The Deprivation of Citizenship Rules, 1950

1950 No. 593

Made - - - - 11*th April*, 1950

In pursuance of the power conferred on me by subsection (3) of section twenty-nine of the British Nationality Act, 1948(a), I hereby make the following Rules:—

1.—(1) When the Secretary of State refers the case of a citizen of the United Kingdom and Colonies to a committee of inquiry under subsection (7) of section twenty or subsection (2) of section twenty-one of the British Nationality Act, 1948 (which relate to deprivation of citizenship of the United Kingdom and Colonies), the committee of inquiry (in these Rules referred to as "the committee") shall, before holding the inquiry, cause notice to be given to the person to whom the inquiry relates, stating the time when and the place where it will be held and the nature thereof and informing him that he will be entitled to be present and to be represented by counsel or solicitor or, if the committee think fit, by some other person approved by them.

(2) A notice under this Rule may be given—

(*a*) in a case in which the address of the person concerned is known, by causing the notice to be delivered to him personally or by sending it to him at that address by post;

(*b*) in a case where that person's address is not known, by sending it to his last known address and in such other manner, if any, as the chairman of the committee shall consider fit.

(3) A notice as aforesaid shall be given such time (not being less than fourteen days) before the holding of the inquiry as the chairman of the committee shall consider reasonably necessary.

2. A notice under Rule 1 of these Rules may require the person concerned to answer it in writing and to furnish in writing to the committee any information which they consider material, to be verified in such manner as they may require.

3.—(1) The committee shall have all such powers, rights and privileges as are vested in the High Court or in any judge thereof on the occasion of any action, in respect of the following matters:—

(*a*) the enforcing of the attendance of witnesses and examining them on oath, affirmation or otherwise, and the issue of a commission or request to examine witnesses abroad;

(*b*) the compelling of the production of documents; and

(*c*) the punishing of persons guilty of contempt.

(a) 11 & 12 Geo. 6. c. 56.

(2) A summons signed by one or more members of the committee may be substituted for and shall be equivalent to any formal process capable of being issued in any action for enforcing the attendance of witnesses and compelling the production of documents.

4. The committee may act upon any information which is available, whether or not such information is given on oath or would be admissible as evidence in a court.

5. The committee may invite any government department which appears to them to be interested to appoint a person to represent the department at the inquiry.

6.—(1) The committee may act notwithstanding any vacancy in their number, and the quorum of the committee shall be three.

(2) The committee may delegate one or more of their members to inquire into any particular matter relating to the inquiry, and the member or members so delegated shall, for this purpose, have all the powers of the committee other than their power of punishment.

7. The committee may postpone or adjourn the inquiry from time to time.

8. The committee may allow or refuse to allow the public or any portion thereof to be present during the whole or any part of the inquiry.

9. Subject to these Rules, the procedure at the inquiry shall be such as the committee may determine.

10. The Interpretation Act, 1889(**a**), shall apply to the interpretation of these Rules in like manner as it applies to the interpretation of an Act of Parliament.

11. These Rules may be cited as the Deprivation of Citizenship Rules, 1950.

J. Chuter Ede,
One of His Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State.

Home Office,
Whitehall.
11th April, 1950.

(a) 52 & 53 Vict. c. 63.