CHAPTER 35

An Act to provide, during twelve months, for the discipline and regulation of the Army and the Air Force. [4th June, 1954]

WHEREAS the raising or keeping of a standing army within the United Kingdom in time of peace, unless it be with the consent of Parliament, is against law:

And whereas it is adjudged necessary by Her Majesty and this present Parliament that a body of land forces should be continued for the safety of the United Kingdom and the defence of the possessions of Her Majesty's Crown, and that the whole number of such forces should consist of five hundred and forty-nine thousand:

And whereas it is adjudged necessary that a body of air forces should be continued for the purposes aforesaid, and that the whole number of such forces should consist of two hundred and eighty-eight thousand:

And whereas it is also judged necessary for the safety of the United Kingdom and the defence of the possessions of this realm that a body of Royal Marine forces should be employed in Her Majesty's fleet and naval service under the direction of the Lord High Admiral of the United Kingdom, or the Commissioners for executing the office of Lord High Admiral aforesaid:

And whereas the said marine forces may frequently be quartered or be on shore, or be sent to do duty or be on board transport ships or vessels, merchant ships or vessels, or other ships or vessels, or they may be under other circumstances in which they will not be subject to the laws relating to the government of Her Majesty's forces by sea:

And whereas no man can be forejudged of life or limb, or subjected in time of peace to any kind of punishment within this realm, by martial law, or in any other manner than by the judgment of his peers and according to the known and established laws of this realm; yet, nevertheless, it being requisite, for the retaining all the before-mentioned forces, and other persons subject to military law or to the Air Force Act, in their duty, that an exact discipline be observed and that persons belonging to the said forces who mutiny, or stir up sedition, or desert Her Majesty's service, or are guilty of crimes and offences to the prejudice of good order and military or air force discipline, be brought to a more exemplary and speedy punishment than the usual forms of the law will allow:

And whereas the Army Act and the Air Force Act will expire with the thirty-first day of July, nineteen hundred and fifty-four:

Be it therefore enacted by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

Short title.

1. This Act may be cited as the Army and Air Force (Annual) Act, 1954.

Army Act and Air Force Act to be in force for specified time.

2.—(1) The Army Act and the Air Force Act shall be and remain in force from the first day of August, nineteen hundred and fifty-four to the thirty-first day of July, nineteen hundred and fifty-five, both inclusive, and no longer unless otherwise provided by Parliament.

(2) The Army Act and the Air Force Act, while in force, shall apply to persons subject, as the case may be, to military law or to the Air Force Act wherever they may be.

(3) A person subject to military law or to the Air Force Act shall not be exempted from the provisions of the Army Act or the Air Force Act by reason only that the numbers of the forces for the time being in the service of Her Majesty, exclusive of the marine forces, is either greater or less than the numbers hereinbefore mentioned.

CHAPTER 36

Law Reform (Limination of Actions, &c.) Act, 1954

ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

Section
1. Repeal of Public Authorities Protection Act, 1893, and other enactments.
2. Amendment of Limitation Act, 1939, as respects personal injury actions.
3. Amendment of Fatal Accidents Act, 1846.
4. Amendment as to proceedings on causes of action surviving against estates of deceased persons.
5. Application to the Crown.
6. Further provisions as to limitation of actions in Scotland.
7. Transitional provisions.
8. Short title, extent and repeals.

SCHEDULE.