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STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

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**1989 No. 993**

**The Motor Vehicles (International Circulation) (Amendment) Order 1989**

**Visitors' driving permits**

4. For articles 2 and 3 of the principal Order there shall be substituted the following articles:—

**“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 Great Britain and holds—

- (a) a Convention driving permit, or
- (b) a domestic driving permit issued in a country outside the the United Kingdom, or
- (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, or, except in the case of a holder of a British Forces (BFG) driving licence, for any person to cause or permit such a person to drive, in Great Britain a motor vehicle of any class which he is authorised by that permit or that licence to drive, notwithstanding that he is not the holder of a driving licence under Part III of the Road Traffic Act 1988.

(2) Subject to the provisions of this Article, it shall be lawful for a person resident outside the United Kingdom who is temporarily in Great Britain 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, or for any person to cause or permit such a person to drive, in Great Britain—
  - (i) in the case of any such person who is resident in a Member State of the European Economic Community, any public service vehicle or heavy goods vehicle; and
  - (ii) in the case of any other such person, a public service vehicle or heavy goods vehicle brought temporarily into Great Britain, which he is authorised by that permit to drive, notwithstanding that he is not the holder either of such a licence as is required by section 22 of the Public Passenger Vehicles Act 1981(1), or of such a licence as is required by section II 0 of the said Act of 1988.

(3) Subject to the provisions of this Article, it shall be lawful for a person resident outside the United Kingdom who is temporarily in Great Britain and holds a British Forces (BFG) public service vehicle driving licence during a period of twelve months from the date of his last entry into the United Kingdom to drive, or for any person to cause or permit such a person to drive, in Great Britain—

- (a) in the case of any such person who is resident in a Member State of the European Economic Community, any public service vehicle, and
- (b) in the case of any other such person, a public service vehicle brought temporarily into Great Britain, which he is authorised by that licence to drive, notwithstanding that he is not the holder of such a licence as is required by section 22 of the Public Passenger Vehicles Act 1981.

(4) Nothing in the preceding provisions of this Article shall authorise any person to drive, or any person to cause or permit any person to drive, a vehicle of any class at a time when he is disqualified by virtue of section 101 of the Road Traffic Act 1988 (persons under age), for holding or obtaining a driving licence authorising him to drive vehicles of that class, but in the case of any such person as is mentioned in paragraph (1),

(2) or (3) of this Article, who is driving a vehicle which—

- (a) in the case of a person not resident in a Member State of the European Economic Community, is brought temporarily into Great Britain, and
- (b) is within the class specified in the first column of paragraph 6 of the Table in subsection (1) of that section, and
- (c) is either a vehicle registered in a Convention country or a goods vehicle in respect of which that person holds a certificate of competence which satisfies the international requirements, the second column of that paragraph, in its application for the purposes of this paragraph, shall have effect as if for “21” there were substituted “18”. In this paragraph the following expressions have the meanings respectively assigned to them:—

“the international requirements” means—

- (i) in relation to a person who is driving a goods vehicle on a journey to which Council Regulation (EEC) No.3820/85 of 20th December 1985, on the harmonisation of certain social legislation relating to road transport<sup>(2)</sup> applies, the requirements of Article 5(1)(b) (minimum ages for goods vehicle drivers) of that Regulation;
- (ii) in relation to a person who is driving a goods vehicle on a journey to which the European Agreement concerning the work of crews engaged in International Road Transport (AETR) signed at Geneva on 25th March 1971<sup>(3)</sup> applies, the requirements of Article 5(1)(b) (conditions to be fulfilled by drivers) of that Agreement;

“Convention country” means a country which is not a Member State of the European Economic Community nor a party to the aforementioned European Agreement but is a party to the Convention on Road Traffic concluded at Geneva in the year 1949<sup>(4)</sup>, or the International Convention relative to Motor Traffic concluded at Paris in the year 1926<sup>(5)</sup>.

(5) This Article shall not authorise a person to drive a motor vehicle of any class if, in consequence of a conviction or of the order of a court, he is disqualified for holding or obtaining a driving licence under Part III of the Road Traffic Act 1988.

(6) The Secretary of State may by order contained in a statutory instrument withdraw the right conferred by paragraph (1)(b), (1)(c), (2)(b) or (3) of this Article, or any two or more of those rights either in the case of all domestic driving permits, British Forces (BFG) driving licences or British Forces (BFG) public service vehicle driving licences or in the

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(2) O.J. No. L370, 31.12.85, p.1.

(3) Cmnd. 4858.

(4) Cmnd. 7997.

(5) Cmnd. 3510.

case of such permits or licences of a description specified in the order or held by persons of a description so specified.

(7) In this Article—

“Convention driving permit” means a driving permit in the form A in Schedule 1 to this Order 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 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 “British Forces (BFG) public Service vehicle driving licence” means any such driving licence authorising the driving of public service vehicles of any class;

“dependants” in relation to such a member of the British Forces or 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; and

“public service vehicle” has the same meaning as in the Public Passenger Vehicles Act 1981.

(8) 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<sup>(6)</sup> 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, or
- (c) for a dependant of any Such member of a visiting force or of a civilian component thereof who holds such a driving permit, to drive, or for any person to cause or permit any such person to drive, in Great Britain a motor vehicle of any class which he is authorised by that permit to drive, notwithstanding that he is not the holder of a driving licence under Part III of the Road Traffic Act 1988.

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<sup>(6)</sup> 1952 c. 67.

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**Changes to legislation:** *There are currently no known outstanding effects for the The Motor Vehicles (International Circulation) (Amendment) Order 1989, Section 4. (See end of Document for details)*

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(2) This Article shall not authorise a person to drive a motor vehicle of any class if, in consequence of a conviction or of the order of a court, he is disqualified for holding or obtaining a driving licence under Part III of the Road Traffic Act 1988.

(3) Nothing in this Article shall authorise any person to drive, or any person to cause or permit any other person to drive, a vehicle of any class at a time when he is disqualified by virtue of section 101 of the Road Traffic Act 1988 (persons under age), for holding or obtaining a driving licence authorising him to drive vehicles of that class.

(4) The interpretative provisions of the Visiting Forces Act 1952 shall apply for the interpretation of this Article and “dependant”, in relation to a member of any such visiting force or a 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.”.

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**Commencement Information**

**II** Art. 4 in force at 14.6.1989, see [art. 1](#)

**Changes to legislation:**

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the The Motor Vehicles (International Circulation) (Amendment) Order 1989, Section 4.