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 STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS
 

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**1984 No. 1223**

**MERCHANT SHIPPING**

**SAFETY**

**The Merchant Shipping (Radio Installations) (Amendment No. 2) Regulations 1984**

<i>Made</i>	- - - -	<i>2nd August 1984</i>
<i>Laid before Parliament</i>		<i>10th August 1984</i>
<i>Coming into Operation</i>		<i>1st September 1984</i>

The Secretary of State for Transport, after consultation with the persons referred to in section 22(2) of the Merchant Shipping Act 1979(a), in exercise of the powers conferred on him by section 21(1), (3)(c) (d) (f) and (o) and 6(b) and (ba) and section 22(1)(c) of that Act and of all other powers enabling him in that behalf, hereby makes the following Regulations:

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Merchant Shipping (Radio Installations) (Amendment No. 2) Regulations 1984 and shall come into operation on 1st September 1984.

2. The Merchant Shipping (Radio Installations) Regulations 1980(b) shall be further amended as follows:

(1) in regulation 1(2):—

(a) in the definition of “Merchant Shipping Notice”—

(i) after the words “the Department of Trade” there shall be inserted “or the Department of Transport” and

(ii) the words “and published by Her Majesty’s Stationery Office” shall be deleted;

(b) the definition of “Organisation” shall be replaced by the following:—

“Organisation” means “International Maritime Organisation (IMO)”;

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(a) 1979 c.39; section 21(6)(b) and (ba) were inserted by section 49(3) of the Criminal Justice Act 1982 (c.49).

(b) S.I. 1980/529, to which there are amendments not relevant to these Regulations.

(c) the definition of “tons” shall be replaced by the following:—

““tons” means gross tonnage and shall be:—

- (a) for a ship having alternative gross tonnages under paragraph 13 of Schedule 5 of the Merchant Shipping (Tonnage) Regulations 1982(a), the larger of those tonnages, and
- (b) for a ship having its tonnage determined both under Part II and regulation 16 of those Regulations its gross tonnage as determined under regulation 16;”;

(2) After the words “Home Office” where they appear in—

- (a) regulation 1(2) in the definitions of “radio officer” and “radiotelephone operator”;
- (b) regulation 18(3)(a) (twice) and (b) (twice); and
- (c) regulation 26(4)(a) (twice) and (b) (twice);

there shall be inserted “or the Department of Trade and Industry”;

(3) the following shall be substituted for regulation 13:—

“13.— (1) Each United Kingdom ship which is fitted with a VHF radio-telephone installation in accordance with these Regulations shall, while at sea, maintain a continuous listening watch on the navigating bridge on 156.8 MHz (VHF Channel 16).

(2) This listening watch may be discontinued:—

- (a) when the receiver is being used for traffic on a frequency other than 156.8 MHz;
- (b) when the vessel is maintaining a watch on a frequency other than 156.8 MHz for the purpose of a port operation, ship movement or safety of navigation service;
- (c) when, on the direction of the master, the watch is being maintained elsewhere in the ship;
- (d) when, in the opinion of the master, the watch is prejudicial to the safety of the ship.

(3) Where the listening watch is discontinued pursuant to paragraph (2)(c) or (d), entries shall be made in the ship’s official log book of the times and duration for which the listening watch on the navigating bridge was discontinued and of the circumstances in which the watch was transferred elsewhere or in which the safety of the ship was prejudiced as the case may be.

(4) A written summary shall be maintained of all communications relating to distress, urgency and safety traffic received or transmitted on the VHF radio telephone installation during the watch.”;

(4) in regulation 26(5)(ii) after “Post Office” there shall be added “or British Telecommunications”.

*Nicholas Ridley,*  
Secretary of State  
for Transport.

2nd August 1984.

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EXPLANATORY NOTE

*(This Note is not part of the Regulations.)*

These Regulations further amend the Merchant Shipping (Radio Installations) Regulations 1980. They align the United Kingdom watchkeeping requirements on 156.8 MHz with those contained in the Amendments to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea 1974 adopted on 20th November 1981, and complete the implementation of those Amendments in so far as they relate to Chapter IV (Radiotelegraphy and Radiotelephony) of the Convention. They also up-date the references to various bodies.

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