

No. 677.

THE QUARANTINE LAW.

CAP. 145.

ORDER IN COUNCIL No. 2659

MADE UNDER SECTIONS 6 AND 8.

A. B. WRIGHT,
Governor.

In exercise of the powers vested in me by sections 6 and 8 of the Quarantine Law, I, the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council, Cap. 145. do hereby make the following Regulations:—

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Quarantine (Maritime and Aerial) Regulations, 1953, and shall come into operation on the 1st day of January, 1954.

2. In these Regulations, unless the context otherwise requires—

“Aedes aegypti” includes any domiciliary vector of yellow fever;

“aircraft” means an aircraft making an international voyage and includes hydroplanes;

“airport” means an airport of entry or departure for international air traffic and includes places for the landing of hydroplanes and similar craft on water;

“crew” means the personnel of a vessel or an aircraft who are employed for duties on board;

“day” means an interval of twenty-four hours;

“direct transit area” means a special area established in connection with an airport, approved by the Health Authority for accommodating direct transit and, in particular, for accommodating, in segregation, passengers and crews breaking their voyage without leaving the airport;

“epidemic” means an extension or multiplication of a foyer;

“foyer” means the occurrence of two cases of a quarantinable disease derived from an imported case, or one case derived from a non-imported case, the first case of human yellow fever transmitted by Aedis aegypti or any other domiciliary vector of yellow fever shall be considered as a foyer;

“Health Authority” means the Director of Medical and Health Services or any officer of the Medical and Health Department duly authorized by him for the purposes of these Regulations;

“infected person” means a person who is suffering from a quarantinable disease or who is believed to be infected with such a disease;

“international voyage” means—

(a) in the case of a vessel or an aircraft, a voyage between ports or airports in the territories of more than one country; or

(b) in the case of a person, a voyage involving entry into the territory of a country other than the territory of the country in which that person commences his voyage;

“isolation”, when applied to a person or group of persons, means the separation of that person or group of persons from other persons, except the health staff on duty, in such manner as to prevent the spread of infection;

Amended:

1954 / p. 191

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1958 / p. 747

“master” means the master, officer or other person for the time being in charge of any vessel or aircraft;

“medical examination” includes visit to and inspection of a vessel or aircraft and the preliminary examination of persons on board but does not include the periodical inspection of a vessel to ascertain the need for deratting;

“observation” signifies the isolation of persons, whether on any vessel or at any quarantine station, before they obtain free pratique;

“port” means a seaport which is normally frequented by vessels;

“quarantine anchorage” means any of the quarantine anchorages set out in the First Schedule hereto and includes such other anchorages as the Governor may, from time to time, by notice published in the *Gazette*, direct to be quarantine anchorages for the purposes of these Regulations;

“quarantinable diseases” means plague, cholera, yellow fever, smallpox, typhus and relapsing fever;

“quarantine station” means any place on shore which the Governor may, by notice published in the *Gazette*, direct shall be used for the isolation of persons suspected of being infected with a quarantinable disease and includes any vessel moored in any quarantine anchorage;

“rat” includes other rodents known to be the means of spreading plague;

“relapsing fever” means louse-borne relapsing fever;

“surveillance” means that persons are not isolated, that they receive free pratique immediately, but the health authorities of the places whither such persons are bound are notified of their coming and they are subjected to a medical examination and such enquiries as are necessary with a view to ascertaining their state of health and includes requirement to report on arrival and afterwards at such intervals during surveillance as may be specified by the Health Authority;

“suspect” means a person who is considered by the Health Authority as having been exposed to infection by a quarantinable disease and is considered capable of spreading that disease;

“typhus” means louse-borne typhus;

“valid certificate” in relation to vaccination or inoculation means a certificate in the form set out in the Sixth, Seventh and Eighth Schedules hereto, and issued from authorized vaccination and inoculation centres as set out from time to time in the World Health Organization Bulletins;

“vessel” means any seagoing ship, boat, or other floating craft, making an international voyage;

“yellow fever endemic area” means an area in which yellow fever exists in a form recognizable clinically, biologically or pathologically and includes an area in which the yellow fever virus persists among jungle animals over long periods of time.

ARRIVAL OF VESSELS AND AIRCRAFT.

3.—(1) (a) The master of every vessel arriving at any port in Cyprus from any port outside Cyprus, shall ascertain the state of health of all persons on board and shall fill in and sign a declaration of health in the form set out in the Second Schedule hereto (hereinafter referred to as “a maritime declaration of health”), such form to be countersigned by the ship’s surgeon, if one is carried thereon,

(b) The master or the ship's surgeon shall deliver the maritime declaration of health to the Health Authority, and shall supply any further information required by the Health Authority as to health conditions on board during the voyage.

(c) Where it appears to the Health Authority from the answers to the questions set out in the maritime declaration of health, or from the answers to the enquiries, or otherwise, that there was no quarantinable disease or any case or suspected case of other infectious disease, which is likely to lead to infection or the spread of infectious disease, on board during the voyage or on arrival of the vessel and that the vessel had not called at any infected area or had direct intercourse during the voyage with any ship from an infected local area having on board any quarantinable disease or any other infectious disease, the Health Authority shall grant pratique to the vessel.

(2)—(a) The master of an aircraft landing at an airport shall complete and deliver to the Health Authority a declaration of health in the form set out in the Third Schedule hereto.

(b) The master of an aircraft shall supply any further information required by the Health Authority as to health conditions on board during the voyage and shall notify the Health Authority of any death on the aircraft during the voyage, or of any case or suspected case of infectious disease on the aircraft which is likely to lead to infection or the spread of infectious disease.

(3) No person shall board any vessel or aircraft, unless and until the Health Authority has granted pratique or has given permission for such person to board :

Provided that the harbour pilot, and if necessary his assistants, may in an emergency board any vessel before pratique has been granted and, if it be found that the conditions are such that pratique is not granted, neither the pilot or his assistants who have boarded the vessel shall leave the same until the Health Authority has visited the vessel and granted them permission to do so.

(4) If the Health Authority decides not to grant pratique, he shall cause the signals mentioned in paragraph (1) of Regulation 4 of these Regulations to be displayed on the vessel or aircraft until pratique has been granted.

(5) When a vessel or an aircraft touches several ports or airports in Cyprus in direct sequence, it shall not be necessary to submit the passengers and crew to further medical inspection after the first port or airport, unless the Health Authority otherwise directs.

(6) Notwithstanding anything in these Regulations contained, the Health Authority may, when on the basis of information received infer that the waiving of medical inspection will not result in the introduction or spread of a quarantinable or other infectious disease, grant pratique by wireless.

4.—(1) The master of an infected or suspected vessel, arriving or being at any port in Cyprus and the master of any vessel arriving at any port in Cyprus from an infected local area or not having in his possession a clean maritime declaration of health, or having had direct intercourse with another vessel on which there was any case or suspected case of quarantinable disease or which had come from an infected local area, shall display during daylight at the foremast Flag L, International code and at night the following signal, namely three lights in the form of an equilateral triangle, the lights being at least six feet apart, that at the apex of the triangle being white and the other two red, and shall remain outside the limits of the port or, if already within such limits, shall proceed to the quarantine anchorage

of the port or to such a place as the Health Authority or the Harbour Master or the pilot shall point out. Any vessel displaying the signals in accordance with this Regulation shall be visited by the Health Authority who shall grant pratique or take such other steps as may be necessary under these Regulations.

(2) The master of an infected or suspected aircraft arriving in the Colony and having on board a case of quarantinable or other infectious disease or having a person who has been exposed to infection during the voyage of the aircraft shall land such aircraft on an airport and shall place himself at the disposal of the Health Authority and shall answer all requests for information of a public health nature which are made to him by the competent authority and shall produce for examination the documents carried on board.

(3) The crew and passengers of an infected or suspected aircraft coming from an infected area shall be inspected by the Health Authority and the sick, if any, shall be landed and isolated. Passengers shall not move beyond the limits prescribed by the aerodrome authority, except with the permission of the Health Authority.

(4) Should an aircraft land elsewhere than on an authorized aerodrome, the master of the aircraft shall, if the aircraft comes from an infected local area or is itself infected, notify the nearest Health Authority or police. No cargo shall be unloaded and no passenger or member of the crew may leave the vicinity of the aircraft without the permission of the Health Authority.

5.—(1) The master of any ship or aircraft coming from a port or airport outside Cyprus and fitted with a suitable wireless transmitting apparatus, on approaching a port or airport in Cyprus shall, if any person on board has symptoms which may be indicative of a quarantinable or other infectious disease, other than tuberculosis, or if there are any circumstances requiring the attention of a medical officer, send to the Health Authority, either directly or through an agent approved by him, a wireless message embodying such of the items of information set out in the Fourth Schedule to these Regulations as are applicable.

(2) Any wireless message so required to be sent shall be sent so as to reach the Health Authority not more than twelve and not less than four hours before the time on which the vessel is expected to arrive at port and, in case of aircraft, not more than two hours and not less than half an hour before the time at which the aircraft is expected to arrive at the airport.

(3) Any message in wireless code delivered to the Health Authority shall conform with the section relating to routine quarantine messages of the 1931 International Code of signals.

6. The Health Authority may board any vessel or aircraft arriving in Cyprus and inspect every person therein. The Health Authority may call for inspection any of the vessel's or aircraft's books and papers and shall use every lawful means which may seem to him expedient for ascertaining the state of health of the persons on board and the sanitary conditions of the vessel or aircraft.

7.—(1) No person, other than the Health Authority or the harbour master or the pilot or the airport traffic officer and his assistant or persons specially authorized in writing by the Health Authority to accompany him to assist in carrying out the provisions of the Law and these Regulations, shall come within one hundred yards of any vessel or aircraft which has not been granted pratique :

Provided that this regulation shall not apply to persons engaged in superintending and assisting the berthing of a vessel or the landing of an aircraft.

(2) The master of any vessel or aircraft which has not been granted pratique shall not permit any person to board his vessel or aircraft, as the case may be, except the Health Authority, the pilot, the harbour master or the airport traffic officer and persons specially authorized in writing by the Health Authority and shall, to the best of his ability, endeavour to prevent the approach of any person other than those mentioned in paragraph (1) hereof, within a distance of one hundred yards of his vessel or aircraft until his vessel or aircraft shall have been examined and granted pratique.

8. The master of an infected vessel (and, in the case of the port of Famagusta, of a suspected vessel also) shall, if ordered in writing by the Health Authority, but subject to the concurrence of the harbour master, cause his vessel to be taken at once to, and anchored at, the quarantine anchorage or such other place as the Health Authority shall point out to him and remain there until granted pratique.

9.—(1) All vessels lying at the quarantine anchorage or at any place to which they are directed to be taken shall have displayed by day flag signals and by night the lights specified in paragraph (1) of Regulation 4 of these Regulations.

(2) All guard boats and all boats belonging to a vessel in quarantine shall display on suitable flag-staffs a similar flag at the stern by day and from sunset to sunrise a red light at the bow and stern.

10.—(1) The Health Authority may serve a notice in writing upon the master of any vessel at any port in Cyprus requiring him—

- (a) not to berth his vessel alongside any wharf, unless it is fended away therefrom for a distance of at least eight feet ;
- (b) not to berth his vessel alongside any wharf or quay or otherwise in connection with the shore or any other vessel, unless all warps, cables, ropes and other shore-moorings are provided with rat-guards to the satisfaction of the Health Authority, fixed thereon as may be directed but, generally, not less than four feet nor more than six feet from the vessel's side ;
- (c) to keep every warp, cable, rope or other shore-mooring as aforesaid covered with fresh tar for a distance of not less than three feet from the vessel's side and, for this purpose, to renew such tar covering at least every five days ;
- (d) to keep similarly tar-covered the outside of any canvas or other covering used round a shore-mooring ;
- (e) to whitewash every evening between five and six o'clock every gangway communicating between the vessel and the wharf, jetty, quay or shore for a length of not less than eight feet from the vessel's side and over its entire width and to keep a light burning at the vessel's end of the gangway from sunset to sunrise ;
- (f) to keep all port holes, hawser holes and other openings on the side of the vessel adjacent to the wharf, jetty, quay or shore closed or screened in order to prevent the passage of rats, unless the ship is fended away from the wharf, jetty, quay or shore for a distance of at least eight feet ;
- (g) to raise all gangways or planks, when not actually in use, to a distance of at least eight feet from the wharf, between sunrise and sunset ;
- (h) to anchor away from the wharf, jetty or shore between sunset and sunrise.