1.—Each of the areas described in the Schedule to this Order is declared to be a Defence Area for the purposes of Regulation 16B of the Defence (General) Regulations, 1939.

2.—This Order may be cited as the Defence Areas (Northern Ireland) Order, 1941.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Ministry of Public Security for Northern Ireland this 18th day of April, 1941, in the presence of

(L.S.) *W. A. B. Iliff,*
Secretary.

SCHEDULE.

The BELFAST AREA consisting of—the County Borough of Belfast.

The EASTERN AREA consisting of—the boroughs of Bangor, Larne and Newtownards, the urban districts of Ballyclare, Carrickfergus, Donaghadee, Holywood, Lisburn and Whitehead, and the rural districts of Antrim, Belfast, Castlereagh, Hillsborough, Larne, Lisburn and Newtownards.

The SOUTH EASTERN AREA consisting of—the urban districts of Banbridge, Downpatrick, Dromore, Kilkeel, Newcastle, Newry and Warrenpoint, and the rural districts of Banbridge, Downpatrick, Kilkeel, Moira, and Newry No. 1.

The ARMAGH AREA consisting of—the County of Armagh.

The TYRONE AREA consisting of—the County of Tyrone.

The FERMANAGH AREA consisting of—the County of Fermanagh.

The LONDONDERRY CITY AREA consisting of—the County Borough of Londonderry.

The LONDONDERRY COUNTY AREA consisting of—the County of Londonderry.

The NORTH EASTERN AREA consisting of—the borough of Ballymena, the urban districts of Ballycastle, Ballymoney and Portrush, and the rural districts of Ballycastle, Ballymena and Ballymoney.

DOCKS AND HARBOURS.

Explosives, p. 138.
Petroleum Spirit, p. 142.
Port of Belfast, p. 145.

Explosives.

ORDER, DATED SEVENTEENTH FEBRUARY, 1941, MADE BY THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE UNDER REGULATION 76 (1) OF THE DEFENCE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS, 1939.

1941. No. 41.

WHEREAS by virtue of the Delegation of Emergency Powers (Northern Ireland) Order, 1940 (a), made on October 2, 1940, by the Secretary of State under Regulation 102A of the Defence (General) Regulations, 1939, and by directions given by the Secretary of State on October 7, 1940, in pursuance of the said Order, the Secretary of State delegated his powers as respects Northern Ireland, in relation to the area of any harbour authority, under paragraph (1) of Regulation 76 of the said Regulations to the Ministry of Commerce for Northern Ireland :

NOW, THEREFORE, the Ministry of Commerce for Northern Ireland, in pursuance of the powers so delegated to it and of all other powers enabling it in that behalf, hereby orders as follows :—

1.—Notwithstanding any restriction imposed by or under any Act in relation to the shipping, unshipping, handling, storage or conveyance of ammunition, explosives or inflammable substances the following provisions shall apply to the loading and unloading, storage and conveyance within all harbours in Northern Ireland of ammunition or explosives held for the service of a Government Department.

2.—Before any explosive is brought into a harbour for storage or shipment or is transhipped from one vessel to another vessel, or is loaded into or unloaded from any vessel, the representative of the Government Department concerned shall give notice in writing to the Harbour Master of the group number* and quantity of such explosive and of the time when and the place where it is intended to carry out such storage, shipment, transhipment, loading and unloading. In selecting a place for the purpose of the storage, shipment, transhipment, loading and unloading of explosives in the harbour, the representative of the Government Department shall consult the Harbour Master and take all due precautions for the safety of the harbour. Provided that if, owing to urgency, it is impracticable to give prior notice to the Harbour Master, notice shall be given at the first available opportunity.

3.—The Master of every vessel containing or conveying explosives as cargo or loading or unloading explosives in any harbour shall display by day a red flag and by night a red light at the masthead, or if the said vessel has no mast, on a staff, in addition to any navigation lights which may be required by any other Regulations.

4.—During the whole of the time when explosives are being stored, shipped, transhipped, loaded into or unloaded as aforesaid, there shall be present a representative (hereinafter called the " Officer in charge ") appointed by a Government Department concerned and specially charged with the supervision thereof, who shall be responsible for

(a) U.K. S. R. & O., 1940, No. 1789.

*The group number of the explosive of the particular Government Department concerned.

securing that working parties engaged thereon are at all times under strict control.

5.—Before the handling, moving, loading, unloading, or stowing of explosives is commenced, all due precautions shall be taken to reduce to a minimum the risks from sparks from funnels of vessels or locomotives or otherwise, and for this purpose the Officer in charge shall secure the reduction of fires in the vessels concerned, and so far as practicable the keeping clear of all vessels, locomotives or other mechanically propelled vehicles within the danger area.

6.—The Officer in charge shall take steps to secure that no fires or naked lights are in the vicinity of the place where the loading and unloading of explosives is being carried on, and that all due precautions are taken in respect of any explosive in the harbour to prevent accidents by fire or explosion.

7.—The Officer in charge shall also be responsible for seeing that the following provisions are duly observed :—

(i) No smoking shall be allowed at or near the places where explosives are being handled, moved, loaded, unloaded or stowed, and all persons engaged in such operations shall have previously deposited in a place approved by the Officer in charge, all smoking material, matches, lighters and similar articles. Every person employed in the handling, moving, loading, unloading or stowing of explosives shall submit to be searched, when required.

(ii) No cotton waste or other similar inflammable material shall be allowed in the holds, trucks or other containers whilst being used for the conveyance, loading and unloading of explosives.

(iii) No petroleum spirit or other highly inflammable substance shall be handled in the vicinity of the decks or stowed in the holds of a vessel into or from which explosives are being loaded or unloaded.

(iv) Hoses shall be rigged and all other available ship and shore fire-fighting appliances shall be kept ready during the operation of loading and unloading explosives.

(v) No unauthorised person or person under the influence of drink shall be allowed in the hold into or from which explosives are being loaded or unloaded, or be permitted to approach such explosives during loading or unloading.

(vi) In loading and unloading explosives, all such explosives shall be handled carefully. When packages or ammunition are slung, all due precautions shall be taken to sling the same in such a manner as effectually to prevent the possibility of a fall. Cargo nets shall not be used unless authorised by the Officer in charge.

Broken packages and packages the contents of which may have been damaged shall be carefully set on one side and reported to the Government Department concerned for special inspection. If any explosive shall escape from the package in which it was contained, or be spilt, such explosive shall immediately be carefully collected and instructions given by the Officer in charge for its destruction or disposal.

(vii) If artificial light is used during the loading and unloading of explosives all due precautions shall be taken in arranging the lighting apparatus and all such apparatus shall be removed from the holds whenever the operation of loading or unloading ceases.

(viii) No explosive shall be unloaded on any wharf, quay or jetty until the vessel or carriage by which the same is to be removed therefrom shall be at the place in readiness to receive the same. When loading or unloading of explosives has been commenced, such loading or unloading shall be proceeded with, with due diligence.

8.—In carrying out his duties under these Regulations the Officer in charge shall have regard to any Regulations made by the Admiralty or Board of Trade regarding the stowing of explosives in any vessel in the harbour.

9.—If at any time during an operation of loading or unloading any explosive into or from a vessel, it becomes necessary for any reason to suspend operations, all precautions to guard and protect any explosive which may be left either on the ship's deck or on the wharf, quay or jetty, shall be taken by the Officer in charge in accordance with the Regulations of the Government Department concerned.

10.—In this Order the expressions "Harbour Authority" and "Harbour" shall have the meanings respectively assigned to them in the Petroleum (Consolidation) Act (Northern Ireland), 1929 (a), and the expression "Harbour Master" shall mean the Harbour Master or other Officer having authority to act in such capacity.

11.—This Order may be cited as the Government Explosives in Harbours Order (Northern Ireland), 1941.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Ministry of Commerce for Northern Ireland this 17th day of February, nineteen hundred and forty-one, in the presence of

(L.S.) (Signed) *W. Crone*,
Assistant Secretary.

(a) 20 Geo. 5, c. 13.