

## WAIVER OF VISAS AND VISA FEES FOR NONIMMIGRANTS

*Exchange of notes at London November 9 and 12, 1948*  
*Entered into force November 12, 1948*

62 Stat. 3824; Treaties and Other  
International Acts Series 1926

*The Minister of State for Foreign Affairs to the American  
Chargé d'Affaires ad interim*

FOREIGN OFFICE, S. W. 1.  
9th November, 1948

No. UR 7266/6229/G

SIR,

I have the honour to inform you that, with a view to facilitating the movement of citizens of the United States of America to this country, His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom are prepared to abolish the visa requirement for United States citizens travelling to the United Kingdom.

2. Accordingly, on and after the 12th November, United States citizens will be free to travel from any place whatever to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland without the necessity of obtaining a visa, provided that they are furnished with valid United States passports. The competent British officials are being instructed in this sense, and it is proposed to release to the Press a joint Foreign Office and Home Office announcement on the same date. I should be grateful if, on the American side, any announcement of this news could be similarly delayed, so as to allow time for the new procedure to be introduced smoothly.

3. You will appreciate that the abolition of the visa requirement does not exempt United States citizens coming to the United Kingdom from the necessity of complying with the laws and regulations of the United Kingdom concerning the entry, residence (temporary or permanent) and employment or occupation of foreigners, and 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. I am conveying this information to you in the confident belief that the action we are taking will be for the mutual benefit of our two countries. I would at the same time express the hope of His Majesty's Government that,