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## CHAPTER 86.

## IMMIGRATION RESTRICTION.

## An Ordinance relating to immigration.

[1ST JULY, 1947.]

24 of 1946.  
6 of 1950.  
32 of 1956.

## PART I.—PRELIMINARY.

1. This Ordinance may be cited as the Immigration Restriction Ordinance, and shall apply to the Colony and Protectorate.

Short title,  
and  
application.

2. (1) In this Ordinance, unless the context otherwise requires—

Definitions.

“ Immigration Officer ” includes the Principal Immigration Officer and any Assistant Immigration Officer;

“ prohibited immigrant ” means a person being or appearing to be a prohibited immigrant within the meaning of section 12;

“ native foreigner ” means any person, other than a native of Sierra Leone, whose parents were members of a tribe or tribes indigenous to British West Africa, French West Africa, the Republic of Guinea, Spanish West Africa, Portuguese West Africa, the Belgian Congo, the mandated territories in West Africa, French Equatorial Africa, Portuguese Guinea, Principe, Spanish Guinea, Annobon, Liberia, Fernando Po or San Thomé, and the descendants of such persons, and shall include any person one of whose parents was a member of such tribe;

“ recognised airfield or airport ” and “ recognised air line ” means an airfield or airport or air line declared by Order of the Governor to be recognised for the purposes of this Ordinance;

“valid passport” means a passport referring to the person producing the same, furnished with a photograph of such person, and issued to him by or on behalf of the country of which he is a subject or a citizen and for a period which, according to the laws of that country, has not expired, and includes any other similar document establishing both the nationality and identity of the person to whom it refers to the satisfaction of an Immigration Officer, and issued by a competent Passport Control Authority;

“vessel” includes any boat, canoe or craft of any kind.

(2) For the purposes of this Ordinance a person shall be deemed to be a native of Sierra Leone if he is a British subject or a British protected person and—

(a) was born in or out of Sierra Leone of parents at least one of whom at the time of his birth was domiciled or ordinarily resident in Sierra Leone; or

(b) obtained the status of a British subject by reason of the grant to him by the Governor of a certificate of naturalisation under the Aliens Naturalisation and Acquisition of Property Ordinance, or by reason of the grant by the Governor of a certificate of naturalisation under the British Nationality and status of Aliens Act, 1914, or the British Nationality Act, 1948.

Cap. 84.

Appoint-  
ments and  
powers of  
Immigration  
Officers.

3. (1) The Governor shall appoint a Principal Immigration Officer to have charge of the administration of this Ordinance and such Assistant Immigration Officers as he may think fit. All such appointments shall be published in the *Gazette*.

(2) Any Immigration Officer may for the purposes of this Ordinance enter or board as often as may be necessary any vessel, aircraft, railway train, motor or other vehicle.

Exempted  
persons.

4. (1) This Ordinance shall not apply to the immigration of the following persons—

(a) (i) any member of Her Majesty's military services, the Royal Air Force and the Fleet Air Arm;

(ii) officers and members of the crews of Her Majesty's ships and of the naval ships of any friendly power, who are in uniform; if such persons are not in uniform they must, before being exempted, satisfy the Immigration Officer as to their identity and occupation;

(b) (i) members of Her Majesty's diplomatic and consular services;

(ii) members of the diplomatic service of a friendly country;

(iii) persons who are members of a consular service duly accredited to Sierra Leone by their Governments, their wives and children,

who satisfy the Immigration Officer as to their identity and occupation;

(c) any person in the service of the Government of Sierra Leone who has in his possession a valid passport and satisfies the Immigration Officer as to his identity and occupation, and his wife and children;

(d) any person who satisfies the Immigration Officer that he is a native of Sierra Leone;

and until such time as the individual in question satisfies the Immigration Officer that he comes within any of the exemptions set out in this sub-section the provisions of this Ordinance shall apply to such person.

(2) Unless the Governor otherwise directs, any native foreigner whom the Immigration Officer is satisfied is not or does not appear to be of any of the classes defined in paragraphs (a), (b), (c), (d), (e), (g) or (h) of sub-section (2) of section 12 may enter Sierra Leone without being in possession of a valid passport. Any direction given by the Governor may be given in respect of any native foreigner or class of native foreigners.

5. For the purposes of this Ordinance the Governor may by Order declare any airfield, airport or air line to be a recognised airfield, airport or air line.

Declaration  
of recognised  
airfields,  
airports or  
air lines.

## PART II.—DISEMBARKATION AND EXAMINATION.

6. The master of a vessel arriving at any place in Sierra Leone shall not permit any passenger who has embarked outside Sierra Leone to disembark from such vessel until such disembarkation has been authorised by an Immigration Officer.

Prohibition of  
disembarka-  
tion from  
ships without  
permission of  
Immigration  
Officer.

7. Every passenger arriving by sea intending to disembark in Sierra Leone shall appear before the Immigration Officer at such time and place as the Immigration Officer shall direct, and the Immigration Officer, after such examination as he may consider necessary, shall inform any passenger whom he considers to be within the category of a prohibited immigrant of such finding and such passenger if still aboard the vessel shall not disembark in Sierra Leone or if disembarked for the purposes of such examination shall return forthwith to the vessel and remain thereon. The master of the vessel shall likewise forthwith be informed in writing by the Immigration Officer of his

Examination  
of immigrants  
by sea.

finding and the master shall not permit the prohibited immigrant to disembark in Sierra Leone:

Provided that the provisions of this section shall not apply where such passenger has embarked at any place in Sierra Leone and disembarks from the same vessel at the same or any other place in Sierra Leone during or at the end of the voyage which the vessel began or was in the course of when he embarked.

Examination  
of immigrants  
by air.

8. (1) Every passenger arriving by air in Sierra Leone at any recognised airfield or airport and intending to leave the precincts of the said airfield or airport shall appear before the Immigration Officer at such time and place as the Immigration Officer shall direct, and the Immigration Officer, after such examination as he may consider necessary, shall inform any passenger whom he considers to be within the category of a prohibited immigrant of such finding and such passenger shall not depart from the precincts of such airfield or airport except to a place approved by the Immigration Officer and shall leave and depart from Sierra Leone by the first available means in accordance with the instructions of the Immigration Officer.

(2) Where any passenger arrives by air in Sierra Leone at any place other than a recognised airfield or airport such passenger shall forthwith and in any case not later than seven days after the day of his arrival proceed to and appear before the nearest Immigration Officer.

Examination  
of immigrants  
by inland  
waters or  
overland.

9. Every person who enters Sierra Leone by inland waters or overland shall forthwith and in any case not later than seven days after the day of his arrival proceed to and appear before the nearest Immigration Officer who, after such examination as he may consider necessary, shall, if he considers that such person is within the category of a prohibited immigrant, inform such person of his finding and such person shall, in accordance with the instructions of an Immigration Officer—

(a) if he entered by inland waters, leave and depart from Sierra Leone at the first available opportunity, or

(b) if he entered overland whether by means of any vehicle or otherwise, leave and depart from Sierra Leone forthwith.

Examination  
of person  
ceasing to be  
exempted  
under  
section 4.  
23 of 1956.

10. (1) If any person who has entered Sierra Leone under the provisions of paragraph (a), (b) or (c) of section 4 (1) of this Ordinance subsequently, while in Sierra Leone, ceases to possess the qualifications by virtue of which the provisions of section 4 (1) applied to him, the provisions of this Ordinance shall forthwith apply to such person who shall thereupon be deemed to be a person desiring to enter Sierra Leone for the first time.