

AIRGRAM

POL 30-1 US

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FILE DESIGNATION'S

ORM-2

Original to be Filed in ORM Decentralized Files.

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NO.

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DRT ✓

TO : All Diplomatic and Consular Posts

ACTION COPY

1972 OCT 12
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USBER:COMM
Pouch & Records
BERLIN
10:03

Handwritten initials

FROM : Department of State

SUBJECT : Handling of Asylum Requests

REF : Department's A 270, January 11, 1972 2 FAM 225

The U.S. is signatory to the 1967 Protocol to the 1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees and is thereby subject to Article 33 of that Protocol which reads as follows:

No Contracting State shall expel or return ("refouler") a refugee in any manner whatsoever to the frontiers of territories where his life or freedom would be threatened on account of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion.

This is applicable, however, primarily, within U.S. jurisdiction. When an alien requests asylum outside U.S. jurisdiction, the basic responsibility for handling such requests lies with the Host Government. Wherever and whenever possible, that government should be actively encouraged to bear this burden whether or not they are signatories to the Protocol or Convention.

For your information, as of September 25, 1972, the following countries are signatory to the 1967 Protocol and/or 1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees.

CONVENTION

Algeria
Argentina
Australia

PROTOCOL

Algeria
Argentina

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FOR DEPT. USE ONLY

In Out

FORM 4-63 DS-323

Drafted by: S/R:ORM:PVR:aud:cml

Drafting Date: 9/27/72

Contents and Classification Approved By: S/R - RWLaugé

Clearances: S/R:ORM - Mr. Trueworthy L/M/SCA - Mr. Malinberg AF - Mr. Ferguson
ARA - Mr. Meyer EA - Mr. Hummel EUR - Mr. Stofessel NEA - Mr. Davies

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2

CONVENTION

Austria
 Belgium
 Botswana
 Brazil
 Burundi
 Cameroon
 Canada
 Central African Republic
 Chile
 Colombia
 Congo

Cyprus
 Dahomey
 Denmark
 Ecuador
 Ethiopia
 Fiji
 Finland
 France
 Gabon
 Gambia
 Germany (Fed. Rep.)
 Ghana
 Greece
 Guinea
 Iceland
 Ireland
 Israel
 Italy
 Ivory Coast
 Jamaica
 Kenya
 Liberia
 Liechtenstein
 Luxembourg
 Madagascar
 Malta
 Monaco
 Morocco
 New Zealand
 Netherlands
 Niger

PROTOCOL

Belgium
 Botswana
 Brazil
 Burundi
 Cameroon
 Canada
 Central African Republic
 Chile

 Congo

Cyprus
 Dahomey
 Denmark
 Ecuador
 Ethiopia
 Fiji
 Finland
 France

 Gambia
 Germany (Fed. Rep.)
 Ghana
 Greece
 Guinea
 Iceland
 Ireland
 Israel
 Italy
 Ivory Coast

Liechtenstein
 Luxembourg

Malta

Morocco

Netherlands
 Niger

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3

CONVENTION

Nigeria
 Norway
 Paraguay
 Peru
 Portugal
 Senegal

Sweden
 Switzerland
 Tanzania
 Togo
 Tunisia
 Turkey
 United Kingdom

Uruguay
 Vatican City
 Yugoslavia
 Zaire
 Zambia

PROTOCOL

Nigeria
 Norway
 Paraguay

Senegal
 Swaziland
 Sweden
 Switzerland
 Tanzania
 Togo
 Tunisia
 Turkey
 United Kingdom
 United States
 Uruguay
 Vatican City
 Yugoslavia
 Zambia

The Department recognizes, however, that in some cases, for foreign policy reasons we would want to handle these requests exclusively. In such cases, posts should keep in mind that publicity in these matters can prove to be most disadvantageous, as recent experiences with asylum requests at some overseas posts have demonstrated. All posts are hereby instructed that there will be no publicity regarding asylum requests and subsequent developments unless the Department instructs otherwise. Please apprise all country team members accordingly.

IRWIN II, ACTING

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