

Armed Forces Act 1971

1971 CHAPTER 33

An Act to continue the Army Act 1955 and the Air Force Act 1955, to limit the duration of the Naval Discipline Act 1957, and to amend those Acts and other enactments relating to the armed forces. [27th May 1971]

Modifications etc. (not altering text) C1 Words of enactment omitted under authority of Statute Law Revision Act 1948 (c. 62), s. 3 C2 Act amended (women's services) by Armed Forces Act 1981 (c. 55, SIF 7:1), s. 20, Sch. 3 Pt. I para. 1

PART I

DURATION OF SERVICES ACTS

Textual Amendments

F1

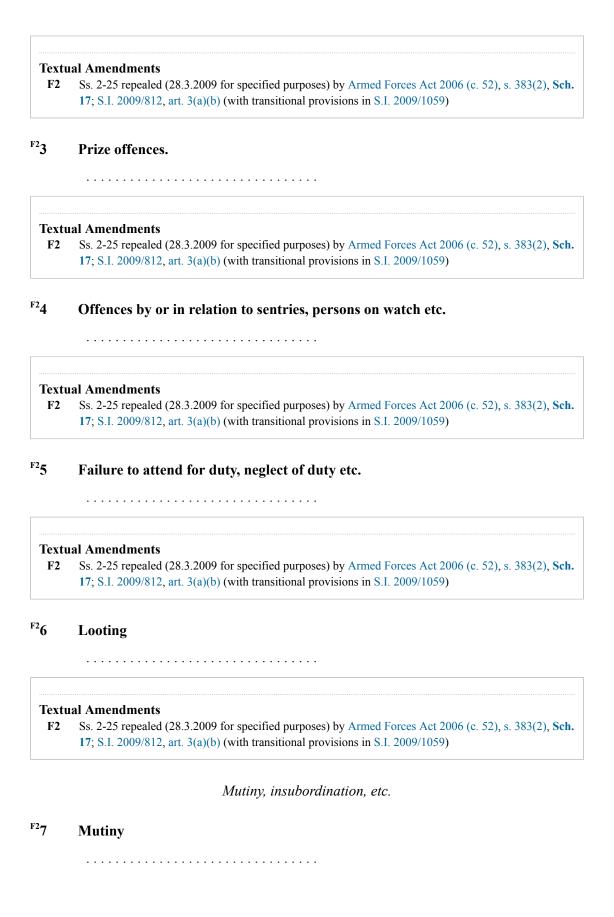
S. 1 repealed by Armed Forces Act 1976 (c. 52, SIF 7:1), ss. 1(5), 22(6), Sch. 10

PART II

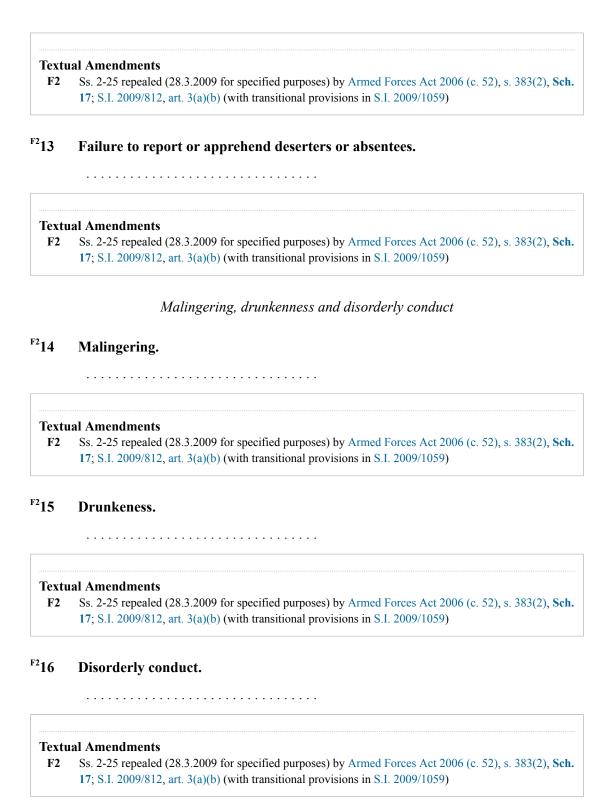
REVISION OF SERVICE OFFENCES AND PUNISHMENTS

Misconduct in action and other offences arising out of military etc. service

F ² 2	Misconduct in action, assisting the enemy, obstructing operations, etc.



Toytu	nal Amendments
F2	Ss. 2-25 repealed (28.3.2009 for specified purposes) by Armed Forces Act 2006 (c. 52), s. 383(2), Sch.
	17; S.I. 2009/812, art. 3(a)(b) (with transitional provisions in S.I. 2009/1059)
F2	
F ² 8	Insurbodinate behaviour, and disobedience to lawful commands.
Toytu	ual Amendments
F2	
r Z	Ss. 2-25 repealed (28.3.2009 for specified purposes) by Armed Forces Act 2006 (c. 52), s. 383(2), Sch. 17; S.I. 2009/812, art. 3(a)(b) (with transitional provisions in S.I. 2009/1059)
^{F2} 9	Obstruction of provost officers etc.
Textu	al Amendments
F2	Ss. 2-25 repealed (28.3.2009 for specified purposes) by Armed Forces Act 2006 (c. 52), s. 383(2), Sch.
	17; S.I. 2009/812, art. 3(a)(b) (with transitional provisions in S.I. 2009/1059)
^{F2} 10	Disobedience to standing orders etc.
Textu	nal Amendments
F2	Ss. 2-25 repealed (28.3.2009 for specified purposes) by Armed Forces Act 2006 (c. 52), s. 383(2), Sch.
	17; S.I. 2009/812, art. 3(a)(b) (with transitional provisions in S.I. 2009/1059)
	Desertion, absence without leave, etc.
Ea	
F211	Desertion.
	al Amendments
F2	Ss. 2-25 repealed (28.3.2009 for specified purposes) by Armed Forces Act 2006 (c. 52), s. 383(2), Sch.
	17; S.I. 2009/812, art. 3(a)(b) (with transitional provisions in S.I. 2009/1059)
^{F2} 12	Absence without leave.
12	Absolice William Lave.



Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Armed Forces Act 1971. (See end of Document for details)

Offences relating to service etc. property

F217 Service etc. property: damage, loss, misapplication and waste.

[F2(1) The following provisions shall be substituted for sections 44 to 46 of the Army Act 1955:—

"Damage to, and loss of, public or service property etc.

- (1) Any person subject to military law who—
 - (a) wilfully damages or causes the loss of, or service is concerned in the wilful damage or loss property of, any public or service property, or any etc. property belonging to another person so subject, or
 - (b) by wilful neglect causes or allows damage to, or the loss of, any public or service property or property so belonging,

shall, on conviction by court-martial, be liable to imprisonment or any less punishment provided by this Act.

- (2) Any person subject to military law who—
 - (a) by any negligent act or omission causes or allows damage to, or the loss of, any public or service property, or
 - (b) is guilty of any wilful or negligent act or omission which is likely to cause damage to, or the loss of, any such property,

shall, on conviction by court-martial, be liable to imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years or any less punishment provided by this Act.

Damage to, loss of, Her Majesty's aircraft or aircraft material.

- (1) Without prejudice to the generality of section 44 above, a person subject to military law shall be guilty of an offence against this section if he—
 - (a) wilfully damages or causes the loss of, or is material. concerned in the wilful damage or loss of, any of Her Majesty's aircraft or aircraft material, or
 - (b) by wilful neglect causes or allows damage to, or the loss of, any of Her Majesty's aircraft or aircraft material, or
 - (c) without lawful authority disposes of any of Her Majesty's aircraft or aircraft material, or
 - (d) by any negligent act or omission causes or allows damage to, or the loss of, any of Her Majesty's aircraft or aircraft material, or
 - (e) is guilty of any wilful or negligent act or omission which is likely to cause damage to, or the loss of, any of Her Majesty's aircraft or aircraft material, or
 - (f) during a state of war, wilfully and without proper occasion, or negligently, causes the sequestration by or under the authority of a neutral state, or the destruction in a neutral state, of any of Her Majesty's aircraft.
- (2) A person guilty of an offence against this section shall, on conviction by court-martial, be liable—
 - (a) if his offence consisted in an act or omission falling within paragraph (a), (b) or (c) of subsection (1), or if it consisted in an act

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- or omission falling within paragraph (f) of that subsection and it is proved that he acted wilfully or with wilful neglect, to imprisonment or any less punishment provided by this Act;
- (b) in any other case, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years or any less punishment provided by this Act.

Misapplication and waste of public or service property.

Any person subject to military law who misapplies or wastefully expends any public or service property shall, on conviction by court-martial, be liable to imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years or any less punishment provided by this Act.

Offences relating to issues and decorations.

- (1) Any person subject to military law makes away with (whether by pawning, selling, destroying or in any other way), or loses, or by negligence damages or allows to be damaged—
 - (a) any clothing, arms, ammunition or other equipment issued to him for his use for military purposes, or
 - (b) any military, air-force or naval decoration granted to him, shall, on conviction by court-martial, be liable to imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years or any less punishment provided by this Act.
- (2) It shall be a defence for a person charged under this section with losing any property that he took reasonable steps for its care and preservation."]
- (2) The provisions set out in subsection (1) above shall also be substituted for sections 44 to 46 of the Air Force Act 1955, but modified for that purpose by the substitution throughout of "air-force law" for "military law" and, in the provision to become section 46 of that Act, of "air-force purposes" for "military purposes" and "air-force, military or naval decoration" for "military, air-force or naval decoration".
- (3) The provisions set out in subsection (1) above and numbered there as sections 44, 44A and 45 shall also be substituted for sections 29 and 30 of the Naval Discipline Act 1957, being numbered as sections 29, 29A and 30 of that Act respectively, and being modified for that purpose by the substitution throughout of "person subject to this Act" for "person subject to military law" and of "punishment authorised by this Act" for "punishment provided by this Act", by the substitution, in the provision to become section 29A, of "29" for "44", and by the omission throughout of "on conviction by court-martial".

Textual Amendments

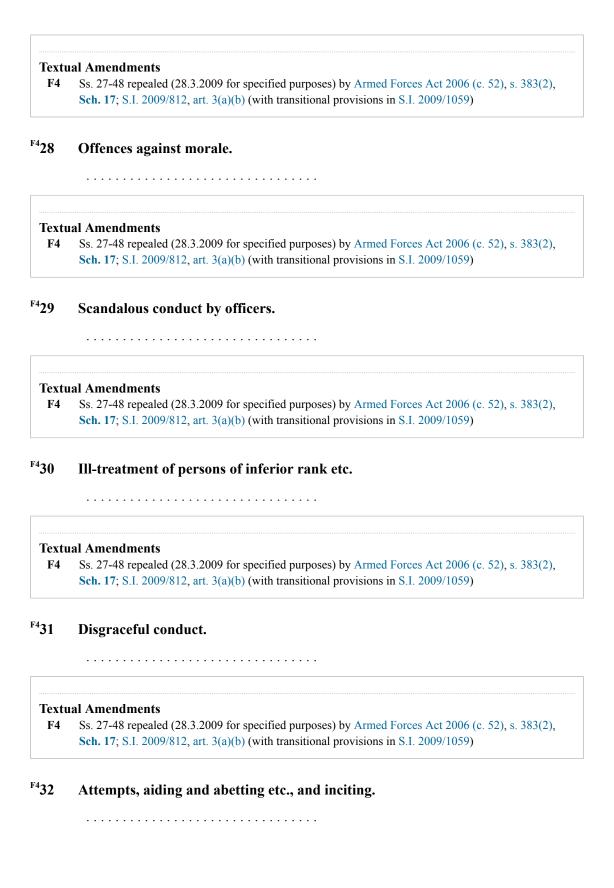
F2 Ss. 2-25 repealed (28.3.2009 for specified purposes) by Armed Forces Act 2006 (c. 52), s. 383(2), Sch. 17; S.I. 2009/812, art. 3(a)(b) (with transitional provisions in S.I. 2009/1059)

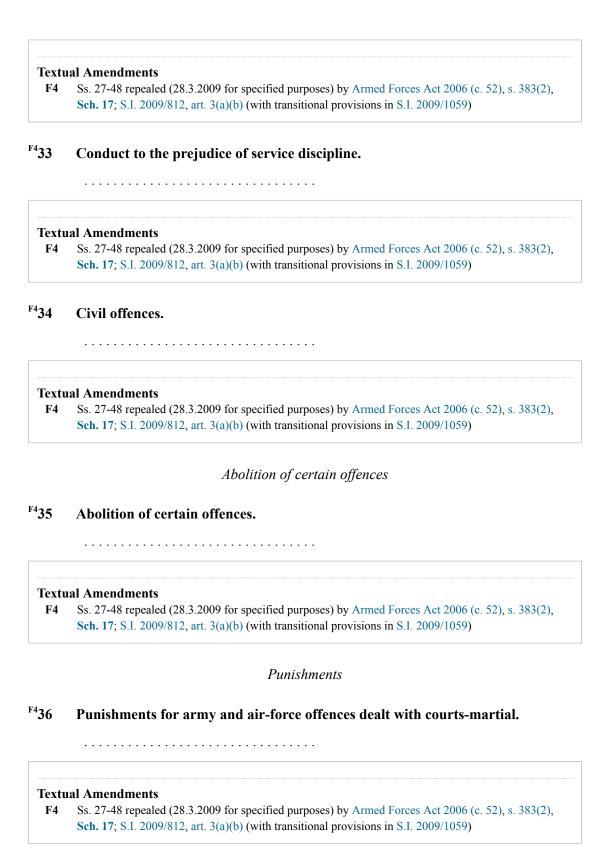
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Billeting offences

F ² 18	Billeting offences.
	nal Amendments
F2	Ss. 2-25 repealed (28.3.2009 for specified purposes) by Armed Forces Act 2006 (c. 52), s. 383(2), Sch. 17; S.I. 2009/812, art. 3(a)(b) (with transitional provisions in S.I. 2009/1059)
	Navigation and flying offences etc.
^{F2} 19	Loss or hazarding of ship.
Textı	ual Amendments
F2	Ss. 2-25 repealed (28.3.2009 for specified purposes) by Armed Forces Act 2006 (c. 52), s. 383(2), Sch. 17; S.I. 2009/812, art. 3(a)(b) (with transitional provisions in S.I. 2009/1059)
F2 20	Inaccurate certification of ships and aircraft.
Textu	ual Amendments
F2	Ss. 2-25 repealed (28.3.2009 for specified purposes) by Armed Forces Act 2006 (c. 52), s. 383(2), Sch. 17; S.I. 2009/812, art. 3(a)(b) (with transitional provisions in S.I. 2009/1059)
^{F2} 21	Low flying and annoyance by flying.
Textı	ual Amendments
F2	Ss. 2-25 repealed (28.3.2009 for specified purposes) by Armed Forces Act 2006 (c. 52), s. 383(2), Sch. 17; S.I. 2009/812, art. 3(a)(b) (with transitional provisions in S.I. 2009/1059)
	Offences relating to, and by, persons in custody
F222	Permitting escape, resisting arrest, and escaping.

Textu	nal Amendments
F2	Ss. 2-25 repealed (28.3.2009 for specified purposes) by Armed Forces Act 2006 (c. 52), s. 383(2), Sch. 17; S.I. 2009/812, art. 3(a)(b) (with transitional provisions in S.I. 2009/1059)
	Miscellaneous offences
F223	Offences in relation to courts-martial.
Textu F2	ral Amendments Ss. 2-25 repealed (28.3.2009 for specified purposes) by Armed Forces Act 2006 (c. 52), s. 383(2), Sch. 17; S.I. 2009/812, art. 3(a)(b) (with transitional provisions in S.I. 2009/1059)
^{F2} 24	Unauthorised disclosure of information.
Textu F2	Ss. 2-25 repealed (28.3.2009 for specified purposes) by Armed Forces Act 2006 (c. 52), s. 383(2), Sch. 17; S.I. 2009/812, art. 3(a)(b) (with transitional provisions in S.I. 2009/1059)
^{F2} 25	False statements on entry into Royal Navy.
Textu F2	ral Amendments Ss. 2-25 repealed (28.3.2009 for specified purposes) by Armed Forces Act 2006 (c. 52), s. 383(2), Sch. 17; S.I. 2009/812, art. 3(a)(b) (with transitional provisions in S.I. 2009/1059)
^{F3} 26	•••••
Textu F3	nal Amendments S. 26 repealed (31.1.1997) by 1995 c. 38, s. 15(2), Sch. 2 (with ss. 6(4)(5), 14); S.I. 1996/3217, art. 2
^{F4} 27	Offences against civilian population.





^{F4} 37	Punishments for army and air-force offences dealt with summarily.
Texti	ual Amendments
F4	Ss. 27-48 repealed (28.3.2009 for specified purposes) by Armed Forces Act 2006 (c. 52), s. 383(2), Sch. 17 ; S.I. 2009/812, art. 3(a)(b) (with transitional provisions in S.I. 2009/1059)
^{F4} 38	Punishments for naval offences.
Textu	ual Amendments
F4	Ss. 27-48 repealed (28.3.2009 for specified purposes) by Armed Forces Act 2006 (c. 52), s. 383(2), Sch. 17; S.I. 2009/812, art. 3(a)(b) (with transitional provisions in S.I. 2009/1059)
^{F4} 39	Imprisonment and detention: consecutive terms.
Textı	ual Amendments
F4	Ss. 27-48 repealed (28.3.2009 for specified purposes) by Armed Forces Act 2006 (c. 52), s. 383(2), Sch. 17 ; S.I. 2009/812, art. 3(a)(b) (with transitional provisions in S.I. 2009/1059)
^{F4} 40	Detention for army and air-force offences: limitation of total period.
Textı	ual Amendments
F4	Ss. 27-48 repealed (28.3.2009 for specified purposes) by Armed Forces Act 2006 (c. 52), s. 383(2), Sch. 17 ; S.I. 2009/812, art. 3(a)(b) (with transitional provisions in S.I. 2009/1059)
	Other provisions
^{F4} 41	Time for trial of offences under s. 42 of Naval Discipline Act 1957.
Textı	ual Amendments
F4	Ss. 27-48 repealed (28.3.2009 for specified purposes) by Armed Forces Act 2006 (c. 52), s. 383(2), Sch. 17 ; S.I. 2009/812, art. 3(a)(b) (with transitional provisions in S.I. 2009/1059)

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Part III – REVISION OF PROCEDURAL PROVISIONS, AND OTHER MATTERS RELATING TO SERVICE OFFENCES AND PUNISHMENTS

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Textual Amendments

F4 Ss. 27-48 repealed (28.3.2009 for specified purposes) by Armed Forces Act 2006 (c. 52), s. 383(2), Sch. 17; S.I. 2009/812, art. 3(a)(b) (with transitional provisions in S.I. 2009/1059)

F447 Amendments as to summary trial for naval offences.

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Textual Amendments

F4 Ss. 27-48 repealed (28.3.2009 for specified purposes) by Armed Forces Act 2006 (c. 52), s. 383(2), Sch. 17; S.I. 2009/812, art. 3(a)(b) (with transitional provisions in S.I. 2009/1059)

F448 Amendments as to convening or ordering of court-martial.

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Textual Amendments

F4 Ss. 27-48 repealed (28.3.2009 for specified purposes) by Armed Forces Act 2006 (c. 52), s. 383(2), Sch. 17; S.I. 2009/812, art. 3(a)(b) (with transitional provisions in S.I. 2009/1059)

49 Amendments as to procedure of courts-martial, and evidence in naval disciplinary courts.

F5(1)																
F5(0)																

(3) Section 6(1) of the MICriminal Evidence Act 1898 (which applies that Act to all criminal proceedings, including proceedings in courts-martial) shall be amended by inserting after the words "courts-martial" the words "under the Army Act 1955 and the Air Force Act 1955, and proceedings in courts-martial and disciplinary courts under the Naval Discipline Act 1957".

Textual Amendments

F5 S. 49(1)(2) repealed (28.3.2009 for specified purposes, 31.10.2009 in so far as not already in force) by Armed Forces Act 2006 (c. 52), s. 383(2), Sch. 17; S.I. 2009/812, art. 3(a)(b) (with transitional provisions in S.I. 2009/1059); S.I. 2009/1167, art. 4; S.I. 2009/812, art. 3(a)(b) (with transitional provisions in S.I. 2009/1059); S.I. 2009/1167, art. 4

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

C3 The text of ss. 2–25, 27–32, 34–50, 52, 53, 55–63, 65, 66, 68, 70–75, 77(1), Schs. 2, 4 is in the form in which it was originally enacted: it was not reproduced in Statutes in Force and does not reflect any amendments or repeals which may have been made prior to 1.2.1991.

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Marş M1	zinal Citations 1898 c. 36.
^{F6} 50	Army and air force courts-martial: amendments as to revision and confirmation of findings.
Textu F6	sal Amendments Ss. 50-68 repealed (28.3.2009 for specified purposes, 31.10.2009 in so far as not already in force) by Armed Forces Act 2006 (c. 52), s. 383(2), Sch. 17; S.I. 2009/812, art. 3(a)(b) (with transitional provisions in S.I. 2009/1059); S.I. 2009/1167, art. 4
^{F6} 51	Naval findings and sentences: amendments as to reviewing authorities.
Textu F6	sal Amendments Ss. 50-68 repealed (28.3.2009 for specified purposes, 31.10.2009 in so far as not already in force) by Armed Forces Act 2006 (c. 52), s. 383(2), Sch. 17; S.I. 2009/812, art. 3(a)(b) (with transitional provisions in S.I. 2009/1059); S.I. 2009/1167, art. 4
^{F6} 52	Countries for serving of naval sentences of imprisonment and detention.
F6	ss. 50-68 repealed (28.3.2009 for specified purposes, 31.10.2009 in so far as not already in force) by Armed Forces Act 2006 (c. 52), s. 383(2), Sch. 17; S.I. 2009/812, art. 3(a)(b) (with transitional provisions in S.I. 2009/1059); S.I. 2009/1167, art. 4
^{F6} 53	Commencement of naval sentences of imprisonment and detention.
Textu F6	sal Amendments Ss. 50-68 repealed (28.3.2009 for specified purposes, 31.10.2009 in so far as not already in force) by Armed Forces Act 2006 (c. 52), s. 383(2), Sch. 17; S.I. 2009/812, art. 3(a)(b) (with transitional provisions in S.I. 2009/1059); S.I. 2009/1167, art. 4

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Textual Amendments

F6 Ss. 50-68 repealed (28.3.2009 for specified purposes, 31.10.2009 in so far as not already in force) by Armed Forces Act 2006 (c. 52), s. 383(2), **Sch. 17**; S.I. 2009/812, art. 3(a)(b) (with transitional provisions in S.I. 2009/1059); S.I. 2009/1167, art. 4

F655 Amendment of Naval Discipline Act 1957 as respects effect of taking offences into consideration.

Textual Amendments

F6 Ss. 50-68 repealed (28.3.2009 for specified purposes, 31.10.2009 in so far as not already in force) by Armed Forces Act 2006 (c. 52), s. 383(2), **Sch. 17**; S.I. 2009/812, art. 3(a)(b) (with transitional provisions in S.I. 2009/1059); S.I. 2009/1167, art. 4

F656 Amendments as to deserters and absentees without leave.

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Textual Amendments

Ss. 50-68 repealed (28.3.2009 for specified purposes, 31.10.2009 in so far as not already in force) by Armed Forces Act 2006 (c. 52), s. 383(2), Sch. 17; S.I. 2009/812, art. 3(a)(b) (with transitional provisions in S.I. 2009/1059); S.I. 2009/1167, art. 4

F657 Addition to Naval Discipline Act 1957 of provisions as to proof of proceedings.

Textual Amendments

Ss. 50-68 repealed (28.3.2009 for specified purposes, 31.10.2009 in so far as not already in force) by Armed Forces Act 2006 (c. 52), s. 383(2), **Sch. 17**; S.I. 2009/812, art. 3(a)(b) (with transitional provisions in S.I. 2009/1059); S.I. 2009/1167, art. 4

Fees for copies of proceedings of army and air-force courts-martial.

Textual Amendments

F6 Ss. 50-68 repealed (28.3.2009 for specified purposes, 31.10.2009 in so far as not already in force) by Armed Forces Act 2006 (c. 52), s. 383(2), **Sch. 17**; S.I. 2009/812, art. 3(a)(b) (with transitional provisions in S.I. 2009/1059); S.I. 2009/1167, art. 4

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Armed Forces Act 1971. (See end of Document for details)

PART IV

FORFEITURE OF PAY ETC. AND DEDUCTIONS FROM PAY

^{F6} 59	Army and air force : new provisions for deductions in respect of judgement debts etc.													
Text	ıal Amendments													
F6	Ss. 50-68 repealed (28.3.2009 for specified purposes, 31.10.2009 in so far as not already in force) by Armed Forces Act 2006 (c. 52), s. 383(2), Sch. 17 ; S.I. 2009/812, art. 3(a)(b) (with transitional provisions in S.I. 2009/1059); S.I. 2009/1167, art. 4													
^{F6} 60	Navy: amendments as to forefeitures for illegal absence.													
Texti	ual Amendments													
F6	Ss. 50-68 repealed (28.3.2009 for specified purposes, 31.10.2009 in so far as not already in force) by Armed Forces Act 2006 (c. 52), s. 383(2), Sch. 17 ; S.I. 2009/812, art. 3(a)(b) (with transitional provisions in S.I. 2009/1059); S.I. 2009/1167, art. 4													
^{F6} 61	Navy: new provisions as to forfeitures and deductions generally, and as to deductions for civil penalties, judgement debts etc.													
Textı	ual Amendments													
F6	Ss. 50-68 repealed (28.3.2009 for specified purposes, 31.10.2009 in so far as not already in force) by Armed Forces Act 2006 (c. 52), s. 383(2), Sch. 17 ; S.I. 2009/812, art. 3(a)(b) (with transitional provisions in S.I. 2009/1059); S.I. 2009/1167, art. 4													
^{F6} 62	Amendments of provisions as to service of process in maitenance proceedings.													
Text	ual Amendments													
F6	Ss. 50-68 repealed (28.3.2009 for specified purposes, 31.10.2009 in so far as not already in force) by Armed Forces Act 2006 (c. 52), s. 383(2), Sch. 17 ; S.I. 2009/812, art. 3(a)(b) (with transitional													

provisions in S.I. 2009/1059); S.I. 2009/1167, art. 4

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Armed Forces Act 1971. (See end of Document for details)

$PART\ V$

MISCELLANEOUS AMENDMENTS

Minimum age for enlistment or entry without parental etc. consent.												
al Amendments												
Ss. 50-68 repealed (28.3.2009 for specified purposes, 31.10.2009 in so far as not already in force) by Armed Forces Act 2006 (c. 52), s. 383(2), Sch. 17 ; S.I. 2009/812, art. 3(a)(b) (with transitional provisions in S.I. 2009/1059); S.I. 2009/1167, art. 4												
Purchase of discharge from army and air force.												
al Amendments												
Ss. 50-68 repealed (28.3.2009 for specified purposes, 31.10.2009 in so far as not already in force) by Armed Forces Act 2006 (c. 52), s. 383(2), Sch. 17 ; S.I. 2009/812, art. 3(a)(b) (with transitional provisions in S.I. 2009/1059); S.I. 2009/1167, art. 4												
Forefeiture of service for naval deserters.												
al Amendments												
Ss. 50-68 repealed (28.3.2009 for specified purposes, 31.10.2009 in so far as not already in force) by Armed Forces Act 2006 (c. 52), s. 383(2), Sch. 17 ; S.I. 2009/812, art. 3(a)(b) (with transitional provisions in S.I. 2009/1059); S.I. 2009/1167, art. 4												
Redress of complaints.												
al Amendments												
Ss. 50-68 repealed (28.3.2009 for specified purposes, 31.10.2009 in so far as not already in force) by Armed Forces Act 2006 (c. 52), s. 383(2), Sch. 17 ; S.I. 2009/812, art. 3(a)(b) (with transitional provisions in S.I. 2009/1059); S.I. 2009/1167, art. 4												
Naval billeting and requisitioning.												
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Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Armed Forces Act 1971. (See end of Document for details)

Textu	ıal Amendments
F6	Ss. 50-68 repealed (28.3.2009 for specified purposes, 31.10.2009 in so far as not already in force)
	by Armed Forces Act 2006 (c. 52), s. 383(2), Sch. 17; S.I. 2009/812, art. 3(a)(b) (with transitional
	provisions in S.I. 2009/1059); S.I. 2009/1167, art. 4
68	Reductions in rank under Army Act 1955 and Air Force Act 1955.
Toytı	ual Amendments
F6	Ss. 50-68 repealed (28.3.2009 for specified purposes, 31.10.2009 in so far as not already in force)
	by Armed Forces Act 2006 (c. 52), s. 383(2), Sch. 17 ; S.I. 2009/812, art. 3(a)(b) (with transitional
	provisions in S.I. 2009/1059); S.I. 2009/1167, art. 4
9	
((1)
Toytu	ual Amendments
F7	S. 69(1)(2) repealed by Reserve Forces Act 1980 (c. 9, SIF 7:2), s. 157, Sch. 10 Pt. II
⁸ 70	Taking of affidavits and declarations abroad.
Texti	ual Amendments
F8	Ss. 70-72 repealed (28.3.2009 for specified purposes, 31.10.2009 in so far as not already in force)
1.0	
го	by Armed Forces Act 2006 (c. 52), s. 383(2), Sch. 17; S.I. 2009/812, art. 3(a)(b) (with transitional

Textual Amendments

F8 Ss. 70-72 repealed (28.3.2009 for specified purposes, 31.10.2009 in so far as not already in force) by Armed Forces Act 2006 (c. 52), s. 383(2), Sch. 17; S.I. 2009/812, art. 3(a)(b) (with transitional provisions in S.I. 2009/1059); S.I. 2009/1167, art. 4

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Armed Forces Act 1971. (See end of Document for details)

Application of Army Act 1955 and Air Force Act 1955 to passengers in H.M.
ships and aircraft.

Textual Amendments

F8 Ss. 70-72 repealed (28.3.2009 for specified purposes, 31.10.2009 in so far as not already in force) by Armed Forces Act 2006 (c. 52), s. 383(2), Sch. 17; S.I. 2009/812, art. 3(a)(b) (with transitional provisions in S.I. 2009/1059); S.I. 2009/1167, art. 4

73 Appeal against sentence by civilians.

- (1) The M2Courts-Martial (Appeals) Act 1968 (under which appeals to the Courts-Martial Appeal Court are confined to appeals against conviction) shall be amended in accordance with subsections (2) and (3) below.
- (2) In section 8—
 - (a) at the end of subsection (1) (which confers the right of appeal) there shall be added the words "and, if he was a civilian (as defined in subsection (5) below) both at the time of his conviction and when the offence was committed, may also with the leave of the Court appeal against his sentence, unless it is one fixed by law", and
 - (b) the following subsection shall be added after subsection (4)—
 - "(5) In this section "civilian" means any person who is not subject to service law (meaning military law, air-force law and the Naval Discipline Act) and any person within section 208A or 209 of the Army Act, section 208A or 209 of the Air Force Act or section 117 or 118 of the Naval Discipline Act (which apply certain provisions of those Acts to passengers in Her Majesty's ships and aircraft, persons employed by or accompanying Her Majesty's forces, families of members of those forces etc.)."

F9(.	3)																

(4) The provisions of Schedule 2 to this Act shall have effect, being provisions making in the said Act of 1968 and the other enactments there specified amendments consequential on, or otherwise connected with, the preceding provisions of this section.

Textual Amendments

F9 S. 73(3) repealed (28.3.2009 for specified purposes, 31.10.2009 in so far as not already in force) by Armed Forces Act 2006 (c. 52), s. 383(2), **Sch. 17**; S.I. 2009/812, art. 3(a)(b) (with transitional provisions in S.I. 2009/1059); S.I. 2009/1167, art. 4

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

C4 The text of ss. 2–25, 27–32, 34–50, 52, 53, 55–63, 65, 66, 68, 70–75, 77(1), Schs. 2, 4 is in the form in which it was originally enacted: it was not reproduced in Statutes in Force and does not reflect any amendments or repeals which may have been made prior to 1.2.1991.

Status: Point in time view as at 01/10/2012.

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Armed Forces Act 1971. (See end of Document for details)

Marg M2	inal Citations 1968 c. 20.
^{F10} 74	Meaning of "active service" in Naval Discipline Act 1957.
Textu	al Amendments
F10	S. 74 repealed (28.3.2009 for specified purposes, 31.10.2009 in so far as not already in force) by Armed Forces Act 2006 (c. 52), s. 383(2), Sch. 17 ; S.I. 2009/812, art. 3(a)(b) (with transitional provisions in S.I. 2009/1059); S.I. 2009/1167, art. 4
75	Amendments for introducing naval rate, and marine rank, of warrant officer.
	The enactments specified in Schedule 3 to this Act shall have effect subject to the amendments specified in that Schedule, being amendments connected with the introduction of the naval rate, and the marine rank, of warrant officer.
Modif C5	fications etc. (not altering text) The text of ss. 2–25, 27–32, 34–50, 52, 53, 55–63, 65, 66, 68, 70–75, 77(1), Schs. 2, 4 is in the form in which it was originally enacted: it was not reproduced in Statutes in Force and does not reflect any amendments or repeals which may have been made prior to 1.2.1991.
^{F11} 76	Sufficency of evidence in Scottish courts.
Textu F11	al Amendments S. 76 repealed (28.3.2009 for specified purposes, 31.10.2009 in so far as not already in force) by Armed Forces Act 2006 (c. 52), s. 383(2), Sch. 17 ; S.I. 2009/812, art. 3(a)(b) (with transitional provisions in S.I. 2009/1059); S.I. 2009/1167, art. 4
	PART VI
	SUPPLEMENTAL
77	Repeals and transitional provisions.
(1) The enactments specified in Schedule 4 to this Act (Part II of which includes certain enactments which are spent) are hereby repealed to the extent specified in column 3 of that Schedule.
F12(2)

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Armed Forces Act 1971. (See end of Document for details)

Textual Amendments

F12 S. 77(2) repealed (28.3.2009 for specified purposes, 31.10.2009 in so far as not already in force) by Armed Forces Act 2006 (c. 52), s. 383(2), **Sch. 17**; S.I. 2009/812, art. 3(a)(b) (with transitional provisions in S.I. 2009/1059); S.I. 2009/1167, art. 4

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

C6 The text of ss. 2–25, 27–32, 34–50, 52, 53, 55–63, 65, 66, 68, 70–75, 77(1), Schs. 2, 4 is in the form in which it was originally enacted: it was not reproduced in Statutes in Force and does not reflect any amendments or repeals which may have been made prior to 1.2.1991.

78 Short title, construction and commencement.

- (1) This Act may be cited as the Armed Forces Act 1971.
- (2) Except so far as the context otherwise requires, any reference in this Act to any other enactment is a reference to that enactment as amended by or under any subsequent enactment, including an enactment contained in this Act.
- (3) This Act, except section 1 and this section, shall come into force on such date as the Secretary of State may by order made by statutory instrument appoint, but subject to the qualifications specified in subsection (4) below.
- (4) The said qualifications are as follows:—
 - (a) the following provisions of this Act, that is to say, Part II, section 69, Schedule 1 and Part I of Schedule 4, shall not have effect in relation to any act or omission occurring before the date appointed under subsection (3) above, and, in particular, shall not affect the operation of any enactment in force immediately before that date in relation to any offence against any such enactment committed, or partly committed, before that date;
 - (b) the provisions to become sections 128B and 128C of the M3Naval Discipline Act 1957 by virtue of section 61(1) of this Act shall apply only to sums payable under sentences and orders awarded or made in respect of offences committed on or after the date appointed under subsection (3) above, or, as the case may be, to loss or damage occasioned by acts and omissions occurring on or after that date;
 - (c) the provision to become section 129D of the M4Naval Discipline Act 1957 by virtue of section 65 of this Act shall apply only to desertions beginning on or after the date appointed under subsection (3) above, and the amendment of section 75(1) of that Act effected by section 60 of this Act and Part II of Schedule 4 shall have effect only in relation to absences so beginning.
- (5) Section 59 of this Act, the provision to become section 128E of the M5Naval Discipline Act 1957 by virtue of section 61(1) of this Act, and section 61(2) of this Act, shall each apply to liabilities arising before, as well as after, the date appointed under subsection (3) above.

Marginal Citations

M3 1957 c. 53.

M4 1957 c. 53.

Status: Point in time view as at 01/10/2012.

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Armed Forces Act 1971. (See end of Document for details)

M5 1957 c. 53.

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Armed Forces Act 1971. (See end of Document for details)

	F13SCHEDULE 1 Section 43
1	Atual Amendments 13 Sch. 1 repealed (28.3.2009 for specified purposes, 31.10.2009 in so far as not already in force) by Armed Forces Act 2006 (c. 52), s. 383(2), Sch. 17; S.I. 2009/812, art. 3(a)(b) (with transitional provisions in S.I. 2009/1059); S.I. 2009/1167, art. 4
	SCHEDULE 2 Section 73
	AMENDMENTS ABOUT APPEALS AGAINST SENTENCE
Mo C	odifications etc. (not altering text) The text of ss. 2–25, 27–32, 34–50, 52, 53, 55–63, 65, 66, 68, 70–75, 77(1), Schs. 2, 4 is in the form in which it was originally enacted: it was not reproduced in Statutes in Force and does not reflect any amendments or repeals which may have been made prior to 1.2.1991.
	Courts-Martial (Appeals) Act 1968
1	(1) The M6 Courts-Martial (Appeals) Act 1968 shall be amended as follows.
	F14(2) · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
	F14(3)
	F14(4)
	F14(5)
	F15(6) · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
	(7) In section 34, the words "under subsection (1) above" shall be substituted for the words "this section" in subsection (2), and the following subsection shall be added after subsection (3):—
	"(4) Where a person convicted by court-martial is a civilian as defined in section 8(5) of this Act, the Secretary of State may, if consideration thereo by the Appeal Court appears to him for any reason desirable, refer the sentence of the court-martial to the Court; and any such reference shall be

treated as an appeal by the person convicted against sentence for all purposes

except those of section 32 of this Act".

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Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Armed Forces Act 1971. (See end of Document for details)

Textual Amendments

- **F14** Sch. 2 para. 1(2)-(5) repealed (28.3.2009 for specified purposes, 31.10.2009 in so far as not already in force) by Armed Forces Act 2006 (c. 52), s. 383(2), **Sch. 17**; S.I. 2009/812, art. 3(a)(b) (with transitional provisions in S.I. 2009/1059); S.I. 2009/1167, art. 4
- F15 Sch. 2 para. 1(6) omitted (1.10.2012) by virtue of Legal Aid, Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders Act 2012 (c. 10), s. 151(1), Sch. 8 para. 8 (with Sch. 8 Pt. 3); S.I. 2012/2412, art. 2(h)
- **F16** Sch. 2 para. 1(8) repealed (1.4.2005) by Courts Act 2003 (c. 39), s. 110(1), **Sch. 10**; S.I. 2005/910, art. 3(aa)

Marginal Citations

M6 1968 c. 20.

The Army Act 1955 and the Air Force Act 1955

F172

Textual Amendments

F17 Sch. 2 para. 2 repealed (28.3.2009 for specified purposes, 31.10.2009 in so far as not already in force) by Armed Forces Act 2006 (c. 52), s. 383(2), Sch. 17; S.I. 2009/812, art. 3(a)(b) (with transitional provisions in S.I. 2009/1059); S.I. 2009/1167, art. 4

The Naval Discipline Act 1957

F183

Textual Amendments

F18 Sch. 2 para. 3 repealed (28.3.2009 for specified purposes, 31.10.2009 in so far as not already in force) by Armed Forces Act 2006 (c. 52), s. 383(2), **Sch. 17**; S.I. 2009/812, art. 3(a)(b) (with transitional provisions in S.I. 2009/1059); S.I. 2009/1167, art. 4

SCHEDULE 3

Section 75.

AMENDMENTS FOR INTRODUCING NAVAL RATE, AND MARINE RANK, OF WARRANT OFFICER

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

C8 The text of ss. 26, 33, 54, 67(3), 76, Schs. 1, 3 is in the form in which it was originally enacted: it was not reproduced in Statutes in Force and, except as specified, does not reflect any amendments or repeals which may have been made prior to 1.2.1991.

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Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Armed Forces Act 1971. (See end of Document for details)

The Naval and Marine Pay and Pensions Act 1865

Section 2 of the M7 Naval and Marine Pay and Pensions Act 1865 shall be amended by inserting, in the definition of "seaman or marine" the words "warrant officer" immediately before the words "petty officer", and the words "warrant or" immediately before the words "non-commissioned officer".

Marginal Citations M7 1865 c. 73.

The Greenwich Hospital Act 1865

In section 5 of the M8 Greenwich Hospital Act 1865, immediately before the words "non-commissioned officers", in both places where they occur, there shall be inserted the words "warrant officers".

Marginal Citations M8 1865 c. 89.

The Navy and Marines (Property of Deceased) Act 1865

Section 2 of the M9Navy and Marines (Property of Deceased) Act 1865 shall be amended by inserting, in the definition of "seaman or marine", the words "warrant officer" immediately before the words "petty officer" in both places where they occur, and the words "warrant or" immediately before the words "non-commissioned officer".

Margi	Marginal Citations			
M9	1865 c. 111			

	The Army Act 1955
^{F19} 4	

Textual Amendments

Sch. 3 para. 4 repealed (28.3.2009 for specified purposes, 31.10.2009 in so far as not already in force) by Armed Forces Act 2006 (c. 52), s. 383(2), Sch. 17; S.I. 2009/812, art. 3(a)(b) (with transitional provisions in S.I. 2009/1059); S.I. 2009/1167, art. 4

	The Naval Discipline Act 1957
²⁰ 5	

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Armed Forces Act 1971. (See end of Document for details)

Textual Amendments

F20 Sch. 3 para. 5 repealed (28.3.2009 for specified purposes, 31.10.2009 in so far as not already in force) by Armed Forces Act 2006 (c. 52), s. 383(2), Sch. 17; S.I. 2009/812, art. 3(a)(b) (with transitional provisions in S.I. 2009/1059); S.I. 2009/1167, art. 4

The Reserve Forces Act 1966

F21 6

Textual Amendments

F21 Sch. 3 para. 6 repealed by Reserve Forces Act 1980 (c. 9, SIF 7:2), s. 157, Sch. 10 Pt. II

The Armed Forces Act 1966

F227

Textual Amendments

F22 Sch. 3 para. 7 repealed (28.3.2009 for specified purposes, 31.10.2009 in so far as not already in force) by Armed Forces Act 2006 (c. 52), s. 383(2), Sch. 17; S.I. 2009/812, art. 3(a)(b) (with transitional provisions in S.I. 2009/1059); S.I. 2009/1167, art. 4

SCHEDULE 4

Section 77(1)

REPEALS

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

The text of ss. 2-25, 27-32, 34-50, 52, 53, 55-63, 65, 66, 68, 70-75, 77(1), Schs. 2, 4 is in the form in which it was originally enacted: it was not reproduced in Statutes in Force and does not reflect any amendments or repeals which may have been made prior to 1.2.1991.

REPEALS ARISING FROM PART II OF THIS ACT		
Chapter	Short Title	Extent of Repeal
3 & 4 Eliz. 2. c. 18.	The Army Act 1955.	In section 31(1)(n), the word "involving the use of violence or the threat of the use of of the us

Chapter	Short Title	Extent of Repeal
3 & 4 Eliz. 2. c. 18—cont.	The Army Act 1955—cont.	In section 74(3), the proviso. Section 74(3). In section 81, subsection (3) an paragraph (a) of subsection (4) in section 18(1), the words "c a sentence of field punishment. In section 120(3), the words "in section 130(3), the words "in section 135(2), the words "in section 135(2), the words "in section 135(2), the words "in section 152(3), the words "in section 1
		In section 211, subsection (3) an in subsection (4), the wore "Paragraph (b) of subsectio (2) of section hittp-seven." Subsection (2) of section hittp-seven. Subsection (3) in paragraph the words. "either with rise to assist the enemy or without and subsection (4) of the words. Subsection (4) in paragraph 102 and subsection (5) in paragraph 112 and subsection (5) in paragraph 12 and subsection (5) in paragraph 12 and subsection (5) in paragraph 12 and subsection (5) in paragraph 13 in Schedule 7, paragraph 14.
3 & 4 Eliz, 2. c. 19.	The Air Force Act 1955.	In section 311/(n), the wore involving the use of violen or the threat of the use involving the use of violen or the threat of the use involving the use of violen distributions of the end. 311/(n), the words from "and this section 470, the provise. Section 33. Section 33. Section 33. Section 33. Section 35. Section 35. Section 35. Section 35. Section 35. Section 36. In paragraphs (d), and the word "report paragraph (d), and the word "report paragraph (d), and the word "report paragraph (d). He word "section 700, the provision."

Chapter	Short Title	Extent of Repeal
3 & 4 Eliz. 2. c. 19—cont.	The Air Force Act 1955—cont.	paragraph (a) of subsection (4). In section 18(1), the word or a sentence of field punishment; In section 12(5), the proviso. In section 13(5), the words "for an offence against section from the section 13(5), the words "for an offence against section 13(1), the words "faudulently misapplying it", in section 13(1), the words "disobedience to orders or". In section 15(2), the words "for section
5 & 6 Eliz. 2. c. 33.	The Naval Discipline Act 1937.	or ". In section 10 and in sections in the set of the section of the word "paragraph (6) of subsection (2) of section intrivuescen". In section 211, paragraph (6). In section 211, paragraph (7). In section 211, paragr

Chapter	Short Title	Extent of Repeal
5 & 6 Eliz. 2. c. 53—cont.	The Naval Discipline Act 1957—cont.	In section 76(1), the words "fraudulently misapplying it." In section 97(1), in paragraphs (a) and (c), the words "or place of duty." (in section 105(a)), the words "or place of duty." In section 122(2), the words "paragraph (b) of section twelve." In Schedule 2, paragraphs 1 and 2. In Schedule 2, paragraphs 2. Schedule 7 to the Arm Vol. 195. Schedule 7 to the Arm Vol. 195.
9 & 10 Eliz. 2. c. 52.	The Army and Air Force Act 1961.	In section 13(1), the words from "or that subsection" to "of that Act." Sections 18 to 20. Sections 10 to 34. In Schedule 2, the entries relating to section 37(3) of the Army Act 1955 and section 37(3) of the Air Force Act 1955.
1966 c. 45.	The Armed Forces Act 1966.	Section 8(2). In section 15(7), the words "53 and" (twice). Sections 21 and 22. Sections 21(1), the words from "37(2)(4)" to "engagement) and". Section 32.
1968 c. 60.	The Theft Act 1968.	In Part II of Schedule 2, the entries relating to sections 44(1)(b) and 45(b) of the Army Act 1955; in the entry relating to the Air Force Act 1955 the words "44, 45" and the words from "except" to the end; and the entry relating to section
	100	29(b) of the Naval Discipline Act 1957.

PART II OTHER REPEALS

Chapter	Short Title	Extent of Repeal
28 & 29 Vict. c. 73.	The Naval and Marine Pay and Pensions Act 1865.	In section 2, in the definition of "officer", the words "warrant, or subordinate" and the words "or assistant engineer".
28 & 29 Vict. c. 111.	The Naval and Marines (Property of Deceased) Act 1865,	In section 2, in the definition of "officer", the words "warrant, or subordinate" and the words "or assistant engineer".
& 5 Geo. 5. c. 70.	The Naval Billeting &c. Act 1914.	The whole Act.
10 & 11 Geo. 6. c. 24.	The Naval Forces (En- forcement of Main- tenance Liabilities) Act 1947.	In section 1, paragraph (c) and the proviso.
14 Geo. 6. c. 32.	The Army Reserve Act	Section 15(3).
14 Geo. 6. c. 33.	The Air Force Reserve Act 1950.	Section 15(3).
l & 2 Eliz. 2. c. 50.	The Auxiliary Forces Act 1953.	Section 27(4).
3 & 4 Eliz. 2. c. 18.	The Army Act 1955.	In section 113(5)(e), the words "valid for invalid". Section 114(2). Section 120(8).
		Section 150(1)(d). Section 152(3). Section 153(2)
3 & 4 Eliz. 2. c. 19.	The Air Force Act 1955.	In Schedule 7, paragraph 9. In section 113(5)(c), the words valid for invalid v. Section 114(2), Section 120(8), Section 150(1)(d), Section 152(3), Section 153(2),
3 & 4 Eliz. 2. c. 20.	The Revision of the Army and Air Force Acts (Transitional Provisions) Act 1955.	In Schedule 2, paragraph 6, paragraph 13(8), paragraph 14 (8), and, in paragraph 18(4), the words from "in subsection (4)" to the end.
5 & 6 Eliz. 2. c. 53.	The Naval Discipline Act 1957.	In section 53, subsection (4), and, in subsection (5), the words "notwithstanding anything in subsection (4) of this section and "Section 72(2). In section 75(1), the words from "and has" to "one month". Section 85(3). Section 101(3).
9 & 10 Eliz. 2. c. 52.	The Army and Air Force Act 1961. The Reserve Forces Act	Section 23.
1966 c. 30.	1966.	In section 21(1), in the definition of "man", the words "(except in relation to the marine forces)"

Chapter	Short Title	Extent of Repeal
1970 c. 31.	The Administration of Justice Act 1970.	In section 43(5), the words "by the Courts-Martial Appea Court" and the words from "in pursuance" to "subsection (6) below"; and subsection (6).

Status:

Point in time view as at 01/10/2012.

Changes to legislation:

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