

NEW McCARTHYISM?**Schwartz out
in fast shuffle
at State Dept.**

THE RESIGNATION of Abba P. Schwartz, a top State Department immigration and passport official, may have set the stage for a new round of the feud between President Johnson and New York Sen. Robert F. Kennedy.

Schwartz resigned March 5 after learning that a State Department reorganization plan being worked out by a White House aide and Secretary of State Dean Rusk's office would eliminate his post as administrator of the Bureau of Security and Consular Affairs. Schwartz has been viewed by many as a liberalizing influence in immigration and passport matters.

Joseph Rauh, vice chairman of Americans For Democratic Action, of which Schwartz was an early member, said that the events leading to Schwartz's resignation showed that "the loyal McCarthy underground in the State Department has triumphed" over liberals in the department. The plan to reorganize Schwartz's department out of existence, under secret discussion for months, was not known to him until the day before his resignation.

In the State Department, Schwartz's office was slotted above that of the passport office headed by Mrs. Frances G. Knight who has been associated with restrictive passport policies, and under William J. Crockett, Deputy Undersecretary of State for Administration of whom Schwartz said that he "has not been one of the most enthusiastic supporters of our policy of maintaining a free and open society." The reorganization plan was explained as an attempt to end excessive "layering" of authority and as an economy move.

PRESIDENT JOHNSON supported the Rusk reorganization plan, and the White House announced after Schwartz's resignation that scholars would now be permitted to go to China, and that the Administration would continue its liberal passport policies. White House press secretary Bill D. Moyers said: "The President of the United States sets that policy and will continue that (liberal) policy."

But Rep. Henry S. Reuss (D-Wis.) of the House Subcommittee on Executive and Legislative Reorganization, Sen. Robert Kennedy of the Senate Government Operations Subcommittee and Sen. Edward F. Kennedy (D-Mass.) who heads the Senate Subcommittee on Refugees, all indicated that they would press for congressional investigation of the Schwartz resignation. Schwartz told columnist James A. Wechsler (New York Post,



ABBA P. SCHWARTZ
Nobody told him

March 8) that he was prepared to speak bluntly before any appropriate Senate inquiry.

During the 1964 election campaign, Schwartz campaigned for Robert Kennedy in the New York Jewish community. Kennedy said: "His departure is a loss to the government he served." According to the New York Times (March 9), President Johnson "is aware that his own status with New York liberal Democrats has been slipping principally because of their doubts about his Vietnam policy," and is "concerned lest his standing be further eroded by the Schwartz affair."

SCHWARTZ'S "ENFORCED departure" has "deeply disturbed" Kennedy, according to Wechsler (Post, March 10), and although Kennedy is worried about what may appear to be an attempt "to pick a fight" with Johnson, "One thing is clear: he is not disposed to view the matter as finished dirty business."

Overlooked by liberal protagonists of Schwartz was the fact that passport policy has been essentially set by U.S. Supreme Court decisions forced by citizens who challenged State Department rulings. Last year's immigration act, revising the Walter-McCarran immigration law and signed with fanfare by President Johnson on New York's Ellis Island, was said to be the product of Schwartz's liberalism. But one lawyer who has dealt with immigration cases called the act a "labor exclusion" law, since it restricts most immigrants to those whom the Department of Labor will certify to have skills in which there is a critical U.S. shortage. The bill does eliminate "national origin" quotas which have long been criticized as technically discriminatory. But in the process, another lawyer commented, it also "did away with immigration itself" as the U.S. has historically viewed it, including the right of unskilled as well as specially trained persons to come to the U.S.

THE NEW LAW ALSO permits persons from East European socialist countries to come to the U.S. but only if they are members of the immediate family of those already here. This means, in effect, that the U.S. will now permit the reunification of families, some members of which have left those areas in opposition to socialist governments. It was Schwartz's pressure for passage of this act which has helped him achieve a reputation for liberalism.

Also overlooked by the liberal commentators who saw a McCarthyist plot in Schwartz's removal is the fact that the State Department policy throughout the world and in Vietnam is McCarthyism in action as it seeks to contain international "conspiratorial" communism. One other fact was not highlighted by the liberal commentators: When Schwartz was nominated for the post, according to a profile in the New York Times (Sept. 12, 1962) his staunchest supporter was the late Rep. Francis E. Walter (D-Pa.), then the chairman of the House Un-American Activities Committee and a co-author of the Walter-McCarran act. Schwartz replaced Salvatore A. Bontempo who, the Times reported, had "capitulated" after six months of running skirmishes" with the HUAC chairman.