

No. 3855

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**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
and  
AUSTRALIA**

**Exchange of notes constituting an agreement relating to  
non-immigrant passport visas. Canberra, 29 July and  
9, 17 and 20 August 1955**

*Official text: English.*

*Registered by the United States of America on 27 May 1957.*

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**ÉTATS-UNIS D'AMÉRIQUE  
et  
AUSTRALIE**

**Échange de notes constituant un accord relatif aux visas  
de passeports de non-immigrants. Canberra, 29 juillet  
et 9, 17 et 20 août 1955**

*Texte officiel anglais.*

*Enregistré par les États-Unis d'Amérique le 27 mai 1957.*

No. 3855. EXCHANGE OF NOTES CONSTITUTING AN AGREEMENT<sup>1</sup> BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND AUSTRALIA RELATING TO NON-IMMIGRANT PASSPORT VISAS. CANBERRA, 29 JULY AND 9, 17 AND 20 AUGUST 1955

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I

*The American Embassy to the Australian Department of External Affairs*

THE FOREIGN SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

No. 12.

The Embassy of the United States of America presents its compliments to the Department of External Affairs and has the honor to inform the Department of the following matter.

In implementation of a directive of the President dated May 26, 1954,<sup>2</sup> to facilitate travel to the United States, the Government of the United States is prepared to make the following changes in its immigration regulations affecting the issuance of non-immigrant visas :

1. On the basis of reciprocity, a non-immigrant visa may be issued for a maximum validity of four years for any number of entries and with no fee, provided the passport is valid.
2. On the basis of reciprocity, a non-immigrant visa may be revalidated without formal application any number of times not exceeding four years from the date of original issue, provided the passport is valid.
3. Such a visa may be revalidated if it is about to expire or expires less than twelve months prior to an application for revalidation.
4. Where a visa valid for a single entry is required, on the basis of reciprocity a consular officer may nevertheless issue a non-immigrant visa valid for two entries, provided two fees are collected, if fees are required.
5. Where no fees are required, or the fees are equal, consular officers may issue a combination "B—1 and 2" (i. e., to cover a visit, the purpose of which is both business and pleasure). Where fees differ, a combination "B—1 and 2" visa may be issued if the applicant pays the higher fee.

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<sup>1</sup> Came into force on 20 August 1955 by the exchange of the said notes.

<sup>2</sup> Not printed by the Department of State of the United States of America.

6. For countries which feel it necessary to charge a fee for each entry, the Department of State would, on the basis of reciprocity, issue a visa valid for as many entries as the applicant desires if the fee is multiplied by the number of intended entries.
7. The retention of names on the quota waiting list is permitted when B—2 (for pleasure) and F (student) non-immigrant visas are issued. Names will be removed and not reinstated if the non-immigrant status is abused.

The Embassy would appreciate the views of the Australian Government regarding the foregoing amendments and changes in the issuance of non-immigrant visas to enter the United States and an indication as to whether the Government would be willing to accept these changes on a reciprocal basis whereby similar treatment would be applied equally to American citizens travelling to Australia in a non-immigrant status.

A. F. P.

American Embassy

Canberra, July 29, 1955

## II

### *The Australian Department of External Affairs to the American Embassy*

1522/2/1

The Department of External Affairs presents its compliments to the Embassy of the United States of America and has the honour to acknowledge receipt of the Embassy's Note No. 12 of 29th July, setting out the changes which the Government of the United States is prepared to make in its immigration regulations effecting the issue of non-immigrant visas.

Under the terms of an agreement already entered into with the United States, American citizens travelling to Australia other than for permanent residence, are already granted visas free of charge.

The Australian Government, on the basis of the reciprocity proposed in the Embassy's Note, is prepared to arrange for visas for Australia, valid for four years and good for any number of journeys within that period, to be issued to American citizens who are visiting this country as bona fide business and tourist visitors.

The Australian Government is also agreeable that visas already granted to such persons may be extended, for periods up to four years from the date of issue, without formal application.

The foregoing will show that the Australian Government is prepared to offer the reciprocity required for the changes proposed by the United States Government. The Department of External Affairs would therefore be grateful to learn from the Embassy when the United States Government intends to introduce the new procedure so far as Australia is concerned.

[SEAL]

Canberra, (A. C. T.), 9th August, 1955

### III

#### *The American Embassy to the Australian Department of External Affairs*

##### THE FOREIGN SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

No. 17.

The Embassy of the United States of America presents its compliments to the Department of External Affairs and, with reference to the Embassy's Note No. 12 of July 29, 1955, and the Note from the Department of External Affairs No. 1522/2/1 of August 9, 1955, concerning certain proposed reciprocal changes in the respective immigration regulations relating to non-immigrant visas, has the honor to inform the Department that the United States Government plans to put into effect its new non-immigrant visa procedures in relation to Australia as of September 1, 1955. The following categories of non-immigrant visitors would be affected by this prospective change in United States visa procedures :

1. Visitors for business purposes (B—1)
2. Visitors for pleasure (B—2)
3. Persons in transit to a third country (C—1)
4. Crewmen (Seamen and Airmen) (D)
5. Students (F)
6. Representatives of information media and their families (I)

It would be appreciated if the Department of External Affairs could indicate to the Embassy at what date the Australian Government would expect to put into effect its own modified procedures respecting the issuance of non-immigrant visas to American citizens. If agreeable to the Department of External Affairs, it is suggested that a representative of the Embassy discuss with the Department the coordination of appropriate publicity concerning these new procedures.

A. B. E.

American Embassy  
Canberra, August 17, 1955

## IV

*The Australian Department of External Affairs to the American Embassy*

1522/2/1

The Department of External Affairs presents its compliments to the Embassy of the United States of America and has the honour to acknowledge receipt of the Embassy's Note No. 17 of 17th August, setting out the categories of non-immigrant visitors to the United States who will be affected by the forthcoming change in United States visa procedures. The Department has taken account of the fact that these procedures will enter into effect on September 1st next.

The Australian Government proposes to put its own modified procedures for the issue of non-immigrant visas to American citizens into effect on the same date.

The Department has the honour to inform the Embassy that the Australian authorities prefer to leave a public announcement regarding the new procedure to the Embassy.

[SEAL]

Canberra, A. C. T., 20th August, 1955

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