

February 6, 1958

District Director  
Immigration and Naturalization Service  
United States Department of Justice  
Federal Building  
Milwaukee 2, Wisconsin

Sir:

I enclose with this letter a petition for permission to import one non-immigrant alien, Dr. Luigi Cavalli-Sforza. Dr. Cavalli is an eminent scientist of high distinction, as I know from my own experience in collaborated research with him, and as I hope is set forth by the attached documents, especially the list of scientific publications under his authorship and direction.

I am requesting his admission in order to make it possible for Dr. Cavalli to spend a period of some months in my laboratory at the University of Wisconsin for the purpose of continuing a research project in microbiology and genetics in which we have both long been interested. Dr. Cavalli is well-known as a leading authority in this field of scientific research. We have collaborated together not only for the term of a brief visit which he paid to this laboratory in the fall of 1954 but also more extensively by correspondence over a period of almost ten years. The status of this field of research and of the experimental results which we have separately achieved is such as to make it highly desirable that we have another period of ~~close~~ collaboration working in the same laboratory. A substantial stipend for his support is available and will be paid to him as a salary from a grant from the National Institutes of Health Public Health Service to the University of Wisconsin. He will carry the title of Project Associate in Medical Genetics for the duration of his visit. In addition he has been invited to participate in a Symposium on Medical Genetics to be held at Madison this spring.

On another occasion it would be entirely reasonable for Dr. Cavalli to enter on an exchange visitor visa. There is no question that the University will endorse such an application. However, a number of institutions in the United States are at least tentatively interested in acquiring Dr. Cavalli's services on a more durable basis and I have reason to believe that he is contemplating the possibility of applying for an immigrant visa at some time during the next several years, especially should the climate for basic research in Italy show no more encouragement than it has in the past. For this reason I request your consideration in allowing his entry as a temporary worker of high distinguished merit and ability. The probable period of his stay in the United States is about six months. However, to allow for other contingencies and for some uncertainty as to the exact interval of his projected stay, I request that this permission read for the legal admissible term of one year.

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I hereby vouch for the correctness and authenticity of the attached statements to the full extent of my knowledge and beliefs.

Yours sincerely,

Joshua Lederberg  
Chairman, Department of  
Medical Genetics

JL/ew

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