

## REDUCTION OF VISA FEES FOR NONIMMIGRANTS

*Exchange of notes at Prague February 17, 1928*  
*Entered into force April 1, 1928*  
*Superseded February 1, 1932, by agreement of December 22 and 23,*  
*1931*<sup>1</sup>

Department of State files

*The American Legation to the Ministry for Foreign Affairs*

FEBRUARY 17, 1928.

### VERBAL NOTE

The Government of the United States with a view to facilitating the relations between Czechoslovakia and the United States of America will from April 1, 1928, reduce its fee on entrance visas to one gold dollar for passports issued to Czechoslovak citizens other than immigrants, as defined by Section three (3) of the United States Immigration Act of 1924, a copy of which is enclosed, who may desire to visit the United States (including the insular possessions). No charge will be made for transit certificates.

The American Legation takes note that the Czechoslovak Government has decided to reduce to one gold dollar, beginning on April 1, 1928, the visa charges collected from all American citizens (including inhabitants of the insular possessions) other than immigrants who intend to take up their permanent residence in Czechoslovakia. The Legation also takes note that transit Visas will be issued gratis by the Czechoslovak Government. Transit certificates which are the American equivalent of transit visas have been issued free to Czechoslovak citizens since June 23, 1927.

The American Legation desires to express to the Ministry for Foreign Affairs its gratification at the conclusion of this arrangement which will increase the friendly ties between the two countries and avails itself of this occasion to renew to the Ministry the assurances of its distinguished consideration.

Enclosure:

Copy of Section 3 of the "Immigration Act of 1924."

THE MINISTRY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS

*Prague*

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<sup>1</sup> *Post*, p. 1274.

[ENCLOSURE]

“Immigration Act of 1924”

Definition of “Immigrant”

*Section 3.* “When used in this Act the term ‘immigrant’ means any alien departing from any place outside the United States destined for the United States, except (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 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 (6) an alien entitled to enter the United States solely to carry on trade under and in pursuance of the provisions of a present existing treaty of commerce and navigation.”

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*The Ministry for Foreign Affairs to the American Legation*

[TRANSLATION]

MINISTRY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS  
REPUBLIC OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA

No. 23,884/V-4/28  
1 Annexe

1. The Czechoslovak Government desiring to bring about closer and more friendly relations between Czechoslovakia and the United States of America has decided to reduce the entrance visa fee by agreement—with the exception of immigrants—to citizens of the United States of America (which includes the inhabitants of the Insular Possessions of the United States of America) to one gold dollar beginning April 1, 1928. Transit visas will be granted gratis.

2. The Ministry for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Czechoslovakia notes that the Government of the United States of America has decided to reduce the entrance visa fee to one gold dollar, beginning April 1, 1928, and to grant to Czechoslovak citizens going to the United States of America or its Insular Possessions the right of entrance to the class of persons defined as “non-immigrants” of Section 3 of the “Immigration Act” of 1924—the text of which in its original language is herewith enclosed.

The Ministry for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Czechoslovakia notes that transit certificates which take the place of transit visas have been given gratis by the Authorities of the United States of America since June 23, 1927, to Czechoslovak citizens.

3. The proper Authorities of the Republic of Czechoslovakia will give

the necessary instructions in order to apply these regulations beginning April 1, 1928.

The Ministry for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Czechoslovakia desires to express to the Legation of the United States of America at Prague its great satisfaction at the conclusion of this arrangement which is destined to draw closer the friendly ties between the two countries and seizes this occasion to renew to the Legation assurances of its high consideration.

PRAGUE, *February 17, 1928*

THE LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES  
OF AMERICA AT PRAGUE