



LET'S UNITE THE COMMUNITY
AND GO FORWARD

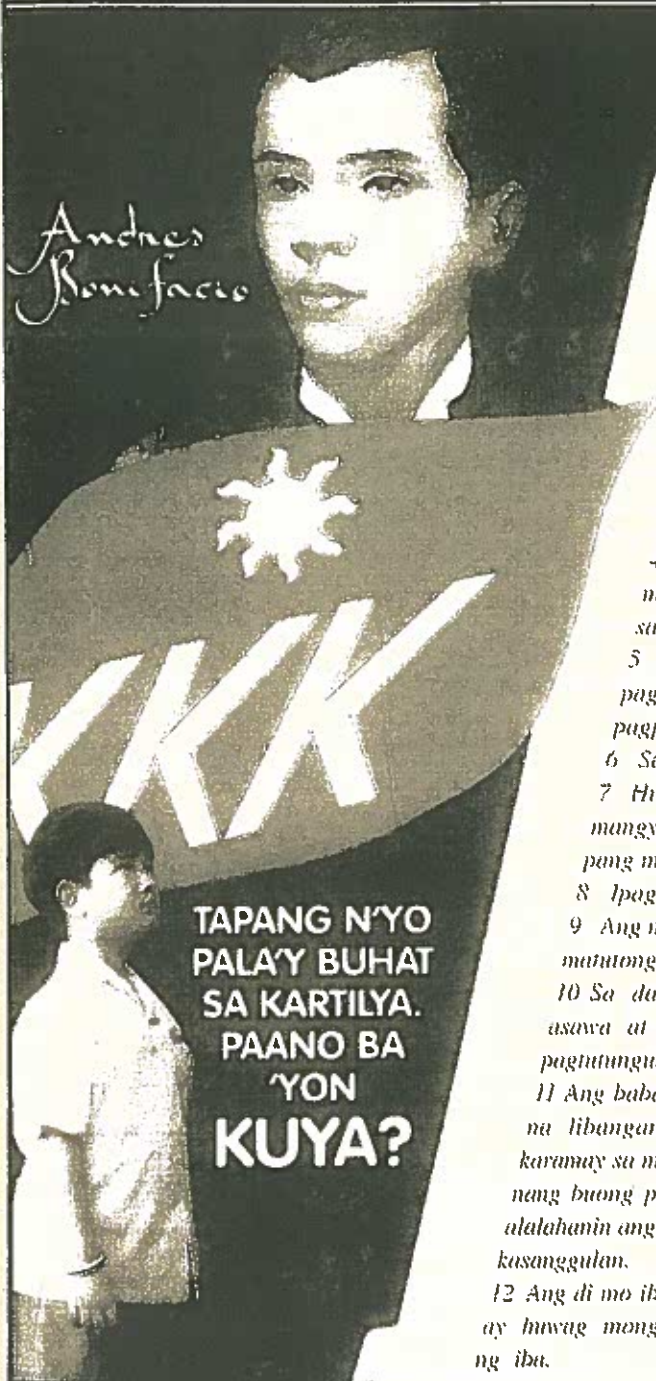
The Filipino Mirror

The Migrants' Newsletter

Vol. 7 No. 2

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Bayanihan Center for Filipino Migrants - Denmark®

June 2003



Andres
Bonifacio

**TAPANG N'YO
PALAY BUHAT
SA KARTILYA.
PAANO BA
YON
KUYA?**

Kartilya

- 1 Ang buhay na hindi ginugol sa isang malaki at banal na kadahilanan ay kahoy na walang lilim, kundi damong makamandag.
- 2 Ang gawang magaling na nagbuhat sa paghahambog o pagpipita sa sarili, at hindi talagang nuxang gumawa ng kagalingan, ay di kabaitan.
- 3 Ang umay na kabanalan ay ang pagkakaawang-gawa, ang pag-ibig sa kapwa at ang isukat ang bawat kilos, gawa't pangungusap sa talagang Katuwiran.
- 4 Maitim man o maputi ang kulay ng balat, lubat ng tao'y magkakapantay; mangyayaring ang isa'y bihigtan sa dunong, sa yaman, sa ganda...; ngunit di mahihigitan sa pagkatao.
- 5 Ang may mataas na kalooban, imuna ang puri kaysa pagpipita sa sarili; ang may hamak na kalooban, imuna ang pagpipita sa sarili kaysa sa puri.
- 6 Sa taong may hiya, salita'y pamumumpa.
- 7 Huwag mong sayangin ang panahon; ang yamang nawala'y mangyayaring magbalik; ngunit panahong nagdaan ay di na muli pang magdaan.
- 8 Ipagtanggol mo ang inaapi; kabakahin ang umaapi.
- 9 Ang mga taong matalino'y ang may pag-lingat sa bawat sasabihin; manatong ipaglahim ang dapat ipaglahim.
- 10 Sa daang matinik ng buhay, lalaki ang siyang pamngot ng asawa at mga anak; kung ang umaakay ay tungo sa sama, ang pagtutungguhan ng inuakay ay kasamaan din.
- 11 Ang babae ay huwag mong tingnan isang bagay na libangan lamang, kundi isang katuwang at karamay sa mga kahirapan nitong buhay; gamitin mo nang buong pagpipitagan ang kanyong kahinaan, at alalahanin ang imang pinagbuhatan at nag-ibi sa iyong kasanggulan.
- 12 Ang di mo ibig gawin sa asawa mo, anak at kapatid, ay huwag mong gagawin sa asawa, anak at kapatid ng iba.



**Mga Kuya ng Bayan, Ituro sa Kabataan,
Kartilya ng Katipunan at Kanilang Kabuluhan!**

MABUHAY ang PILIPINAS

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WOMEN up...
and
accessorize
them.



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ROSTAN'S

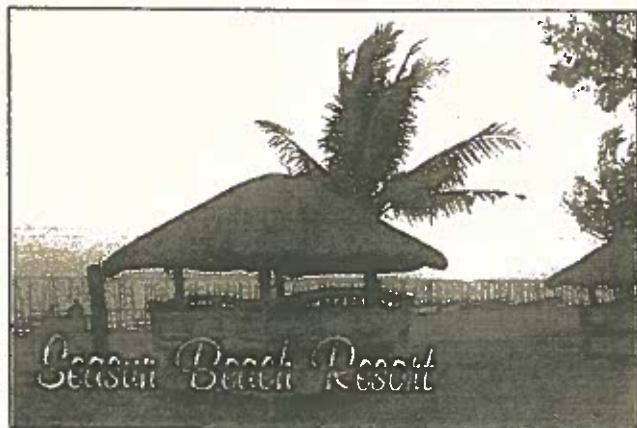
The Art and Science of Wellness
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Isang Migtante*



BCFM Springfest 2003



Young Filipino Scientists



The Callao Cave

Migrant News

GOV'T URGE TO FUND ABSENTEE VOTING

Overseas Filipinos workers are urging Pres. Arroyo to ensure that funds are allocated for the full implementation of the absentee voting law in next year's elections.

OFW leaders conveyed the appeal to Sec. Heherson Alvarez, presidential adviser on overseas Filipino communities, during a series of consultations with Filipino community leaders in Saudi Arabia, Jordan and the United Arab Emirates.

The OFWs, who are now part of the global protection of the rights of migrant workers guaranteed by the United Nations, expect Mrs. Arroyo to fill in the shortfall in budgetary allocation since the President has always commended them for their contributions to the Philippine economy through dollar remittances to their families.

The President however assured the DFA and Comelec that additional funds will be provided in the 2004 budget.

16 FILIPINO SOLDIERS RECEIVE US CITIZENSHIP AFTER IRAQ WAR

They fought with valor and skill under the Stars and Stripes during the war in Iraq and are now American citizens.

Sixteen Filipinos were among the 43 immigrants who served aboard the aircraft carrier USS Abraham Lincoln that was deployed to the Persian Gulf during the US-led coalition campaign to oust Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein.

The immigrants took their oath of citizenship in a ceremony that underscored how the US military has accommodated immigrants seeking naturalization in their adopted

country.

The citizenship applications of these immigrants were brought to the top of the pile thanks to an executive order signed by US President George W. Bush last July to end the three-year wait required for members of the military to become eligible. The non-military immigrants must wait five years.

OFWS WANT TO BUY NAIA TERMINAL 3

OFWs want to buy into national development by suggesting that OFW funds be tapped to raise \$400 million to pay Philippine International Air Terminals Co. (Piatco) for Terminal 3 of the Ninoy Aquino International Airport (NAIA).

The idea is the brainchild of financial analyst Mike Bolos, who has worked for a Saudi Arabian health-care firm for 23 years. Now a senior accountant with that company, Bolos said investing in buying NAIA is something OFWs can very easily do and is a better way of utilizing their savings.

According to Bolos, "The cost price of \$400 million for NAIA Terminal 3 can be easily raised from the OFW community. Just \$400 each from a million OFWs out of a total 7-8 million OFWs all over the world will produce the amount. OFWs have a vast amount of potential capital parked in and outside of the country that is generating only a paltry sum of interest, if at all. Savings accounts in Saudi Arabia do not even earn

any interest."

REMITTANCES OF OFWS SEEN UP AT \$7.2B IN 2003

Remittances by overseas Filipino workers (OFWs) are estimated to reach \$7.2 billion this year from \$7 billion in 2002, the *Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas*. The estimate took into account the impact of the Iraq war and the SARS outbreak.

OFW remittances reached \$1.781 billion in the first three months this year, up by 6.6 percent from the same period last year.

GOV'T LIFTS BAN ON HK-BOUND WORKERS

Filipino workers may again seek employment in Hong Kong after the Philippine Overseas Employment Administration (POEA) lifted a deployment ban it imposed almost two months ago.

The ban was lifted after the World Health Organization declared the city free of severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS), noting the sharp decline in the number of infections in past weeks.

Around 153,000 Filipino workers currently work in Hong Kong.

BOMBING KILLS TWO FILIPINOS IN RIYADH

Two Filipino workers were killed and five others were injured in the 13 May bombing of a housing complex for expatriates in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

Labor Sec. Patricia Santo Tomas identified the fatalities as Rogelio Cababero and

Getulio Templo.

Templo, an electronic and communications specialist, lived in a staff house in the complex with 19 other Filipino workers. Cababero, on the other hand, is a worker in a vinyl company and also a tenant in another staff house in the housing complex.

Santo Tomas said Saudi officials are stingy with information. "[Our attaché there] can't get information from the police."

Philippine Ambassador to Saudi Arabia Bahnarim Guinomla said the bombing in Riyadh could be in retaliation for the US attack on and occupation of Iraq.

There are about 700,000 Filipinos working in Saudi Arabia, the biggest employer of Filipinos in the Middle East.

PINAY WINS TOP HONOR FOR EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING



Josette Biyo was awarded the Intel Excellence in Teaching Award at the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair Grand Awards Ceremony at the Convention Center in Kentucky, USA.

Biyo was awarded a USD\$20,000 teaching grant, a USD\$5,000 cash prize and a high-performance computer, as well as an all-expense paid trip to the 2002 Intel ISEF.

Biyo teaches Science Research at the Philippine Science High School-Western Visayas in Iloilo.

PIATCO NAIA3 DEAL NULL AND VOID - SUPREME COURT

The Supreme Court declared as null and void the Philippine International Air Terminals Co., Inc. (Piatco) concession contract and all its three supplemental agreements on the construction and operation of the Ninoy Aquino International Airport Terminal 3, ruling among others that it was a disqualified bidder and that the supplemental contracts contained material deviations from the original contract that was forged in 1997.

Edgardo Manda, NAIA general manager, said the ruling paves the way for government takeover of the terminal. He said the terminal can be opened in six months after curing the construction defects in the terminal and building unfinished facilities.

RP'S OLDEST LIGHTHOUSE RESTORED

The 126th Squadron of the Philippine Coast Guard Auxiliary has completed the repair, painting, and the landscaping of a mini-park at the Spanish colonial lighthouse along the mouth of the Pasig River called *Faro y Luces del Rio Pasig*.

Erected to protect the country's flourishing maritime industry in the time of the Galleon Trade, the Pasig *farola* is located atop a dike with a fixed beacon which can

be seen from as far as Corregidor, 27 miles away.

It is the oldest light station in the country built in 1642.

'BATA' REYES NAMED TO BILLIARDS HALL OF FAME

Pinoy billiards icon Efren 'Bata' Reyes has been voted into the sports' Hall of Fame, a well-deserved spot for one of the most celebrated players who ever wielded a cue stick.

The Hall of Fame spot has long been considered a lock for Reyes, the gap-toothed former pool shark from Angeles City who has become one of the most dominant players in the US and world circuit.

Reyes, though, may not be able to attend his enshrinement to the Hall on July 12 in Las Vegas since the event coincides with the staging of the World Pool Championship in Cardiff, Wales. The world championships, which Reyes ruled in 1999, runs from July 12 to 20.

SC TO IMELDA: VACATE LEYTE PROPERTY

The Supreme Court has given former First Lady Imelda Romualdez-Marcos and her lawyers an ultimatum to surrender a 45-hectare property in Leyte or else, authorities would forcefully evict her employees from the

premises.

In its resolution, the Supreme Court en banc directed the *Sandiganbayan* sheriff and Philippine National Police to enforce its order by using all legal means necessary to "remove or eject" any person or persons representing Mrs. Marcos from the property in Olot, Tolosa, Leyte.

YOUNG FILIPINO SCIENTISTS AWARDED INTERNATIONAL PRIZES

Four high school students won major awards in physics and microbiology at the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair, the world's largest pre-college celebration of science, held annually in the USA every May.

In physics, Richard K. S. Manapat, Jeric V. Macalintal and Allan N. Estrella of the Manila Science High School received the first place grand award and USD\$3,000 for their project entitled "A novel application of locally formulated cholestric liquid crystals in Dosimetry."

For microbiology, Prem V. F. M. Rara of the Integrated Development School in Lanao del Norte was the recipient of the second place grand award and USD\$1,500 for his project "Antibiotic Substance Obtained from the Parotid Gland Secretions of the Toad (*Bufo*

Marinus)."

The double awards of the student scientists only proves that the Filipinos have what it takes to win in international competitions. ❀

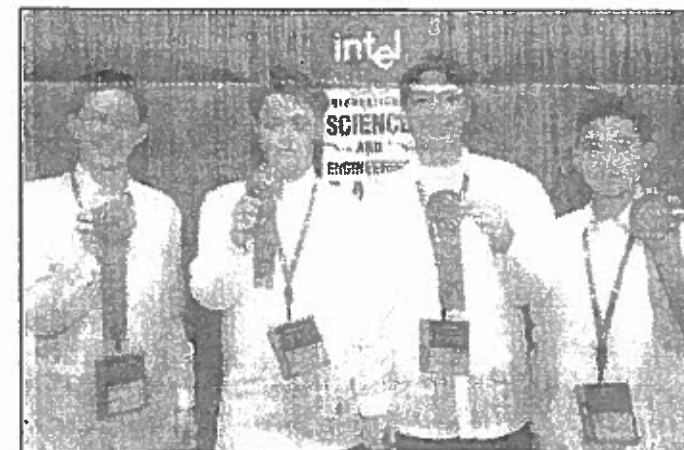
WILL IT BE A CHANCE... high percentage of literacy, the educated poor majority in the Philippines will never relinquish their only right to participate in the formation of the government.

Corruption breeds almost all conceivable ills in our society and undeniably there is corruption in almost every branches of the government.

Sadly enough, most politicians seem to have a consenting attitude towards this malpractice. Only a handful of politicians has so far been made to pay this crime, while the majority goes freely, especially those with some friends in the higher echelon of the government.

As it is, politics is probably the most profitable profession in the Philippines. While the salary is minimal, the income could be twice or even thrice as much. And blaming the poor voters for the malpractices and abuses of these dishonest and corrupt politicians is absolutely unjustified. It is the duty of the Comelec to screen all candidates running for public office and to strictly implement the conduct and rules of the election. This is the very starting point of corruption in the public sector of our society.

I only hope, as most Filipinos do, that we can still find some honest, sincere and dedicated politicians who could lead the country towards progress, and thus creating a peaceful environment in which the Filipino people could live contentedly and happily. ❀



How long is a residence permit valid for?

When spouses or registered partners are granted family reunification, the first residence permit is valid for a maximum of one (1) year.

The following rules apply to children:

- o If the child resides abroad, the first residence permit will be for one (1) year.
- o If the child resides in Denmark, and if the parent residing in this country has a time-limited residence permit, the child will be granted a residence permit valid until the parent's residence permit expires. This rule applies until the child-applicant reaches 18 years of age.
- o If the child resides in Denmark, and if the parent residing in Denmark has a permanent residence permit, the child will be granted a residence permit valid until he or she reaches 18 years of age.

The length of the residence permit is also dependent upon how long the applicant's, or, in the case of children, the applicant's parent's passport, is valid. A residence permit will be issued to expire no later than three (3) months before the passport does. If the applicant has other travel identification, the residence permit will expire no later than six (6) months before the expiration of the return permit to the country that issued the travel documents.

DOCUMENTATION FOR CHILDREN'S RESIDENCE PERMITS

An applicant under 18 years of age living permanently with his or her parents will not, as a rule, be issued individual documentation for his or her residence permit.

If the child needs to travel abroad, the Danish Immigration Service can issue valid docu-

DANISH Immigration Law

mentation (usually a special sticker affixed to the child's or the parent's passport). Applications for this type of documentation must be submitted to the Danish Immigration Service, Ryesgade 53, 2100 Copenhagen Ø.

If the applicant lives outside the Greater Copenhagen area, the application can be submitted to the local police, who will forward the application form to the Danish Immigration Service.

A special arrangement has been introduced which permits police authorities at 12 selected precincts to affix these stickers to the applicant's or the parent's passport, if given authorization in each individual case by the Danish Immigration Service.

The 12 police precincts are: Århus, Odense, Ålborg, Esbjerg, Roskilde, Helsingør, Herning, Kolding, Gråsten, Nykøbing Falster, Næstved and Holbæk.

EXTENSION OF A RESIDENCE PERMIT

Spouses can have their residence permits initially extended for a maximum of one (1) year.

The child's residence permit will be extended to the date when the parent's residence permit expires if the parent living in Denmark has a time-limited residence permit. This rule applies until the child-applicant reaches 18 years of age.

The Danish Immigration Service reserves the right to revoke or refuse the extension of a residence permit if, for example, the basis for the residence permit cited in the application or the

permit itself is inaccurate or no longer applies.

HOW TO APPLY FOR AN EXTENSION

An application for the extension of a residence permit must be submitted between one and two months before the permit is due to expire.

As a rule, an application must be submitted in Denmark. Application forms can be found at the Danish Immigration Service reception where the completed application form can also be submitted. If the applicant lives outside the Greater Copenhagen area, the application form can be obtained from and submitted to the local police station.

PERMANENT RESIDENCE PERMITS

Spouses usually receive unlimited time (permanent) residence permits once they have lived in Denmark for seven (7) consecutive years, and if the following conditions are met:

- o The applicant must have completed an introduction programme in accordance with the Integration Law, or another similar programme.
- o The applicant must have passed a special Danish language test.
- o The applicant must not have received a prison sentence of more than 2 years for serious crimes, including drug offences, human trafficking, murder, assault or rape. If the applicant has been sentenced to probation for lesser

crimes, the date for the applicant's eligibility for permanent residence will be postponed.

- o The applicant must not have any outstanding public debts.

Children are first eligible for permanent residence permits upon reaching 18 years of age. Furthermore, it is required that a parent residing in Denmark possesses a permanent residence permit, or that the child has resided legally in Denmark for more than 7 years.

These rules for permanent residence permits relate to anyone who has applied for family reunification from 28 February 2002. Individuals who submitted an application prior to this date will be examined according to the old rules for permanent residence permits.

TERMINATION OF A RESIDENCE PERMIT

An alien who has previously been granted a residence permit for Denmark according to the rules on family reunification can lose the right to reside in Denmark.

This can occur if his or her residence permit is revoked or his or her application for extension has been denied, if for example the reason for granting the permit is no longer valid. This can also occur if the residence permit lapses, for instance because the alien moves or goes to live for a long period abroad.

Fraud. The Danish Immigration Service can always revoke or

refuse to extend a residence permit if an alien has received the permit fraudulently, for example, by giving false information to authorities. The Danish Immigration Service reserves this right whether the foreign national has a time-limited or a permanent residence permit.

The Danish Immigration Service can revoke or refuse to extend a time-limited residence permit if the basis for the permit was inaccurate or is no longer valid, as in this the case: A foreign national has received a residence permit on the grounds of marriage, and the spouses no longer live together.

The Danish Immigration Service can also revoke or refuse to extend a time-limited residence permit on the following circumstances:

- o If, in connection with the original residence permit, a housing requirement was specified and was not being met. This also applies if the housing requirement was waived due to special circumstances, and these circumstances are no longer relevant.
- o If, in connection with the original residence permit, a support requirement was specified, and was not being met. This also applies if the support requirement was waived due to special circumstances, and these circumstances are no longer relevant. In this case, the Danish Immigration Service will investigate whether or not the alien has him- or herself an income, which can contribute to the support requirement.

Missing Passport. The Danish Immigration Service can revoke or refuse to extend a time-limited residence permit if a foreign national no longer possesses a valid passport or other valid travel documents.

When an alien applies for

extension of his or her residence permit, a passport must always be enclosed with the application form. If the applicant's passport or travel documents are invalid, the Danish Immigration Service will not proceed with the case until the applicant has acquired a new passport or renewed an existing passport. The applicant will generally receive a one-month deadline to meet this requirement.

Report to the Schengen Information System (SIS). The Danish Immigration Service reserves the right to revoke or refuse to extend any residence permit if there is an alert in the Schengen Information System (SIS) issued for the purpose of refusing entry of the foreign national. This happens if the alien has been reported due to actions which are considered serious enough to warrant deportation if carried out here in Denmark, i.e. serious crime.

A residence permit can be revoked on this basis regardless of whether the foreign national possesses a time-limited or a permanent residence permit.

Cancellation on Other Grounds. In addition, a residence permit can always be revoked if the alien is regarded as a threat to national security or to public order, safety or health.

A residence permit can also be revoked if the holder is a war criminal, or has committed serious non-political crimes outside Denmark.

Finally, a residence permit can be revoked if the holder has, outside Denmark, either been convicted of a crime or committed a crime which would warrant deportation if committed in Denmark.

Applicant's Personal Circumstances. The applicant's personal circumstances are taken into consideration. If the applicant's personal circumstances

indicate that a cancellation or denial of extension would, in the assessment of the Danish Immigration Service, be especially traumatic for the individual, his or her residence permit will not be revoked or denied extension.

Among other things, the Danish Immigration Service will consider:

- o The applicant's connection to Danish society, including for how long he or she has resided in Denmark.
- o The applicant's age, health conditions, and other personal circumstances.
- o The applicant's connections to other individuals living in Denmark.
- o If the applicant has little or no connection to his or her country of origin.
- o Whether the applicant will suffer injury or harm in his or her country of origin.
- o If the applicant is no longer cohabiting due to violence on the part of a spouse or partner, this will also influence any decision, in that authorities can, in such cases, opt not to revoke a residence permit.

Residence abroad can lead to a lapse of the residence permit. If an alien who has been granted a residence permit on the basis of family reunification relinquishes his or her address in Denmark, the residence permit lapses automatically. In this case, the foreign national will not be permitted to enter the country again, regardless of whether the residence permit's expiry date has passed or not.

The same rule applies for lengthy stays abroad. A stay of more than 6 consecutive months abroad will lead to an automatic lapse of a residence permit. If the foreign national has lived in Denmark for more than two (2) years with a view to gaining a permanent residence permit, the stay abroad must have lasted for more than 12 consecutive months

before the residence permit lapses. Stays in Greenland or the Faroe Islands are also considered as residence abroad.

Special rules apply if the foreign national returns to his or her country of origin, or prior country of residence, to take permanent residence there (repatriation).

If a foreign national travels out of Denmark when his or her residence permit has expired, he or she will not be permitted to enter the country again without a return travel permit or a visa.

Application to prevent lapse of the residence permit. A residence permit holder who plans to reside abroad for a period longer than the aforementioned 6 or 12 months can apply in advance to prevent the residence permit from lapsing. The same rule applies if the permit holder plans to relinquish his or her address in Denmark.

An application, in these circumstances, must be submitted to the Danish Immigration Service, Ryesgade 53, 2100 Copenhagen Ø, Denmark. It is a good idea to enclose any possible information regarding the stay abroad: for example, if the stay is in connection with education or work.

PROCESSING TIME

The average time required to process applications for family reunification is about five (5) months. For citizens from Somalia, Iraq and Afghanistan it is presently seven (7) months.

The longer processing time for some nationalities is due to the fact that the Danish Immigration Service cannot attach the same importance - as usual - to documents, certificates, etc. from these countries and cannot get these documents verified. Instead the Danish Immigration Service must often obtain the necessary information in other and more time-consuming ways.

TO BE CONTINUED