

No. 31 OF 1933.

A LAW TO AMEND AND CONSOLIDATE THE LAW RELATING TO THE IMPORTATION, POSSESSION AND USE OF FIREARMS. A.D. 1933. 31 of 1933.

*Amended by Law*

R. E. STUBBS,]

[31st July, 1933.

*5/1934*

Governor.

*11/1934*

BE it enacted :—

*17/1937*

1. This Law may be cited as the Firearms Law, 1933.

*19/1942*

Short title.

2. In this Law, unless the context otherwise requires—  
“ certificate of registration ” means a certificate issued under section 7 of this Law.

Interpretation.

“ Commissioner ” means the Commissioner of the District.

“ Comptroller ” means the Comptroller of Customs and Inland Revenue.

“ firearms ” includes a firearm of every description and an air-gun, air-rifle, air-pistol or any other kind of gun from which any shot, bullet or other missile can be discharged, and every part thereof, but does not include any toy gun or toy pistol from which any shot, bullet or missile is discharged by force of a spring alone nor a firearm which is preserved for antiquarian interest and not for use.

“ Local Commandant ” means the Local Commandant of Police of the District.

“ principal officer of Police of the District ” means the Local Commandant or the Inspector in charge.

3.—(1) The importation of the following firearms is absolutely prohibited—

Prohibition of importation of certain types of firearms.

(a) rifles ;

(b) air-guns, air-rifles or air-pistols of a type declared by the Governor in Council to be dangerous.

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(2) The importation of the following firearms is prohibited—

(a) revolvers ;

(b) pistols :

Provided that the Governor may in his discretion and subject to such conditions as he may think fit grant a special permit to import any firearm specified in this sub-section.

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(3) Any person who imports or attempts to import or aids, abets, counsels or procures any other person to import or attempt to import <sup>or who has in his possession</sup> any firearm specified in this section contrary to the provisions of this section shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to imprisonment not exceeding three years or to a fine not exceeding one hundred pounds or to both such imprisonment and fine and any firearm in respect of which the offence has been committed shall be forfeited. *Law 5 22954*

Importation of certain types of firearms.

4.—(1) The Comptroller may in his discretion grant a licence to import any firearm other than those specified in section 3 of this Law to any person who has obtained from the Local Commandant of the District in which such person resides a certificate that he is a fit and proper person to possess a firearm and that such firearm is being imported for the personal use of such person.

(2) Every such licence shall contain the name and residence of the person authorized thereby to import a firearm under this section and a description of the firearm in respect of which such licence is granted.

(3) Every such licence shall be in force for such period not exceeding three years as may be specified therein provided that the Comptroller may at any time, upon giving one month's notice to the holder thereof, cancel such licence.

(4) Any person who imports or attempts to import any firearm contrary to the provisions of this section shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to imprisonment not exceeding one year or to a fine not exceeding fifty pounds or to both such imprisonment and fine and any firearm in respect of which the offence has been committed shall be forfeited.

Possession, etc., of firearms without registration and licence prohibited.

5.—(1) From and after the date of the coming into operation of this Law, no person shall have in his custody, possession or control, or shall use or carry a firearm unless such person is ~~provided with~~ <sup>the holder of</sup>

(a) a certificate of registration ; and

(b) in the case of a firearm other than a revolver, pistol, air-gun, air-rifle or air-pistol, an annual licence in the Form A in the First Schedule hereto issued by the Commissioner (hereinafter called a "firearms licence") :

Provided that the Commissioner may in his discretion issue a firearms licence to any person to have in his custody, possession or control or to use or carry a firearm in respect of which a certificate of registration has been issued to any other person :

Provided further that no person shall between the 21st January and the 10th September, both days inclusive, use or carry a firearm except under a special permit in the Form B in the First Schedule hereto under the hand of the Commissioner authorizing the carrying of a firearm for the purpose specified in such permit or by virtue of a licence issued under the provisions of section 5 (3) of the Game and Wild Birds Protection Laws, 1922 to 1933.

(2) A firearms licence shall expire on the 31st July next following the date of issue and there shall be payable in respect thereof a fee of one pound :

Provided that no fee in respect of the period ending 31st July, 1934, shall be payable by any person who is in possession of a game licence issued under the provisions of the Game and Wild Birds Protection Laws, 1922 to 1927, and expiring on the 31st March, 1934.

(3) The holder of a firearms licence in respect of which the fee prescribed in sub-section (2) hereof has been paid shall be entitled, during the period such firearms licence is in force, to be issued with a firearms licence in respect of any additional firearm in his custody, possession or control, upon payment of a fee of five shillings for each such additional firearm.

(4) Any person who has in his custody, possession or control, or who uses or carries a firearm in contravention of the provisions of this section shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to imprisonment not exceeding three months or to a fine not exceeding ten pounds or to both such imprisonment and fine and any firearm the property of such person in respect of which such offence has been committed shall be forfeited.

(5) The provisions of this section shall not apply—

- (a) to any person carrying a firearm belonging to a person provided with a certificate of registration and a firearms licence in force and by order of such person and for the use of such person only ;
- (b) to any licensed repairer of firearms or to any person actually employed by such repairer for the purposes of his trade ;

repealed  
& replaced  
See sect. 5-6  
of Firearms  
Law 5/1934

not repealed

(c) to the heir, executor or administrator of the estate of a deceased person who at the time of his death was entitled to keep a firearm, until the expiration of six months from the death of such person.

Deposit of  
firearms  
with  
principal  
officer of  
Police.

6.—(1) Any person having in his custody, possession or control any firearm for which a certificate of registration has been issued but who does not desire to obtain a firearms licence may deposit free of charge such firearm with the principal officer of Police of the District within which such person resides for a period not exceeding one year and may at any time during such period withdraw the same on production of a firearms licence or for the purpose of export.

(2) Any firearm deposited under the provisions of subsection (1) hereof may, if still on deposit, be destroyed by the principal officer of Police of the District at the expiration of one year from the date of deposit without payment of compensation.

(3) The principal officer of Police of the District or any person acting under him in that behalf shall not be liable for any damage, loss, or destruction of any firearm deposited under the provisions of this section except where such damage, loss, or destruction is due to the wilful default of such principal officer of Police or person acting under him in that behalf as the case may be.

Registration  
of firearms.

7.—(1) Any person who desires to register a firearm shall make an application in writing to the Local Commandant specifying his name and residence, the description of the firearm in respect of which registration is desired and, when the application is made in respect of a firearm which has been previously registered, the registered number of such firearm.

(2) On receipt of such application the Local Commandant may, in his discretion, unless the applicant is disqualified by virtue of the provisions of this or any other Law from possessing, carrying or using a firearm, issue to such person a certificate of registration in the Form C in the First Schedule hereto.

(3) Before issuing a certificate of registration the Local Commandant shall require the applicant to produce the firearm and thereupon, unless such firearm bears any number or mark which in the opinion of the Local Commandant is sufficient for purposes of identification and convenient for registration, shall cause such firearm to be marked either on the stock or barrel in such manner as not to injure or disfigure the same with a number whereby the same may be known and identified.

(4) There shall be payable in respect of a certificate of registration a fee of two shillings in stamps :

Provided that no fee shall be payable for any firearm in respect of which a licence was granted under the provisions of the Firearms Law, 1930.

(5) The Local Commandant shall register every certificate of registration granted by him in a book to be kept for the purpose wherein he shall enter the particulars of each certificate.

(6) The Local Commandant may in his discretion at any time cancel any certificate of registration and thereupon the holder of such certificate shall return the same to the Local Commandant and if he fails or refuses to do so he shall be guilty of an offence and shall on conviction be liable to a fine not exceeding ten pounds.

8.—(1) If any certificate of registration issued under the provisions of this Law shall be accidentally destroyed, defaced, or lost, the Local Commandant may, if he shall be satisfied as to the destruction, defacement, or loss of such certificate of registration, supply the person in whose name the certificate of registration had been issued with a duplicate of such certificate, and such duplicate shall have the same force and effect as the original certificate of registration.

Loss, etc., of  
certificate of  
registration.

(2) There shall be payable in respect of every duplicate of a certificate of registration a fee of one shilling in stamps.

9. All forfeitures under this Law may be sold or otherwise disposed of as the Governor may direct.

Disposal of  
forfeitures.

10.—(1) Any person—

(a) to whom the Local Commandant has refused a certificate of registration ; or

Payment of  
value of  
firearm in  
certain cases.

(b) whose certificate of registration has been cancelled ;  
may within ten days from the date of the refusal or the cancellation of a certificate of registration, or in the case of an appeal under section 15 within ten days from the date of the decision of the Governor in Council upon such refusal or cancellation, or upon the expiration of the firearms licence, as the case may be, deliver such firearm to the Commissioner who thereupon shall pay to such person the value thereof at a rate to be assessed by the Comptroller, and if such person fails to deliver such firearm as aforesaid such firearm shall be forfeited.

(2) The value assessed by the Comptroller shall be binding and conclusive and shall be defrayed by the Revenue of the Colony. In assessing the value of any such firearm the Comptroller shall not take into account any import duty paid in respect thereof.

Persons  
incapacitated  
from possess-  
ing, etc.,  
firearms.

11. Subject to the provisions of this Law, no person shall, save under a special permit from the Governor and subject to such terms and conditions as he may think fit, have in his possession, custody or control or shall carry or use a firearm who has been convicted of any of the following offences, that is to say—

- (a) abduction ;
- (b) arson ;
- (c) manslaughter ;
- (d) membership of an unlawful association ;
- (e) murder or attempt to murder ;
- (f) riot ;
- (g) robbery ;
- (h) sedition ;
- (i) treason ;
- (j) an offence under section 3 (3) or 4 (4) of this Law ;
- (k) any other offence declared by the Governor in Council to be an offence for the purposes of this section ;

and any firearm the property of any person convicted of any such offence shall be forfeited.

Manufacture  
and trading  
in firearms  
prohibited.

12.—(1) No person shall manufacture or trade in firearms in Cyprus :

Provided that any person licensed to deal or trade in firearms under the provisions of the Firearms Law, 1930, may dispose of any firearms in his possession at the time of the coming into operation of this Law, within one year thereof.

(2) Any person who acts in contravention of sub-section (1) hereof shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to imprisonment not exceeding one year or to a fine not exceeding fifty pounds or to both such imprisonment and fine and any firearm in respect of which the offence has been committed shall be forfeited.

Manufacture  
of weapons  
discharging  
noxious  
liquid, etc.,  
prohibited.

13.—(1) No person shall import, manufacture, sell, purchase, carry or have in his possession, custody, or control any weapon or article of whatever description designed for the discharge of any noxious liquid, gas, or other thing, or any ammunition containing or designed or adapted to contain any such noxious thing.

(2) Any person who acts in contravention of sub-section (1) hereof shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to imprisonment not exceeding six months or to a fine not exceeding fifty pounds or to both such imprisonment and fine.

14.—(1) The Local Commandant may in his discretion and subject to any conditions as he may think fit to impose grant a permit in the Form D in the First Schedule hereto to any person to execute repairs to any firearm or any part thereof.

Permit for repairs to firearms.

(2) Any person who executes repairs to any firearm contrary to the provisions of sub-section (1) hereof or to any condition specified in the permit shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding fifty pounds.

(3) The Local Commandant may in his discretion at any time cancel any permit granted to any person under the provisions of sub-section (1) hereof.

15. Any person aggrieved by—

(a) the refusal to grant a licence, permit or certificate of registration by the Comptroller, the Local Commandant or the Commissioner, as the case may be ;

(b) the cancellation by the Local Commandant or Commissioner, as the case may be, of any permit or certificate of registration,

may within ten days from the date of such refusal or cancellation, appeal to the Governor in Council whose decision thereon shall be final and conclusive.

Appeal to the Governor in Council.

16. The occupier of any house or premises in which any firearm shall be found shall for the purposes of this Law be deemed and taken to be the person in possession, custody or control of such firearm until the contrary is proved by him.

Liability of occupier.

17.—(1) Any police officer of any rank not lower than that of sergeant may, at any time, call upon the holder of a firearms licence to produce to such officer for his inspection any firearm in respect of which such licence is held and if such person fails or refuses to do so any such officer may without warrant enter any premises wherein such person resides and search for and seize any such firearm.

Power of Police to request production of firearm.

(2) Any person who—

(a) fails or refuses to produce for inspection any firearm when requested to do so under the provisions of sub-section (1) hereof ;

(b) resists search or obstructs a police officer acting under the provisions of sub-section (1) hereof, shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to imprisonment not exceeding three months or to a fine not exceeding ten pounds or to both such imprisonment and fine.

Loss or  
destruction  
of firearm.

18. If a firearm in the possession of any person is lost or destroyed such person shall forthwith notify in writing the Police officer in charge of the nearest police station of such loss or destruction and any person who fails to do so or who gives any false information in respect of any loss or destruction of such firearm shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to imprisonment not exceeding three months or to a fine not exceeding ten pounds or to both such imprisonment and fine.

Change of  
residence.

19. If a person holding a firearms licence changes his permanent place of residence from one district to another district he shall notify such change in writing to the Police officer in charge of the nearest police station in the district to which such person has removed and if he fails to do so he shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable to a fine not exceeding ten pounds.

Onus of  
proof.

20. In any proceedings against any person for an offence under this Law the burden of proving that a licence or permit has been granted shall lie upon such person.

Court may  
prohibit  
convicted  
person from  
possessing  
firearms.

21. Any Court may, upon the conviction of any person for an offence, order that such convicted person, in addition to any other punishment, shall be prohibited from possessing or using a firearm for such period as the Court may determine.

Regulations.

22.—(1) The Governor in Council may make regulations to be published in the *Cyprus Gazette*—

(a) declaring any type of air-gun, air-rifle or air-pistol to be specially dangerous ;

(b) prohibiting the carrying or use of firearms or of any description of firearms by all or any persons, whether licensed so to do by this or any other Law, within any specified area ;

(c) generally, for the better carrying into effect of the purposes of this Law.

(2) Such regulations may provide for penalties for any breach thereof, not exceeding three months' imprisonment or ten pounds' fine or both such imprisonment and fine, and for the forfeiture of any firearm in respect of which such breach has been committed.

**23.** Nothing in this Law shall apply to or affect any person serving in His Majesty's Forces or in the Police Force or any Special Constable in respect of any firearm entrusted to or used or to be used by such person in his capacity as a member of such forces or as a Special Constable. Exemptions.

**24.** The enactments set forth in the Second Schedule hereto are hereby repealed to the extent specified therein as from the date of the coming into operation of this Law. Repeal.

**25.** This Law shall come into operation on the 1st August, 1933. Date of coming into operation.

FIRST SCHEDULE.

FORM A. (SECTION 5.)

THE FIREARMS LAW, 1933.

FIREARMS LICENCE.

No.....

..... of..... is hereby licensed to possess one\*.....

This licence is valid up to 31st July, 19.....

Fee paid £1.

Dated.....

.....  
*Commissioner of*.....

\* Here insert full description of firearm including the number of the certificate of registration and any mark of identification.

FORM B. (SECTION 5.)

THE FIREARMS LAW, 1933.

SPECIAL PERMIT.

No.....

..... of..... is hereby granted a Special Permit to use or carry between 21st January, 19.., and 10th September, 19.., a firearm, viz.\*..... in respect of which certificate of registration No..... and Firearms Licence No..... have been issued for the following purpose:

.....  
.....

Dated.....

.....  
*Commissioner.*

\* Here insert description of firearm.

FORM C. (SECTION 7.)  
 THE FIREARMS LAW, 1933.  
 CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION.

No.....  
 .....of.....  
 has this day registered one\* .....

This certificate of registration is liable to be cancelled at any time.

Fee paid 2s. ....  
*Local Commandant.*

Dated.....

\* Here insert full description of firearm including any mark of identification.

FORM D. (SECTION 14.)  
 THE FIREARMS LAW, 1933.  
 PERMIT TO REPAIR FIREARMS.

No.....  
 Permit is hereby granted to .....  
 of.....to execute repairs to any firearm  
 or any part thereof, subject to the following conditions:—

.....  
 .....

.....  
*Local Commandant.*

Dated.....

SECOND SCHEDULE.

<i>Enactments.</i>	<i>Extent of repeal.</i>
The Customs and Excise Regulation Law, 1879, (24 of 1879) .. ..	Section 30.
The Customs and Excise Regulations (Amendment) Law, 1927, (9 of 1927) .. .. .	The whole.
The Firearms Law, 1930, (11 of 1930)	The whole.

*This Law came into operation on 1st August, 1933.*