

No. 1190

**UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN
AND NORTHERN IRELAND
and
CUBA**

**Exchange of notes constituting an agreement for the abolition
of visas. Havana, 2 March 1951**

Official texts: English and Spanish.

*Registered by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland on
14 May 1951.*

**ROYAUME-UNI DE GRANDE-BRETAGNE
ET D'IRLANDE DU NORD
et
CUBA**

**Échange de notes constituant un accord relatif à la suppression
des visas. La Havane, 2 mars 1951**

Textes officiels anglais et espagnol.

*Enregistré par le Royaume-Uni de Grande-Bretagne et d'Irlande du Nord le
14 mai 1951.*

No. 1190. EXCHANGE OF NOTES CONSTITUTING AN AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED KINGDOM AND THE GOVERNMENT OF CUBA FOR THE ABOLITION OF VISAS. HAVANA, 2 MARCH 1951

I

His Majesty's Ambassador at Havana to the Cuban Minister of State

BRITISH EMBASSY

Havana, 2nd March, 1951

Your Excellency,

I have the honour to inform your Excellency that, as a first step towards the eventual restoration of freedom of travel to Cuba and to British territories, His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom are prepared to conclude with the Government of Cuba an Agreement in the following terms:—

- (1) Cuban nationals shall be free to travel to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland from any place whatever without the necessity of obtaining a visa in advance, provided that they are in possession of valid Cuban passports.
- (2) British subjects possessing valid passports bearing on the cover the inscription " British Passport " (*Pasaporte británico*) at the top, and at the bottom " United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland," and, inside, the description of the holder's national status as " British subject " (*súbdito británico*) shall be free to enter Cuba from any place whatever as persons in transit for a period of thirty days or as tourists or temporary visitors for a period not exceeding six months, renewable for a similar period, without the necessity of obtaining a visa in advance.
- (3)—(a) It is understood that the waiver of the visa requirement does not exempt Cuban nationals and British subjects coming respectively to the United Kingdom and to Cuba from the necessity of complying with the British and Cuban laws and regulations concerning the entry, residence (temporary or permanent) and employment or occupation of foreigners and that travellers who are unable to satisfy the Immigration authorities that they comply with these laws and regulations are liable to be refused leave to enter or land.
(b) The entry into Cuba of British subjects may be refused by the Immigration authorities when those concerned do not conform with the

¹ Came into force on 17 March 1951, according to the terms of the said notes

regulations in force in Cuba, particularly Section 1 of Order 155 of 15th May, 1902, as freely interpreted by the said authorities.

(c) British subjects wishing to settle permanently in Cuba will first have to obtain from the competent Cuban authorities the necessary entry permit and the insertion in their travel documents of a statement to the effect that they are authorised to settle permanently in Cuba.

- (4) This agreement shall not exempt Cuban nationals travelling to British colonies, overseas territories, protectorates or territories under mandate or trusteeship or British subjects, not in possession of United Kingdom passports as defined in sub-paragraph (2) above, travelling from those territories to Cuba, from the need to obtain a visa.

If the Cuban Government are prepared to accept the foregoing provisions, I have the honour to suggest that the present note and your Excellency's reply in similar terms should be regarded as placing on record the Agreement between the two Governments which shall take effect on the seventeenth March, nineteen hundred and fifty-one, and shall be terminable by either Government subject to three months' notice.

I avail, &c.

Adrian HOLMAN

II

The Cuban Minister of State to His Majesty's Ambassador at Havana

SPANISH TEXT — TEXTE ESPAGNOL

La Habana, 2 de marzo de 1951

Señor Embajador :

Tengo el honor de acusar recibo de la atenta nota de Vuestra Excelencia de fecha de hoy, en la cual se me informa que, como paso preliminar hacia un eventual restablecimiento de la libertad para viajar a Cuba y a territorios británicos, el Gobierno de Su Majestad en el Reino Unido está dispuesto a concertar con el Gobierno de Cuba un Acuerdo de conformidad con los siguientes términos :

- (1) Los nacionales de Cuba estarán en libertad de dirigirse al Reino Unido de la Gran Bretaña y Norte de Irlanda desde cualquier lugar, sin necesidad de obtener previamente una visa, siempre que se encuentren en posesión de pasaportes cubanos válidos.
- (2) Los súbditos británicos poseedores de pasaportes válidos que lleven en el extremo superior de la portada la inscripción « British Passport » (Pasaporte británico), y en el extremo inferior « Reino Unido de la

II

TRANSLATION¹ — TRADUCTION²

Havana, 2nd March, 1951

M. l'Ambassadeur,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's note of to-day's date, in which you inform me that, as a preliminary step towards the eventual restoration of freedom of travel to Cuba and to British territories, His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom are disposed to conclude with the Government of Cuba an Agreement in accordance with the following terms :—

[See note I]

I am pleased to inform your Excellency that the Cuban Government are disposed to accept the foregoing provisions, and that your Excellency's note and the present reply in similar terms shall be considered as the formal recording of the Agreement between our two Governments, which shall enter into force on 17th March, 1951, and shall cease to be in effect, at the request of one or the other Government, with the prior notification of three months.

I avail, &c.

Ernesto DIHIGO

¹ Translation by the Government of the United Kingdom.² Traduction du Gouvernement du Royaume-Uni.