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STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

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**1999 No. 454**

**NORTHERN IRELAND**

**The Northern Ireland Arms Decommissioning  
Act 1997 (Amnesty Period) Order 1999**

*Made* - - - - 25th February 1999

*Coming into force* - - 26th February 1999

Whereas a draft of this Order has been approved by a resolution of each House of Parliament pursuant to section 2(4) of the Northern Ireland Arms Decommissioning Act 1997(1):

Now, therefore, in exercise of the powers conferred on her by section 2(2)(b) of that Act, the Secretary of State hereby makes the following Order:

1. This Order may be cited as the Northern Ireland Arms Decommissioning Act 1997 (Amnesty Period) Order 1999 and shall come into force on the day after the day on which it is made.

2. The day hereby appointed for the purposes of section 2(2)(b) of the Northern Ireland Arms Decommissioning Act 1997 (“the 1997 Act”) is 24th February 2000, being not more than 12 months after the day on which this Order is made or more than five years after the day on which the 1997 Act was passed.

3. The Northern Ireland Arms Decommissioning Act 1997 (Amnesty Period) Order 1998(2) is hereby revoked.

Northern Ireland Office  
25th February 1999

*Marjorie Mowlam*  
One of Her Majesty’s Principal Secretaries of  
State

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(1) 1997 c. 7.  
(2) S.I. 1998/893.

**Status:** This is the original version (as it was originally made). This item of legislation is currently only available in its original format.

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## EXPLANATORY NOTE

*(This note is not part of the Order)*

Under section 2(1) of the Northern Ireland Arms Decommissioning Act 1997 (“the 1997 Act”) a decommissioning scheme must identify a period during which firearms, ammunition and explosives may be dealt with in accordance with the scheme (“the amnesty period”). Under subsection (2) of that section, the amnesty period must end before the first anniversary of the day on which the 1997 Act was passed or such later day as the Secretary of State may by order from time to time appoint. Under subsection (3) of that section, a day appointed by such an order must not be more than twelve months after the day on which the order is made or more than five years after the day on which the 1997 Act was passed. The 1997 Act was passed on 27th February 1997.

This Order appoints 24th February 2000 as the day before which the amnesty period identified in a decommissioning scheme must end. The Order also revokes the first Order made under section 2(3) ([S.I. 1998/893](#)), which appointed 27th February 1999 for the purposes of section 2(2).