

No. 3976

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
and
CHINA**

**Exchange of notes constituting an agreement relating to
non-immigrant passport visas. Taipei, 20 December
1955 and 20 February 1956**

Official texts: English and Chinese.

Registered by the United States of America on 20 August 1957.

**ÉTATS-UNIS D'AMÉRIQUE
et
CHINE**

**Échange de notes constituant un accord relatif aux visas
de passeports des non-immigrants. Taïpeh, 20 décembre
1955 et 20 février 1956**

Textes officiels anglais et chinois.

Enregistré par les États-Unis d'Amérique le 20 août 1957.

[TRANSLATION¹ — TRADUCTION²]*The Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs to the American Embassy*

Wai(45)Li-3-12420

December 20, 1955

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs presents its compliments to the American Embassy and, referring to the Embassy's note No. 5 of July 15, 1955,³ concerning certain changes proposed by the American Government in regard to the reciprocal issuance of visas, has the honor to state as follows :

The Chinese Government agrees with the American Government in the 6 point proposal for changes, on a basis of reciprocity, in the procedure for the issuance of non-immigrant visas with regard to the schedule of fees, duration of validity and the number of times such visas may be used, for the purpose of facilitating travel of individuals between foreign countries and the United States.

After repeated discussion and exchange of opinions between the members of the Embassy and the Ministry, it is considered that a revision of the current procedure concerning the issuance of visas to diplomatic and official personnel is not necessary for the time being. As to the issuance of visas to bearers of regular passports, it has been suggested that some revision should be made on the basis of reciprocity. Following is a revised procedure governing the issuance of non-immigrant visas to American citizens in regard to the schedule of fees, duration of validity and the number of times such visas may be used :

| <i>Class</i> | <i>Fee</i> | <i>Validity of visa</i> | <i>Number of times visa may be used</i> |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| (1) Ambassador, public minister, career diplomatic or consular officer, and members of immediate family. | Gratis | 12 months | Multiple |
| (2) Other government official or employee, and members of immediate family. | Gratis | 12 months | Multiple |
| (3) Attendant, servant, or personal employee of officials under Class (1) and (2) as specified herein, and members of immediate family. | Gratis | 12 months | Multiple |
| (4) Principal resident representative to international organization, his staff, and members of immediate family. | Gratis | 12 months | Multiple |
| (5) Other representative to international organization, and members of immediate family. | Gratis | 12 months | Multiple |
| (6) International organization officer or employee, and members of immediate family. | Gratis | 12 months | Multiple |
| (7) Attendant, servant, or personal employee of officials under Classes 4, 5 and 6 as specified herein, and members of immediate family. | Gratis | 12 months | Multiple |
| (8) Temporary visitor for business or pleasure. | Gratis | 48 months | Multiple |
| (9) Transients of all categories. | Gratis | 48 months | Multiple |

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

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

³ Not printed by the Department of State of the United States of America.

| <i>Class</i> | <i>Fee</i> | <i>Validity of visa</i> | <i>Number of times visa may be used</i> |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| (10) Government official and members of immediate family, attendant, servant, or personal employee in transit. | Gratis | 12 months | Multiple |
| (11) Seamen or airmen in possession of valid American passports or other documents having the elements of a passport (eligible seamen or airmen not in possession of valid American passports will be admitted if their names are included in a crew list which has been visaed by the appropriate authorities of the Chinese Government). | Gratis | 48 months | Multiple |
| (12) Treaty merchant, spouse and children. | Gratis | 48 months | Multiple |
| (13) Exchange visitor. | Gratis | 12 months | Single |
| (14) Temporary worker of distinguished merit and ability. | Gratis | Dependent on duration of employment | Multiple |
| (15) Other temporary worker, skilled or unskilled. | Gratis | Dependent on duration of employment | Multiple |
| (16) Industrial trainee. | Gratis | Dependent on duration of training | Multiple |
| (17) Students. | Gratis | 48 months | Multiple |
| (18) Representative of information media, spouse and children. | Gratis | 48 months | Multiple |
| (19) Minister of any religious denomination, spouse and children. | Gratis | 48 months | Multiple |

The Chinese Government desires to put the above revised provisions into effect as of April 1, 1956, if they meet with the agreement of the American Government. Upon the coming into effect of these provisions, all agreements entered into between the Republic of China and the United States of America dealing with non-immigrant visas will be terminated.

It will be greatly appreciated if the Ministry can be informed as soon as possible as to the provisions of the American Government on the fee schedule and duration of validity of non-immigrant visas for Chinese nationals applying for admission into the United States of America, so that a procedure for the reciprocal issuance of non-immigrant visas between the Republic of China and the United States of America may be put into effect at an early date.

[SEAL]

II

The American Embassy to the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs

No. 28

The Embassy of the United States of America presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of China and has the honor to refer to the Ministry's note Wai(44)¹ Li-3-12420 dated December 20, 1955, which prescribes non-immigrant visa fees and the validity of non-immigrant visas to be issued to American citizens on and after April 1, 1956.

Upon the basis of the action by the Government of the Republic of China, the Government of the United States on and after April 1, 1956, prescribes the following non-immigrant visa fees and the validity of non-immigrant visas to be issued to eligible Chinese citizens :

| Class | Visa symbol | Fee | Validity of visa | Number of times visa may be used |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|--------|------------------|----------------------------------|
| 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. | C-2 | Gratis | 12 months | Multiple |
| District under 11 (3), (4), or (5) of the Headquarters Agreement ² . | | | | |
| Foreign Government official, members of immediate family, attendant, servant, or personal employee, in transit. | C-3 | Gratis | 12 months | Multiple |
| Crewman (seaman or airman) in possession of valid Chinese passport or other documents having the elements of a passport. | D | Gratis | 48 months | Multiple |
| Treaty merchant, spouse and children. | E-1 | 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 |

¹ According to the information provided by the United States of America the number of the note should read 45.

² United Nations, *Treaty Series*, Vol. 11, p. 11.

| <i>Class</i> | <i>Visa symbol</i> | <i>Fee</i> | <i>Validity of visa</i> | <i>Number of times visa may be used</i> |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|------------|----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| Other representative of recognized foreign member government to international organization and members of immediate family. | G-2 | Gratis | 12 months | Multiple |
| 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 |
| 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 training authorized | Multiple |
| Representative of foreign information media, spouse and children. | I | Gratis | 48 months | Multiple |

The Immigration and Nationality Act classifies as nonquota immigrants eligible aliens who seek to enter the United States solely for the purpose of carrying on the vocation of minister of a religious denomination. Therefore, such aliens, together with their spouses and children if accompanying or following to join them, are subject to the statutory fees totaling \$25.00 for the application for and obtaining of each such nonquota immigrant visa. This fee may not be changed on the basis of reciprocity. However, in the case of a Chinese citizen who is a minister of a religious denomination and who seeks to enter the United States as a non-immigrant for a temporary period of stay, such person may be classified as a temporary visitor and issued an appropriate non-immigrant visa if found to be eligible therefor.

The Ministry's attention is invited to the fact that the period of validity of an American non-immigrant visa is the period in which the visa may be used in connection with an application for admission into the United States and not the period of stay granted the bearer by the immigration authorities at a port of entry.

American Embassy

Taipei, February 20, 1956