

BS  
March 1  
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HUNGARY

RELIGION /2800/  
Protestants /2805/

NORWEGIAN PARLIAMENT GRANTS REFUGEE  
LUTHERAN PRIEST NATURALIZED CITIZEN-  
SHIP.

SOURCE STOCKHOLM: Regular RFE OSLO reporter.

DATE OF OBSERVATION: February 20 1956.

EVAL. COMMENT: This is a sequel to STOCKHOLM RFE Item No.  
2175/56.

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The Norwegian Parliament has unanimously accepted the recommendation of the Judicial Committee of the Parliament and awarded former Hungarian citizen Laszlo Geza TERRAY Norwegian naturalized citizenship, in order to become a priest in the Norwegian Lutheran Church.

This is a quite unusual thing in Norway, as since 1900 it has only happened three times; that people have applied for such and gotten it from the Parliament.

In his original application TERRAY stated:

"The undersigned Secretary at EGEDE Institution for Mission Science, Priest Laszlo Geza TERRAY, herewith asks to become naturalized by Parliament with the intention of becoming a priest in Norway.

I was born in MISKOLO, Hungary, January 22 1924, and have grown up in said town, received my theological degree

/more/

in 1946 at ELISABETH University for Lutheran Theology in SOPRON, Hungary, and was made a priest the same year. After two years of assignment as a priest in the Hungarian Lutheran Church, I studied by means of a scholarship awarded by the Church World Association, in ZURICH, BASEL and OSLO, received my Norwegian theologic degree in 1952, practical theological degree in 1953, degree in samisk /Lapp culture/ in VARANGER, have been employed by the Norwegian Ethnic-Finnish Mission Society and, since September 1954, I have worked as a secretary at EGEDE Institution.

My wife is a Norwegian, and January this year I was granted /ordinary Stateless/ Norwegian citizenship.

Why I apply for naturalization is that I, as long as I'm not naturalized or have not been in Norway more than 10 years, cannot use my Norwegian Theological degree to be employed as a priest in the Norwegian Church."

To the application is attached letter of recommendation from Professor SEIERSTAD and Docent MYKLEBUST. He speaks Norwegian without accent and writes clearly and well. He has an exceptionally good knowledge and a great cultural knowledge. He is musical, plays the piano and conducts the choir. He adapted himself easily to Norwegian customs and habits, and has made friends wherever he went.

End