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**APPROVED**  
APR 16 1976

*2 4/16/76*

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON  
April 14, 1976

ACTION  
Last Day: April 19

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT  
FROM: JIM CANNON *[Signature]*  
SUBJECT: S. 804 - Relief of Zoraida  
E. Lastimosa

Attached for your consideration is S. 804, sponsored by Senator Case. The enrolled bill would enable the beneficiary, a 28-year old native of the Phillipines to acquire first-preference status for admission to the United States. Her adopted parents, who are U.S. citizens, will be returning to the United States in May and without this legislation, her admission would be substantially delayed.

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

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

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign S. 804 at Tab B.

*Posted  
4/17/76  
No action  
4/19/76*





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

APR 13 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

Subject: Enrolled Bill S. 804 - Relief of Zoraida E. Lastimosa  
Sponsor - Sen. Case (R) New Jersey

Last Day for Action

April 19, 1976 - Monday

Purpose

To authorize preferential treatment under the Immigration and Nationality Act for the admission to the United States of an alien adopted daughter of U.S. citizens.

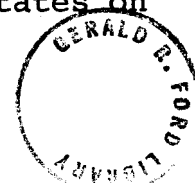
Agency Recommendations

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

Discussion

The enrolled bill would enable Zoraida E. Lastimosa, who is the alien adopted daughter of Army Sergeant and Mrs. Ricardo Navat Lastimosa, to qualify for first-preference immigration status as the unmarried daughter of a U.S. citizen. The enrolled bill further provides that the beneficiary's natural siblings shall not be accorded preferential immigration benefits because of their relationship to Miss Lastimosa.

Miss Lastimosa is a 28-year old native and citizen of the Philippines and resides with Sergeant and Mrs. Lastimosa in Japan, where he is currently stationed. The beneficiary, whose natural parents are impoverished and who has been supported by Sergeant Lastimosa since early childhood, was adopted by the Lastimosas in Japan on November 2, 1972. Sergeant Lastimosa is scheduled to return to the United States on May 27, 1976.



Because Miss Lastimosa is not the natural born daughter of Sergeant and Mrs. Lastimosa, she is currently ineligible for preferential treatment under the Immigration and Nationality Act as an unmarried adult daughter of a U.S. citizen. Without this legislation, her admission to the United States would be substantially delayed.

*James M. Frey*  
Assistant Director  
for Legislative Reference

Enclosures



DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, D.C. 20520

APR 8 1976

Dear Mr. Lynn:

Reference is made to Mr. Frey's communication of April 7, 1976, transmitting for comment enrolled bill S. 804, "For the relief of Zoraida E. Lastimosa".

This Department has no objection to the enactment of this bill.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert J. McCloskey".

Robert J. McCloskey  
Assistant Secretary for  
Congressional Relations

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



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE

PLEASE ADDRESS REPLY TO

Washington 25, D.C.

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

APR 8 1976

AND REFER TO THIS FILE NO.

A20 478 115

TO : OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

SUBJECT: Enrolled Private Bill No. S. 804; Office of Management  
and Budget request dated April 7, 1976.

Beneficiary or Beneficiaries Zoraida E. Lastimosa.

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



THE WHITE HOUSE

ACTION MEMORANDUM

WASHINGTON

LOG NO.:

Date: April 13

Time: 530pm

FOR ACTION:

Dick Parsons *MP*  
NSC/S *MP*  
Max Friedersdorf *MP*  
Ken Lazarus *MP*

cc (for information):

Jack Marsh  
Jim Cavanaugh  
Ed Schmults

FROM THE STAFF SECRETARY

DUE: Date: April 14

Time: 300pm

SUBJECT:

S.804 - Relief of Zoraida E. Lastimosa

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

*Carmon 4/14 630pm*  
*J. Anderson 4/16 10 AM*

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



THE WHITE HOUSE

ACTION MEMORANDUM

WASHINGTON

LOG NO.:

Date: April 13

Time: 530pm

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

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

FROM THE STAFF SECRETARY

DUE: Date: April 14

Time: 300pm

SUBJECT:

S.804 - Relief of Zoraida E. Lastimoso

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

Judy -

I would interpose no objection, but you might check with Freg's office to inquire about Miss Lastimoso's age. Is she really 28?

Dick



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

ACTION MEMORANDUM

WASHINGTON

LOG NO.:

Date: April 13

Time: 530pm

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

cc (for information): Jack Marsh  
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FROM THE STAFF SECRETARY

DUE: Date: April 14

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SUBJECT:

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ACTION REQUESTED:

\_\_\_ For Necessary Action

\_\_\_ For Your Recommendations

\_\_\_ Prepare Agenda and Brief

\_\_\_ Draft Reply

x For Your Comments

\_\_\_ Draft Remarks

REMARKS:

Please return to Judy Johnston, Ground Floor West Wing

No objection -- Ken Lazarus 4/14/76



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



NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

April 14, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: JAMES CANNON

FROM: Jeanne W. Davis 

SUBJECT: S. 804

The NSC Staff concurs in the proposed Enrolled Bill S. 804 -  
Relief of Zoraida E. Lastimosa.



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

April 14, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: JIM CAVANAUGH  
FROM: MAX L. FRIEDERSDORF *M.L.F.*  
SUBJECT: S. 804 - Relief of Zoraida E. Lastimosa

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

Attachments



# Calendar No. 590

94TH CONGRESS }  
2d Session }

SENATE }

REPORT  
No. 94-616

## ZORAIDA E. LASTIMOSA

JANUARY 30, 1976.—Ordered to be printed

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

### REPORT

[To accompany S. 804]

The Committee on the Judiciary, to which was referred the bill (S. 804), for the relief of Zoraida E. Lastimosa, having considered the same, reports favorably thereon with an amendment and recommends that the bill, as amended, do pass.

#### AMENDMENT

In line 7, strike the words "The natural brothers", and insert in lieu thereof "The natural parents, brothers,".

#### PURPOSE OF THE BILL

The purpose of the bill is to enable the beneficiary to qualify for first-preference status as the unmarried daughter of a citizen of the United States. The bill has been amended in accordance with established precedents.

#### STATEMENT OF FACTS

The beneficiary of the bill is a 27-year-old native and citizen of the Philippines. She is single and resides in Japan with her adoptive parents, Ricardo Navat and Adelina Elane Lastimosa, who are naturalized U.S. citizens. The beneficiary was adopted in Japan on November 2, 1972. Since that time, she has resided with her adoptive parents, with whom she previously resided from 1962 to 1965. Her



natural parents are unable to provide for her and consented to her adoption. Her adoptive father is the brother of her natural father.

Ricardo Navat Lastimosa is a sergeant first class in the United States Army, stationed with his family in Japan. He is scheduled to return to the U.S. on May 27, 1976 and desires the beneficiary to accompany the family at that time.

A letter, with attached memorandum, dated June 5, 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,  
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER,  
Washington, D.C., June 5, 1975.

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. 804) for the relief of Zoraida E. Lastimosa, there is attached a memorandum of information concerning the beneficiary.

The bill provides that for immigration purposes the beneficiary shall be held and considered to be the natural-born alien daughter of Ricardo N. Lastimosa, a citizen of the United States. It further provides that the beneficiary's natural siblings shall derive no immigration benefit by virtue of such relationship.

Absent enactment of the bill, the beneficiary, a native of the Philippines would be chargeable to the non-preference portion of the numerical limitation for immigrants and conditional entrants from countries in the Eastern Hemisphere.

Sincerely,

L. F. CHAPMAN, Jr.,  
Commissioner.

Enclosure.

MEMORANDUM OF INFORMATION FROM IMMIGRATION AND  
NATURALIZATION SERVICE FILES RE S. 804

Information concerning this case was obtained from Mr. and Mrs. Ricardo Lastimosa, the adoptive parents and interested parties.

The beneficiary, Zoraida E. Lastimosa, a native and citizen of the Philippines, was born on April 3, 1948. She resides in Japan with the interested parties, who adopted her on November 2, 1972 at the Yokohama Family Court, Yokohama, Japan. She has resided with her adoptive parents this time since April 1970 and previously lived with them from 1962 to 1965, for a total of eight years. Her natural parents, Mr. and Mrs. Laureano N. Lastimosa, who reside in the Philippines, were unable to properly care for her and consented to the adoption. She has nine siblings, four brothers and five sisters, all residing in the Philippines. Her

natural father and adoptive father are brothers, having the same parents.

The adoptive parents, Ricardo Navat and Adelina Elane Lastimosa, were born in the Philippines on April 3, 1926 and November 22, 1930, respectively. They have one son and four daughters, ranging in age from four to twelve years. All members of the family are United States citizens except the beneficiary.

Ricardo Navat Lastimosa is a sergeant first class in the United States Army, presently stationed with his family in Japan. He has been a career member of the Army since February 2, 1953. His salary is \$893 per month and he has assets of \$12,000, consisting of personal property. He graduated from high school and attended a trade school in the Philippines. His spouse graduated from high school there and received a diploma from the University of the East in Manila. She has not been employed.

A supplemental report from the Commissioner of Immigration and Naturalization to the Chairman of the Senate Committee on the Judiciary dated September 16, 1975 reads as follows:

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE,  
IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE,  
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER,  
Washington, D.C., September 16, 1975.

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

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: This refers to the private immigration bill (S. 804) for the relief of Zoraida E. Lastimosa.

The beneficiary's adoptive father, Ricardo N. Lastimosa, has now advised that he is scheduled to return to the United States on May 27, 1976. He wishes for the beneficiary to accompany him and the other family members at that time.

Sincerely,

L. F. CHAPMAN, Jr., Commissioner.

Senator Clifford Case, the author of the bill, submitted the following information in support of S. 804:

U.S. SENATE,  
Washington, D.C., June 27, 1975.

CHAIRMAN,  
Senate Judiciary Committee,  
U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C.

Attention: Subcommittee on Immigration and Naturalization.  
Re Zoraida E. Lastimosa, S. 804.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Please find enclosed self explanatory documentation I received to support S. 804, private legislation I introduced in behalf of Zoraida E. Lastimosa.

In view of Sg. Ricardo Lastimosa's imminent departure from Japan resulting from his retirement after 22 years of Army service and his desire to bring his adopted daughter, Zoraida, back to the United States with the rest of his family, it is hoped that this matter can be expeditiously and favorably considered.

With best regards,  
Sincerely,

CLIFFORD P. CASE,  
U.S. Senator.

Enclosure.

Sfc. RICARDO N. LASTIMOSA,  
HOUSING DIVISION, USAGH, U.S. ARMY, JAPAN,  
APO San Francisco, December 6, 1974.

Hon. CLIFFORD P. CASE,  
U.S. Senator,  
U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR CASE: The following information about my adopted daughter, Zoraida is forwarded for your due consideration. Sir, the reason why my reply is delayed because I wrote to my brother, the natural father of Zoraida in the Philippines for the inclosed documents that might be helpful for the private bill you are considering to introduce to make her eligible for first preference visa issuance as a non-married daughter of an American Citizen.

Zoraida was born in April 3, 1948 in San Jose, Masinloc, Zambales, Philippines as indicated on inclosure 1, inclosure 2 is her affidavit regarding the correction of her misspelled name, inclosure 3 is the Birth Certificate of her natural father and inclosure 4 is my Birth Certificate.

I graduated from High School in April 1948 few days after Zoraida was born. In July 1948, I went to Guam as an employee of the then Brown-Pacific-Maxon Company. This company was a Navy contractor in Guam doing construction work for the Navy. It was indeed lucky for me because I was able to land this employment soon after graduation from high school considering the fact that job in the Philippines at that time were scarce. While in Guam I saved approximately \$2,000.00 within two years, and in April 1950 I returned to the Philippines for a visit.

When I arrived home I found out that lots of people are jobless including my brother, Laureane, the natural father of Zoraida. I was told then that the whole Philippines including Manila is really difficult to find a job. My parents told me that there is a house situated on a large area of parcel land being sold at a very low price. I went to see the house and lot, and in May 1950 I bought this house and a few days later my parents moved into my house, and their old house was given to my brother, the natural father of Zoraida because he is the eldest in our family, yet his family and our parents were dwelling together. By then, my brother has already small children and Zoraida is the third one.

Within a week after our parents moved into my house, my brother with his family came to visit us in my house, and while we were talking about the hardship in the Philippines I asked them if I can take little

Zoraida from them and will take care of her thru the custody of our parents. At first my brother and his wife declined the idea of giving their little Zoraida to me, yet I am still a bachelor. I told them that they are not giving little Zoraida away, but just letting me as their brother to take care of her thru the custody of our parents. I told them also that the way it look now in the Philippines you cannot afford to raise three small children and a wife because you cannot find a job, and farming is not too good either because he does not have enough rice land to work on. I told him too that its not like before World War II that our parents has a small fishing industry, but during the Japanese occupation in the Philippines, the small fishing industry was abandoned when all of us went hiding from the Japanese in the jungle for three years, and right after the war my parents have to start all over again. Because of the starvation experienced by all of us in the jungle, my brother feared that his little girl might suffer starvation too, so they both agreed with his wife that I can take little Zoraida away from and put her into the physical custody of our parents.

When I returned to Guam in June 1950 I gave my parents \$400.00 for their support, and soon I arrived in Guam and got paid I started sending all their financial support every month. When I was drafted into the Army in February 17, 1953, I continued supporting Zoraida and my parents without fail.

During my Army career I returned to the Philippines on several occasions to visit Zoraida and my parents, and I was very happy to learn that Zoraida was doing well on her studies, and she graduated from high school in 1964, at the age of 17. I got married in October 1962 in the Philippines, Zoraida was then 15 years old, my wife Adelina, Zoraida and my parents begun dwelling together in my house, and a few days later I returned to Maryland where I was stationed.

In December 1965, after returning to the Philippines twice to visit my family, my wife and my first child went with me to States, and left Zoraida with my parents in the Philippines. I did not stop sending all of their financial support, and Zoraida was already enrolled at the University of the East in Manila, but after few months at the University she went back home and refused to go back to school because she was homesick to her grandparents. This was her explanation on her letter to me, however she promised me to pursue her studies by taking vocational courses being offered in Zambales Province so she can stay with her grandparents specially during weekends. I did not try to force her to go back to the University in Manila because Zambales Province is approximately 180 miles away from Manila. I told her to take advantage of the many vocational courses being offered in Zambales, and I honestly say that she has enough education now to enable her land a good job in States to prevent her to be a public burden.

In January 1967, my family and I returned to the Philippines to visit Zoraida and my parents. I tried to adopt Zoraida then but my parents advised me not to adopt Zoraida anymore since we will be returning to the Philippines for good when I retire from the Army, yet they need her to help them to take care of my house. My family and I returned back to States after a short visit in the Philippines.

In April 1970 I was reassigned to Vietnam from Fort Monmouth, New Jersey. I relocate my family from Long Branch to my house in the Philippines, and after my duty in Vietnam I went back to the Philippines to pick up my family, then proceed to Japan on my next duty station. We departed the Philippines in May 1971 and in July 1971, Zoraida joined us in Japan and still with us until this date.

In September 1972, after the declaration of the martial law in the Philippines I decided not to return to the Philippines after I retire from the Army, and started the adoption proceeding. In 9 November 1972, the adoption was approved as indicated in inclosure. Zoraida started to live with my family from 11 October 1962 to December 1965, and from 10 April 1970 to present time.

Sir, during the adoption proceeding I was assisted by the Judge Advocate, Headquarters, United States Army Japan. I was also represented by a Japanese national, Mr. Fujihira who is an international lawyer. My wife, Zoraida and I were interviewed separately by the Judge at the Yokohama Family Court during the adoption hearing. The Judge also asked me why I want to adopt Zoraida since I have already five children of my own. I told the Judge that I have been supporting Zoraida ever since she was only two years old, and I want her to go to States with us because we are going back to New Jersey or at least we try to go back to New Jersey when I finish my military duty in Japan.

My base pay per month is \$836.70 excluding allowances, and has approximately \$10,000.00 saving in the bank at present. I own personal property valued approximately \$12,000.00, Government Life Insurance coverage of \$20,000.00 and Commercial Life Insurance coverage of \$10,000.00 with double indemnity of \$20,000.00. Zoraida is one of the beneficiaries like my natural children.

Respectfully Yours,

RICARDO N. LASTIMOSA,  
*Sfc., U.S. Army.*

The adoption decree and other enclosures referred to above are contained in the files of the Senate Committee on the Judiciary.

The committee, after consideration of all the facts in the case, is of the opinion that the bill (S.804), as amended, should be enacted.

○

ZORAIDA E. LASTIMOSA

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

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

REPORT

[To accompany S. 804]

The Committee on the Judiciary, to whom was referred the bill (S. 804), for the relief of Zoraida E. Lastimosa, having considered the same, report favorably thereon without amendment and recommend that the bill do pass.

PURPOSE OF THE BILL

The purpose of the bill is to enable the beneficiary to qualify for first-preference status as the unmarried daughter of a citizen of the United States.

GENERAL INFORMATION

The beneficiary of the bill is 27-year-old native and citizen of the Philippines. She is single and resides in Japan with her adoptive parents, Ricardo Navat and Adelina Elane Lastimosa, who are naturalized U.S. citizens. The beneficiary was adopted in Japan on November 2, 1972. Since that time, she has resided with her adoptive parents, with whom she previously resided from 1962 to 1965. Her natural parents are unable to provide for her and consented to her adoption. Her adoptive father is the brother of her natural father.

Ricardo Navat Lastimosa is a sergeant first class in the United States Army, stationed with his family in Japan. He is scheduled to return to the U.S. on May 27, 1976 and desires the beneficiary to accompany the family at that time.

A letter with attached memorandum, dated June 5, 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,  
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER,  
Washington, D.C., June 5, 1975.

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. 804) for the relief of Zoraida E. Lastimososa, there is attached a memorandum of information concerning the beneficiary.

The bill provides that for immigration purposes the beneficiary shall be held and considered to be the natural-born alien daughter of Ricardo N. Lastimososa, a citizen of the United States. It further provides that the beneficiary's natural siblings shall derive no immigration benefit by virtue of such relationship.

Absent enactment of the bill, the beneficiary, a native of the Philippines would be chargeable to the non-preference portion of the numerical limitations for immigrants and conditional entrants from countries in the Eastern Hemisphere.

Sincerely,

L. F. CHAPMAN, JR.,  
Commissioner.

Enclosure.

MEMORANDUM OF INFORMATION FROM IMMIGRATION AND  
NATURALIZATION SERVICE FILES RE S. 804

Information concerning this case was obtained from Mr. and Mrs. Ricardo Lastimososa, the adoptive parents and interested parties.

The beneficiary, Zoraida E. Lastimososa, a native and citizen of the Philippines, was born on April 3, 1948. She resides in Japan with the interested parties, who adopted her on November 2, 1972 at the Yokohama Family Court, Yokohama, Japan. She has resided with her adoptive parents this time since April 1970 and previously lived with them from 1962 to 1965, for a total of eight years. Her natural parents, Mr. and Mrs. Laureano N. Lastimososa, who reside in the Philippines, were unable to properly care for her and consented to the adoption. She has nine siblings, four brothers and five sisters, all residing in the Philippines. Her natural father and adoptive father are brothers, having the same parents.

The adoptive parents, Ricardo Navat and Adelina Elane Lastimososa, were born in the Philippines on April 3, 1926 and November 22, 1930, respectively. They have one son and four daughters ranging in age from four to twelve years. All members of the family are United States citizens except the beneficiary.

Ricardo Navat Lastimososa is a sergeant first class in the United States Army, presently stationed with his family in

Japan. He has been a career member of the Army since February 2, 1953. His salary is \$893 per month and he has assets of \$12,000, consisting of personal property. He graduated from high school and attended a trade school in the Philippines. His spouse graduated from high school there and received a diploma from the University of the East in Manila. She has not been employed.

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

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: This refers to the private immigration bill (S. 804) for the relief of Zoraida E. Lastimososa.

The beneficiary's adoptive father, Ricardo N. Lastimososa, has now advised that he is scheduled to return to the United States on May 27, 1976. He wishes for the beneficiary to accompany him and the other family members at that time.

Sincerely,

L. F. CHAPMAN, JR., Commissioner.

Senator Clifford Case, the author of the bill, submitted the following information in support of S. 804:

U.S. SENATE,  
Washington, D.C., June 27, 1975.

CHAIRMAN,  
Senate Judiciary Committee,  
U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C.

Attention: Subcommittee on Immigration and Naturalization.  
Re Zoraida E. Lastimososa, S. 804.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Please find enclosed self explanatory documentation I received to support S. 804, private legislation I introduced in behalf of Zoraida E. Lastimososa.

In view of Sg. Ricardo Lastimososa's imminent departure from Japan resulting from his retirement after 22 years of Army service and his desire to bring his adopted daughter, Zoraida, back to the United States with the rest of his family, it is hoped that this matter can be expeditiously and favorably considered.

With best regards,  
Sincerely,

CLIFFORD P. CASE,  
U.S. Senator.

Enclosure.



Sfc. RICARDO N. LASTIMOSA,  
HOUSING DIVISION, USAGH, U.S. ARMY, JAPAN,  
APO San Francisco, December 6, 1974.

HON. CLIFFORD P. CASE,  
U.S. Senator,  
U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR CASE: The following information about my adopted daughter, Zoraida is forwarded for your due consideration. Sir, the reason why my reply is delayed because I wrote to my brother, the natural father of Zoraida in the Philippines for the inclosed documents that might be helpful for the private bill you are considering to introduce to make her eligible for first preference visa issuance as a non-married daughter of an American Citizen.

Zoraida was born in April 3, 1948 in San Jose, Masinloc, Zambales, Philippines as indicated on inclosure 1, inclosure 2 is her affidavit regarding the correction of her misspelled name, inclosure 3 is the Birth Certificate of her natural father and inclosure 4 is my Birth Certificate.

I graduated from High School in April 1948 few days after Zoraida was born. In July 1948, I went to Guam as an employee of the then Brown-Pacific-Maxon Company. This company was a Navy contractor in Guam doing construction work for the Navy. It was indeed lucky for me because I was able to land this employment soon after graduation from high school considering the fact that job in the Philippines at that time were scarce. While in Guam I saved approximately \$2,000.00 within two years, and in April 1950 I returned to the Philippines for a visit.

When I arrived home I found out that lots of people are jobless including my brother, Laureane, the natural father of Zoraida. I was told then that the whole Philippines including Manila is really difficult to find a job. My parents told me that there is a house situated on a large area of parcel land being sold at a very low price. I went to see the house and lot, and in May 1950 I bought this house and a few days later my parents moved into my house, and their old house was given to my brother, the natural father of Zoraida because he is the eldest in our family, yet his family and our parents were dwelling together. By then, my brother has already small children and Zoraida is the third one.

Within a week after our parents moved into my house, my brother with his family came to visit us in my house, and while we were talking about the hardship in the Philippines I asked them if I can take little Zoraida from them and will take care of her thru the custody of our parents. At first my brother and his wife declined the idea of giving their little Zoraida to me, yet I am still a bachelor. I told them that they are not giving little Zoraida away but just letting me as their brother to take care of her thru the custody of our parents. I told them also that the way it look now in the Philippines you cannot afford to raise three small children and a wife because you cannot find a job, and farming is not too good either because he does not have enough rice land to work on. I told him to that its not like before World War II that our parents has a small fishing industry, but dur-

ing the Japanese occupation in the Philippines, the small fishing industry was abandoned when all of us went hiding from the Japanese in the jungle for three years, and right after the war my parents have to start all over again. Because of the starvation experienced by all of us in the jungle, my brother feared that his little girl might suffer starvation too, so they both agreed with his wife that I can take little Zoraida away from and put her into the physical custody of our parents.

When I returned to Guam in June 1950 I gave my parents \$400.00 for their support, and soon I arrived in Guam and got paid I started sending all their financial support every month. When I was drafted into the Army in February 17, 1953, I continued supporting Zoraida and my parents without fail.

During my Army career I returned to the Philippines on several occasions to visit Zoraida and my parents, and I was very happy to learn that Zoraida was doing well on her studies, and she graduated from high school in 1964, at the age of 17. I got married in October 1962 in the Philippines, Zoraida was then 15 years old, my wife Adelina, Zoraida and my parents begun dwelling together in my house, and a few days later I returned to Maryland where I was stationed.

In December 1965, after returning to the Philippines twice to visit my family, my wife and my first child went with me to States, and left Zoraida with my parents in the Philippines. I did not stop sending all of their financial support, and Zoraida was already enrolled at the University of the East in Manila, but after few months at the University she went back home and refused to go back to school because she was homesick to her grandparents. This was her explanation on her letter to me, however she promised me to pursue her studies by taking vocational courses being offered in Zambales Province so she can stay with her grandparents specially during weekends. I did not try to force her to go back to the University in Manila because Zambales Province is approximately 180 miles away from Manila. I told her to take advantage of the many vocational courses being offered in Zambales, and I honestly say that she has enough education now to enable her land a good job in States to prevent her to be a public burden.

In January 1967, my family and I returned to the Philippines to visit Zoraida and my parents. I tried to adopt Zoraida then but my parents advised me not to adopt Zoraida anymore since we will be returning to the Philippines for good when I retire from the Army, yet they need her to help them to take care of my house. My family and I returned back to States after a short visit in the Philippines.

In April 1970 I was reassigned to Vietnam from Fort Monmouth, New Jersey. I relocate my family from Long Branch to my house in the Philippines, and after my duty in Vietnam I went back to the Philippines to pick up my family, then proceed to Japan on my next duty station. We departed the Philippines in May 1971 and in July 1971, Zoraida joined us in Japan and still with us until this date.

In September 1972, after the declaration of the martial law in the Philippines I decided not to return to the Philippines after I retire from the Army, and started the adoption proceeding. In 9 November 1972, the adoption was approved as indicated in inclosure. Zoraida

started to live with my family from 11 October 1962 to December 1965, and from 10 April 1970 to present time.

Sir, during the adoption proceeding I was assisted by the Judge Advocate, Headquarters, United States Army, Japan. I was also represented by a Japanese national, Mr. Fujihira who is an international lawyer. My wife, Zoraida and I were interviewed separately by the Judge at the Yokohama Family Court during the adoption hearing. The Judge also asked me why I want to adopt Zoraida since I have already five children of my own. I told the Judge that I have been supporting Zoraida ever since she was only two years old, and I want her to go to States with us because we are going back to New Jersey or at least we try to go back to New Jersey when I finish my military duty in Japan.

My base pay per month is \$836.70 excluding allowances, and has approximately \$10,000.00 saving in the bank at present. I own personal property valued approximately \$12,000.00, Government Life Insurance coverage of \$20,000.00 and Commercial Life Insurance coverage of \$10,000.00 with double indemnity of \$20,000.00. Zoraida is one of the beneficiaries like my natural children.

Respectfully Yours,

RICARDO N. LASTIMOSA,  
*Sfc., U.S. Army.*

The adoption decree and other enclosures referred to above are contained in the files of the Senate Committee on the Judiciary.

#### 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. 804 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 Zoraida E. Lastimosa.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That, for the purposes of sections 203 (a) (1) and 204 of the Immigration and Nationality Act, Zoraida E. Lastimosa shall be held and considered to be the natural-born alien daughter of Ricardo N. Lastimosa, a citizen of the United States. The natural parents, brothers, and sisters of the said Zoraida E. Lastimosa shall not, by virtue of such relationship, be accorded any right, privilege, or status under the Immigration and Nationality Act.*

*Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

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

April 7, 1976

Dear Mr. Director:

The following bills were received at the White House on April 7th:

- ✓ S. 719
- ✓ S. 720
- ✓ S. 721
- ✓ S. 804
- ✓ S. 832
- ✓ S. 2308
- ✓ S. 3108

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.

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