

A. FACTS SHEET ON NYDIA BARKER LUTHY, VICTIM OF UNJUST IMMIGRATION
LAWS AND PRACTICES

- 1912 Born in the Ukraine, Russia.
- 1913 Father, James Barker immigrates to the United States.
- 1916 Mother, Bertha Barker follows bringing infant daughter Nydia through war-torn Russia, via Siberia, Vladivostok, Tokyo, Seattle.
- 1917 Entered school in Chicago, Illinois.
- 1920 The family moved to Grand Rapids, Michigan.
- 1927 Nydia was enrolled into the Young Pioneers, a Communist-sponsored childrens club.
- 1929 Nydia Barker left home for Detroit. The depression forced her to leave high school with but one-half year to go.
- 1930 Nydia became part of the growing numbers of unemployed. She joined the Unemployed Youth League and the Young Communist League.
- 1934 Married William Goetz.
- 1935 Her husband became ill and suffered a mental breakdown.
- 1937 William Goetz died (suicide). Nydia, guided by Bishop and Mrs. Blake, left Detroit to begin college.
- 1938-
1940 Completed high school and Jackson Junior College, Jackson, Michigan. Received highest academic honors.
- 1940-
1942 Obtained BS degree in Chemistry, University of Michigan, World War II accelerated program.
Met Frederick A. Luthy, President Luthy Automobile Parts Mfg. Company at the local airport where Nydia was learning to fly.
- 1942-
1943 Obtained first job as a chemist, General Laboratories, Firestone Rubber Co., Akron, Ohio.
- 1944 Began graduate work at Cornell University, Ithaca, N.Y. as Research Assistant teaching organic chemistry.
- 1945 Transferred to Stanford University, California and completed Master's Degree (Thesis on synthesis of possible anti-malarial compounds). Elected to Iota Sigma Pi, Honorary Society of Women Chemists; later she became its Stanford Chapter president.
- 1946 Married Frederick A. Luthy. Began research work for the Doctorate.
- 1948 Passed Doctorate examinations in Chemistry, Stanford University. Elected to Sigma XI (Top honors society at the graduate level). Began work as Research Associate on the chemistry of nucleic acid on Rockefeller Grant.
- 1949 First publications, Journal of Chemical Education, Journal of the American Chemical Society, Journal of Organic Chemistry.

- Oct.
1949 F.A. Luthy took his wife, Nydia on a trip around the world as a vacation and doctorate graduation present. Returned to San Francisco via Hawaiian Islands.
- 1950 Nydia Luthy was charged with illegal entry and deemed deportable because of her childhood membership in the Young Communist League (now on the list of "subversive organizations").
- Spring Delivered a scheduled paper before the national meeting of the American Chemical Society on standards of purity in the drug, D-tubocourare.
- Fall Illegal entry case heard in the Federal Court, San Francisco. Case terminated by two years probation. Although immigration officials had sworn in testimony that they could find no political affiliations for Nydia Luthy since 1937, they still pressed for deportation. But there was no existing country which could claim her.
- 1951 Korean war in progress. McCarthy fear-thinking and sensational publicity was damaging to the life and business of the Luthys.
- Feb. Nydia Luthy asked for voluntary departure at her own expense. Newly-formed Israel invited her to come. Nydia was promised favorable reconsideration in future re-application to the U.S.A.
- April Arrived in Haifa. Worked with Israel Research Council. But extreme food rationing and desert heat caused both Luthys to become dangerously ill. Israel doctors advised recuperation in Switzerland.
- July Arrived in Zurich, Switzerland. Nydia Luthy was invited to work as Research Associate with Prof. Paul Karrer (Nobel Prize Winner, vitamin A chemistry) and dean of the Chemistry Dept. University of Zurich. Her husband commuted to Jackson, Michigan for business.
- 1953 Invited to University of Manchester England as Fellow of the British Empire Cancer Campaign. Began research in synthesis of possible cancer chemotherapeutic agents.
- 1954-
1956 First publications in the British Journals of the Chemical Society, and Pharmacy and Pharmacology.
- Her husband made repeated attempts at the State Dept. Washington, D.C. for re-entry for his wife. But he was turned down. His lawyer finally advised that an "Act of Congress" was the only final solution.
- 1957 Nydia Luthy joined her husband in Jamaica, British West Indies where they stayed because of his failing health. From here they made many attempts to find a haven where his health and both their business and professional interests could be employed. Mr. Luthy's export connections made it possible for them to visit Colombia, Mexico, and finally Cuba. There a group of business men under the Battista government invited Mr. Luthy to build an auto parts plant based on his patents and designs.
- 1958
Fall A spark plug manufacturing company was formed in Havana.

- 1959 Castro takes over; new government established.
Jan.
- May Nydia Luthy began teaching chemistry and microscopy as full professor at the University of Havana
- Dec. 5 Frederick A. Luthy died from heart attack and was buried at Colon Cemetery, Havana.
- 1960 As the two nations, Cuba and the U.S.A. drifted further apart, life became more and more insecure. Many Cubans fled. At the University of Havana, the Faculty of Law, Engineering, and Medicine all resigned.
- July Nydia Luthy was quite alone; communication with the mainland was being cut off. There were numerous "incidents" of bombings, shootings, and explosions.
- Sept. U.S. State Dept. announced an Airlift for persons wishing to leave Cuba. Nydia Luthy joined the airlift leaving all her possessions behind, and these were later confiscated. She arrived in Tampa, Florida, and was offered home and shelter by her brother in Ohio, and her mother who was now 70 years old.
- 1961 Invited by Ohio Northern University to teach chemistry and to develop research.
Jan.
- June Began a research project on the cytology of cancer, designing simplified microscopy techniques. This led to several publications including a report to the national meeting of the American Association for Cancer Research, April 1962, Atlantic City.
- Sept. Accepted position to Head the Chemistry Dept. at Findlay College, Ohio.
- 1962 Initiated cancer research there utilizing undergraduate students and trained them in chemical methods and work with animal studies.
- March Awarded \$3,000 grant from the American Cancer Society, Ohio to continue this program.
- April Spoke before many student and civic groups on need for cancer research. Talks hailed in the press.
- May 14 Immigration Dept. officials arrested Nydia Barker Luthy, charged her with illegal entry and recalled the order of 1950.
- June Immigration Dept. ordered ".deportation to any country which will accept her.." Released on \$50,000 bond which was raised by her family.
- Aug. Federal Immigration Board in Washington denied an appeal.
- Sept. Federal Court at Toledo to hear charges of illegal entry, a felony.