

BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS PROTECTORATE.

No. 17 of 1922



[L.S.]

C. H. RODWELL,

High Commissioner.

25th November, 1922.

KING'S REGULATION

TO PROVIDE FOR NATIVE ADMINISTRATION IN THE
BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS PROTECTORATE.

Made by His Britannic Majesty's High Commissioner for the Western
Pacific under the provisions of the Pacific Order in Council 1893.

In the name of His Majesty, GEORGE THE FIFTH, by the Grace of
God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland
and of the British Dominions beyond the Seas King, Defender
of the Faith, Emperor of India.

[25th November, 1922.]

1. This Regulation may be referred to as the Native Administration (Solomons) Regulation 1922 and shall have force and take effect from the date of its publication in the Gazette.

SHORT TITLE.

2. In this Regulation—

INTERPRETATION

“Territory” shall mean the British Solomon Islands Protectorate;

“Native Officer” shall mean a Headman of a sub-district or a Village Headman or a Village Constable duly appointed in terms of this Regulation.

3. The Resident Commissioner for the time being shall have and exercise over natives in the territory all political power and authority subject to such instructions as he may from time to time receive from the High Commissioner.

POWER OF
RESIDENT
COMMISSIONER.

4. For the purpose of native administration the Resident Commissioner may from time to time subject to the approval of the High Commissioner divide and sub-divide the territory into such Districts and sub-Districts as he may deem advisable.

POWER TO
DIVIDE AND
SUB-DIVIDE
INTO DISTRICTS.

5. The District Officer in each District shall be responsible for the administration of native affairs therein subject to such instructions as he may from time to time receive from the Resident Commissioner.

DISTRICT
OFFICER TO BE
RESPONSIBLE
FOR ADMINIS-
TRATION OF
NATIVE AFFAIRS.

POWER TO
APPOINT
HEADMEN.

6. The Resident Commissioner on the recommendation of the District Officer may appoint a Headman of each sub-District and may dismiss any Headman so appointed for any breach of this Regulation or of any Rule made thereunder or for any other just cause provided that in the case of dismissal for other reason than a breach of this Regulation or any Rule the circumstances shall be reported to the High Commissioner.

DISTRICT
OFFICER MAY
APPOINT VILLAGE
HEADMEN.

7. The District Officer may appoint Village Headmen and Village Constables and may for any breach of this Regulation or Rule made thereunder or for any other just cause suspend any Village Headman or Constable from the exercise of his duties provided that any such suspension shall be reported to the Resident Commissioner and if confirmed by him shall be reckoned as dismissal from the date of suspension.

POWER OF
RESIDENT COM-
MISSIONER TO
CALL OUT
NATIVES IN CASE
OF DISORDER.

8. The Resident Commissioner may with the concurrence of the High Commissioner call upon Headmen of sub-Districts to supply men for the defence of the territory and for the suppression of disorder and rebellion within its limits and may call upon such Headmen personally to render such service.

REMUNERATION
OF NATIVE
OFFICERS.

9. Native Officers shall receive from Government funds such remuneration as may from time to time be fixed by the Resident Commissioner with the approval of the High Commissioner.

DUTIES OF
HEADMEN.

10. A Headman of a sub-District shall be responsible within his sub-District for—

- (1) the general good conduct of the natives under his charge;
- (2) the immediate notification to the District Officer of any crime or offence or serious attempt at crime, of all deaths or suspicious disappearances and of any epidemic or prevailing disease among the natives of his sub-District;
- (3) the promulgation of all such public orders or notices as he may receive from the District Officer;
- (4) the nomination of Village Headmen for appointment by the District Officer;
- (5) the notification to the District Officer of the arrival in his sub-District of any persons not belonging thereto who desire to reside therein;
- (6) the prompt supply of men called for under section 8 of this Regulation when ordered to supply the same by the Resident Commissioner through the District Officer;
- (7) the discharge of such further and other duties as may be from time to time prescribed by Regulation or Rule.

DUTIES OF
VILLAGE
HEADMEN.

11. A Village Headman shall be responsible for—

- (1) the good order and cleanliness of his village;
- (2) the immediate notification to the Headman of the sub-District of all crimes offences deaths suspicious disappearances and outbreaks of disease in his village;
- (3) the discharge of such further and other duties as may be from time to time prescribed by Regulation or Rule.

DUTIES OF
VILLAGE
CONSTABLE.

12. The duties of a Village Constable shall be to aid the Village Headman in the execution of his duties, in the suppression of crime and the apprehension of offenders and generally in the carrying out of the provisions of this Regulation or of any Rule made thereunder.

NATIVE OFFICERS
TO PROMPTLY
COMPLY WITH
ORDERS OF
RESIDENT COM-
MISSIONER OR
DISTRICT
OFFICER.

13. All Native Officers shall promptly comply with any order of the Resident Commissioner or District Officer issued in conformity with and in pursuance of this Regulation or any Rule made thereunder.

14. Native Officers are authorised and required to arrest any native within their sub-Districts in obedience to any lawful warrant or whom they may see committing or attempting to commit any crime or offence against any person or property or rioting or defying authority and to hand over such native without delay to the District Officer.

POWER OF
NATIVE OFFICER
TO ARREST.

15. Any Native Officer who shall be found guilty of blackmail extortion intimidation oppression or other abuse of his authority shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding £10 or to imprisonment with or without hard labour for a period not exceeding six months.

PENALTY ON
CONVICTION FOR
OFFENCES BY
NATIVE OFFICERS

16. All natives shall comply with all orders of Native Officers issued in compliance with or in pursuance of this Regulation or any Rule made thereunder and with any reasonable order request or direction made by a District Officer, and shall when so required assist in the promulgation of public orders and regulations and in any measure undertaken by the Government for the general welfare.

NATIVES TO
COMPLY WITH
ORDERS OF
NATIVE
OFFICIALS.

17. Any native wilfully obstructing the execution of any lawful order or bringing Government authority into contempt shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable upon conviction to imprisonment with or without hard labour for a term not exceeding six months or to a fine not exceeding ten pounds and in default of payment to imprisonment with or without hard labour for a term not exceeding three months unless such fine be sooner paid or to both such fine and imprisonment.

PENALTY FOR
OBSTRUCTING
GOVERNMENT
AUTHORITY.

18. Any native officer or other native failing or neglecting without reasonable excuse to carry out any of the duties prescribed by this Regulation or by any Rule made thereunder shall be deemed guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to the prescribed penalty or when no special penalty is provided to a fine not exceeding £5 or to imprisonment with or without hard labour for a period not exceeding three months.

FAILURE OF
NATIVES TO
CARRY OUT
DUTIES PRE-
SCRIBED BY
REGULATION OR
RULES MADE
THEREUNDER.

19. Subject to the approval of the High Commissioner the Resident Commissioner may by notice in the Gazette make Rules not inconsistent with this Regulation—

RESIDENT COM-
MISSIONER MAY
MAKE RULES.

- (1) prescribing additional duties for Native Officers;
- (2) for the sanitation of Villages and the preservation of public health;
- (3) for the prevention of nuisances;
- (4) for the cultivation of foodstuffs and the performance of communal services;
- (5) for the notification of births and deaths;
- (6) generally for the preservation of good order the suppression of evil practices and the improvement of social conditions among natives;

and may prescribe penalties for the breach thereof.

Published and exhibited in the Public Office of the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific this twenty-fifth day of November one thousand nine hundred and twenty-two.

By Command,

ROGER GREENE,
Secretary to His Britannic Majesty's High
Commissioner for the Western Pacific.

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