

NORTHERN IRELAND OFFICE  
EXPLOSIVES ACTS (NORTHERN IRELAND) 1875-1970

Report of  
Her Majesty's Inspectors of  
Explosives for  
Northern Ireland  
1993

Presented pursuant to 38 Vict c.17, s.57

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# Seventieth annual report of Her Majesty's Inspectors of Explosives for Northern Ireland being their Annual Report for 1993

TO: THE RIGHT HONOURABLE THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR  
NORTHERN IRELAND

Sir,

In accordance with section 57 of the Explosives Act 1875 which stipulates, inter alia, that a report of the proceedings under the Act shall be made annually to the Secretary of State, and shall be laid before both houses of the Parliament of the United Kingdom, we have the honour to submit the following report on the working of the Explosives Acts (Northern Ireland) 1875, 1924 and 1970.

Two visits were made to Northern Ireland during the year and inspections of licensed factories, magazines and stores made jointly with officers of the Royal Ulster Constabulary.

## Explosives

### Licensed Stores and Registered Premises

The Explosives Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1970 made under section 3 of the Explosives Act (Northern Ireland) 1970 require, inter alia, that explosives may only be stored in secure premises which have been licensed by the Secretary of State. Such stores are licensed annually upon payment of the appropriate fee, and must conform to certain approved structural specifications. Stores are licensed under one of five divisions, depending on the weight of explosives (including black powder and detonators) held. Two stores are presently permitted to retain explosives in this manner.

Retailers who wish to sell ammunition or fireworks, must also have their premises registered by the Secretary of State, upon payment of the appropriate fee. Again, such premises are registered under one of two modes, depending on the weight of explosives to be held. The majority of registered premises (reference Appendix C) are for the storage, for retail sale, of explosives of Class 6, Division 1 (ammunition). In addition, 59 registered premises store black powder or smokeless powder up to a maximum of 50 lbs.

Appendices A, B and C to this report show, respectively, the location of members of the Royal Ulster Constabulary acting as local Inspectors of Explosives and the number of inspections they carried out; the number and locations of stores licensed as at 31 December 1993; and the number and location of registered premises.

## Factories and Magazines

Two explosives factories and two magazines are in operation in Northern Ireland.

## Proceedings

### Explosives Acts (Northern Ireland) 1875-1970

There were no prosecutions during the year for offences committed under the legislation.

## **Accidents**

No accidents occurred during the year within the scope of the Explosives Acts.

## **Acetylene**

One approved acetylene compressing station remains in operation.

We have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient Servants,

**G E WILLIAMSON**  
*HM Chief Inspector of Explosives*

**A R Duckworth**

**D H Lee**

**Dr R Merrifield**

*HM Inspectors of Explosives*

# APPENDIX A Royal Ulster Constabulary

## Local Inspectors of Explosives 1993

Police Division	Number of Inspectors*	Number of Inspections of Stores and Registered Premises†
A-E (Greater Belfast)	1	508
G (Co Down)	1	156
H (Co Down/Co Armagh)	1	97
J (Co Down/Co Armagh/Co Antrim)	1	180
K (Co Armagh/Co Londonderry/Co Tyrone)	1	173
L (Co Fermanagh/Co Tyrone/Co Londonderry)	1	369
N (Co Londonderry/Co Tyrone)	1	106
O (Co Londonderry/Co Antrim)	1	194
P (Co Antrim)	1	157
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>1,940</b>

\* In addition there are 2 full-time Inspectors of Explosives (an Inspector and a Sergeant) at Royal Ulster Constabulary Headquarters.

† In addition to their statutory inspection function, Inspectors, or Constables detailed by them, supervised all blasting operations throughout the year.

APPENDIX B **Store licences granted by the  
Secretary of State in force on  
31 December 1993**

Police Division	Number of Stores
A-E (Greater Belfast)	1
G (Co Down)	—
H (Co Down/Co Armagh)	—
J (Co Down/Co Armagh/Co Antrim)	—
K (Co Armagh/Co Londonderry/Co Tyrone)	1
L (Co Fermanagh/Co Tyrone/Co Londonderry)	—
N (Co Londonderry/Co Tyrone)	—
O (Co Londonderry/Co Antrim)	—
P (Co Antrim)	—
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2</b>

# APPENDIX C Registered Premises 1993

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**Police Division**

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A B D E	(Greater Belfast)	69
G	(Co Down)	26
H	(Co Down/Co Armagh)	15
J	(Co Down/Co Armagh/Co Antrim)	17
K	(Co Armagh/Co Londonderry/Co Tyrone)	14
L	(Co Fermanagh/Co Tyrone/Co Londonderry)	27
N	(Co Londonderry/Co Tyrone)	13
O	(Co Londonderry/Co Antrim)	21
P	(Co Antrim)	23
TOTAL		225

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