

Department of Commerce and Labor
BUREAU OF IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION

DIVISION OF
NATURALIZATION
FILE NUMBER

Washington, December 3, 1909.

Please refer to this number
in replying

Memorandum for Mr. Earl

In response to your verbal request for a statement of the action taken by this office in the cases of George Shisham, before the Superior Court for Los Angeles County, California; Benjamin Romain, in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana; and Jacob Thompson, in the United States District Court at Providence, Rhode Island, regarding appeals from the decisions of these courts, I have the honor to state that no action has been taken upon the decision of the Superior Court for Los Angeles County, California, in the case of George Shisham, a Syrian.

On November 12, 1909, the Chief Naturalization Examiner, San Francisco, California, reported that the said Shisham was admitted to citizenship by the court named, on November 4, 1909, overruling the objection of the Naturalization Examiner. This letter states that an exception was taken and entered on the back of the petition. No response has been made to this communication.

In the case of Benjamin Romain, the United States Attorney at New Orleans, Louisiana, reported, under date of November 9, 1909, the admission of Benjamin Romain, a Syrian, over his objection, but that, in view of the letter from the Attorney General directing him to refrain from further opposing the naturalization of such persons (Turks and Asiatics), and to take no action in the way of having a test case made until further orders in this regard are received, no appeal was taken. In response to this letter, the division, in addition to expressing its appreciation of the interest of the United States attorney, advised him that his statement regarding the instructions of the Attorney General were in accordance with its understanding.

In regard to the case of Jacob Thompson, the records of this office show the petition to have been filed in the United States Circuit Court for the District of Rhode Island, and no instructions issued. As no report appears to have been received relative to the action of the court in this case, this office does not know whether the alien was admitted or whether any appeal is contemplated. A letter has been addressed to the Chief Naturalization Examiner at Boston calling for a report showing the present status of this case.

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