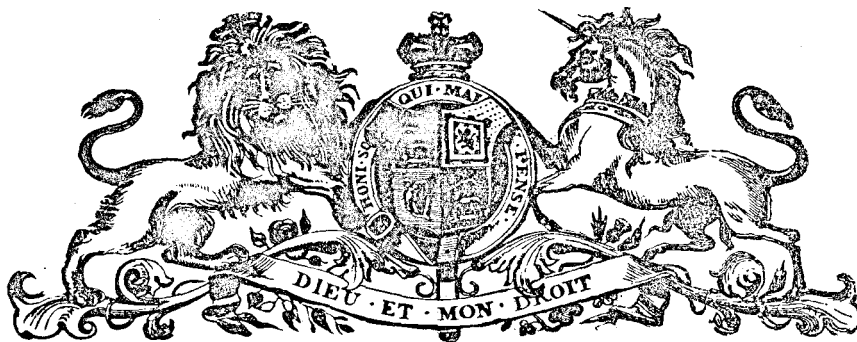


No. 4 of 1897.



IN the name of Her Majesty, VICTORIA, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland Queen, Empress of India, &c., &c., &c.

## QUEEN'S REGULATION

*(Made in the name and on behalf of Her Majesty by Her Majesty's High Commissioner for the Western Pacific, in accordance with the Pacific Order in Council, 1893.)*

TO RESTRICT THE SALE AND USE OF FIREARMS AND EXPLOSIVES IN THE BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS.

[L.S.] H. S. BERKELEY.

1. IN this Regulation unless the subject or context otherwise Interpretation. requires,—
- “ Arms ” shall mean and include arms, ammunition, explosives and implements and material for the manufacture of the same :
  - “ Native ” shall mean and include any native of any island in the Pacific Ocean other than a person of European descent :
  - “ Seat of Government ” shall mean the island of Gavatu near Florida, until such time as the Resident Commissioner shall move his head office to the island of Tulagi near Gavatu, when it shall mean the island of Tulagi ;
  - “ The Protectorate ” shall mean and include all islands and places at present included or which may hereafter be included in the

the Protectorate established by Her Majesty in the South Solomon Islands :

“ Superior Officer ” shall mean and include the Resident Commissioner, or an officer of Her Majesty’s Navy on full pay, or a superior officer of Police in the Protectorate :

“ The Court ” shall mean Her Majesty’s High Commissioner’s Court for the Western Pacific :

“ Search Warrant ” shall mean a warrant to search for arms as provided in this Regulation :

“ Peace Officer ” shall mean and include any peace officer, superior officer and person executing a search warrant under this Regulation :

“ Labour Vessel ” shall mean any vessel recruiting or returning native labourers.

Sale of arms to natives forbidden.

2. Any person directly or indirectly supplying or aiding, counselling or abetting any other person to supply any arms to a native in the Protectorate shall be guilty of an offence against this Regulation.

Vessels entering Protectorate to proceed to Seat of Government.

3. The master of any vessel arriving in the Protectorate shall without anchoring at any other place proceed without delay to the Seat of Government and no cargo shall be landed from any such vessel until permission has been received from a peace officer. Provided that if any such vessel is not boarded by a peace officer within twenty-four hours of arrival at the Seat of Government and if such vessel is exempt from quarantine under the Quarantine (Solomons) Regulation, 1897, the master of such vessel may proceed to land cargo and otherwise perform the lawful business of the vessel.

Except under certain conditions.

4. The provisions of the preceding section shall not apply to vessels arriving in the Protectorate direct from ports in British colonies if the following conditions are complied with :—

- (i) If the master of any such vessel has made a true declaration before a chief officer of Customs or Police at the port of departure declaring the amount of arms, ammunition, and explosives and materials for the manufacture of the same carried on board the vessel at the time of departure ;
- (ii) If the master is provided with a copy of such declaration certified by such chief officer of Customs or Police together with a certificate by such chief officer of Customs or Police to the effect that it is an offence against the law in force at the port of departure to make any such statement falsely ;
- (iii) If such vessel has not called at any place or port or had transhipped to it any cargo between the date of the vessel’s leaving the port of departure as aforesaid and the date of the vessel’s arrival in the Protectorate ; and
- (iv) If such vessel be exempt from quarantine under the Quarantine (Solomons) Regulation (No. 1 of 1897).

Vessels to receive peace officer on board.

5. On the arrival of any vessel within the waters of the Protectorate any peace officer may at any place and at any time proceed on board such vessel and if by boat then if such boat be part of the equipment of one of Her Majesty’s vessels of war or if there be displayed a flag of not less dimensions than four feet by two feet containing the Union Jack and the letters R.C. or the letters P.O. conspicuous in white on a blue ground, sufficient notice shall be deemed to have been given to the master of any such vessel as aforesaid of the authority of such peace officer and any person other than a peace officer displaying such flag shall be guilty of an offence against this Regulation.

Escaping vessels may be chased.

6. The master of any vessel arriving in the Protectorate who shall refuse to receive a peace officer at any place on board such vessel

vessel or who shall refuse or neglect to bring his vessel to when hailed by any such officer or by the commander of one of Her Majesty's vessels of war or of any vessel employed for the prevention of illegal trade in arms and having a proper pendant and ensign hoisted shall be guilty of an offence against this Regulation and such vessel arriving in the Group as aforesaid may be fired at or into if not brought-to after a warning shot, and if it is necessary to chase such vessel in order to get on board the same and if during such chase any goods on board the same are thrown overboard or staved or destroyed to prevent seizure such vessel and any goods on board thereof shall be confiscated to Her Majesty, and the commander of any vessel firing at or into any vessel as aforesaid and any person acting by his direction shall be and is hereby indemnified and discharged from any indictment, penalty, action or other proceeding for so doing.

7. On the arrival of any peace officer on board any vessel as provided in the last two preceding sections the master of such vessel shall if required so to do provide the said officer with suitable sleeping accommodation in the cabin of such vessel and shall supply such accommodation to the said officer as long as such officer shall remain on board.

Accommodation for peace officer on board vessel.

8. The master of every vessel shall on entering the Protectorate enter in the ship's log the number, quantity and description of arms carried on board such vessel distinguishing between arms carried for defence of the vessel or as the personal appanage of travellers or as cargo, or for any other purpose. Upon any arms being subsequently landed or transferred to any other vessel an entry shall likewise be made in the ship's log stating the number, quantity and description of the arms landed or transferred, the person to whom and the place at which such arms were delivered, and the name of the vessel to which any such arms were transferred.

Statement of arms on board to be entered in ship's log.

9. The master of every vessel within the Protectorate at the time of and after the coming into force of this Regulation shall enter in the ship's log the number, quantity and description of arms carried on board such vessel, and the landing or transfer of any such arms in the manner provided in the last preceding section, and shall also enter in the ship's log the number, quantity and description of any arms that may at any time be received on board and the name of the person or vessel from which such arms were received.

Arms received or transferred to be entered in log.

10. The master of every vessel within the Protectorate shall when called on by any peace officer produce to such officer the ship's log and the certificate provided for in paragraph (ii.) of section 4 of this Regulation (if the master shall hold any such certificate) and shall permit such officer to take copies thereof, and shall also if required furnish to such officer a statement of the nature of the contents of all packages on board with the names of the consignees.

Master to furnish peace officer with statement of cargo.

11. The master of every vessel leaving the Protectorate shall on taking his final departure from the Protectorate forward to the Resident Commissioner a statement of the arms on board such vessel at the date of departure and a list of all arms landed or transferred from or received on board such vessel in the Protectorate during the preceding three months or such shorter period as such vessel may have been within the Protectorate. Such list shall give the description, quantity and numbers of the arms with the names of the persons on whose account such arms were received, landed or transferred, and the name of any vessel from or to which such arms were transferred.

Vessels leaving Protectorate to forward statement of arms received or transferred.

12. Labour vessels may carry for the protection of such vessels and of the persons therein arms in quantities not exceeding those herein specified, viz.,—

Equipment of labour vessels.

One

One rifle or shot-gun and one pistol for every member of the crew of such vessel whose name shall be on the articles, and for every passenger (other than a native) on board such vessel ;

One hundred rounds of ammunition for every such rifle, shot-gun or pistol ;

Cannons or swivel-guns forming part of the ordinary equipment of any such vessel together with one hundred rounds of ammunition for every such gun, and lights or rockets for signalling.

Except as aforesaid the carriage of arms other than arms consigned to the Government of the Protectorate on board labour vessels shall be deemed an offence against this Regulation.

Return of arms to be made when required.

13. Every person in the Protectorate shall if so required by a peace officer deliver a true statement of all arms in his possession, charge or disposal in the Protectorate.

Search for arms.

14. A superior officer may for any reason he may think fit search or issue a warrant authorising any person named therein to search for arms on board any vessel or boat, or on any land, or in any store, warehouse, dwelling-house, or other building in the Protectorate. In making such order the superior officer may impose any condition or conditions he may think fit for the proper execution of the order and may authorise the person named in the warrant to appoint a substitute to act for him. Any person resisting a search for arms as herein provided shall be guilty of an offence against this Regulation.

Arrest of vessel in certain cases.

15. If any peace officer shall find on board any vessel within the Protectorate any arms which are not entered on the log of such vessel such officer may arrest and detain such vessel until such vessel is released by order of the Court and all arms on board such vessel may be forfeited to Her Majesty.

Information to be given as to arms held.

16. Any person owning or having in his possession, charge or control any arms within the Protectorate shall be under an obligation if required by any superior officer to inform such officer of the manner in which the person from whom and the vessel from which such arms were obtained. Any person failing to give this information when required or making false statements on these matters shall be guilty of an offence against this Regulation.

All arms to be accounted for.

17. Any person who shall be proved to have had any arms in his possession or charge or at his disposal within the Protectorate shall be under an obligation to satisfy any superior officer if required that such arms are still in his possession or charge or at his disposal, or have been lawfully disposed of. Any person failing to give this information when required or making false statements on these matters shall be guilty of a breach of this Regulation.

Permission required to hold arms.

18. On and after the first day of October one thousand eight hundred and ninety-seven, and subject to the provisions of section twelve of this Regulation, it shall be unlawful for any person whether ordinarily or temporarily resident in the Protectorate, whether on shore or on board any vessel, to have in his possession, disposition or control any arms without the written permission of the Resident Commissioner who may issue licenses empowering the holders to have in their possession, disposition or control such arms as in the opinion of the Resident Commissioner may be reasonably necessary for the defence of themselves, their families, labourers, crews, vessels, houses, or plantations, or for sporting purposes. Each license shall specify the number, quantity and description of the arms which may be held under it and the Resident Commissioner may at any time for any reason he may think fit revoke such license or increase or diminish

diminish the number or quantity of arms to be held under it. If any arms shall after the said first day of October one thousand eight hundred and ninety-seven be found in the possession, disposition or control of any person not authorised as herein provided to hold the same such person shall be guilty of an offence against this Regulation and all arms in his disposition, possession, or control may be forfeited to Her Majesty.

19. Every person doing or aiding counselling or abetting any other person in doing anything forbidden by this Regulation, and every person failing or refusing or counselling or abetting any other person in failing or refusing to do anything required by this Regulation to be done, shall be liable on conviction for each offence to a fine not exceeding one hundred pounds or to imprisonment not exceeding six months or to both punishments. Penalty

20. If the master or other person employed in connection with any vessel in the Protectorate shall in the course of such employment commit any breach of this Regulation and shall be sentenced to pay a fine or expenses of prosecution in respect of such offence and if such fine be not paid then if notice of the proceedings shall have been given to the master of such vessel such vessel may be detained by order of the Court until such fine or expenses of prosecution are paid together with all expenses incurred in detaining the vessel. And if it shall at any time appear to the Court that the amount of such fine, expenses of prosecution and expenses of detention are likely to exceed the realisable value of such vessel or for any other reason which to the Court may seem good the Court may order that such vessel be sold and the proceeds applied in the first place to the payment of such fine, expenses of prosecution and expenses of detention and the balance to the persons entitled thereto. Vessel may be sold in certain cases in default of payment of fine.

21. The provisions of this Regulation with regard to making returns of arms received, landed or transferred, and with regard to allowing search for arms to be made on board shall not apply to Her Majesty's vessels of war, and section eighteen of this Regulation shall not apply to any person for the time being on the books of any such vessel of war. Her Majesty's ships exempted.

22. Regulation No. 3 of 1893 is hereby repealed so far as it relates to the carriage and sale of arms in the Protectorate. Provided that any offence against such Regulation committed before the coming into force of this Regulation may be dealt with by the Court in the same manner as if Regulation No. 3 of 1893 were still in force in the Protectorate. Partial repeal of Regulation No. 3 of 1893.

23. This Regulation may be cited as "The Solomons (Arms) Regulation 1897."

Published and exhibited in the Public Office of the High Commissioner this twenty-third day of March, 1897.

*By Command,*

WILFRED COLLET,  
Secretary to the High Commissioner.

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