



# Anti-terrorism, Crime and Security Act 2001

## 2001 CHAPTER 24

### PART 6

#### WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION

##### *Nuclear weapons*

#### **49 Defences**

- (1) In proceedings for an offence under section 47(1)(c) or (d) relating to an object it is a defence for the accused to show that he did not know and had no reason to believe that the object was a nuclear weapon.
- (2) But he shall be taken to have shown that fact if—
  - (a) sufficient evidence is adduced to raise an issue with respect to it; and
  - (b) the contrary is not proved by the prosecution beyond reasonable doubt.
- (3) In proceedings for such an offence it is also a defence for the accused to show that he knew or believed that the object was a nuclear weapon but, as soon as reasonably practicable after he first knew or believed that fact, he took all reasonable steps to inform the Secretary of State or a constable of his knowledge or belief.

**Changes to legislation:**

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Anti-terrorism, Crime and Security Act 2001, Section 49.