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## *Branching Out:*

### *Naturalization Records in the National Archives*

Patrick Connelly, Archivist, National Archives at New York

Generally, petitions filed prior to September 26, 1906 contained the name and former citizenship of the applicant, the date of the petition, and signature of the applicant. Occasionally, names of a witness or the address of the applicant would appear on the petition.

Petitions filed after September 26, 1906, on Form 2204, entitled "Petition for Naturalization," contained the following information: name; place of residence; and occupation; date and place of birth; port and date of emigration and immigration and vessel upon which the applicant traveled; date and place of the declaration of intention (if necessary); marital status; name(s), date(s) and place(s) of birth of the applicant's spouse and children; country of former allegiance; knowledge of the English language; time of residence within the United States and within the state of residence; the declaration of intention number; and the certificate of naturalization number. This form also included the affidavits of the petitioner and witnesses. The witnesses gave their names, occupations, and addresses. Finally, the petitioner would date and sign the petition.

Petitions filed on Form N-405, "Petition for Naturalization (Under General Provisions of the Immigration and Nationality Act)," and Form N-406, "Petition for Naturalization (Of a Married Person, under Sec. 319(a) or (b) of the Immigration and Nationality Act)," contained much of the same information as did the older Form 2204. A personal description was added. The forms asked whether the spouse had been naturalized and when the naturalization occurred. The forms asked if the children had been absent from the United States since they were admitted to the United States. The applicant was given an opportunity to change his or her name. Finally, a line was added for the Alien Registration Number. Each form also listed the names, addresses, and occupations of two witnesses who would vouch for the moral character of the applicant.

Petitions files on Form N-407, "Petition for Naturalization (In behalf of a Child, under Section 322 or 323, Immigration and Nationality Act)" gave personal information about the adoptive parents, including names, addresses, ages, birthplaces, and birthdates. Each petition listed the name of the child, date and place of adoption, residence, date and place of birth, personal description, place and date of admission to the United States, name under which the child was admitted, time of legal custody, and alien registration number.

Forms filed after 1967 contained only the following information: name, applicable section of the Naturalization Act, address, date and place of birth, marital status and number (but not names) of children, date of admission to the United States, current nationality, alien registration number, opportunity to change the applicant's name, affidavits of witnesses, date of petition, and signature of the applicant.

ORIGINAL (To be retained by clerk) UNITED STATES OF AMERICA PETITION FOR NATURALIZATION

No. 4009

To the Honorable the District Court of The United States at Trenton, N. J. The petition of Albert Einstein, hereby filed, respectfully shows: (1) My place of residence is 112 Mercer St., Princeton, N. J. (2) My occupation is Prof. of Theoretical Physics (3) I was born in Ulm, Germany on March 14, 1879 My race is Hebrew (4) I declared my intention to become a citizen of the United States on January 15, 1936 in the District Court of The United States at Trenton, N. J. (5) I am a widower The name of my wife or husband was Elsa Einstein we were married on Apr. 6, 1917 at Berlin, Germany; he was born at Hechingen, Germany on Jan. 18, 1877 entered the United States at New York, N. Y. on 6-3-35 for permanent residence therein, and now resides at deceased 2 years ago; was not naturalized on at certificate No. I have 2 children, and the name, date, and place of birth, and place of residence of each of said children are as follows: Albert H. 5-14-05, Eduard 6-28-10 both born in Switzerland, Albert resides in Greenville, S. C., and Eduard in Switzerland

(6) My last foreign residence was Hamilton, Bermuda I emigrated to the United States of America from Hamilton, Bermuda My lawful entry for permanent residence in the United States was at New York, N. Y. under the name of Albert Einstein on June 3, 1935 on the vessel Queen of Bermuda as shown by the certificate of my arrival attached hereto.

(7) I am not a disbeliever in or opposed to organized government or a member of or affiliated with any organization or body of persons teaching disbelief in or opposed to organized government. I am not a polygamist nor a believer in the practice of polygamy. I am attached to the principles of the Constitution of the United States and well disposed to the good order and happiness of the United States. It is my intention to become a citizen of the United States and to renounce absolutely and forever all allegiance and fidelity to any foreign prince, potentate, state, or sovereignty, of whom (which) at this time I am a subject (or citizen), and it is my intention to reside permanently in the United States. (8) I am able to speak the English language. (9) I have resided continuously in the United States of America for the term of 5 years at least immediately preceding the date of this petition, to wit, since June 3, 1935 and in the County of Mercer this State, continuously next preceding the date of this petition, since June 3, 1935, being a residence within said county of at least 6 months next preceding the date of this petition.

(10) I have not heretofore made petition for naturalization: No, on at and such petition was denied by that Court for the following reasons and causes, to wit: and the cause of such denial has since been cured or removed.

Attached hereto and made a part of this, my petition for naturalization, are my declaration of intention to become a citizen of the United States, certificate from the Department of Labor of my said arrival, and the affidavits of the two verifying witnesses required by law. Wherefore, I, your petitioner, pray that I may be admitted a citizen of the United States of America, and that my name be changed to None

I, Albert Einstein do swear (affirm) that I know the contents of this petition for naturalization subscribed by me, that the same are true to the best of my own knowledge, except as to matters therein stated to be alleged upon information and belief, and that as to those matters I believe them to be true, and that this petition was signed by me with my full, true name: SO HELP ME GOD.

Albert Einstein (Complete and true signature of petitioner)

AFFIDAVITS OF WITNESSES

Gustav Bucky, occupation Physician residing at 5 E. 76th St., New York, N. Y. and Frida Bucky, occupation Housewife residing at same address

each being severally, duly, and respectively sworn, deposes and says: I am a citizen of the United States of America; I have personally known and have been acquainted in the United States with Albert Einstein the petitioner above mentioned, since June 3, 1935 and that to my personal knowledge the petitioner has resided in the United States continuously preceding the date of filing this petition, of which this affidavit is a part, to wit, since the date last mentioned and at Princeton in the County of Mercer

this State, in which the above-entitled petition is made, continuously since June 3, 1935, and that I have personal knowledge that the petitioner is and during all such periods has been a person of good moral character, attached to the principles of the Constitution of the United States, and well disposed to the good order and happiness of the United States, and in my opinion the petitioner is in every way qualified to be admitted a citizen of the United States.

I do swear (affirm) that the statements of fact I have made in this affidavit of this petition for naturalization subscribed by me are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Subscribed and sworn to before me by the above-named petitioner and witnesses in the respective forms of oath shown above in the office of Clerk of said Court at Trenton, N. J. this 22nd day of June, Anno Domini 1940. I hereby certify that Certificate of Arrival No. 3-120742 from the Department of Labor, showing the lawful entry for permanent residence of the petitioner above named, together with Declaration of Intention No. 1442 of such petitioner, has been by me filed with, attached to, and made a part of this petition on this date.

Benjamin F. Havens Clerk. [SEAL]

By Joseph H. Jones Deputy Clerk.

No. 616857

Form 2204-L-A U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE



TRIPPLICATE  
(To be given to  
declarant)

No. 1442

# UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

## DECLARATION OF INTENTION

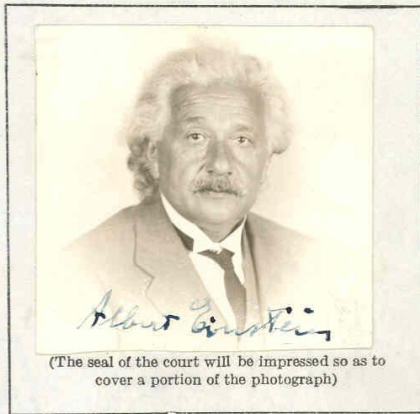
(Invalid for all purposes seven years after the date hereof)

United States of America } In the District of \_\_\_\_\_ Co  
District of New Jersey } SS: of The United States at Trenton, N. J.

I, Dr. Albert Einstein  
now residing at 112 Mercer St., Princeton, Mercer N.J.  
occupation Professor, aged 56 years, do declare on oath that my personal description  
Sex Male, color White, complexion Fair, color of eyes Brown  
color of hair Grey, height 5 feet 7 inches; weight 175 pounds; visible distinctive marks  
none  
race Hebrew; nationality German  
I was born in Ulm Germany, on March 14 1879  
I am married. The name of my wife and is Elsa  
we were married on April 6th 1917, at Berlin Germany; she or he was  
born at Hachingey Germany, on January 18, 1877, entered the United States  
at New York N.Y., on June 3, 1935, for permanent residence therein, and now  
resides at with me. I have 2 children, and the name, date and place of birth  
and place of residence of each of said children are as follows: Albert born 5-14-1905 and  
Eduard born 6-28-1910 both born and reside in Switzerland

I have not heretofore made a declaration of intention: Number \_\_\_\_\_, on \_\_\_\_\_ (Date)  
at \_\_\_\_\_ (City or town)  
my last foreign residence was Bermuda Great Britain  
I emigrated to the United States of America from Bermuda Great Britain  
my lawful entry for permanent residence in the United States was at New York N.Y.  
under the name of Albert Einstein, on June 3, 1935  
on the vessel SS Queen of Bermuda  
(If other than by vessel, state manner of arrival)

I will, before being admitted to citizenship, renounce forever all allegiance and fidelity to any foreign prince, potentate, state, or sovereignty, and particularly, by name, to the prince, potentate, state, or sovereignty of which I may be at the time of admission a citizen or subject; I am not an anarchist; I am not a polygamist nor a believer in the practice of polygamy; and it is my intention in good faith to become a citizen of the United States of America and to reside permanently therein; and certify that the photograph affixed to the duplicate and triplicate hereof is a likeness of me: So HELP ME GOD.



(The seal of the court will be impressed so as to cover a portion of the photograph)

Albert Einstein  
(Original signature of declarant without abbreviation, also alias, if used)  
Subscribed and sworn to before me in the office of the Clerk of said Court at Trenton, N. J. this 15th day of January anno Domini 1936. Certification No. 3-120742 from the Commissioner of Immigration and Naturalization showing the lawful entry of declarant for permanent residence on the date stated above, has been received by me. The photograph affixed to the duplicate and triplicate hereof is a likeness of the declarant.

George T. Cranmer  
Clerk of the U. S. District Court  
By B. J. Havens, Deputy Clerk

Form 2202-L-A  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR  
IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE

14-2623  
U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1934

No 5773