

No. 3866

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
and
PANAMA**

**Exchange of notes constituting an agreement relating to
passport visas. Panamá, 27 March and 22 and 25 May
1956**

Official texts: English and Spanish.

Registered by the United States of America on 4 June 1957.

**ÉTATS-UNIS D'AMÉRIQUE
et
PANAMA**

**Échange de notes constituant un accord relatif aux visas de
passeports. Panama, 27 mars et 22 et 25 mai 1956**

Textes officiels anglais et espagnol.

Enregistré par les États-Unis d'Amérique le 4 juin 1957.

No. 3866. EXCHANGE OF NOTES CONSTITUTING AN AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND PANAMA RELATING TO PASSPORT VISAS. PANAMÁ, 27 MARCH AND 22 AND 25 MAY 1956

I

The American Ambassador to the Panamanian Minister of Foreign Relations

EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

No. 418

Panama, March 27, 1956

Excellency :

I have the honor to refer to the two visa agreements now in existence between the Governments of the United States of America and the Republic of Panama, one agreement which has been in effect since January 1, 1949, as a result of the Foreign Minister's note D. P. 2010 of October 27, 1948 and the Embassy's note 84 of November 5, 1948,² which provided for the extension of the validity of visitors visas of citizens of the two countries from twelve (12) months to twenty-four (24) months and that such visas would be issued gratis; and the other agreement which has been in effect since July 1, 1949, which provided for any number of applications for entry by the bearers of diplomatic and official visas, due to the exchange of the Embassy's note of March 16, 1949 and the Foreign Ministry's note of June 14, 1949.³

As a result of conversations between representatives of the Ministry of Foreign Relations and the Embassy in an endeavor to encourage and further facilitate the travel of the citizens of the United States and the Republic of Panama between the respective countries, I propose to Your Excellency's Government that on and after May 1, 1956 qualified citizens of the United States and qualified citizens of the Republic of Panama seeking to enter the United States and the Republic of Panama, respectively, as non-immigrants will be granted gratis visas which in certain cases may have a maximum validity of forty-eight (48) months.

If your Excellency's Government agrees, I propose that on and after May 1, 1956 eligible citizens of either country who upon application are found to be entitled to nonimmigrant classification be issued gratis visas as indicated in the appropriate category and for the period of time as shown in the following schedule :

¹ Came into force on 1 June 1956, in accordance with the terms of the said notes.

² United Nations, *Treaty Series*, Vol. 89, p. 27.

³ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, Vol. 89, p. 37.

<i>Category</i>	<i>Visa symbol</i>	<i>Fee</i>	<i>Validity of visa</i>	<i>Number of times visa may be used</i>
Ambassador, public minister, career diplomatic or consular officer, and members of immediate family	A-1	Gratis	12 months	Multiple
Other foreign government official or employee, and members of immediate family	A-2	Gratis	12 months	Multiple
Attendant, servant, or personal employee of A-1 and A-2 classes, and members of immediate family	A-3	Gratis	12 months	Multiple
Temporary visitor for business	B-1	Gratis	48 months	Multiple
Temporary visitor for pleasure	B-2	Gratis	48 months	Multiple
Alien in transit	C-1	Gratis	48 months	Multiple
Alien in transit to United Nations Headquarters District under §11 (3), (4) or (5) of the Headquarters Agreement ¹	C-2	Gratis	12 months	Multiple
Foreign-government official, members of immediate family, attendant, servant, or personal employee, in transit	C-3	Gratis	12 months	Multiple
Crewman (seaman or airman)	D	Gratis	48 months	Multiple
Exchange Visitor	EX	Gratis	12 months	Single
Student	F	Gratis	48 months	Multiple
Principal resident representative of recognized foreign member government to international organization, his staff, and members of immediate family	G-1	Gratis	12 months	Multiple
Other representative of recognized foreign member government to international organization, and members of immediate family	G-2	Gratis	12 months	Multiple
Representative of nonrecognized or nonmember foreign government to international organization, and members of immediate family	G-3	Gratis	12 months	Single
International organization officer or employee, and members of immediate family	G-4	Gratis	12 months	Multiple
Attendant, servant, or personal employee of G-1, G-2 and G-4 classes, and members of immediate family	G-5	Gratis	12 months	Multiple
Attendant, servant or personal employee of class G-3, and members of immediate family	G-5	Gratis	12 months	Single
Temporary worker of distinguished merit and ability	H-1	Gratis	Period for which employment authorized	Multiple
Other temporary worker, skilled or unskilled	H-2	Gratis	Period for which employment authorized	Multiple
Industrial trainee	H-3	Gratis	Period for which employment authorized	Multiple
Representative of foreign information media, spouse and children	I	Gratis	48 months	Multiple

¹ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, Vol. 11, p. 11.

I further propose to your Excellency that those citizens of the United States who do not present valid passports issued by the Government of the United States on applying for entry into the Republic of Panama may be issued Panamanian Tourist Cards, at the fee prescribed by the Government of the Republic of Panama, providing such applicants are otherwise eligible for entry. However, any and all citizens of the United States who prefer to present valid United States passports, and who are otherwise eligible for entry into the Republic of Panama, would be provided by the Government of the Republic of Panama with passport visas in accordance with the above schedule.

The validity of nonimmigrant visas issued by consular officers of the United States of America shall relate only to the period within which they may be used in connection with an application for admission at a port of entry into the United States and its possessions, and not to the length of stay in the United States which may be permitted the bearer at the time of his admission. The period of stay for each visit will, as at present, continue to be determined by the immigration authorities at the port of entry.

I further propose to Your Excellency that at the time of the entry of this agreement into full force and effect, the two visa agreements cited above which became effective on January 1, 1949 and July 1, 1949, shall be abrogated.

Upon receipt of a note from Your Excellency indicating that the foregoing provisions are acceptable to the Government of the Republic of Panama, the Government of the United States of America proposes to consider that this note and your reply thereto constitute an agreement between the two Governments on this subject, and that the provisions of this agreement be in effect as of May 1, 1956.

Accept, Excellency, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration.

Julian F. HARRINGTON

His Excellency Alberto A. Boyd
Minister of Foreign Relations of the Republic of Panama

II

The Panamanian Minister of Foreign Relations to the American Ambassador

[SPANISH TEXT — TEXTE ESPAGNOL]

REPÚBLICA DE PANAMÁ
MINISTERIO DE RELACIONES EXTERIORES

D.P. No. 419

Panamá, 22 de Mayo de 1956

Señor Embajador :

Tengo el honor de acusar recibo de la nota de Vuestra Excelencia No. 418, de 27 de Marzo del presente año, cuyo texto es el siguiente :

dentro del cual pueden ser usadas en conexión con la solicitud de admisión en el puerto de entrada en los Estados Unidos y sus posesiones, y no con la duración de la estada en los Estados Unidos que pueda permitirse al portador al momento de su admisión. El período de estada de cada visita seguirá siendo como al presente, determinado por las autoridades de inmigración en el puerto de entrada.

« Propongo además a Vuestra Excelencia que al momento de entrar el presente en pleno vigor y efecto, sean abrogados los dos acuerdos sobre visas antes mencionados que entraron en vigor el 1º. de Enero de 1949 y el 1º. de Julio de 1949.

« El Gobierno de los Estados Unidos propone que al recibo de una nota de Vuestra Excelencia en que indique que son aceptables al Gobierno de la República de Panamá las estipulaciones que anteceden, se considere que esta nota y su respuesta a la misma constituyen un acuerdo entre los dos Gobiernos sobre este asunto, y que las estipulaciones de este acuerdo surtan efectos desde el 1º. de Mayo de 1956. »

En contestación tengo el honor de manifestar a Vuestra Excelencia que el Gobierno de Panamá está de acuerdo en que sean subrogados los dos Convenios sobre visas existentes y que considera aceptables las estipulaciones contenidas en la nota de Vuestra Excelencia, antes transcrita, las cuales comenzarán a surtir efecto a partir del 1º. de Junio de 1956.

Al mismo tiempo deseo dejar constancia de que este nuevo Acuerdo sobre visas no afecta las disposiciones vigentes o que se dictaren en el futuro, por el Gobierno de Panamá, en relación con tarjetas de turismo.

Aprovecho la oportunidad para reiterar a Vuestra Excelencia las seguridades de mi consideración distinguida.

Alberto A. BOYD
Ministro de Relaciones Exteriores

A Su Excelencia Julian F. Harrington
Embajador de los Estados Unidos de América
Ciudad

[TRANSLATION¹ — TRADUCTION²]

REPUBLIC OF PANAMA
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN RELATIONS

D.P. No. 419

Panama, May 22, 1956

Mr. Ambassador :

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of Your Excellency's note No. 418 of March 27 of this year, the text of which follows :

[See note I]

¹ Translation by the Government of the United States of America.

² Traduction du Gouvernement des États-Unis d'Amérique.

In reply I have the honor to inform Your Excellency that the Government of Panama agrees to the subrogation of the two existing visa agreements and that it considers acceptable the provisions contained in Your Excellency's note transcribed above, which shall enter into effect on June 1, 1956.

At the same time I wish to state that this new visa agreement does not affect the regulations which are now in force or may be issued in the future by the Government of Panama with respect to tourist cards.

I avail myself of the opportunity to renew to Your Excellency the assurances of my distinguished consideration.

Alberto A. BOYD
Minister of Foreign Relations

His Excellency Julian F. Harrington
Ambassador of the United States of America
City

III

The American Ambassador to the Panamanian Minister of Foreign Relations

EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

No. 522

Panama, May 25, 1956

Excellency :

I have the honor to refer to Your Excellency's note D. P. number 419 of May 22, 1956, reiterating the proposals for a reciprocal visa agreement as contained in my note number 418 of March 27, 1956, and stating that the Government of Panama agrees to the abrogation of the two visa agreements now in existence, that it considers acceptable the provisions as proposed in my note, and makes the counterproposal that the visa agreement enter into effect on June 1, 1956.

Your Excellency further states that the Panamanian Government desires to retain unchanged the use of tourist cards and that the new visa agreement is not to affect present or future regulations of Your Excellency's Government with respect to such cards.

I have the honor to inform Your Excellency that my Government agrees to the visa agreement entering into full force and effect on June 1, 1956, and recognizes the right of Your Excellency's Government to regulate the issuance of tourist cards. Therefore, I understand it to be mutually agreed that the visa agreement between our respective Governments will be effective in all its terms and provisions as of June 1, 1956.

Accept, Excellency, the renewed assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

Julian F. HARRINGTON

His Excellency Alberto A. Boyd
Minister of Foreign Relations
of the Republic of Panama