

FRANCE 1317



Treaty Series No. 71 (1946)

Exchange of Notes

between His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom
and the Government of the French Republic
concerning the

Mutual Abolition of Visas

London, 24th/27th December, 1946

*Presented by the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs
to Parliament by Command of His Majesty*

LONDON
HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

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EXCHANGE OF NOTES BETWEEN HIS MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT
IN THE UNITED KINGDOM AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE
FRENCH REPUBLIC CONCERNING THE MUTUAL ABOLITION OF
VISAS

London, 24th/27th December, 1946

No. 1

Mr. Ernest Bevin to Monsieur R. Massigli

Foreign Office, S.W. 1,

24th December, 1946.

Your Excellency,

I HAVE the honour to inform your Excellency that, in order to carry into effect the understanding regarding the mutual abolition of visas which was reached between M. Bidault and myself on 11th October last, His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom are prepared, as a first step towards the eventual restoration of the freedom of travel which existed between British and French territories before the war, to conclude with the Government of the French Republic an agreement in the following terms:—

- (1) French citizens shall be free to travel to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland by any route without the necessity of obtaining a visa in advance provided that they are furnished with valid French passports.
- (2) Holders of valid passports bearing on the cover the inscription "British Passport" and inside the description of the holder's national status as "British subject" shall be free to travel to metropolitan France and Algeria by any route without the necessity of obtaining a visa in advance.
- (3) It is understood that the waiver of the visa requirement does not exempt French citizens and British subjects coming respectively to the United Kingdom and to metropolitan France or Algeria from the necessity of complying with the British and the French 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.
- (4) As regards travel to French or British colonies and overseas territories, protectorates or territories under mandate or trusteeship, it is understood that visas will continue to be required.

2. If the French 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 1st January, 1947.

I have, &c.

ERNEST BEVIN.

No. 2

*Monsieur R. Massigli to Mr. Ernest Bevin.**Ambassade de France,*

Monsieur le Secrétaire d'État,

Londres, le 27 décembre 1946.

J'AI l'honneur d'accuser réception de la lettre en date du 24 décembre par laquelle votre Excellence a bien voulu me faire savoir qu'en vue du rétablissement progressif de la liberté de la circulation des personnes existant avant la guerre entre les territoires britanniques et français, le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté est disposé à se mettre d'accord avec le Gouvernement de la République Française sur les dispositions suivantes :

- (1) Les citoyens français auront la liberté de se rendre par une voie quelconque dans le Royaume-Uni de Grande-Bretagne et d'Irlande du Nord sans être astreints à l'obtention préalable d'un visa, pourvu qu'ils soient munis de passeports français en cours de validité.
- (2) Les titulaires de passeports en cours de validité et portant sur la couverture l'inscription " British Passport " et à l'intérieur la mention " British subject " auront la liberté de se rendre en France Métropolitaine et en Algérie par toutes les frontières sans être astreints à l'obtention préalable d'un visa.
- (3) Il est entendu que l'exemption du visa ne dispense pas les citoyens français et les sujets britanniques se rendant respectivement dans le Royaume-Uni et en France Métropolitaine ou en Algérie de l'obligation de se conformer aux lois et règlements britanniques et français concernant l'entrée, le court séjour ou l'établissement, ainsi que l'emploi des étrangers, et que les intéressés qui ne pourraient établir devant les autorités compétentes qu'ils satisfont à ces lois et règlements pourront se voir refuser l'autorisation d'entrer ou de débarquer.
- (4) L'obtention préalable d'un visa demeure nécessaire pour l'accès dans les Colonies, territoires d'outre-mer, protectorats et territoires sous mandat ou sous tutelle de la France et du Royaume-Uni.

J'ai l'honneur de vous faire savoir que le Gouvernement français est prêt à appliquer les dispositions ci-dessus et qu'il considérera la lettre de votre Excellence et la présente réponse comme constituant entre les deux Gouvernements un accord qui entrera en vigueur le 1^{er} janvier 1947.

Je saisis, &c.

R. MASSIGLI.

LONDON

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|---|-----------|----------|----------|--------|-----------------|----------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|---------|---------|----------|---------------------------------------|--|
| | U.E. | Reserve. | Wastage. | Total. | | | | | | Col. 6. | Col. 8. | Col. 9. | Col. 10. | | |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | (6) | (7) | (8) | (9) | (10) | (11) | (12) | (13) | (14) | (15) | (16) |
| (xix) (a) 6 sets type "F" Winches | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | (xix) To be installed in aircraft by Dutch personnel in Holland. |
| (b) 6 .303 Hand-operated Turrets | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | |
| NETHERLANDS EAST INDIES. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| (xx) 1 Station H.Q. (Sourabaya) | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | Yes | Yes | Yes | ... | Yes | Yes | Yes | ... | (xx) Col. 8 includes (a) Signals vehicles and equipment; (b) Swollen equipment section and salvage element; and (c) Station Sick Qtrs. Col. 9 excludes marine craft. |
| (xxi) 1 S. E. Day Fighter Squadron—Spitfire LF IX | 16 | 4 | 18 | 38 | Yes | 35 | Yes | Yes | ... | Yes | ... | Yes | ... | Yes | |
| (xxii) 1 L.R./G.R. Squadron—Catalina IV B | (9) | ... | ... | (9) | Yes | ... | ... | ... | ... | Yes | ... | ... | ... | ... | (xxii) Col. 6 includes Catalina equipment of British origin only. Col. 11—1-year spares only. |
| Dakota | (15) | ... | ... | (15) | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | |
| (xxiii) A.O.P. Squadron—Auster III | 16 | 4 | 18 | 38 | Yes | 20 | ... | Yes | ... | Yes | ... | Yes | ... | Yes | (xxiii) Radio Sets for aircraft being obtained through British War Office. |

NOTE I.—Column 15 includes (a) Engine repair spares up to 4th line.
 (b) Airframe repair spares up to 3rd line.
 (c) Maintenance spares and wastage vehicles for M.T.
 (d) Maintenance spares for Station Ground equipment, unit equipment and W.B. Supplies.

NOTE II.—Serial (viii) Equipment already supplied to the Netherlands Government is included.

NOTE III.—Serial (xiv) Additional equipment, e.g. racks and bins, may be required later.

NOTE IV.—The air authorities of the United Kingdom will assess the amount of equipment to be supplied for maintenance and wastage and as