

**The original documents are located in Box C36, folder “Presidential Handwriting, 3/15/1976 (3)” of the Presidential Handwriting File at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.**

### **Copyright Notice**

The copyright law of the United States (Title 17, United States Code) governs the making of photocopies or other reproductions of copyrighted material. Gerald Ford donated to the United States of America his copyrights in all of his unpublished writings in National Archives collections. Works prepared by U.S. Government employees as part of their official duties are in the public domain. The copyrights to materials written by other individuals or organizations are presumed to remain with them. If you think any of the information displayed in the PDF is subject to a valid copyright claim, please contact the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

[Filed 3/15/76]

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

1570

~~THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN~~ . . . .

INFORMATION  
April 5, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT  
FROM: BRENT SCOWCROFT *W.H. for*  
SUBJECT: Status of Bicentennial Passport *PK-1*

You recently asked about the status of the "Bicentennial Passport" and whether it involved any additional cost.

A sample "Bicentennial Passport" is attached. This redesigned passport was especially created to commemorate the Bicentennial and has the inscription "Bicentennial 1776-1976" on the front cover and the official Bicentennial seal on the back cover. The Bicentennial Passport will be issued only during 1976 but many of its features will be continued afterwards. It differs from previous passports in the following respects:

- It has a dark blue cover rather than the previous green one. The shade of blue is the same as the blue field of the United States flag.
- The cover is of more durable leather grained vinyl.
- The emblem is silver colored aluminum rather than gold leaf and has been enlarged and now corresponds more closely to the Seal of the United States.
- Its twenty pages have a red, white and blue Liberty Bell pattern.
- The message from the Secretary of State on page 1 and the captions for the identifying data on page 2 are in both English and French.
- The visa pages now have a light grid pattern to encourage the orderly placing of entry and exit stamps.

Both the "Bicentennial Passport" and the previous passport are good for five years and cost the purchaser \$13.00. They are manufactured by the

Government Printing Office at a cost of \$1.02 each. The Passport Office is one of the few "profitable" government operations. As of March 17, 528,288 "Bicentennial Passports" have been issued. The Department of State anticipates that two and one half million will be issued during this bicentennial year.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 15, 1976

ADMINISTRATIVELY CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM FOR:

BRENT SCOWCROFT

FROM:

JAMES E. CONNOR *JEC*

SUBJECT:

Bicentennial Passport

The following notation was returned in the President's outbox:

"Bicentennial Passport --

What is status?

Any additional cost and if so how much?"

Please follow-up with appropriate action.

cc: Dick Cheney

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

4  
Francis Knight.

---

Be - Centennial Passport.

What is status?

Any additional cost &  
if so how much?

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

Rudy -

Outbox.

Dianna

0710517

# PASSPORT



UNITED STATES  
OF  
AMERICA

BICENTENNIAL 1776-1976

