

(Copy.)

Treasury Department
Office of the Secretary

Division of
Special Agents.

L-282.

June 8, 1903.

Mr. J.W.Linck,
Special Agent,
Tacoma, Wash.

Respectfully,

Sir:

On January 9, 1903, you were directed to make an investigation relative to the applications of one Ho Sam, an alleged Chinese merchant engaged in business at Missoula, Mont., for admission to this country, and the reports made in the case by Special Deputy Collector Charles Murray, of Great Falls, Mont., on May 12 and September 19, 1902, and Immigrant Inspector George M. Hatch, of the same place, on October 6, 1902, which you were informed were believed to be erroneous and misleading. You were also advised that both applications were believed to have been fraudulent and that there was collusion and perhaps conspiracy between the officers named, the attorney for the applicants, and others connected therewith. All the papers in the case were transmitted to you and you were instructed to make a thorough investigation of the subject and submit all the facts to the Collector of Customs at Great Falls, and the United States Attorney for the District.

The Department has received your report of April 20, 1903, on this subject, which was found to contain an elaborate and labored defense of all those who were in any way connected with the case, instead of embodying the results of a thorough investigation of the matter. While the evidence clearly and, in fact, indisputably shows that the applications were fraudulent in every particular, and that the officers who investigated the same failed, through inefficiency or collusion, to ascertain and report this fact, but recommended the favorable consideration thereof, your report attempts to exonerate them from blame, instead of holding them properly responsible. Your conclusions, in the opinion of the Department, are wholly unwarranted by the evidence before you, and indicate either indifference to the importance of the case or a desire to shield and protect those at

fault.

For these reasons your dismissal from the service is contemplated and you are directed, within three days from the date of the receipt of this communication, to submit such answer to the foregoing charges as you may deem proper to make.

Respectfully,

R. B. Armstrong,
Assistant Secretary.
W.S.C.

[Faint handwritten notes on the left margin, including the word "Communication" and some illegible numbers and dates.]