

# Army Act 1955

# **CHAPTER 18**

# ARMY ACT 1955

# PART I

# ENLISTMENT AND TERMS OF SERVICE

# Enlistment

1	Recruiting officers.				
2	Enlistment.				
	Appointment to corps and transfer from one corps to another				
3	Enlistment for general or corps service and appointment to and transfer between corps.				
4—7					
	Extension of service				
8					
9					
10	(1) If it appears to Her Majesty that national danger				
	Discharge and transfer to reserve				
11	Discharge.				
12	Transfer to the reserve.				
13	Postponement of discharge or transfer pending proceedings for offences				
14					
15	Right of warrant officer to discharge on reduction to ranks.				
1.4					

# Miscellaneous and supplementary provisions

17	Forfeiture of service for desertion and restoration of forfeited service.
18	Validity of attestation and enlistment.
19	False answers in attestation paper.

- 20 .....
- 21 Service of aliens in regular forces.
- 22 Regulations as to enlistment.
- 23 Interpretation of Part I.

# PART II

#### DISCIPLINE AND TRIAL AND PUNISHMENT OF MILITARY OFFENCES

Misconduct in action and other offences arising out of military service

- 24 Misconduct in action.
- 25 Assisting the enemy.
- 26 Obstructing operations, giving false air signals, etc.
- 27 Prize offences by commanding officers.
- 28 Other prize offences.
- 29 Offences by or in relation to sentries, persons on watch, etc.
- 29A Failure to attend for duty, neglect of duty, etc.
  - 30 Looting.

## Mutiny and insubordination

- 31 Mutiny.
- 32 Failure to suppress mutiny.
- 33 Insubordinate behaviour.
- 34 Disobedience to lawful commands.
- 34A Failure to provide a sample for drug testing.
- 34B Failure to provide sample after serious incident
  - 35 Obstruction of provost officers.
  - 36 Disobedience to standing orders.

#### Desertion, absence without leave, etc.

- 37 Desertion.
- 38 Absence without leave.
- 39 Failure to report or apprehend deserters or absentees.
- 40, 41

## Malingering and drunkenness

- 42 Malingering.
- 43 Drunkenness.

# Disorderly conduct

43A Fighting, threatening words, etc.

# Offences relating to property

- Damage to, and loss of, public or service property, etc.
- Damage to, and loss of, Her Majesty's aircraft or aircraft material.
- 44B Interference etc. with equipment, messages or signals.

71B

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45 46	Misapplication and waste of public or service property. Offences relating to issues and decorations.
	Offences relating to billeting and requisitioning of vehicles
47 48	Billeting Offences. Offences in relation to requisitioning of vehicles.
	Flying etc. offences
48A	Loss or hazarding of ship.
49	Dangerous flying, etc.
50	Inaccurate certification.
51	Low flying.
52	Annoyance by flying.
	Offences relating to, and by, persons in custody
53 54	Domnitting asserts and unlawful release of prisoners
55	Permitting escape, and unlawful release of prisoners. Resistance to arrest.
56	Escape from confinement.
	Offences in relation to courts-martial and civil authorities
57	Offences in relation to courts-martial.
58	
59	
	Miscellaneous offences
60	Unauthorised disclosure of information.
61	Making of false statements on enlistment.
62	Making of false documents.
63 63A	Offences against civilian population. Offences against morale.
64	Scandalous conduct by officers.
65	Ill-treatment of officers or men of inferior rank.
66	Disgraceful conduct.
67	
68	Attempts to commit military offences.
68A	Aiding and abetting etc., and inciting.
69	Conduct to prejudice of military discipline.
	Civil offences
70	Civil offences.
	Punishments available to courts-martial
71	Scale of punishments, and supplementary provisions.
71A	Juveniles.
71AA	Young service offenders: custodial orders.
71AB	Reasons to be given where custodial sentence awarded to young offender.

Power to impose imprisonment for default in payment of fines.

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#### Arrest

74	Power to	arrest offenders	

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	Custody
75	Limitations on custody without charge.
75A	Authorisation of custody without charge.
75B	Review of custody by commanding officer.
75C	Extension of custody without charge.
75D	Custody without charge: other cases.
75E	Custody without charge: supplementary.
75F	Custody after charge.
75G	Review of custody after charge.
75H	Custody during court-martial proceedings.
75J	Release from custody after charge or during proceedings.
75K	Arrest during proceedings.
75L	Judicial officers.
75M	Custody rules.
	Investigation of, and summary dealing with, charges
76	Investigation of charges by commanding officer
76A	Powers of higher authority.
76AA	Right to elect for court-martial trial.
76B	Summary dealings.
76C	Punishments available on summary dealings.
77	
77A	
78	
79	
80	
81	Confession of desertion by warrant officer, non-commissioned officer or
	soldier.
82	Officers who are to act as commanding officers and appropriate superior authorities.
83	Regulations as to summary dealings etc.
0.5	regarded to to building dealings etc.

# The summary appeal court

- 83ZA The summary appeal court.
- 83ZB Judge advocates.
- 83ZC Officers qualified for membership of summary appeal court.
- 83ZD Constitution of summary appeal court for appeals.
- 83ZE Right of appeal.
- 83ZF Hearing of appeals.
- 83ZG Powers of summary appeal court.
- Making of, and appeals from, decisions of court. 83ZH
- 83ZJ Rules of summary appeal court.
- 83ZK Administration of oaths to members of summary appeal court.
- 83ZL Privileges of witnesses and others.

# The prosecuting authority

83A The prosecuting authority.

83B	Functions of the prosecuting authority.					
83BB	Cases where charge may be referred back to commanding officer.					
83BC	Power of prosecuting authority to advise police forces					
83C	Prosecuting officers.					
	č					
	Courts-martial: general provisions					
84						
	Ct - 1					
84A	Court administration officers.					
84B	Judge advocates.					
84C	Convening of general and district courts-martial.					
84D	Constitution of general and district courts-martial					
85	Powers of different descriptions of court-martial.					
85A	Powers of court-martial where accused elected court-martial trial.					
86						
87						
88						
89						
90						
91	Place for sitting of courts-martial and adjournment to other places.					
	Courts-martial: provisions relating to trial					
02	•					
92	Challenges by accused.					
93	Administration of oaths.					
94	Courts-martial to sit in open court.					
95	Dissolution of courts-martial.					
96	Decisions of courts-martial.					
97	Finding and sentence.  Power to convict of offence other than that charged					
98 99	Power to convict of offence other than that charged.					
99A	Rules of evidence.					
100	Priorities of with access and others at acceptance montial					
100	Privilege of witnesses and others at courts-martial.  Offeness by giviling in relation to courts martial.					
101	Offences by civilians in relation to courts-martial.  Affirmations.					
102	Ammadolis.					
	O ffences: procedure					
103	Rules.					
103	Rules.					
	Field General Courts-Martial					
103A	Field general courts-martial.					
103H	Constitution of field general courts-martial.					
103D 103C	Field General Court-Martial Rules.					
1030	Field General Court-Martial Rules.					
104						
105						
100						
	Confirmation, revision and review of proceedings of courts-martial					
107						
108						
109						
110						

111	
	Review of proceedings of courts-martial
112 113 113AA 113A 113B 113C 114	Review of findings and sentences of courts-martial.  Powers of the reviewing authority.  Power of reviewing authority to authorise retrial.  Scope of section 113C  Review of sentences by Courts-Martial Appeal Court
	Review of summary findings and awards
115	Review of summary findings and awards
	Findings of unfitness to stand trial and insanity
115A 115B 116 116A 116B 116C 116D	Fitness to stand trial Finding that the accused did the act or made the omission charged Findings of insanity Powers to deal with person unfit to stand trial or not guilty by reason of insanity Orders under the Mental Health Act Supervision orders Provisions supplementary to sections 115A to 116C
	Saving for functions of Judge Advocate General
117	Saving for functions of Judge Advocate General.
	Commencement, suspension and duration of sentences
118 118ZA 118A 119 119A 120 120A	Commencement of sentences. Commencement of sentence of detention awarded by commanding officer. Consecutive terms of imprisonment and detention. Duration of sentences of imprisonment and detention. Limitation of total period of sentences of detention. Suspension of sentences. Postponement of sentences.
	Execution of sentences of death, imprisonment and detention
121 122 123	Imprisonment and Detention Rules. Supplementary provisions relating to regulations and rules under ss. 121 & 122.
124 125 126 127 128 129 130	Restrictions on serving of sentences of detention in prisons.  Special provisions as to civil prisons in the United Kingdom.  Special provisions as to carrying out or serving of sentences outside the United Kingdom otherwise thanin military establishments.  Country in which sentence of imprisonment or detention to be served. Application of enactments relating to coroners.  Duties of governors of prisons and others to receive prisoners.  Application to air-force establishments and custody.

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vii

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- 131 Trial and punishment of offences under military law notwithstanding offender ceasing to be subject tomilitary law.
- Limitation of time for trial of offences under military law.
- 133 Jurisdiction of civil courts
- 133A Financial penalty enforcement orders.
  - Persons not to be tried under this Act for offences already disposed of.

#### *Inquiries*

- 135 Boards of inquiry.
- 136 Inquiries into absence.
- 137 Regimental inquiries.

# Miscellaneous provisions

- 138 Restitution or compensation for theft, etc.
- 139 .....
- 140 Promulgation.
- 141 Custody of proceedings of courts-martial and right of accused to a copy thereof.
- 141A Right of penalised parent or guardian to copy of record of court-martial proceedings.
  - 142 Indemnity for prison officers, etc.

# Interpretation

143 Interpretation of Part II.

#### PART III

# FORFEITURES AND DEDUCTIONS AND ENFORCEMENT OF MAINTENANCE LIABILITIES

- 144 Forfeitures and deductions: general provisions.
- 145 Forfeiture of pay for absence from duty.
- 146 Where a person sentenced or ordered by a civil court...
- 147 Compensation for loss occasioned by wrongful act or negligence.
- 148 Deductions for barrack damage.
- 149 Remission of forfeitures and deductions.
- Enforcement of maintenance and affiliation orders by deduction from pay.
- 150A Enforcement of maintenance assessment by deductions from pay.
- 150AA Enforcement of maintenance assessment by deductions from pay.
  - 151 Deductions from pay for maintenance of wife or child.
  - 151A Deductions from pay in respect of judgment debts etc.
    - Limit of deductions under ss. 150 and 151 and effect on forfeiture.
    - 153 Service of process in maintenance proceedings.

#### PART IV

## BILLETING AND REQUISITIONING OF VEHICLES

#### Billeting

- 154 Billeting requisitions.
- 155 Premises in which billets may be provided.

156 157 158 159 160 161 162 163 164	Provision of billets. Billeting schemes. Accommodation to be provided and payment therefor. Appeals against billeting. Compensation for damage. Refusal to receive persons billeted, etc. Application to civilians employed with the forces. Local authority. Suspension of laws against billeting.
	Requisitioning of vehicles
165 166 167 168 169 170 171 172 173	Requisitioning orders. Provision of vehicles. Period for which vehicles to be furnished. Payment for vehicles furnished. Avoidance of hardship in requisitioning of vehicles. Record and inspection of mechanically-propelled vehicles. Enforcement of provisions as to requisitioning. Application to horses, food, forage and stores. Liability of Crown for damage by vehicles being delivered for requisitioning.
	General
174 175 176	Bringing into operation of ss. 154 and 165. Regulations and orders. Interpretation of Part IV.
	PART V
	GENERAL PROVISIONS
	Powers of command
177 178	Powers of command.  Powers of command of members of co-operating naval or air forces.
	Attachment to naval or air forces
179	Attachment of members of military forces to naval or air forces.
	Redress of complaints
180 181	Redress of complaints. Complaints by warrant officers, non-commissioned officers and soldiers.
	Exemptions for members of regular forces
182	Officers on active list not to be sheriffs.
183 184 185	Exemptions from tolls, etc. Exemption from taking in execution of property used for military purposes.

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- 186 Arrest of deserters and absentees without leave.
- 187 Proceedings before a civil court where persons suspected of illegal absence.
- Deserters and absentees without leave surrendering to police.
- 189 Certificates of arrest or surrender of deserters and absentees.
- 190 Duties of governors of prisons and others to receive deserters and absentees.

#### *Further powers of arrest of civil authorities*

- 190A Arrest under warrants of commanding officers.
- 190B Arrest of persons unlawfully at large.

# Offences relating to military matters punishable by civil courts

- 191 Punishment for pretending to be a deserter.
- 192 Punishment for procuring and assisting desertion.
- 193 Punishment for obstructing members of regular forces in execution of duty.
- 194 Punishment for aiding malingering.
- 195 Unlawful purchase, etc. of military stores.
- 196 Illegal dealings in documents relating to pay, pensions, mobilisation, etc.
- 197 Unauthorised use of and dealing in decorations, etc.

#### Provisions as to evidence

- 198 General provisions as to evidence.
- 198A, .....
- 198B
- 198C Provision as to age.
- 199 Proof of outcome of civil trial.
- 200 Evidence of proceedings of court-martial.
- 200A False statements in computer record certificates.

## Miscellaneous Provisions

- 201 Restrictions on reduction in rank of warrant officers and noncommissioned officers.
- 202 Temporary reception in civil custody of persons under escort.
- 203 Avoidance of assignment of or charge on military pay, pensions, etc.
- 204 Power of certain officers to take affidavits and declarations.
- 204A Exclusion of enactments requiring fiat of Attorney General etc., in connection with proceedings.

#### PART VI

#### APPLICATION OF ACT AND SUPPLEMENTAL PROVISIONS

# Persons subject to military law

- 205 Persons subject to military law: general provisions.
- 206 Persons subject to military law: Commonwealth forces.
- 207 Persons subject to military law: Colonial forces.

208	Persons subject to military law: attached members of naval and air forces.			
208A	Application of Act to passengers in H.M. ships and aircraft.			
209	Application of Act to civilians.			
	Application of Act to particular corps and forces			
210	Provisions as to Royal Marines.			
211	Application of Act to reserve and auxiliary forces.			
212	Provisions as to Home Guard.			
213	Modification of certain provisions in relation to women.			
	Application to different countries			
214	Application to Scotland.			
215	Application to Northern Ireland.			
216	Application to Channel Islands and Isle of Man.			
217	Application to certain overseas territories.			
218				
219				
	Supplemental provisions			
220	Jurisdiction of courts.			
221				
222 Provisions as to summary fines in Colonies.				
Execution of orders, instruments, etc.				
224	Provisions as to active service.			
225	General provisions as to interpretation.			
226	Short title, commencement and duration.			
	SCHEDULES			
FIRST	SCHEDULE — Procedure for Attestation			
1	The recruiting officer shall warn the person to be enlisted			
2	He shall then read, or cause to be read, to			
3	He shall then ask that person to make and sign			
4	Upon signing the declaration and taking the oath the said			
5	The recruiting officer shall by signature attest, in the manner			
6	When in accordance with such regulations the recruit is finally			
	SECOND —			
	SCHEDULE			
THIRD	SCHEDULE — Alternative offences of which accused may be convicted by court-martial			
FOURTH	SCHEDULE — Supplementary Provisions as to Payment for Requisitioned			

- (1) Subject to the provisions of this Schedule, any payment... As soon as may be after the furnishing of...
   A person to whom a receipt or notice under...

Vehicles

- (1) Subject to the provisions of the last foregoing paragraph...

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- The instructions of the Defence Council referred to in paragraph...
- In the foregoing provisions of this Schedule the expression "damage"...
- Nothing in the foregoing provisions of this Schedule shall apply...
- A county court shall have jurisdiction to deal with any...

# FIFTH SCHEDULE — Civilians outside the United Kingdom subject to Part II when not on Active Service

- Persons serving Her Majesty, or otherwise employed, in such capacities...
- Persons who are employed by, or in the service of,...
- Persons belonging to or employed by any other organisation so...
- Persons who, for the purposes of their profession, businessor...
- Persons forming part of the family of members of any...
- Persons forming part of the family of persons falling within...
- Persons employed by members of any of Her Majesty's naval,...
- Persons employed by persons falling within paragraphs 1 to 6...
- Persons forming part of the family of persons falling within...

#### SCHEDULE 5A — Powers of Court on Trial of Civilian

#### General

- The powers conferred by this Schedule shall be exercisable on...
- (1) In this Schedule— "community supervision order" has the meaning...

Deferment of award of sentence

(1) Subject to the provisions of this paragraph, where a... 2A

Absolute and conditional discharge

(1) The court by which a civilian is found guilty... 3

5 (1) If upon finding a person guilty of an offence...

Community supervision orders

(1) Subject to sub-paragraph (4) below, where a civilian ....

Absolute and conditional discharge and community supervision orders—supplementary

	Reception orders and committal into care—general
6	
	Committal into care—England and Wales
7	
	Committal into care—transfer to Scotland
8	
	Committal into care—transfer to Northern Ireland

#### Custodial orders

10 (1) Where a civilian who has attained the minimum age...

# Compensation orders

- 11 (1) The court, on finding a civilian guilty of an...
- 12 (1) The operation of a compensation order made by a...

Imposition of fines on and making of compensation orders against parents and guardians

13 (1) Where— (a) a civilian under 17 years of age...

Orders requiring parents or guardians to enter into recognisance

14 (1) Subject to sub-paragraph (2) below, where a civilian under...

Scale of punishments and orders

15 (1) In their application to civilians, references in this Act...

Indemnity for persons carrying out orders under Schedule

16 No action shall lie in respect of anything done by...

# Regulations

17 (1) The Secretary of State may by regulations make provision...

SIXTH SCHEDULE — Application of Military Law to attached Members of Naval and Air Forces

- 1 (1) As respects the punishment of a person subject to...
- 2 For the purposes of the provisions of this Act relating...

9 10

- 5 In proceedings under this Act against a person subject to...
- 6 In the application of this Act to a person subject...
- 7 In relation to a person subject to military law as...
- 8 In the application of sections one hundred and forty-four and...
- 9 Sections one hundred and fifty to one hundred and fifty-two...
- 10 In this Schedule— (a) references to a person's own service...

SEVENTH — Provisions as to Royal Marines SCHEDULE Part I — ENLISTMENT, SERVICE AND DISCHARGE The provisions of the six following paragraphs shall have effect... 2, 3 (1) The provisions of this and the two next following... 4 4A (1) This paragraph applies to a marine serving in the... 4B(1) If it appears to Her Majesty that national danger... 5 (1) The following provisions shall have effect as to the... 5A Subsections (1) and (2) of section three, . . .... 7 Section eighteen shall have effect, in relation to men of... 8

In this Part of this Schedule references to a marine...

10A	Subsection (2) of section 22 applies to the powers to
	Part II — MISCELLANEOUS ADAPTATIONS
11	
12, 12A	
13—15	
16	In the provisions of this Act relating to confessions of
17	
18	In the provisions of this Act relating to forfeitures of
19	Except to the extent that they are applied by paragraph
20, 21	
22	In this Act the expression "the regular forces" does not
	Part III — TRANSFERS
23	A warrant officer non-commissioned officer or marine of the Royal
24	Where a person is in pursuance of the last foregoing

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