

## WAIVER OF VISAS AND VISA FEES FOR NONIMMIGRANTS

*Exchange of notes at Prague December 22 and 23, 1931*  
*Entered into force February 1, 1932*  
*Obsolete*

Department of State files

*The Minister of Foreign Affairs to the American Chargé d'Affaires*

[TRANSLATION]

MINISTRY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS  
CZECHOSLOVAK REPUBLIC

*Praha, December 22, 1931*

No. 154.245/V/4/31

MR. CHARGÉ D'AFFAIRES :

I have the honor to inform you that the Government of the Czechoslovak Republic, desiring to strengthen still further the bonds uniting the two States, has decided to waive the visa requirement for nationals of the United States of America, provided that they are not immigrants, and notes with pleasure that the Government of the United States has decided to waive the visa fees for Czechoslovak nationals, except immigrants.

Consequently, it is agreed as follows:

“The Government of the United States will, from the first of February 1932, collect no fee for visaing passports or executing applications therefor in the case of citizens or subjects of Czechoslovakia desiring to visit the United States (including the insular possessions) who are not ‘immigrants’ as defined in the Immigration Act of the United States of 1924,<sup>1</sup> namely, (1) a government official, his family, attendants, servants and employees, (2) an alien visiting the United States temporarily as a tourist or for business or pleasure, (3) an alien in continuous transit through the United States, (4) an alien lawfully admitted to the United States who later goes in transit from one part of the United States to another through foreign contiguous territory, (5) a bona fide alien seaman serving as such on a vessel arriving at a port of the United States and seeking to enter temporarily the United States solely in the pursuit of his calling as a seaman, and (6) an alien entitled to enter the United States to carry on trade under and in pursuance of the pro-

<sup>1</sup> 43 Stat. 153.

visions of a presently existing treaty of commerce and navigation; and from that date the Czechoslovak Government will waive, provided that the general regulations concerning aliens are observed, the visa requirement for citizens of the United States of America as long as they are non-immigrants of the same categories and are supplied with passports in good order.”

Requesting you to be good enough to confirm to me the agreement of your Government, I avail myself of this opportunity to express to you, Mr. Chargé d’Affaires, the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

For the Minister:

D. K. KROFTA

Mr. FREDERICK P. HIBBARD,  
*Chargé d’Affaires of the  
United States of America  
Praha.*

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*The American Chargé d’Affaires to the Minister of Foreign Affairs*

No. 1577

PRAGUE, *December 23, 1931*

EXCELLENCY:

With further reference to my Note No. 1531 of December 16, 1931, regarding the mutual waiver between Czechoslovakia and the United States of America for passport visas and applications therefor in favor of citizens of the two countries who are not immigrants as defined by Section Three (3) of the Immigration Act of 1924, of the United States of America, I take pleasure in transmitting to Your Excellency a Verbal Note which provides for an agreement between our two countries in this sense.

At the same time I desire to express to Your Excellency my gratification at the conclusion of this arrangement which will increase the friendly ties between the two countries and avail myself of this occasion to renew to Your Excellency the assurance of my distinguished consideration.

FREDERICK P. HIBBARD

*Chargé d’Affaires a.i.*

Enclosure:

Note Verbal mentioned  
above.

His Excellency

Dr. EDUARD BESEL,  
*Minister for Foreign Affairs,  
Prague*

VERBAL NOTE

The Government of the United States with a view to facilitating the relations between Czechoslovakia and the United States of America will, from

the first of February 1932, collect no fee for visaing passports or executing applications therefor in the case of citizens or subjects of Czechoslovakia desiring to visit the United States (including the insular possessions) who are not 'immigrants' as defined in the Immigration Act of the United States of 1924; namely, '(1) a government official, his family, attendants, servants and employees, (2) an alien visiting the United States temporarily as a tourist or temporarily for business or pleasure, (3) an alien in continuous transit through the United States, (4) an alien lawfully admitted to the United States who later goes in transit from one part of the United States to another through foreign contiguous territory, (5) a bona fide alien seaman serving as such on a vessel arriving at a port of the United States and seeking to enter temporarily the United States solely in the pursuit of his calling as a seaman, and (6) an alien entitled to enter the United States solely to carry on trade under and in pursuance of the provisions of a present existing treaty of commerce and navigation;' and from that date the Czechoslovak Government will not require a visa for citizens of the United States as long as they are nonimmigrants of the same categories and are supplied with passports in good order with the reservation that the general regulations in effect in Czechoslovakia concerning aliens are observed.

THE MINISTRY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS,  
*Prague*