

**CHAPTER 1
SECTION 3**

ANNEX N

RETURNING RESIDENTS**NO TIME LIMIT ENDORSEMENTS****1. INTRODUCTION**

Where a person who is subject to control requests that evidence of his settled status in the United Kingdom be endorsed in a newly issued passport issued by another government, this may be done by endorsing the passport with a "no time limit stamp" which reads "there is at present no time limit attached to the holder's stay in the United Kingdom".

2. FACTORS TO BE CONSIDERED

Where the person sends in his previous passport which contains an indefinite leave endorsement, then the new passport should be endorsed with the "no time limit stamp". However, where the previous passport has been lost, it will usually be necessary to see evidence of the person's previous residence in order to establish that he is settled here. Where Home office records exist and there is confirmation on file that the person was granted indefinite leave, but where it was granted more than 2 years before and there is no further record on file then, the period from 2 years after being granted indefinite leave will need to be covered. Where there is no Home Office record, the evidence will need to cover a 10 year period. This evidence may include:

- * employers letters, containing confirmation of when and where he worked;
- * wage slips;
- * if the applicant is unemployed or in receipt of benefits, evidence from the DSS of the dates of any claims;
- * college or school letters or reports;
- * any other evidence which can demonstrate that the person has been residing here.

Occasionally the applicant may be unable to provide absolute evidence of his residence. In such cases a decision will have to be made on the balance of probabilities.

Where a person is travelling urgently and there is insufficient evidence to make a decision, the applicant should be advised to take evidence of his residence with him and to apply for entry clearance before he returns to the United Kingdom. If he is not a visa national and cannot apply for entry clearance he should be advised to show the evidence to the immigration officer on his return. But no guarantee should be given that the immigration officer will be in a position to grant indefinite leave to enter.
