



Foreign Enlistment Act 1870

1870 CHAPTER 90 33 and 34 Vict

Illegal Enlistment

7 Penalty on taking illegally enlisted persons on board ship.

If the master or owner of any ship, without the license of Her Majesty, knowingly either takes on board, or engages to take on board, or has on board such ship within Her Majesty's dominions, any of the following persons, in this Act referred to as illegally enlisted persons; that is to say,

- (1) Any person, who, being a British subject within or without the dominions of Her Majesty, has, without the license of Her Majesty, accepted or agreed to accept any commission or engagement in the military or naval service of any foreign state at war with any friendly state;
- (2) Any person, being a British subject, who, without the license of Her Majesty, is about to quit Her Majesty's dominions with intent to accept any commission or engagement in the military or naval service of any foreign state at war with a friendly state;
- (3) Any person who has been induced to embark under a misrepresentation or false representation of the service in which such person is to be engaged, with the intent or in order that such person may accept or agree to accept any commission or engagement in the military or naval service of any foreign state at war with a friendly state;

Such master or owner shall be guilty of an offence against this Act, and the following consequences shall ensue; that is to say,

- (1) The offender shall be punishable by fine and imprisonment, or either of such punishments, at the discretion of the court before which the offender is convicted; . . .
F1; and
- (2) Such ship shall be detained until the trial and conviction or acquittal of the master or owner, and until all penalties inflicted on the master or owner have been paid, or the master or owner has given security for the payment of such penalties to the satisfaction of two justices of the peace, or other magistrate or magistrates having the authority of two justices of the peace; and

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Foreign Enlistment Act 1870, Section 7. (See end of Document for details)

- (3) All illegally enlisted persons shall immediately on the discovery of the offence be taken on shore, and shall not be allowed to return to the ship.

Textual Amendments

- F1** Words omitted by virtue of (E.W.) [Criminal Justice Act 1948 \(c. 58\)](#), [s. 1\(2\)](#) and (S.) [Criminal Procedure \(Scotland\) Act 1975 \(c. 21\)](#), [s. 221\(2\)](#)

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