AN ORDINANCE
TO PROVIDE FOR THE PROTECTION, HEALTH AND WELFARE OF ANIMALS AND RELATED MATTERS

T.W. RIMMER
ADMINISTRATOR


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

PART I
PRELIMINARY

1. This Ordinance may be cited as the Protection and Welfare of Animals Ordinance 2001.

2. In this Ordinance unless the context otherwise requires -
   "animals" means all species of mammals (other than man), birds, reptiles, amphibians, insects, fish, molluscs and crustaceans;
   "captive animal or animal in captivity" means a wild animal which does not live in its free state but is under human restriction and control;
   "Code of Practice" means any code of practice drawn up, issued and published in accordance with section 22(4);
   "competent authority" means the Chief Officer or any officer authorised by him to act on his behalf for the purposes of this Ordinance;
   "Court" means the Judge’s Court of the Sovereign Base Areas;
   "horse" includes a donkey, mule and any other single-hoofed animal;

Short title.
Interpretation.
"pets" means animals which are kept or intended to be kept by man, mainly in the home, for private enjoyment and company;

"police authorities" means the Chief Constable and every member of the Sovereign Base Areas Police acting on his behalf;

"poultry" includes ostriches;

"stray animal" means a pet animal which is deprived of shelter or is found outside the precincts of the residence of its master or owner or keeper and is not under the control or direct supervision of any master, owner or keeper;

"veterinary surgeon" means any person who is entitled to practise veterinary surgery in the Areas under the provisions of the Veterinary Surgeons Ordinance 1964;

"wild animal" means an animal which in its natural habitat lives in a free state without restriction or control by man;

PART II
GENERAL PROVISIONS

3. - (1) This Ordinance shall apply to pets, captive animals and any other animals which are, in any manner, under human control.

(2) It shall be unlawful for any person, without reasonable cause, to expose or subject any animal to pain, distress, injury or fear.

(3) It shall be unlawful for any person, wilfully and without reasonable cause, to administer or, being the owner or keeper of an animal, to allow the administration of any poison or other harmful substance to an animal, or to cause that substance to be consumed by the animal.

4. - (1) Without prejudice to the generality of the provisions of section 3, it shall be unlawful to subject animals to ill-treatment, neglect or unjustifiable hardship.

(2) In particular it shall be unlawful –

(a) to cause an animal to be subjected in any way to inhumane death;

(b) to kill an animal for purposes of amusement, enjoyment or like purposes and particularly to use animals as practice targets, except in justified cases, as may be prescribed;

(c) to organise fights between or with animals during which the animals are liable to be ill-treated, injured or killed;

(d) to use live animals for the training of dogs or for the control of dogs' aggressiveness, unless the dogs are being trained or tested by means of artificial equipment and under such conditions as may be prescribed;

(e) to use animals for exhibition, advertisement, film production or for similar purposes, if such use causes pain, distress or injury to the animals;

(f) to set free or abandon an animal, whose survival depends upon human care, for the purpose of disposing of the animal;
(g) to remove from an animal its claws, or cut its ears or remove its vocal chords, unless this is done on grounds of health or welfare which have been previously determined by a veterinary surgeon;

(h) to administer substances or to apply therapies to, or to use instruments on, an animal for the purpose of increasing or decreasing its natural abilities, if to do so involves or may involve a risk to the animal’s health or welfare;

(i) to train or force an animal to carry out hard work if such action amounts to torture;

(j) to tie an animal to, or pull an animal by means of, a vehicle in such a way that it may cause distress, injury or hardship to the animal;

(k) to use vehicles or any other means for the loading, transporting and unloading of animals which are inappropriate for these purposes or which are not suitable for the kind or character of the animal to be transported;

(l) to keep animals in vehicles or other means of transport or in premises for prolonged periods of time or in adverse conditions which may cause distress to or fatigue of the animals;

(m) to permit overcrowding of animals in or on any means of transport or in premises so that distress to or fatigue of the animal may be caused;

(n) to use a training collar on a dog, other than for the purposes of training;

(o) to tie an animal on a permanent basis in a way which does not allow free movement or which exposes the animal to the risk of suffocation;

(p) to attach eye shades or to use other devices on birds in order to prevent pecking;

(q) to use a horse for any work, sport, show or similar purposes if the animal is of advanced age, or is ill, weak or emaciated;

(r) to keep live fish on lines or hooks which have pierced the body of the fish or to keep live fish in a closed net which may cause injury to the fish.

5. - (1) Without prejudice to the generality of the provisions of section 3, any person having in his ownership or custody an animal, shall provide it with food, water and care, suitable for its species or category and, where necessary, provide it with shelter.

(2) The freedom of movement necessary for an animal shall not be restricted permanently or without cause in such a way as to cause pain, distress or injury to the animal.

(3) A person having in his ownership or custody a horse of advanced age, which is in poor health, weak or emaciated shall protect and take care of the horse until its death or in accordance with a veterinary surgeon’s directions.

(4) Regulations may prescribe general or specific requirements
for the maintenance of the various species of animals with regard to such matters as the minimum dimensions, and the design, lighting and ventilation of their housing and as to the available feeding space or the number or density of animals housed in groups and as to the means of securing the animals.

6. - (1) For the purpose of protecting the health and welfare of animals, the Chief Officer may make general or special orders, as the case may require, to be published in the Gazette, to regulate any matter or to impose obligations in relation to all or any of the following –

(a) a requirement that professional carers or trainers of animals shall hold a relevant permit, and the procedure and conditions for the issuing of such a permit;

(b) the regular or special veterinary or other examinations to which all animals or a specific category or species of animals shall be subject; or

(c) the regular or special inspection of premises or other places where animals, or a specific category or species of animals are kept, and of the means of transport of animals, or of a specific category or species of animals.

(2) It shall be unlawful for a person to engage professionally in the caring or training of any animal in any manner which is contrary to an order made under subsection (1)(a) above, relating to that species or category of animal.

7. - (1) It shall be unlawful to use live animals for educational purposes, unless a licence is obtained from the competent authority which shall issue such a licence only where it is considered necessary for reasons of professional training.

(2) The use of live animals for research and experimental purposes shall be prohibited, unless such use is authorised under the Animals (Control of Experiments) Law of the Republic, as amended from time to time.

8. - (1) Notwithstanding the provisions of any other Ordinance, regulations may prescribe specified breeding methods which affect the health and welfare of animals to be prohibited, and may prohibit generally or specifically the use of certain biotechnological methods of reproduction and automated intensive methods of feeding and housing, and other similar methods which are not conducive to the health and welfare of animals.

(2) Such regulations may allow for certain breeding and housing methods to continue under a licence issued before the regulations came into force and may provide for a transitional period of time so as to enable existing installations to be gradually upgraded so as to meet new requirements or to cease to be of a kind which are contrary to prohibitions which may be prescribed in such regulations.

PART III
MARKETING, TRANSPORT AND USE OF ANIMALS FOR ADVERTISEMENT AND OTHER PURPOSES

9. - (1) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this Ordinance, regulations may be made to regulate, restrict or prohibit the trading, marketing, hiring or any other related act with regard to certain
categories of animals for the purposes of ensuring the effective protection of the health and welfare of such animals.

(2) Such regulations may allow the trading, marketing, hiring or any other related act, to continue under any licence issued or approval granted to any person before the regulations come into force and may provide for such transitional periods of time as may be necessary to enable businesses or establishments which are in existence when such regulations come into force to comply gradually with the requirements and standards prescribed in such regulations.

10. - (1) No person shall organise public competitions, public exhibitions or shows of animals or display animals to the public for commercial, advertising or decorative purposes without the prior written permission of the competent authority:

Provided that the competent authority, before granting such permission, shall be satisfied that all measures necessary have been taken both for the welfare and the proper treatment of the animals concerned and for the prevention and spread of any infectious or other diseases to animals or human beings who participate in such exhibitions or shows.

(2) An application for such a permission shall be submitted in writing to the competent authority and an application in relation to a zoological or bird garden or similar shall be accompanied by detailed plans of the entire exhibition or show site and the manner in which the exhibition or show will be organised, as well as adequate information regarding the financial arrangements relating thereto.

11. - (1) Animals shall be transported under conditions which ensure that the animals are protected from unnecessary hardship and injury.

(2) Regulations may be made to regulate the loading, transporting, unloading, feeding, watering and supervision of animals being transported as well as the type and construction of the means of transport.

PART IV
TREATMENT, KILLING AND SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS

12. - (1) Notwithstanding the provisions of the Veterinary Surgeons Ordinance, any surgical operation on an animal, which is reasonably expected to cause anxiety, agony or pain to the animal shall be carried out solely by a veterinary surgeon.

(2) Surgical operations on animals which are reasonably expected to cause them pain, shall be carried out under a general or local anaesthetic, unless this is not appropriate for therapeutic purposes.

(3) This section shall not apply to the experimental practices provided for under the Animals (Control of Experiments) Law of the Republic as amended from time to time.

13. In furtherance of the protection of the health and welfare of animals, regulations may be made to regulate, restrict or prohibit certain specified surgical operations upon animals and may provide for justified exemptions from such prohibitions.
14. - (1) It shall be unlawful to slaughter animals unless, prior to initiating bleeding, the animals are anaesthetised sufficiently by using methods in accordance with the provisions of section 15.

(2) With regard to the slaughter of poultry, regulations may provide that anaesthesia shall be compulsory before the initiation of bleeding and may include other provisions including transitional provisions with the object of securing a smooth compliance by stages with such requirements.

15. - (1) The methods of anaesthesia on animals shall, so far as possible, produce an immediate anaesthetic effect and where the anaesthetic effect is not immediate, the method of slaughter used shall be painless.

(2) Specific methods of anaesthesia may be prescribed for various species of mammals, poultry and fish.

16. Notwithstanding the provisions of sections 14 and 15 above, emergency killing or slaughter of animals because of disease, injury, age, aggressiveness or other similarly justifiable causes, may be carried out without anaesthesia but in a way that produces the least possible distress or pain.

PART V

PROVISIONS RELATING TO STRAY ANIMALS

17. - (1) Notwithstanding the provisions of any other Ordinance, where an increase in the numbers of stray animals may entail serious danger to public health and safety, the competent authority may take appropriate measures for reducing their numbers to ecologically acceptable levels.

(2) In the event of an immediate risk of the spread of infectious diseases to either humans or to animals, it shall be lawful, as an exceptional measure, for the competent authority to seize, hold, castrate or kill stray animals for the purpose of implementing any campaigns or programmes under the Contagious Diseases (Animals) Ordinance.

(3) The seizure, keeping, neutering or killing of stray animals shall be carried out in accordance with any prescribed procedures.

PART VI

ADMINISTRATIVE AND PENAL PROVISIONS

18. - (1) Any person who contravenes or aids and abets, counsels or procures another person to contravene any of the provisions of this Ordinance or of any regulations or orders made under it (including regulations deemed to have been so made) or of any condition attaching to a licence, approval or permission granted under this Ordinance, shall be guilty of an offence and, in the case of a first conviction, shall be liable to imprisonment not exceeding twelve months or to a fine not exceeding one thousand pounds (£1,000) or to both such penalties and in the case of a second or subsequent conviction, to imprisonment not exceeding twenty-four months or to a fine not exceeding two thousand pounds (£2,000) or to both such penalties.

(2) The Court may in addition to imposing the penalties provided for by subsection (1) above, deprive the person convicted for such
period as it deems fit, of the right to obtain or renew any licence issued under this Ordinance or of the right to maintain, look after, keep, own, use, trade or hunt any animals, as defined in this Ordinance. In every such case, if the person convicted has in his ownership or custody any such animals, the Court may order that they be slaughtered, sold or otherwise disposed of within such period as the Court may determine in its order.

(3) Where a person sentenced does not comply with such an order of the Court, the order shall be enforced by the Chief Officer, or any person authorised by him and, where necessary, with the aid of the police authorities.

(4) The costs for carrying out the order of the Court under subsection (3) above, shall be borne by the person sentenced and may be recovered as a civil debt owed to the Sovereign Base Areas Administration.

(5) A Court which has ordered withdrawal of any rights under the provisions of subsection (2) above, may postpone its implementation, if it considers it expedient, for as long as there is an appeal pending.

19. Where an offence under this Ordinance committed by a company, co-operative society or other body of persons is proved to have been committed with the consent or connivance of, or to have been facilitated by any neglect on the part of any director, chairman, manager, secretary or other officer of the company, co-operative society or other body of persons, he, as well as the company, co-operative society or other body of persons shall be deemed to be guilty of the offence and shall be liable to be proceeded with and punished accordingly.

20. In any prosecution for an offence under this Ordinance, it shall be a defence for an accused to prove that during the commission of the offence —

(a) he was acting in the capacity of an employee; and

(b) he was acting in good faith obeying directions or orders given to him by or on behalf of his employer.

21. - (1) For the purpose of enforcing compliance with the provisions of this Ordinance or of any regulations or orders made under it, the competent authority and police authorities, jointly or separately, shall have power to take any of the following actions -

(a) to enter any premises where there is reasonable cause to believe that any animals are kept, raised, slaughtered or treated contrary to any of the provisions of this Ordinance or of any regulations or orders made under it;

(b) upon their entry into any premises, to be accompanied by such specialists or other persons as they consider necessary for carrying out their duties;

(c) to inspect, examine and check any animals or any premises and any equipment therein and to carry out such investigations or take such photographs as may be necessary for determining whether any infringement of this Ordinance or of any regulations or orders made under it has occurred or is occurring;
(d) to request the owner or occupier of any premises that they have entered to produce for inspection any books or documents which there is reasonable cause to believe contain information relating to the investigation being carried out;

(e) to require—

(i) the owner or occupier of any premises that they have entered, or

(ii) any person found in the premises upon their entry, or

(iii) any person whom there is reasonable cause to believe has been employed in the premises or had any connection with the activities in the premises at any time during the previous three months,

to give any information he may have or to which he has access which is connected with the purpose of the investigation;

(f) to remove from the premises any animal, article or sample of any substance which may be needed for the purpose of further investigation or as evidence to be used in any prosecution;

(g) to confiscate or detain in an appropriate manner any animal in relation to which there is reasonable suspicion that an offence under this Ordinance has been committed, for the purpose of entrusting the animal’s care temporarily at other premises which are under the control of a person who in the judgement of the competent authority is competent to care for the animal, until its future and the means for its upkeep have been finally decided by the court dealing with the offence or suspected offence in question;

(h) where the confiscation or detention of an animal in the circumstances described in paragraph (g) above is in practice not possible, to take under their exclusive control the premises or a part of the premises in question for the purpose of entrusting the animal’s care temporarily to a person who in the judgement of the competent authority is competent to care for the animal, until its future and the means for its upkeep have been finally decided by the court dealing with the offence or suspected offence in question:

Provided that if the animal concerned is in an irrecoverable state of ill health so that any attempt to prolong its life would not achieve a reasonably acceptable standard of welfare of the animal, or would constitute a direct risk to the health of man or of other animals, the competent authority may, on the joint recommendation of two veterinary surgeons, order the immediate destruction of the animal by one of the generally accepted methods of euthanasia;

(i) to take any other action which is reasonably necessary for fulfilling the objectives and purposes of this Ordinance or of any regulations or orders made under it.

(2) Any person who—
(a) wilfully prevents the competent authority or the police authorities from exercising any duties or powers vested in them by this Ordinance or by any regulations or orders made under it;

(b) wilfully fails to comply within a reasonable time with any direction or demand given, made or lawfully imposed upon him by the competent authority or police authorities under subsection (1) above; or

(c) without reasonable cause fails to provide any other assistance or information reasonably demanded by the competent authority or police authorities in order to carry out their duties in accordance with this Ordinance or any regulations made under it,

commits an offence and on conviction is liable to imprisonment for a period not exceeding six months or to a penalty not exceeding five hundred pounds (£500) or to both such penalties.

(3) No provision in this section shall be construed as imposing an obligation upon a person to answer any question or to give any information by virtue of which he might incriminate himself.

(4) For the purposes of this section, the term “premises” means-

(a) any place where any business, trade or occupation is carried on which is connected with the keeping, raising, breeding, slaughter or treatment of animals;

(b) any place where any books or other documents are kept which are connected with the carrying on of a business, trade or occupation such as is mentioned in paragraph (a) above;

(c) any place where any animals are kept, raised, bred, slaughtered or treated;

(d) any residence, in so far as any part thereof is used for the purpose of carrying on a business, trade or occupation as mentioned in paragraph (a) above or for the purposes of keeping or raising any animal or animals,

and for the purposes of this subsection “place” includes a vehicle, ship or aircraft.

PART VII
MISCELLANEOUS

22. - (1) The Administrator may make regulations for the more effective implementation of the provisions of this Ordinance, and for any matter which under this Ordinance may be prescribed.

(2) In particular and without prejudice to the provisions of subsection (1) above, regulations may provide for all or any of the following matters -

(a) defining conditions regarding the importation, raising, housing, maintenance, training, permanent identification and use of animals of any species or category for commercial, entertainment or advertising purposes or for the purpose of sports;
(b) defining conditions for the transport of animals from places within the Areas to places within or outside the Areas for any purpose or reason;

(c) imposing compulsory registration of premises or places where animals are raised, housed, held or used for commercial, entertainment, advertising purposes or for the purpose of sport;

(d) the processes for rendering animals unconscious or for killing or slaughtering them;

(e) for the seizing, holding, neutering, killing or other disposal of stray, abandoned or starving animals and for the payment of related costs by their owners;

(f) for the necessary preconditions and qualifications of those intending to acquire or possess animals by purchase, donation, prize-winning or otherwise;

(g) specifying the conditions for the importation, exportation or trading, as well as the preconditions for possessing or raising of wild animals in captivity, including the precondition of securing a licence to own such animals;

(h) for the inspection of animals and places of housing or keeping animals on a permanent or temporary basis.

(3) Any regulations made under this Ordinance may make different provisions for different cases or classes of cases, and may contain such incidental, supplementary or transitional provisions as appear to the Administrator to be necessary or expedient for the purposes of this Ordinance or of the regulations.

(4) The Chief Officer may, in consultation with the Director of the Department of Veterinary Services of the Republic, draw up and issue Codes of Practice, to be published in the Gazette, for the more effective operation of any regulations made under this Ordinance.

23. The Cruelty to Animals Ordinance is hereby repealed save that any regulations made thereunder shall be deemed to have been made under this Ordinance and shall accordingly remain in force until revoked or replaced by regulations made under this Ordinance.

6th September 2001

(195/11)

D.J. BONNER,
Chief Officer
ORDINANCE 21 OF 2001

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE SHOP ASSISTANTS ORDINANCE

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 Shop Assistants (Amendment) Ordinance 2001.

2. The Shop Assistants Ordinance, hereafter referred to as “the principal Ordinance”, shall be amended in accordance with sections 3 to 11.

3. In section 2 of the principal Ordinance -
   (a) there shall be inserted after the definition of “shopkeeper” the following definition -
       “summer period” means the period commencing on 1st April in any year and ending on 31st October in that year;” and
   (b) there shall be added after the definition of “week” the following -
       “winter period” means the period commencing on 1st November in any year and ending on 31st March of the following year”.

4. For section 4 of the principal Ordinance there shall be substituted the following -

   “Opening and closing hours of shops.

   4. - (1) Subject to subsection (4) below and to sections 4A, 5, 6 and 6A, a shopkeeper may not open his shop on a Sunday or earlier than 5 a.m. on any other day.

   Short title.

   Amendments to Cap.185 (Laws of Cyprus) (“the principal Ordinance”) and Ordinances 13/79, 15/90.

   Substitution of section 4 of the principal Ordinance.
(2) A shopkeeper may keep his shop open during the winter period until no later than –

(a) 7 p.m. on a Monday, Tuesday or Thursday;
(b) 2 p.m. on a Wednesday;
(c) 8 p.m. on a Friday;
(d) 3 p.m. on a Saturday.

(2) A shopkeeper may keep his shop open during the summer period until no later than –

(a) 8.30 p.m. on a Monday, Tuesday or Thursday;
(b) 2 p.m. on a Wednesday;
(c) 9.30 p.m. on a Friday;
(d) 5 p.m. on a Saturday.

(2) This section shall not apply in relation to a shop which is kept open solely for any of the purposes set out in the First Schedule.”.

5. There shall be inserted after section 4 of the principal Ordinance, the following section –

4A. (1) A shopkeeper may keep his shop open until 8 p.m. on any day (not being a Sunday) in the period commencing on 12th December in any year and ending on 23rd December in that year, and in the period commencing on 27th December in any year and ending on 30th December in that year.

2. A shopkeeper may keep his shop open until 7 p.m. on Christmas Eve and on New Year’s Eve provided that those days do not fall on a Sunday.

3. Subject to section 6A a shopkeeper may keep his shop open until 6.30 p.m. on Good Friday, as observed by the Greek Orthodox Church.

4. For the purposes of this section, any holiday or half-holiday falling within either of the periods mentioned in subsection (1) above or within the ten days preceding Easter Day, as observed by the Greek Orthodox Church, shall be treated as working days.”.

6. For section 5 of the principal Ordinance there shall be substituted the following -

5. A shopkeeper shall close his shop not later than 1 p.m. on two week-days in each week and shall keep it closed and shall not reopen it earlier than 5 a.m. on the day following respectively each of those two week-days:

Provided that this section shall not apply in relation to any shop kept open solely for any of the purposes set out in the First Schedule:
Provided further that a shop in which sanitary articles are sold, shall be kept open on Wednesday half-holidays and be closed all day on Saturdays.”.

7. There shall be inserted after section 6 of the principal Ordinance, the following section –

“Shop holidays.

6A. A shopkeeper shall keep his shop closed each year on the following holidays –

(a) 1st January;
(b) 25th March;
(c) 1st April;
(d) Easter Monday, as observed by the Greek Orthodox Church;
(e) 1st May;
(f) 1st October
(g) 28th October
(h) 25th December
(i) 26th December.”.

8. For section 7 of the principal Ordinance there shall be substituted the following -

“Working hours of shop assistants.

7. -(1) Subject to subsection (2) below, the working hours of shop assistants shall be as follows–

(a) during the period ending 31st December 2001, thirty-nine and a half hours per week;
(b) during the period commencing on 1st January 2002 and ending on 31st December 2002, thirty-nine hours per week;
(c) during the period commencing on 1st January 2003 and ending on 31st December 2003, thirty-eight and a half hours per week;
(d) as from 1st January 2004, thirty-eight hours per week.

(2) A shop assistant who has not attained the age of sixteen years shall not be employed for longer periods than the periods provided by the Children and Young Persons (Employment) Ordinance, excluding periods taken for luncheon.”.

9. For section 8 of the principal Ordinance there shall be substituted the following -

“Working hours to be continuous: free afternoons.

8. -(1) The daily working hours of a shop assistant shall, excluding any afternoon recess period, be continuous.
(2) Where a shop assistant works six days a week, he shall be given each week two afternoons off after 2 p.m., one on the Wednesday and the other on any other working day.

(3) Where a shop assistant works five days a week, he shall be given the Wednesday afternoon off:

Provided that a shop assistant who works in a shop which is open on a Sunday by virtue of section 6 and the Second Schedule, may instead be given the Sunday afternoon off.

10. For section 9 of the principal Ordinance there shall be substituted the following -

"Break for luncheon or recess.

9. A shop assistant shall be entitled to a break of up to one hour for luncheon or rest on each day on which there is no afternoon recess."

11. For section 20 of the principal Ordinance there shall be substituted the following -

"Cap.186 (Laws of Cyprus).

20. Notwithstanding the provisions of the Summer Afternoon Recess Ordinance, or of any regulations made thereunder, a shopkeeper shall, during the period commencing on 15th June in any year and ending on 31st August in that year, keep an afternoon recess from 2 p.m. until 5 p.m.:

Provided that a shopkeeper, shall not keep an afternoon recess on any Saturday falling within the period described above."

12. The following provisions are hereby repealed -

(a) sections 2 and 3 of the Shop Assistants (Amendment) Ordinance 1979;
(b) section 2 of the Shop Assistants (Amendment) Ordinance 1990.

6th September 2001

D.J. BONNER,
Chief Officer