

CLOSEOUT FOR M91120047

This case was brought to the attention of OIG by [REDACTED], a program director in the [REDACTED] Program on December 12, 1991. It was alleged that the subject, [REDACTED], a [REDACTED] student in the [REDACTED] Department at the [REDACTED] had made a false statement to NSF because the racial/ethnic group designation on his successful NSF minority graduate fellowship application was inconsistent with that on his [REDACTED] admission application. The subject attended [REDACTED] for a brief period and then transferred to [REDACTED]. The subject had indicated he was a "Black, not of Hispanic Origin" on the NSF application and that he was an "Asian/Pacific Islander" on that [REDACTED] admission application. The program director had been told by the director of that [REDACTED] school's Fellowship Office that the subject had orally indicated that he was of Egyptian descent. It was questioned whether, as an Egyptian, he would be classified as Black. After the Fellowship Office director brought the Asian/Pacific Islander identification to his attention, the subject changed it to "Black, not of Hispanic Origin," and provided a written statement that he was originally from the [REDACTED].

When OIG asked the subject about these inconsistencies, he stated that the "Asian/Pacific Islander" designation was an unintentional error which he had since corrected. He stated that his roots were in the [REDACTED] territory that was subsequently divided into [REDACTED]. He had been told that his grandmother was probably from [REDACTED] the capital of [REDACTED]. He provided copies of several documents to show that he has consistently claimed African-American status and also cited membership in a professional organization for Blacks. He stated that he considered himself to be an African-American. We note that, according to the classification of ethnic groups obtained by OIG from the Bureau of the Census, a person who is partially of [REDACTED] extraction is considered to be Black, not of Hispanic origin.

Therefore, OIG determined that there was not enough evidence to warrant pursuing this allegation further. This case is closed without a finding of misconduct.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Concurrence:

*Donald E. Buzzelli 1/25/93*

Donald E. Buzzelli  
Senior Scientist, Office of Oversight

*James J. Zwolenik 1/26/93*

James J. Zwolenik  
Assistant Inspector General for Oversight

*Montgomery K. Fisher*

Montgomery K. Fisher  
Deputy Counsel to the Inspector General

cc: Assistant Inspector General for Oversight  
Inspector General

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