

SWITZERLAND



Treaty Series No. 76 (1948)

# Exchange of Notes

between the Government of the United Kingdom  
of Great Britain and Northern Ireland  
and the Government of Switzerland

extending the Visa Abolition Agreement  
of 10th June, 1947 to certain  
British Overseas Territories

[with Annex]

London, 26th/29th October, 1948

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

LONDON  
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ONE PENNY NET

Cmd. 7573

**EXCHANGE OF NOTES BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE  
UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN  
IRELAND AND THE GOVERNMENT OF SWITZERLAND  
EXTENDING THE VISA ABOLITION AGREEMENT OF  
10th JUNE, 1947 TO CERTAIN BRITISH OVERSEAS  
TERRITORIES**

*London, 26th/29th October, 1948*

No. 1

*The Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs to the Swiss Minister*

Your Excellency,

*Foreign Office, 26th October, 1948.*

I HAVE the honour to refer to sub-paragraph 5 of the notes exchanged between us on 10th June, 1947<sup>(1)</sup>, embodying an agreement for the reciprocal abolition of visas for British subjects travelling to Switzerland and Swiss citizens travelling to the United Kingdom, and to inform you that, in accordance with their policy of extending freedom of travel, His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom have decided, after consultation with the Governments of the territories concerned, and without prejudice to the general application of sub-paragraph 2 of the above-mentioned notes, to extend the provisions of that agreement to Swiss citizens travelling to the territories mentioned in the Annex to this note.

2. Accordingly, it is proposed that on and after 10th November Swiss citizens shall be free to travel from any place whatever to any of the territories mentioned in the Annex without the necessity of obtaining a visa, provided that they are furnished with valid Swiss passports.

3.—(a) It is understood that the waiver of the visa does not exempt Swiss citizens travelling to any of the territories mentioned in the Annex from the necessity of complying with the laws and regulations in force in the particular territory concerning the entry into it, or residence (temporary or permanent) and employment or occupation in it, of foreigners, and that travellers who are unable to satisfy the competent authorities in the territory that they comply with those laws and regulations are liable to be refused leave to enter or land.

(b) In most British overseas territories foreigners are not permitted to remain for more than a limited period, which does not normally exceed six months, and may be less, without special authority, and they may be called upon as a condition of entry to provide reasonable evidence (such as a return or onward transport ticket) of their intention to leave the territory within the specified period. Similarly, foreigners wishing to undertake employment in such territories are usually required to obtain prior permission to do so and to produce proof of such permission before being admitted. Requirements, however, differ as between one territory and another, and it is therefore suggested that any notice or advice regarding the abolition of visas in relation to British overseas territories should emphasise the importance of intending travellers acquainting themselves fully with the requirements of the Immigration Laws and Regulations of the territory which they propose to visit.

(1) "Treaty Series No. 43 (1947)," Cmd. 7149.

4. The foregoing provisions shall apply equally, *mutatis mutandis*, to nationals of the Principality of Liechtenstein travelling to the territories mentioned in the Annex.

5. I have the honour to request your Excellency to be so good as to acknowledge the receipt of this note.

I have, &c.  
(Sd.) ERNEST BEVIN.

ANNEX

- |                           |                            |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| Newfoundland              | Mauritius                  |
| Southern Rhodesia         | North Borneo               |
| Aden                      | Northern Rhodesia          |
| Bahamas                   | St. Helena                 |
| Barbados                  | Seychelles                 |
| Basutoland                | Sierra Leone               |
| Bechuanaland Protectorate | Singapore                  |
| Bermuda                   | Swaziland                  |
| British Guiana            | Tanganyika                 |
| British Honduras          | Trinidad                   |
| Brunei                    | Uganda                     |
| Cyprus                    | Western Pacific—           |
| Falkland Islands          | Gilbert and Ellice Islands |
| Federation of Malaya      | British Solomon Islands    |
| Fiji                      | Windward Islands—          |
| Jamaica                   | Dominica                   |
| Leeward Islands—          | Grenada                    |
| Antigua                   | St. Lucia                  |
| St. Kitts Nevis           | St. Vincent                |
| Montserrat                | Zanzibar                   |
| Virgin Islands            |                            |

No. 2

*The Swiss Minister to the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs*

*Légation de Suisse,  
Londres, le 29 octobre 1948.*

M. le Secrétaire d'État,  
VOTRE Excellence a bien voulu m'adresser en date du 26 octobre la note dont la teneur suit:

[As in No. 1]

J'ai l'honneur de remercier votre Excellence de la communication ci-dessus et de lui faire savoir que mon Gouvernement est heureux de donner son accord aux dispositions qu'elle contient.

Veillez agréer, &c.  
(Ss.) H. DE TORRENTÉ.

LONDON

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