

1970. No. 196

[C]

MOTOR VEHICLES (INTERNATIONAL CIRCULATION)**Road Traffic**

ORDER IN COUNCIL, DATED 20TH JULY 1970, MADE UNDER SECTION 2 OF THE MOTOR VEHICLES (INTERNATIONAL CIRCULATION) ACT 1952.

BY THE GOVERNOR IN THE PRIVY COUNCIL OF NORTHERN IRELAND

GREY OF NAUNTON

Whereas by Section 2 of the Motor Vehicles (International Circulation) Act 1952(a) (in this Order referred to as "the Act"), it is provided that the Governor of Northern Ireland may make provision in relation to Northern Ireland for any purpose for which provision may be made in relation to Great Britain under Section 1 of the Act;

And whereas a draft of this Order has, in pursuance of Section 2(2) of the Act, been laid before Parliament and approved by resolution of each House of Parliament: *

Now, therefore, I, Ralph Francis Alnwick, Baron Grey of Naunton, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, Knight Commander of the Royal Victorian Order, Officer of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire, Governor of Northern Ireland, by and with the advice of the Privy Council of Northern Ireland, in exercise of the powers conferred on me by Section 2 of the Act, do hereby order as follows:—

Citation, Commencement, Revocation and Interpretation

1.—(1) This Order may be cited as the Motor Vehicles (International Circulation) (Road Traffic) Order (Northern Ireland) 1970 and shall come into operation on 31st August 1970.

(2) The Motor Vehicles (International Circulation) (Road Traffic) (Northern Ireland) Order 1957(b) and the Motor Vehicles (International Circulation) (Road Traffic) (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 1962(c) are hereby revoked.

(3) In this Order "the Ministry" means the Ministry of Home Affairs for Northern Ireland.

Visitors' Driving Permits

2.—(1) Subject to the provisions of this Article, it shall be lawful for a person resident outside the United Kingdom who is temporarily in Northern Ireland and holds—

(a) a Convention driving permit, or

(b) a domestic driving permit issued in a country outside the United Kingdom, or

(a) 15 & 16 Geo. 6 and 1 Eliz. 2. c. 39.

(c) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1962, No. 216.

(b) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1957, No. 113.

*Approved by Resolution of the Senate on 23rd June 1970 and by Resolution of the House of Commons on 24th June 1970.

(c) a British Forces (BFG) driving licence,

during a period of twelve months from the date of his last entry into the United Kingdom to drive and, except in the case of a holder of a British Forces (BFG) driving licence, be employed in driving, in Northern Ireland a motor vehicle of any class or description which he is authorised by that permit or that licence to drive, notwithstanding that he is not the holder of a driving licence under the Road Traffic Act (Northern Ireland) 1970(d).

(2) Subject to the provisions of this Article, it shall be lawful for a person resident outside the United Kingdom who is temporarily in Northern Ireland and holds—

(a) a Convention driving permit, or

(b) a domestic driving permit issued in a country outside the United Kingdom,

during a period of twelve months from the date of his last entry into the United Kingdom to drive, and be employed in driving, in Northern Ireland a public service vehicle (other than a public service vehicle seating not more than six persons in addition to the driver) or heavy goods vehicle brought temporarily into Northern Ireland which he is authorised by that permit to drive, notwithstanding that he is not the holder of such a licence as is required by Part IV of the Road Traffic Act (Northern Ireland) 1970.

(3) The foregoing provisions of this Article shall be without prejudice to Section 2 of the Road Traffic Act (Northern Ireland) 1970 (which imposes minimum age limits for persons driving motor vehicles of various classes or descriptions therein specified) except that sub-section (3) of that Section (which makes it unlawful for a person under the age of twenty-one years to drive certain heavy motor vehicles) shall not apply in relation to a person driving in pursuance of this Article a motor vehicle brought temporarily into Northern Ireland if he has attained the age of eighteen years.

(4) This Article shall not authorise a person to drive a motor vehicle of any class or description if, in consequence of a conviction or of the order of a Court, he is disqualified from holding a driving licence under the Road Traffic Act (Northern Ireland) 1970 to drive a vehicle of that class or description.

(5) The Ministry may by order withdraw the right conferred by sub-paragraph (b) of paragraph (1) or the right conferred by sub-paragraph (c) of paragraph (1) or the right conferred by sub-paragraph (b) of paragraph (2), or any two or more of those rights, either in the case of all domestic driving permits or British Forces (BFG) driving licences, or in the case of domestic driving permits or British Forces (BFG) driving licences of a description specified in the Order or held by persons of a description so specified.

(6) In this Article—

“Convention driving permit” means a driving permit in the form A in the First Schedule issued under the authority of a country outside the United Kingdom, whether or not that country is a party to the Convention on Road Traffic concluded at Geneva in the year 1949, or a driving permit in the form B in the said Schedule issued under the authority of a country outside the United Kingdom which is a party to the International Convention relative to Motor Traffic concluded at Paris in the year 1926 but not to the Convention of 1949;

“domestic driving permit” in relation to a country outside the United Kingdom means a document issued under the law of that country and authorising the holder to drive motor vehicles, or a specified class or description of motor vehicles, in that country, and includes a driving permit issued by the armed forces of any country outside the United Kingdom for use in some other country outside the United Kingdom;

“British Forces (BFG) driving licence” means a driving licence issued in Germany to members of the British Forces or of the civilian component thereof or to the dependants of such members by the British authorities in that country in such a form and in accordance with such licensing system as may from time to time be approved by those authorities; and “dependants”, in relation to such a member of the British Forces or of the civilian component thereof, means any of the following persons, namely:—

- (a) the wife or husband of that member; and
- (b) any other person wholly or mainly maintained by him or in his custody, charge or care.

(7) The provisions of this Article which authorise the holder of a permit or a licence to drive a vehicle during a specified period shall not be construed as authorising the driving of a vehicle at a time when the permit or the licence has ceased to be valid.

3.—(1) It shall be lawful—

- (a) for a member of a visiting force of a country to which Part I of the Visiting Forces Act 1952(e) for the time being applies who holds a driving permit issued under the law of any part of the sending country or issued by the service authorities of the visiting force or
- (b) for a member of a civilian component of such a visiting force who holds such a driving permit,

to drive, and be employed in driving, in Northern Ireland a motor vehicle of any class or description which he is authorised by that permit to drive, notwithstanding that he is not the holder of a driving licence under the Road Traffic Act (Northern Ireland) 1970.

(2) This Article shall not authorise a person to drive a motor vehicle of any class or description if, in consequence of a conviction or of the order of a court, he is disqualified from holding a driving licence under the Road Traffic Act (Northern Ireland) 1970 to drive a vehicle of that class or description.

(3) This Article shall be without prejudice to Section 2 of the Road Traffic Act (Northern Ireland) 1970 (which imposes age limits on young persons driving motor vehicles) but sub-section (3) of that section (which makes it unlawful for a person under twenty-one to drive certain heavy motor vehicles) shall not apply in relation to a person driving a motor vehicle in pursuance of this Article if he has attained the age of eighteen years.

(4) The interpretative provisions of the Visiting Forces Act 1952 shall apply for the interpretation of this Article.

4. The Second Schedule shall have effect as respects the driving permits referred to in Articles 2 and 3.

(e) 15 & 16 Geo. 6 and 1 Eliz. 2. c. 67.

Lighting of Vehicles brought temporarily into Northern Ireland

5. Regulations under Sections 31 to 42 of the Road Traffic Act (Northern Ireland) 1970 may either wholly or partially, and subject to any conditions, vary, or grant exemptions from the requirements of those Acts in the case of motor vehicles or trailers brought temporarily into Northern Ireland by persons resident outside the United Kingdom or in the case of any class or description of such vehicles.

Given at Government House, Hillsborough, this 20th day of July 1970.

R. W. Porter

W. J. Long

John Dobson

FIRST SCHEDULE

A

Form of International Driving Permit under
Convention of 1949

Page 1

* In a permit issued by some other country the name of that country will appear instead and pages 1 and 2 will be drawn up in the language of that country.

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland*

International Motor Traffic

INTERNATIONAL DRIVING PERMIT

Convention on International Road Traffic of 1949.

Issued at

Date

Signature or seal of issuing authority.



Page 2

This permit is valid in the territory of all the Contracting States, with the exception of the territory of the Contracting State where issued for the period of one year from the date of issue, for the driving of vehicles included in the category or categories mentioned on the last page of this permit.

List of Contracting States (optional)

It is understood that this permit shall in no way affect the obligation of the holder to conform strictly to the laws and regulations relating to residence or to the exercise of a profession which are in force in each country through which he travels.

Form of International Driving Permit

PART I

	<i>Last</i>
Particulars concerning the Driver:	
Surname	1
Other names*	2
Place of birth**	3
Date of birth***	4
Permanent place of residence	5
Vehicles for which the permit is valid:	
Motor cycles, with or without a sidecar, invalid carriages and three-wheeled motor vehicles with an unladen weight not exceeding 400 kg (900 lbs.).	A
Motor vehicles used for the transport of passengers and comprising, in addition to the driver's seat, at most eight seats, or those used for the transport of goods and having a permissible maximum weight not exceeding 3,500 kg (7,700 lbs.). Vehicles in this category may be coupled with a light trailer.	B
Motor vehicles used for the transport of goods and of which the permissible maximum weight exceeds 3,500 kg (7,700 lbs.). Vehicles in this category may be coupled with a light trailer.	C
Motor vehicles used for the transport of passengers and comprising, in addition to the driver's seat, more than eight seats. Vehicles in this category may be coupled with a light trailer.	D
Motor vehicles of categories B, C or D, as authorised above, with other than a light trailer.	E
<p>“Permissible maximum weight” of a vehicle means the weight of the vehicle and its maximum load when the vehicle is ready for the road. “Maximum load” means the weight of the load declared permissible by the competent authority of the country of registration of the vehicle. “Light trailers” shall be those of a permissible maximum weight not exceeding 750 kg (1,650 lbs.).</p>	
EXCLUSION	
Holder of this permit is deprived of the right to drive in (country)	EXCLUSIONS (countries I—VIII)
by reason of	
.....	
Place	
Date	
Signature	
<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 50%; padding: 10px; margin-right: 20px; text-align: center;"> Seal or stamp of authority </div> <div> Should the above space be already filled, use any other space provided for “Exclusion”. </div> </div>	

The entire last page (Parts I and II) shall be drawn up in French.
 Additional pages shall repeat in other languages the text of Part I of the last page. They shall be drawn up in English, Russian, Chinese and Spanish, and other languages may be added.

under Convention of 1949


PART II

Page

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

A	Seal or stamp of authority
B	Seal or stamp of authority
C	Seal or stamp of authority
D	Seal or stamp of authority
E	Seal or stamp of authority

Photograph



.....
Signature of holder****

**EXCLUSIONS
(countries)**

- | | |
|----------|-----------|
| I..... | V..... |
| II..... | VI..... |
| III..... | VII..... |
| IV..... | VIII..... |

* Father's or husband's name may be inserted.
 ** If known.
 *** Or approximate age on date of issue.
 **** Or thumb impression.

B

Form of International Driving Permit under Convention of 1926

Page 1

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland*

International Motor Traffic

INTERNATIONAL DRIVING PERMIT

International Convention of April 24th, 1926

* In a permit issued by some other country the name of that country will appear instead and the permit will be drawn up in the language of that country

ISSUE OF PERMIT

Issued at

Date



(Signature of issuing authority).

Page 2

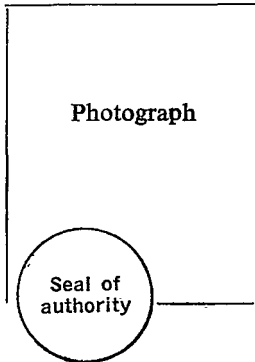
** This should be a reference to the last page of the permit. The present permit is valid in the territory of all the undermentioned Contracting States for the period of one year from the date of issue for the driving of vehicles included in the category or categories mentioned on p. **

Here insert list of Contracting States

It is understood that this permit in no way diminishes the obligation of the holder to conform strictly to the laws and regulations relating to residence or to the exercise of a profession which are in force in each country through which he travels.

Page 3

PARTICULARS CONCERNING THE DRIVER



Photograph

Seal of authority

- Surname (1)
Other names (2)
Place of birth (3)
Date of birth (4)
Home address (5)

Form of International Driving Permit under Convention of 1926

Page 4

(Name of country)

EXCLUSION

M. (surname and other names)
authorised as above by the authority of (country)
is deprived of the right to drive in (country)
by reason of



Place
Date
Signature

Page 5 and following pages should repeat the particulars given on page 3 translated into as many languages as may be necessary to enable the International Permit to be used in all the Contracting States mentioned in page 2.

Here begin last page

Table with 3 columns: A (1), B (2), C (3). Each column contains a 'Seal of authority' circle.

- (1) A.—Motor vehicles of which the laden weight does not exceed— 3,500 kilog (In all languages.)
(2) B.—Motor vehicles of which the laden weight exceeds— 3,500 kilog (In all languages.)
(3) C.—Motor cycles, with or without side-car. (In all languages.)

- (1)
(2)
(3)
(4)
(5)

SECOND SCHEDULE

Visitors' Driving Permits

1. In this Schedule "driving permit" means a driving permit which by virtue of this Order authorises a person to drive a motor vehicle without holding a driving licence under the Road Traffic Act (Northern Ireland) 1970 and "driving licence" has the meaning assigned to it in that Act.

2.—(1) A court by whom the holder of a driving permit is convicted shall—

- (a) if in consequence of the conviction or of the order of the court he is disqualified from obtaining or holding a driving licence, or
- (b) if they order particulars of the conviction to be endorsed on any driving licence held by him,

send particulars of the conviction to the Ministry.

(2) A court shall in no circumstances enter any particulars in a driving permit.

3.—(1) The holder of a driving permit disqualified in consequence of a conviction or of the order of a court from holding a driving licence or a driving licence for a specified class or description of vehicle shall, if so required by the court, produce his driving permit within five days, or such longer time as the court may determine, and the court shall forward it to the Ministry who shall record particulars of the disqualification on the driving permit and send the holder's name and address, together with the said particulars, to the authority by whom the driving permit was issued.

(2) If the disqualification does not apply to every class or description of motor vehicles for which the permit is, apart from the disqualification, valid the Ministry shall forward it to the holder and in any other case shall retain it until the holder leaves Northern Ireland or until the period of disqualification expires.

(3) A person failing to produce a driving permit in compliance with this paragraph shall be guilty of an offence under the Road Traffic Act (Northern Ireland) 1970.

4.—(1) A court, on ordering the removal under sub-sections (5) or (7) of section 167 of the Road Traffic Act (Northern Ireland) 1970, or under sub-section (2) of section 169 of the said Act, of a disqualification on holding or obtaining a driving licence, shall, if it appears that particulars of the disqualification have been forwarded to the Ministry under paragraph 2 of this Schedule, cause particulars of the Order also to be forwarded to the Ministry, and the Ministry shall transmit the particulars to the authority who issued the driving permit which the person whose disqualification is removed is shown as holding in the Ministry's records.

(2) The Ministry shall, where appropriate, enter any particulars so forwarded to the Ministry in any driving permit held by the Ministry or forwarded to the Ministry by the applicant and shall then return the driving permit to the applicant.

5.—(1) In the following provisions of the Road Traffic Act (Northern Ireland) 1970 references to a licence shall include references to a driving permit.

(2) The said provisions are—

- (a) section 156 (which relates to the production of documents and the powers of constables),
- (b) sub-section (2) of section 150 (which relates to the use of a driving licence by a person other than the holder and to forgery of such a licence).

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Order, but is intended to indicate its general purport.)

This Order consolidates, with amendment, the Orders specified in Article 1(2), and gives effect to certain provisions of the Convention on Road Traffic of 1949 (Cmd. 7997), and the Convention on Motor Traffic of 1926 (Cmd. 3510), as respects drivers coming to Northern Ireland from abroad; and also to Article IV of the Agreement regarding the Status of Forces of Parties to the North Atlantic Treaty (Cmd. 8279) as respects driving permits of members of visiting forces and civilian components of such forces.

Apart from minor drafting amendments the only new provision is that persons resident outside the United Kingdom who hold a valid permit and are making a temporary stay in Northern Ireland will continue to be allowed to drive heavy goods vehicles notwithstanding that they do not hold a heavy goods vehicle driver's licence granted under Sections 66 to 74 of the Road Traffic Act (Northern Ireland) 1970. (Article 2(2).)

The following are the main provisions which are re-enacted:

Article 2(1) provides that persons resident outside the United Kingdom who hold either a Convention driving permit or a domestic driving permit or a British Forces (BFG) driving licence may for one year drive in Northern Ireland motor vehicles of the class which they are authorised by their permits to drive without holding driving licences issued under the Road Traffic Act (Northern Ireland) 1970.

Article 2(2) provides that persons resident outside the United Kingdom who hold either a Convention driving permit or a domestic driving permit may for one year drive in Northern Ireland public service vehicles other than taxis brought temporarily into Northern Ireland, which they are authorised by their permits to drive, without holding public service vehicles licences.

Article 2(3) provides that in relation to such persons, if over 18 years of age and driving motor vehicles brought temporarily into Northern Ireland, the restriction imposed by the Road Traffic Act (Northern Ireland) 1970 on the driving of certain heavy motor vehicles by persons under 21 years shall not apply.

Article 2(4) provides that the previous provisions shall not authorise persons to drive motor vehicles if they are disqualified from driving by virtue of a conviction or the order of a court.

Article 2(5) permits the Ministry to withdraw in the case of domestic driving permits and BFG driving licences the rights conferred by paragraphs (1), (2) and (3) of that Article, which are not obligatory under either of the above-mentioned Conventions of 1926 and 1949.

Article 2(6) defines the expressions "Convention driving permit" and "domestic driving permit" and "BFG driving licence".

Article 3 in pursuance of Article IV of the above-mentioned Agreement regarding the Status of Forces makes provision for members of a visiting force and members of a civilian component of such a force who hold foreign driving

permits and who are not disqualified from driving by virtue of a conviction or the order of a court to drive in Northern Ireland motor vehicles of any class which they are authorised by their permits to drive without holding driving licences issued under the Road Traffic Act (Northern Ireland) 1970.

Article 4 provides for modifications of the Road Traffic Act (Northern Ireland) 1970 in relation to the driving permits referred to in Articles 2 and 3.

Article 5 enables regulations to be made exempting vehicles brought temporarily into Northern Ireland from the requirements of the Road Traffic Act regarding lighting.