



THE STATUTES OF THE REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE

OFFICIAL SECRETS ACT 1935

2020 REVISED EDITION

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Official Secrets Act 1935

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An Act to prevent the disclosure of official documents and information.

[5 July 1935]

Short title

- 1.** This Act is the Official Secrets Act 1935.

Interpretation

2.—(1) In this Act, unless there is something repugnant in the subject or context —

“armed forces” shall be deemed to include all regular and volunteer forces of Singapore or of Malaysia or any visiting forces lawfully present in Singapore;

“document” includes part of a document;

“drawing” includes any plan, sketch, tracing, painting, print or other pictorial representation;

“model” includes design, pattern and specimen;

“munitions of war” includes the whole or any part of any ship, submarine, aircraft, tank or similar engine, arms and ammunition, bomb, torpedo or mine, intended or adapted for use in war, and any other article, material or device, whether actual or proposed, intended for such use;

“office under the Government” includes any office or employment in or under any department of the Government or any specified organisation and, in the event of war, of the government of any ally of Singapore;

“officer of police” includes any person upon whom the powers of a police officer not below the rank of sergeant are conferred by the Minister under section 18;

“photograph” includes a photographic or process negative and any printed or other pictorial representation or drawing produced in whole or in part by photographic means;

“prohibited place” means —

- (a) any work of defence, arsenal, naval, military or air force establishment, barrack, camp or station, factory, dockyard, mine, minefield, ship or aircraft belonging to or occupied by or on behalf of the armed forces or any telegraph, telephone, wireless or signal station or office so belonging or occupied, and any place belonging to or occupied by or on behalf of the armed forces and used for the purpose of building,

repairing, making, proving, testing or storing any munitions of war, or any photographs, drawings, plans, models or documents relating thereto, or for the purpose of getting or storing any metals, oil, mechanical transport spirit or aviation spirit or minerals of use in time of war;

- (b) any place not belonging to the armed forces where any munitions of war, oil, mechanical transport spirit, aviation spirit, fuel or supplies or any photographs, drawings, models, plans or documents relating thereto, are being made, repaired, gotten or stored under contract with, or with any person on behalf of the armed forces, or otherwise on behalf of the armed forces;
- (c) any place belonging to or used for the purposes of the armed forces which is for the time being declared by the Minister, by order published in the *Gazette*, to be a prohibited place for the purposes of this section on the ground that information with respect thereto, or damage thereto, would be useful to a foreign Power or to an enemy;
- (d) any railway, roadway or channel or other means of communication by land or water (including any bridges, tunnels, piers, works or structures being part thereof, or connected or used therewith), or any beach, foreshore or the whole or any part of the territorial waters of Singapore, or any searchlight, lighthouse, buoy or other navigational aid, or any public building, fire station, aerodrome or air station, or any signal telegraph or radio station, or any place used for gas, water, electricity or engineering works or other works for purposes of a public character, or any place where any munitions of war or oil, mechanical transport spirit, aviation spirit, fuel or supplies or any photographs, drawings, models, plans or documents relating thereto are being made, repaired or stored otherwise than on behalf of the