportation of subversive aliens. If they are deported within five years of their arrival in this country, the carrier which brought them must take them back to their homes free of charge. The carrier is required to do this even though the alien at the time of his voyage had a valid visa issued by a United States consul abroad, indicating that the consul had inspected the alien, investigated his background, interviewed friends of the alien, and finally issued him a visa authorizing him to come to the United States. The carrier has no alternative but to rely upon that investigation by the government in bringing the alien to this country. If the alien were found subversive on entering the United States, it would be unconscionable to make the carrier pay for his return trip, for this would indicate a mistake by the government - not by the carrier. It would be even more unconscionable for the carrier to be required to transport the alien back to his home after the alien had been permitted to enter this country and live here for five years, for the carrier could not possibly have any control over the alien's activities once the government had permitted him to enter.

The attached amendment should be inserted in this bill. It provides that no fine or refund or expense incident to detention or deportation be imposed upon a carrier if at the time of the alien's foreign embarkation he holds an unexpired visa issued by a United States consul. This amendment would remove from carriers a burden which has been recognized as unfair by representatives of both the Department of State and the Immigration and Naturalization Service. These agencies have long agreed that carriers should not be penalized for bringing aliens to the United States who have been inspected abroad and approved by United States government officials.

SEN. L. C. HUNT
ACC. NO. 270

Amendment to S. 4037

Page 58, line 16 - Strike out the period after the word "Act" and insert a colon and the following proviso:

"Provided, That no fine or refund nor any expense incident to detention or deportation as provided in this Act shall be assessed against or required of any owners of vessels or transportation lines for bringing into or departing from the United States any alien, if, at the time of such alien's foreign embarkation, he held an unexpired visa, issued by a U.S. consul."