1983 No. 248

PRISONS

The Prison Rules (Northern Ireland) 1983

Made	*24th August 1983*
Coming into operation . . .	*29th August 1983*
To be laid before Parliament	

The Secretary of State, in pursuance of section 13 of the Prison Act (Northern Ireland) 1953(**a**) hereby makes the following rules:

Citation and commencement

1. These rules may be cited as the Prison Rules (Northern Ireland) 1983 and shall come into operation on 29th August 1983.

Interpretation

2. In these rules the ''principal rules'' means the Prison Rules (Northern Ireland) 1982(**b**) and ''officer'' means an officer within the meaning of those rules.

Modification of principal rules

3.—(1) Where any constable or other person, not being an officer, is employed by reason of any emergency to assist the governor of a prison by performing duties ordinarily performed by an officer, any reference in the relevant rules to an officer shall be treated as including a reference to a constable or other person so employed.

(2) In this rule, the ''relevant rules'' means the principal rules other than rule 29(3) of those rules (which relates to the hearing of disciplinary charges) and Parts XI and XII of those rules (which contain rules relating to prison staff).

Application of principal rules

4. Where, by reason of any emergency, it is impracticable or inexpedient to comply with any requirement of the principal rules (not being a requirement required to be imposed by any enactment), the relevant provision shall have effect so as to require only such compliance (if any) as is practicable and expedient in all the circumstances.

James Prior
One of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State

Northern Ireland Office
24th August 1983

(**a**) 1953 c. 18 (N.I.) as modified by S.I. 1973/2163
(**b**) S.R. 1982 No. 170

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Rules.)

These rules extend certain provisions of the Prison Rules referring to prison officers to any persons employed in an emergency in aid of the governor of a prison (Rule 3). They also provide for any provision of the Prison Rules which in an emergency cannot be complied with to have effect so as to require only such compliance as is practicable and expedient in all the circumstances (Rule 4).