
STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

1999 No. 424

**The Sea Fishing (Enforcement of
Community Quota Measures) Order 1999**

Powers of British sea-fishery officers on land

7.—(1) For the purpose of enforcing the provisions of article 3 of this Order, any British sea-fishery officer may—

- (a) enter and inspect at any reasonable time any premises used for carrying on any business in connection with the operation of fishing boats or activities connected therewith or ancillary thereto or with the treatment, storage or sale of sea fish;
- (b) take with him such other persons as appear to him to be necessary and any equipment or materials;
- (c) examine any fish on the premises and require persons on the premises to do anything which appears to him to be necessary for facilitating the examination;
- (d) carry out at such premises such other inspections or tests as may reasonably be necessary;
- (e) require any person not to remove or cause to be removed any fish from such premises for such a period as may be reasonably necessary for the purposes of establishing whether an offence under article 3 of this Order has at any time been committed;
- (f) require any person on the premises to produce any documents which are in his custody or possession relating to the catching, landing, transportation, trans-shipment, sale or disposal of any sea fish;
- (g) for the purpose of ascertaining whether any person on the premises has committed an offence under article 3 of this Order, search the premises for any such document and may require any person on the premises to do anything which appears to him to be necessary for facilitating the search including rendering all documents on computer systems into a visible and legible form;
- (h) inspect and take copies of any such document produced to him or found on the premises and, where any such document is kept by means of a computer, require it to be produced in a form in which it may be taken away; and
- (i) if he has reason to suspect that such an offence has been committed, seize and detain any such document produced to him or found on the premises for the purpose of enabling the document to be used as evidence in proceedings for the offence.

(2) The provisions of paragraph (1) above shall apply *mutatis mutandis* in relation to any land used in connection with any of the activities described in paragraph (1) above, or in respect of any vehicle which a British sea-fishery officer has reasonable cause to believe is being used to transport fisheries products, as they apply in relation to premises and, in the case of a vehicle, shall include power to require the vehicle to stop at any time and, if necessary, direct the vehicle to some other place to facilitate the inspection.