

**CYPRUS**

**PROPERTY OF HER MAJESTY  
(THEFT AND POSSESSION)**

**CHAPTER 163 OF THE LAWS**

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1959

## CHAPTER 163.

## PROPERTY OF HER MAJESTY (THEFT AND POSSESSION).

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A LAW TO MAKE SPECIAL PROVISION IN CASES OF THEFT,  
ETC., OF FIREARMS, ETC., BELONGING TO HER MAJESTY.

[24th February, 1946.]

Short title.

1. This Law may be cited as the Property of Her Majesty (Theft and Possession) Law.

Theft, etc.,  
of firearms,  
etc.,  
belonging  
to Her  
Majesty.

2. (1) Any person who—
- (a) steals any firearm, ammunition or explosive belonging to Her Majesty ;
  - (b) unlawfully receives or takes upon himself the control or disposition of any firearm, ammunition or explosive belonging to Her Majesty ;
  - (c) without lawful authority or lawful occasion, the burden of proof of which shall lie on him, carries or has in his possession any firearm, ammunition or explosive belonging to Her Majesty,

shall be guilty of an offence against this section and shall, on conviction, be liable to imprisonment for life.

- (2) For the purposes of this section the expression—

“firearm, ammunition or explosive belonging to Her Majesty” shall include a firearm, ammunition or explosive furnished or issued for the use of an officer, non-commissioned officer or private of Her Majesty's Forces or of any Allied or Dominion or Colonial Forces or any member of the Cyprus Police Force ;

“has in his possession” shall include not only having in one's own personal possession, but also knowingly having in the actual possession or custody

of any other person, or having anything in any place (whether belonging to or occupied by oneself or not) for the use or benefit of oneself or of any other person ; and if there are two or more persons and any one or more of them with the knowledge and consent of the rest has or have anything in his or their custody or possession, it shall be deemed and taken to be in the custody and possession of each and all of them.

3. (1) Any person who—

- (a) steals any article or goods belonging to Her Majesty ;
- (b) unlawfully receives or takes upon himself the control or disposition of any article or goods belonging to Her Majesty ;
- (c) without lawful authority or lawful occasion, the burden of proof of which shall lie on him, detains, sells, exchanges, hands over or has in his possession any article or goods belonging to Her Majesty,

Theft, etc.,  
of property  
belonging to  
Her Majesty.

shall be guilty of an offence against this section and may be tried by the President of a District Court or a District Judge and on conviction shall be liable to imprisonment for any term not exceeding seven years or to a fine not exceeding five hundred pounds or to both such imprisonment and fine.

(2) For the purposes of this section the expression—

“ any article or goods belonging to Her Majesty ” shall include any article or goods belonging to Her Majesty's Government or any department thereof or belonging to any Allied, Dominion or Colonial Force or any article or goods which has or have been in the supply of, or imported into the Colony for the use of, the Navy, Army and Air Force Institutes or the Expeditionary Forces Institutes, but shall not include any firearm, ammunition or explosive belonging to Her Majesty as defined in subsection (2) of section 2.

“ has in his possession ” shall have the same meaning as in subsection (2) of section 2.

(3) A prosecution for an offence against this section shall not be instituted except with the consent of a Law Officer; 2 of 27/47.