

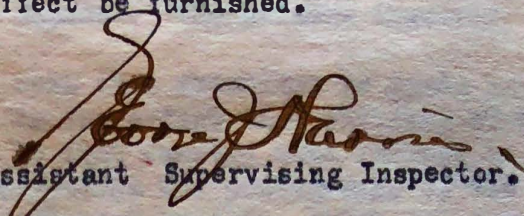
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No. P-5602/800-17.

Nov. 25, 1918.

OFFICIAL COPY hereof, in duplicate, furnished the Commissioner General of Immigration, Washington, D. C., for the information of the Bureau, and that of the Foreign Permits Office.

If the foregoing instructions are not approved, it is requested that prompt advices to that effect be furnished.

CLH.


Assistant Supervising Inspector.

DEC 3 1918

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
BUREAU OF IMMIGRATION
Washington.

No. 54152/1.

November 14, 1918.

TO COMMISSIONERS OF IMMIGRATION AND
INSPECTORS IN CHARGE AT SEAPORTS:
(Including Montreal and El Paso)

The Department of State desires that the attention of immigration officers be called to the fact that visa declarations should be taken up at the time of the departure from the United States of the holders thereof.

The same Department also asks that attention be again invited to instructions issued in October, 1917, to the effect that citizens of Costa Rica may be furnished by consular officers in that country with letters addressed to immigration officials, containing descriptions and photographs of the aliens, and visa declarations will be attached to such letters, which are then to be valid in lieu of passports; these instructions having been given because it was not desired that passports issued by the TINOCO Government in power in Costa Rica should be recognised or visaed by American consular officers.

(Signed) A. Caminetti,
Commissioner-General.

SHN.

Office of Supervising Inspector.
913-923 Mills Building.
El Paso, Texas Nov. 25, 1918.

No. P-5002/800-17.

OFFICIAL COPY hereof furnished the Inspector in Charge, Immigration Service, _____, for his information and guidance.

This office construes the instructions contained in the first paragraph of the above letter to mean that visa declarations will be taken up at the time of departure of the alien from the United States unless he is a regular border crosser living on the Mexican side who has been granted a visa of his passport by the American Consul permitting him to cross to and fro, and not in possession of a regular border permit.

For reasons fully explained to the State Department subsequent to November 15, 1917, and prior to September 15, 1918, it has been found impracticable to detach the declaration form from the passport of an alien in cases of this character. Endless confusion, duplication of work and much needless annoyance was caused in the early stages of the passport control by detaching such declarations and the practice was finally adopted and approved by the State Department of permitting one copy of the declaration to remain attached to the passport and filing the other.

Transients when departing should in every case be required to surrender the visa declaration form as should also aliens who are not transients but who are nevertheless leaving the country for permanent stay or lengthy absence.

(Signed) George J. Harris

CLH.

Assistant Supervising Inspector.
S E R I A L N U M B E R 468.