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STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

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**1979 No. 1435**

**The Public Health (Ships) Regulations 1979**

PART III

INCOMING SHIPS

*Deratting Certificates and Deratting Exemption Certificates*

**18.**—(1) If the master of a ship which during its voyage has been in a foreign port cannot produce to the authorised officer for the district in which the ship arrives or for any district at which the ship calls a valid Deratting Certificate or Deratting Exemption Certificate in respect of the ship in the form set out in schedule 3, the authorised officer shall—

- (a) if the district is an approved port or a designated approved port, require the ship to be inspected to ascertain whether it is kept in such a condition that it is free of rodents and the plague vector; or
- (b) if the district is not such a port, direct the ship to proceed at its own risk to the nearest approved port or designated approved port convenient to the ship at which a Deratting Certificate or Deratting Exemption Certificate, as the case may be, can be obtained.

(2) If, after the ship has been inspected, the authorised officer for the approved port or designated approved port is satisfied that the ship is free from rodents and the plague vector, he shall issue a Deratting Exemption Certificate.

(3) If, after the ship has been inspected, such authorised officer is not so satisfied, he shall—

- (a) if the district is a designated approved port, require the ship to be deratted in a manner to be determined by him; or
- (b) if the district is not a designated approved port, direct the ship to proceed at its own risk to the nearest designated approved port convenient to the ship for deratting.

(4) If the master produces a Deratting Certificate or a Deratting Exemption Certificate, but the authorised officer has evidence that the deratting was not satisfactory completed or that there is evidence of rodents on board the ship the authorised officer may, notwithstanding such Certificate, exercise in relation to the ship his powers under the last preceding paragraph.

(5) The master shall forthwith make arrangements for any deratting required by the authorised officer for the designated approved port.

(6) When deratting has been completed to the satisfaction of the authorised officer for the designated approved port, he shall issue a Deratting Certificate.

(7) Before the authorised officer directs under this regulation that a ship shall proceed to another port, he shall consult with a customs officer for the district.

**19.** Upon receipt of an application in writing from the owner of a ship in an approved port, or from the master acting for and on behalf of the owner, for a Deratting Certificate or a Deratting Exemption Certificate in respect of the ship, the authorised officer shall take any steps which he considers necessary to satisfy himself that the ship is kept in such a condition that it is free of rodents

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and the plague vector, or at a designated approved port give directions for the deratting of the ship, as the case may require, and, on being satisfied as to the condition of the ship or that the deratting has been properly carried out, he shall issue the appropriate Certificate.

**20.**—(1) Every Deratting Certificate and Deratting Exemption Certificate shall be in the form specified in schedule 3.

(2) A copy of every such Certificate issued under regulation 18 or 19 shall be retained by the health authority.

(3) The owner or master of a ship shall pay to the health authority such charge as the Secretary of State may from time to time determine for the inspection of the ship for the purposes of regulation 18 or 19.