AN ORDINANCE

To amend the Post Office Ordinance

DEREK HODGKINSON

ADMINISTRATOR


BE it enacted by the Administrator of the Sovereign Base Areas of Akrotiri and Dhekelia as follows:

1. This Ordinance may be cited as the Post Office (Amendment) Ordinance, 1971 and shall be read as one with the Post Office Ordinance (hereinafter referred to as “the principal Ordinance”).

2. The principal Ordinance is hereby amended by repealing sections 19 and 20 thereof and substituting the following two new sections therefor:

19.—(1) Subject to the provisions of this section, Customs legislation for the time being in force shall apply in relation to goods contained in postal packets to which this section applies brought into or sent out of the Areas as they apply in relation to goods otherwise imported into or exported out of the Areas.

(a) The Administrator may make Regulations—

(b) for making modifications or exceptions in the application of the said legislation to such packets;
(c) for enabling officers of the Post Office to perform for the purposes of the said legislation and otherwise all or any of the duties of the importer, or exporter of the goods;

(d) for carrying into effect any arrangement with the Government or postal administration of any other country with respect to foreign postal packets;

(e) for securing the observance of the said legislation and, without prejudice to any liability of any person under such legislation, for punishing any contravention of the Regulations,

and different Regulations may be made for foreign and inland postal packets respectively.

(3) The provisions of this Ordinance as to the recovery of the postage or other sums payable in respect of a postal packet shall apply in relation to any Customs duty or other charges payable in respect of a postal packet to which this section applies, whether payable to the Administration or to the Government of any other country and a certificate of the amount of any such duty or other charges purporting to be signed by the Chief Officer or on his behalf by a duly authorised officer of the Administration shall in any legal proceeding for the recovery of the duty or charges be sufficient evidence of the facts stated therein unless the contrary is shown.

(4) For the purposes of this section, "Customs legislation" includes the Ordinances, Regulations and Public Instruments for the time being in force relating to the management of Customs and the Customs tariff.

20.—(1) Without prejudice to the last foregoing section the Chief Officer may detain any postal packet suspected to contain any goods chargeable with any Customs duty which has not been paid or secured or any goods in the course of importation into, or exportation from, the Areas contrary to any prohibition or restriction for the time being in force with respect thereto under or by virtue of any enactment and may forward the packet to the Fiscal Officer.

(2) Where any postal packet has been forwarded to the said Fiscal Officer under subsection (1) of this section, he may-

(a) in the presence of the person to whom the packet is addressed (hereinafter referred to as "the addressee"); or
(b) if after notice in writing from him requiring
attendance of the addressee, that addressee
fails to attend, then in his absence,

open and examine the packet.

(3) Where the Fiscal Officer opens and examines
a packet under subsection (2) of this section, then-

(a) if he finds any such goods as referred to in
subsection (1) of this section he may detain
the packet and its contents for the purpose
of taking proceedings with respect thereto;

(b) if he finds no such goods he shall either
deliver the packet to the addressee upon his
paying any postage and sums chargeable
thereto or, if he is absent, forward the
packet to him by post and the addressee
shall be responsible for paying any relevant
expenses.

(4) For the purposes of this section “Fiscal
Officer” includes any other officer duly authorised
by him in this respect.”.


J.E. CARRUTHERS

Chief Officer.

(119/35A)