

## WAIVER OF VISAS AND VISA FEES FOR NONIMMIGRANTS

*Exchange of notes at Luxembourg April 25 and May 22 and 26, 1936  
Entered into force May 26, 1936; operative June 15, 1936  
Suspended during World War II; revived by exchange of notes Janu-  
ary 30 and February 6, 1947*<sup>1</sup>

Department of State files

*The American Chargé d'Affaires ad interim to the Minister of State*

No. 205

LUXEMBURG, April 25, 1936

MR. MINISTER:

I have the honor to refer to my conversation with your Excellency of April 22, during the course of which we examined the desirability of the conclusion of an arrangement between the United States of America and the Grand Duchy of Luxemburg for the reciprocal waiver of visa fees for non-immigrants. Your Excellency will no doubt recall the many advantages of the nationals of both countries which are contained in the arrangement, and which we envisaged with common satisfaction in the course of our conversation.

In accordance with our understanding I am now authorized by my Government to submit to Your Excellency the text of the arrangement which we discussed, and which my Government would be ready to put into effect upon receipt of a note from your Excellency setting forth the willingness of the Grand Ducal Government to waive passport visa fees for American citizens desiring to visit the Grand Duchy of Luxemburg.

The Government of the United States of America will, from the first day of June, 1936, collect no fee for visaing passports or executing applications therefor in the name of subjects of Luxemburg 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>2</sup> 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

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<sup>1</sup> Not printed.

<sup>2</sup> 43 Stat. 153.

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 from the same date the Government of the Grand Duchy of Luxemburg will not require non-immigrant citizens of the United States of like classes desiring to visit the Grand Duchy of Luxemburg to present visaed passports.

With regard to the first class of aliens defined as non-immigrants above it may be mentioned that they are already granted visas gratis, and regardless of the final attitude of the Grand Ducal Government toward the proposal herein offered, the United States contemplates no change in its practice with respect to granting visas to that class of aliens.

I avail myself of this occasion, Mr. Minister, to renew to your Excellency the assurance of my highest consideration.

GEORGE PLATT WALLER

His Excellency

MONSIEUR JOSEPH BECH,  
*Minister of State,*  
*Luxemburg.*

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*The Minister of State to the American Chargé d'Affaires ad interim*

[TRANSLATION]

LUXEMBOURG, *May 22, 1936*

MR. CHARGÉ D'AFFAIRES:

With note No. 205 of April 25 last you submitted to me the text of an arrangement for eliminating passport visas or the visa fee in relations between the United States of America and the Grand Duchy.

According to your aforementioned communication, the government of the United States of America will no longer charge a fee for passport visas for Luxembourg nationals who wish to come to the United States (including its island possessions) and who are defined by the Immigration Act of 1924 as non-immigrants, namely: (1) government officials, members of their families, their domestics and employees; (2) aliens temporarily entering the United States either as tourists or for business or pleasure; (3) aliens in continuous transit across the United States; (4) aliens legally admitted to the United States who are travelling at a later date from one part of the United States to another in transit through a bordering foreign territory; (5) foreign seamen assigned to a ship arriving in an American port who seek to enter the United States temporarily in connection exclusively with their duties as seamen. In return the government of the Grand Duchy will no longer require

non-immigrant American citizens wishing to visit the Grand Duchy to show passports stamped with a Luxembourg consular visa.

I have the honor to inform you of the agreement of the government of the Grand Duchy to the proposed arrangement.

The facilities in question were to enter into force on June 1 next. I consider that the lateness of my reply, owing to the need to consult the Luxembourg authorities, as well as the time required for issuing appropriate instructions to the agents who will be responsible for carrying out the new agreement, will no longer allow us to adhere to this early date. I should therefore like to propose, if you agree, the date of June 15, 1936 for the entry into force of the arrangement.

I avail myself of the opportunity to renew to you the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

BECH

Mr. GEORGE PLATT WALLER,  
*Chargé d'Affaires ad interim*  
*of the United States of America,*  
*Luxembourg*

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*The American Chargé d'Affaires ad interim to the Minister of State*

No. 308

LUXEMBURG, May 26, 1936

MR. MINISTER:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's note dated May 22, 1936,—File Number 12.17a,—in which the Legation is informed of the Grand Ducal Government's agreement to the arrangement proposed by my Government with regard to the reciprocal waiver of fees for visas on passports for entry into the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg of American citizens on the one hand, and for the entry into the United States of Luxembourg subjects classified under various non-immigrant categories on the other hand, set forth in detail in my note of April 25, 1936. It is further noted with pleasure that the Grand Ducal Government will no longer require visas on the passports of Americans visiting the Grand Duchy for business or pleasure.

With reference to your Excellency's suggestion that the reciprocal arrangement take effect as from June 15, 1936, instead of June 1st, as had provisionally been contemplated, I entirely agree that the later date will be preferable, and with this in view, I have now telegraphically informed my Government of the Grand Ducal Government's agreement to the arrangement, which our respective Governments will consider in force as from June 15, 1936.

In expressing my sensibility of your Excellency's hearty cooperation in having thus aided to remove one more obstacle to the free and unhindered

intercourse between the inhabitants of our respective countries, I avail myself of this occasion to renew to you, Mr. Minister, the assurance of my highest consideration.

GEORGE PLATT WALLER  
*Chargé d'Affaires a.i.*

His Excellency

MONSIEUR JOSEPH BECH,  
*Minister of State,  
Luxemburg.*