

(N-1)

198

Jerusalem 14 February 1955

Dear Ambassador,

The Government has had under review the question of visas and visa fees for foreign nationals travelling to or through Israel.

It has been decided that, as a first step towards easing travel barriers, visa fees may be waived in respect of the citizens of certain countries, on condition of reciprocity.

I have been instructed to inform you that from 1 March 1955, or from such other date as may be convenient to your Government, Israel visas are to be issued gratis to American citizens, if the United States Government is prepared, with effect from the same date, to authorize the issue of visas gratis to citizens of Israel.

o/s

His Excellency

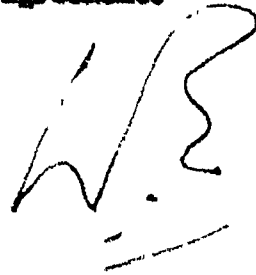
Mr. Edward Lammont

Ambassador of the United States of America,

American Embassy,

Tel Aviv.

If your Government agrees to this proposal, it would be convenient to give to this letter and to your reply the effect of a formal agreement.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'W.B.', with a horizontal line underneath.

**copies: Mahay  
Konsularit  
Embassy of Israel, Washington**

(N:)

18127-11  
American Embassy  
Tel Aviv, February 28, 1955.

Dear Mr. Eytan:

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your letter to Ambassador Lawson of February 14, 1955, in which you propose that the Israel Government and the Government of the United States reciprocally waive nonimmigrant visa fees for their nationals.

Such a policy is thoroughly consistent with the traditional American desire to ease international travel restrictions, and I am pleased to report that my Government has agreed to your proposal. Because some time will be required for widespread circularization of instructions, the Department of State requests that the effective date of the new arrangements be March 15, 1955, instead of March 1, 1955.

If the Israel Government concurs, this reply to your letter will serve to advise that, on the basis of reciprocity, on and after March 15, 1955, the Government of the United States agrees to waive fees for all nonimmigrant visas issued to citizens of Israel.

Very truly yours,

For the Ambassador:

*Ivan B. White*  
Ivan B. White  
Counselor of Embassy

Walter Eytan, Esquire,  
Director General,  
Ministry for Foreign Affairs,  
c/o Liaison Office,  
Hakyria, Tel Aviv.

(11-3)

Jerusalem 2 March 1955

Dear Mr. White,

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 28 February 1955, in which you inform me that, on the basis of reciprocity, on and after 15 March 1955, the Government of the United States agrees to waive fees for all non-immigrant visas issued to citizens of Israel. 1)

I hereby confirm that on and after the same date the Government of Israel will waive fees for all visas other than immigration visas issued to citizens of the United States of America.

I am,

Yours faithfully,

  
Walter Eytan

Mr. Ivan B. White,  
Counsellor of Embassy,  
American Embassy in Israel.

copies: Mishpat

Mabaw  
Konsularit

Embassy of Israel, Washington  
Consulate-General, New York  
Consulate of Israel, Chicago  
Consulate of Israel, Los Angeles

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במכתב מיום 2.5.55  
הודיעה שגרירות ארה"ב  
למשרד החוץ כי הפטור  
מתשלום אגרה חל גם על  
חושבי ישראל חסרי  
אזרחות.

TRUE COPY.

AMERICAN EMBASSY, TEL AVIV,  
May 2, 1955.

Dear Mr. Eytan;

I refer to my letter of February 28, 1955, concerning the waiver of non-immigrant visa fees reciprocally for nationals of Israel and the United States and to the further oral inquiry of your office as to whether such waiver by my government includes stateless residents of Israel.

In reply I am happy to inform you that I have now received confirmation from the Department of State to the effect that the waiver is applicable to such stateless residents.

Sincerely yours,

For the Ambassador:

(signed) Ivan B. White  
Counsellor of Embassy

Walter Eytan, Esquire,  
Director General,  
Ministry for Foreign Affairs,  
Liaison Office, Hakirya,  
Tel Aviv.

*Not to be published*

TRUE COPY

Jerusalem 9 May 1955

Dear Mr. White,

Thank you very much for your letter of 2 May 1955.

I have taken due note of the fact that the reciprocal waiver of non-immigrant visa fees agreed to recently by your Government is applicable also to stateless residents of Israel. I am passing this notification on to the departments concerned.

Yours sincerely,

(signed) Walter Eytan

Mr. Ivan B. White,  
American Embassy,  
19 Rothschild Boulevard,  
Tel Aviv.

Copies: Mahav  
Konsularit  
Mishpat  
Embassy of Israel, Washington  
Consulate-General of Israel, New York.

*Not to be published*