

Armed Forces Act 1976

CHAPTER 52

ARMED FORCES ACT 1976

	PART I
	GENERAL
1	
	Service in and constitution of forces
2 3 4	Regulations as to variation of term of service. Royal Marines. QARNNS and WRNS.
	PART II
	TRIAL AND PUNISHMENT OF OFFENCES
	Summary punishment
5	Increased powers of summary punishment.
	Civilians
6 7 8 9	Establishment of Standing Civilian Courts. Jurisdiction of Standing Civilian Courts. Powers of courts in relation to civilians. Constitution of courts-martial for civilians.
	Juveniles
10	Powers of courts in relation to juveniles.

Changes to legislation: Armed Forces Act 1976 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 14 May 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details)

Court-martial procedure

- 11 Proof at courts-martial by written statement.
- 12 Exemption of certain persons from duty to take oath at court-martial.

Powers of court-martial etc.

- 13 Imprisonment in default of payment of fines.
- 14 Restitution and compensation.

Naval Offences

15 Territorial scope of certain offences.

Powers of civil courts

16 Enforcement by civil courts of financial penalties awarded under Services Acts.

Rehabilitation

17 Rehabilitation of civilians found guilty in service disciplinary proceedings.

PART III

MISCELLANEOUS AND SUPPLEMENTARY

- 18 Deductions for maintenance of children.
- 19 Deductions from RAF pensions
- 20 Disqualification of members of forces for House of Commons and Northern Ireland Assembly.
- 21 Greenwich Hospital.
- 22 Citation etc.

SCHEDULES

SCHEDULE 1 — Royal Marines

Part I — ROYAL MARINES—GENERAL

- 1 In paragraph 6 of Schedule 7 to the Army Act...
- For paragraph 19 of that Schedule (deductions from pay) there...

Part II — ROYAL MARINES WARRANT OFFICERS

- 3 The following sub-paragraphs shall be inserted after paragraph 5(2) of...
- 4 In paragraph 11 of Schedule 6 to the Air Force...

SCHEDULE 2 — QARNNS and WRNS

- 1 For section 54(2) of the Naval Discipline Act 1957 (officers...
- 2 The following subsections shall be substituted for section 111(1) and...
- 3 Section 113(3) of that Act (which prevents women members of...
- 4 In section 132(5) of that Act (which defines Her Majesty's...

SCHEDULE 3 — Standing Civilian Courts

Interpretation

1 (1) In this Schedule— "civilian" means a person who may...

Changes to legislation: Armed Forces Act 1976 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 14 May 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details)

	Sittings of the Court
2	(1) Subject to sub-paragraphs (2) and (3) below, the court
	Court to sit in public
3	(1) Subject to the provisions of this paragraph, the court
	Right to court-martial
4	(1) An accused person has a right to elect, before
	Assessors
5	The function of assessors at a trial shall be to
	Unfitness to stand trial and insanity
6	(1) Where on a trial by the court the question
	Re-trial in interests of administration of justice
7	
	Re-trial where court ceases to be properly constituted
8	(1) The court administration officer may in the prescribed manner
	Decisions of the Court etc.
9	(1) Subject to the provisions of this paragraph, every question
	Privilege of witnesses and others
10	A witness before the court or any other person whose
	Rules of evidence
11	(1) Subject to the provisions of any order made under
	Procedure etc. of court
12	(1) The Secretary of State may by order made by
	Duration of sentences etc.
13 14	Where any sentence of the court is limited by reference Where the court passes any such sentence and the period
	Supplementary
15 16 17	(1) Section 57(1) of the Army Act 1955 (offences) shall Sections 133 and 134(1) and (2) of the Army Act Section 138 of that Act (restitution or compensation for theft,
17A	
	Appeals

(1) Subject to the provisions of this paragraph and to...

18

Changes to legislation: Armed Forces Act 1976 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 14 May 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details)

Review

- 19 At any time after a Standing Civilian Court has sentenced...
- 20 (1) A finding or sentence of a Standing Civilian Court...

SCHEDULE 4 — Order That May be Made on Trial of Civilians

- The following Schedule shall be inserted after Schedule 5 to...
- 2 (1) The said Schedule shall also be inserted, with the...
- 3 (1) The said Schedule shall also be inserted, with the...

SCHEDULE 5 — Proof at Courts-Martial by Written Statement

- 1 After section 99 of the Army Act 1955 (rules of...
- 2 The said section shall also be inserted after section 99...
- 3 Accordingly—(a) in section 99(1) of the Army Act 1955...

SCHEDULE 6 — Imprisonment in Default

- 1 The following section shall be inserted after section 71A of...
- 2 The said section shall also be inserted after section 43A...

SCHEDULE 7 — Restitution and Compensation

Army Act 1955 and Air Force Act 1955

1 (1) At the end of section 138(1) of the Army...

Naval Discipline Act 1957

- 2 At the end of section 58(2)(aa) of the Naval Discipline...
- 3 (1) After subsection (1) of section 76 of that Act...
- 4 (1) In section 77(1)(a) and (2) of that Act (effect...

SCHEDULE 8 — Financial Penalty Enforcement Orders

- 1 The following section shall be inserted after section 133 of...
- 2 The said section shall also be inserted after section 133...
- 3 (1) The said section shall also be inserted after section...
- 4 (1) The following subsections shall be inserted after section 215(5)...

SCHEDULE 9 — Miscellaneous Amendments

Criminal Evidence Act 1898

1 In section 6(1) of the Criminal Evidence Act 1898 after...

Army Act 1955 and Air Force Act 1955

- 3 In section 86 of the Army Act 1955 and section...
- 4 The following section shall be inserted after section 198 of...
- 5 The following paragraphs shall be substituted for paragraph (a) of...
- 6 The following subsection shall be inserted after subsection (3) of...
- 7 The following subsections shall be substituted for subsection (4) of...
- 8 Section 215 of the Army Act 1955 and section 213...

Changes to legislation: Armed Forces Act 1976 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 14 May 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details)

Naval Discipline Act 1957

- 10 The following subsection shall be inserted after section 118(3A) of...
- 11 The following section shall be inserted after section 129D of...
- 13 In Schedule 3 to that Act (classes of civilians subject...
- 14 In Schedule 4 to that Act (application of Act to...

Criminal Justice Act 1967

15 In section 89(1) of the Criminal Justice Act 1967 (false...

Courts-Martial (Appeals) Act 1968

- 16 The following subsection shall be inserted after section 8(1) of...
- 17 The following section shall be inserted after section 17 of...

Treatment of Offenders Act (Northern Ireland) 1968

- 18 In section 33(4)(b) of the Treatment of Offenders Act (Northern...
- 19

Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974

- 20 (1) In subsection (1) of section 2 of the Rehabilitation...
- 21 (1) The following entries shall be made in Table B...

Treatment of Offenders (Northern Ireland) Order 1976

22 In Article 2(2) of the Treatment of Offenders Ireland) Order...

SCHEDULE 10 — Repeals

Status:

Point in time view as at 11/05/2001.

Changes to legislation:

Armed Forces Act 1976 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 14 May 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations.