My attention has been drawn to the provisions of Section 2 (1), (1a), (2) and 8 (2) of the Official Secrets Acts, 1911 and 1920, which are set out below, and I understand the effect of these sections and the serious consequences which may follow any breach of their provisions.

I am aware that the office in which I am working is a “prohibited place” within the meaning of Section 2, and that my duties in themselves may constitute “information which relates to or is used in a prohibited place,” in addition to such information as I may acquire in the performance of these duties and as defined in Section 2.


OFFICIAL SECRETS ACTS, 1911 and 1920.

2 " (1) If any person having in his possession or control any secret official code word, or pass word, or any sketch, plan, model, article, note, document, or information which relates to or is used in a prohibited place or anything in such a place, or which has been made or obtained in contravention of this Act, or which has been entrusted in confidence to him by any person holding office under His Majesty or which he has obtained or to which he has had access owing to his position as a person who holds or has held office under His Majesty or has held a contract made on behalf of His Majesty or as a person who is or has been employed under a person who holds or has held such an office or contract,—

(a) communicates the code word, pass word, sketch, plan, model, article, note, document or information to any person, other than a person to whom he is authorised to communicate it, or a person to whom it is in the interest of the State his duty to communicate it, or

(b) uses the information in his possession for the benefit of any foreign power or in any other manner prejudicial to the safety or interests of the State, or

(c) retains the sketch, plan, model, article, note, or document in his possession or control when he has no right to retain it or when it is contrary to his duty to retain it, or fails to comply with all directions issued by lawful authority with regard to the return or disposal thereof, or

that person shall be guilty of a misdemeanour.

(1a) If any person having in his possession or control any sketch, plan, model, article, note, document, or information which relates to munitions of war, communicates it directly or indirectly to any foreign power, or in any other manner prejudicial to the safety or interests of the State, that person shall be guilty of a misdemeanour.

(2) If any person receives any secret official code word, or pass word, or sketch, plan, model, article, note, document, or information, knowing, or having reasonable grounds to believe, at the time when he receives it, that the code word, pass word, sketch, plan, model, article, note, document, or information is communicated to him in contravention of this Act, he shall be guilty of a misdemeanour, unless he proves that the communication to him of the code word, pass word, sketch, plan, model, article, note, document, or information was contrary to his desire.

8 (2) Any person who is guilty of a misdemeanour under the Official Secrets Act 1911 and 1920 shall be liable on conviction or indictment to imprisonment, with or without hard labour, for a term not exceeding two years, or, on conviction under the Summary Jurisdiction Acts, to imprisonment, with or without hard labour, for a term not exceeding three months or to a fine not exceeding fifty pounds or both such imprisonment and fine."