

Essential (Control of Publications and Safeguarding of Information) Regulations

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Legislative History

EMERGENCY (ESSENTIAL POWERS) ACT (CHAPTER 90, SECTION 2)

ESSENTIAL (CONTROL OF PUBLICATIONS AND SAFEGUARDING OF INFORMATION) REGULATIONS

Rg 14

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[8th July 1966]

Citation

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Essential (Control of Publications and Safeguarding of Information) Regulations.

Definitions

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

“accredited representatives” means persons whose names are included in the list required to be submitted to the competent authority under regulation 5 and includes reporters employed by the person submitting that list;

“competent authority” means any person designated by the Minister under regulation 3;

“disseminate” with its grammatical variations and cognate expressions includes printing, publishing or releasing by any means whatsoever for public information;

“newspaper” means any publication containing news, intelligence, report of occurrences, or any remarks, observations or comments, in relation to such news, intelligence or occurrences, or to any other matter of public interest, printed in any language and published in Singapore for sale or free distribution at regular or irregular intervals, but does not include any publication published by or for any Government department in Singapore;

“protected information” means any information relating to any of the following matters:

(a) the number, description, armament, equipment, disposition, movement or condition of the Singapore Armed Forces, Singapore Police Force, the vessels or aircraft of those Forces, or the forces, vessels or aircraft belonging to an allied power;

(b) any operations or projected operations of the Singapore Armed

- Forces, Singapore Police Force or the vessels or aircraft of those Forces, or the forces, vessels or aircraft belonging to an allied power;
- (c) any measures taken for the defence or fortification of any place by the Government or that of an allied power;
 - (d) the number, description or location of any prisoners of war;
 - (e) munitions of war; and
 - (f) any other matters whatsoever which are considered by the Minister to be directly or indirectly prejudicial or detrimental to the defence of Singapore, the preservation of public security or the maintenance of public order.

Power of Minister to designate competent authority

3. For the purpose of these Regulations, the Minister may designate a person or persons to exercise powers and perform duties under these Regulations and such person or persons shall be known as the competent authority.

Prohibition to disseminate, obtain or make record of or communicate any protected information

4. No person shall —

- (a) obtain or have in his possession;
- (b) make records or copies of, or communicate by any means whatsoever to any other person (whether within or without Singapore); or
- (c) disseminate in any newspaper or in any manner whatsoever,

any protected information or any documents, records or other materials relating to any protected information, unless the consent of a competent authority has previously been obtained for such or any of the purposes referred to in this regulation.

Power of competent authority to ask for a list of accredited representatives

5.—(1) Notwithstanding the provisions of any written law to the contrary, the competent authority may require any person, desiring to do any of the acts mentioned in regulation 4, to submit to the competent authority a list of persons (referred to in these Regulations as the accredited representatives) to whom consent under regulation 4 may be given at the discretion of the competent authority:

Provided that at any time thereafter the competent authority may for any sufficient