1970. No. 196 **[C]**

MOTOR VEHICLES (INTERNATIONAL CIRCULATION)

Road Traffic

ORDER IN COUNCIL, DATED 20TH JULY 1970, MADE UNDER SECTION 2 OF THE MOTOR VEHICLES (INTERNATIONAL CIRCULATION) ACT 1952.

BY THE GOVERNOR IN THE PRIVY COUNCIL OF NORTHERN IRELAND

GREY OF NAUNTON

Whereas by Section 2 of the Motor Vehicles (International Circulation) Act 1952(a) (in this Order referred to as "the Act"), it is provided that the Governor of Northern Ireland may make provision in relation to Northern Ireland for any purpose for which provision may be made in relation to Great Britain under Section 1 of the Act;

And whereas a draft of this Order has, in pursuance of Section 2(2) of the Act, been laid before Parliament and approved by resolution of each House of Parliament: *

Now, therefore, I, Ralph Francis Alnwick, Baron Grey of Naunton, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, Knight Commander of the Royal Victorian Order, Officer of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire, Governor of Northern Ireland, by and with the advice of the Privy Council of Northern Ireland, in exercise of the powers conferred on me by Section 2 of the Act, do hereby order as follows:—

Citation, Commencement, Revocation and Interpretation

1.—(1) This Order may be cited as the Motor Vehicles (International Circulation) (Road Traffic) Order (Northern Ireland) 1970 and shall come into operation on 31st August 1970.

(2) The Motor Vehicles (International Circulation) (Road Traffic) (Northern Ireland) Order 1957(b) and the Motor Vehicles (International Circulation) (Road Traffic) (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 1962(c) are hereby revoked.

(3) In this Order "the Ministry" means the Ministry of Home Affairs for Northern Ireland.

Visitors' Driving Permits

2.—(1) Subject to the provisions of this Article, it shall be lawful for a person resident outside the United Kingdom who is temporarily in Northern Ireland and holds—

(*a*) a Convention driving permit, or

(*b*) a domestic driving permit issued in a country outside the United Kingdom, or

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(a) 15 & 16 Geo. 6 and 1 Eliz. 2. c. 39.
(b) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1957, No. 113.
(c) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1962, No. 216.

*Approved by Resolution of the Senate on 23rd June 1970 and by Resolution of the House of Commons on 24th June 1970.

(*c*) a British Forces (BFG) driving licence,

during a period of twelve months from the date of his last entry into the United Kingdom to drive and, except in the case of a holder of a British Forces (BFG) driving licence, be employed in driving, in Northern Ireland a motor vehicle of any class or description which he is authorised by that permit or that licence to drive, notwithstanding that he is not the holder of a driving licence under the Road Traffic Act (Northern Ireland) 1970(**d**).

(2) Subject to the provisions of this Article, it shall be lawful for a person resident outside the United Kingdom who is temporarily in Northern Ireland and holds—

(*a*) a Convention driving permit, or

(*b*) a domestic driving permit issued in a country outside the United Kingdom,

during a period of twelve months from the date of his last entry into the United Kingdom to drive, and be employed in driving, in Northern Ireland a public service vehicle (other than a public service vehicle seating not more than six persons in addition to the driver) or heavy goods vehicle brought temporarily into Northern Ireland which he is authorised by that permit to drive, notwithstanding that he is not the holder of such a licence as is required by Part IV of the Road Traffic Act (Northern Ireland) 1970.

(3) The foregoing provisions of this Article shall be without prejudice to Section 2 of the Road Traffic Act (Northern Ireland) 1970 (which imposes minimum age limits for persons driving motor vehicles of various classes or descriptions therein specified) except that sub-section (3) of that Section (which makes it unlawful for a person under the age of twenty-one years to drive certain heavy motor vehicles) shall not apply in relation to a person driving in pursuance of this Article a motor vehicle brought temporarily into Northern Ireland if he has attained the age of eighteen years.

(4) This Article shall not authorise a person to drive a motor vehicle of any class or description if, in consequence of a conviction or of the order of a Court, he is disqualified from holding a driving licence under the Road Traffic Act (Northern Ireland) 1970 to drive a vehicle of that class or description.

(5) The Ministry may by order withdraw the right conferred by sub-paragraph (*b*) of paragraph (1) or the right conferred by sub-paragraph (*c*) of paragraph (1) or the right conferred by sub-paragraph (*b*) of paragraph (2), or any two or more of those rights, either in the case of all domestic driving permits or British Forces (BFG) driving licences, or in the case of domestic driving permits or British Forces (BFG) driving licences of a description specified in the Order or held by persons of a description so specified.

(6) In this Article—

"Convention driving permit" means a driving permit in the form A in the First Schedule issued under the authority of a country outside the United Kingdom, whether or not that country is a party to the Convention on Road Traffic concluded at Geneva in the year 1949, or a driving permit in the form B in the said Schedule issued under the authority of a country outside the United Kingdom which is a party to the International Convention relative to Motor Traffic concluded at Paris in the year 1926 but not to the Convention of 1949;

(**d**) 1970, c. 2 (N.I.).

"domestic driving permit" in relation to a country outside the United Kingdom means a document issued under the law of that country and authorising the holder to drive motor vehicles, or a specified class or description of motor vehicles, in that country, and includes a driving permit issued by the armed forces of any country outside the United Kingdom for use in some other country outside the United Kingdom;

"British Forces (BFG) driving licence" means a driving licence issued in Germany to members of the British Forces or of the civilian component thereof or to the dependants of such members by the British authorities in that country in such a form and in accordance with such licensing system as may from time to time be approved by those authorities; and "dependants", in relation to such a member of the British Forces or of the civilian component thereof, means any of the following persons, namely:—

(*a*) the wife or husband of that member; and

(*b*) any other person wholly or mainly maintained by him or in his custody, charge or care.

(7) The provisions of this Article which authorise the holder of a permit or a licence to drive a vehicle during a specified period shall not be construed as authorising the driving of a vehicle at a time when the permit or the licence has ceased to be valid.

3.—(1) It shall be lawful—

(*a*) for a member of a visiting force of a country to which Part I of the Visiting Forces Act 1952(e) for the time being applies who holds a driving permit issued under the law of any part of the sending country or issued by the service authorities of the visiting force or

(*b*) for a member of a civilian component of such a visiting force who holds such a driving permit,

to drive, and be employed in driving, in Northern Ireland a motor vehicle of any class or description which he is authorised by that permit to drive, notwithstanding that he is not the holder of a driving licence under the Road Traffic Act (Northern Ireland) 1970.

(2) This Article shall not authorise a person to drive a motor vehicle of any class or description if, in consequence of a conviction or of the order of a court, he is disqualified from holding a driving licence under the Road Traffic Act (Northern Ireland) 1970 to drive a vehicle of that class or description.

(3) This Article shall be without prejudice to Section 2 of the Road Traffic Act (Northern Ireland) 1970 (which imposes age limits on young persons driving motor vehicles) but sub-section (3) of that section (which makes it unlawful for a person under twenty-one to drive certain heavy motor vehicles) shall not apply in relation to a person driving a motor vehicle in pursuance of this Article if he has attained the age of eighteen years.

(4) The interpretative provisions of the Visiting Forces Act 1952 shall apply for the interpretation of this Article.

4. The Second Schedule shall have effect as respects the driving permits referred to in Articles 2 and 3.

(e) 15 & 16 Geo. 6 and 1 Eliz. 2. c. 67.

Lighting of Vehicles brought temporarily into Northern Ireland

5. Regulations under Sections 31 to 42 of the Road Traffic Act (Northern Ireland) 1970 may either wholly or partially, and subject to any conditions, vary, or grant exemptions from the requirements of those Acts in the case of motor vehicles or trailers brought temporarily into Northern Ireland by persons resident outside the United Kingdom or in the case of any class or description of such vehicles.

Given at Government House, Hillsborough, this 20th day of July 1970.

R. W. Porter

W. J. Long

John Dobson

FIRST SCHEDULE

A

Form of International Driving Permit under Convention of 1949

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* *In a permit issued by some other country the name of that country will appear instead and pages 1 and 2 will be drawn up in the language of that country.*

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland*

International Motor Traffic

INTERNATIONAL DRIVING PERMIT

Convention on International Road Traffic of 1949.

Issued at .....

Date .....

Signature or seal of issuing authority

Seal or stamp of authority

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This permit is valid in the territory of all the Contracting States, with the exception of the territory of the Contracting State where issued for the period of one year from the date of issue, for the driving of vehicles included in the category or categories mentioned on the last page of this permit.

List of Contracting States (optional)

It is understood that this permit shall in no way affect the obligation of the holder to conform strictly to the laws and regulations relating to residence or to the exercise of a profession which are in force in each country through which he travels.