

**BILL No. 17 of 1992**

**Tuesday, 30th JUNE, 1992**

PARLIAMENT OFFICE,  
Public Buildings,  
Georgetown,  
Guyana.

92—06—30.

The following Bill which will be introduced in the National Assembly is published for general information.

*M. B. Henry,*  
Acting Clerk of the National Assembly.



## **GUYANA**

BILL No. 17 of 1992

DEFENCE (AMENDMENT) (AMNESTY) BILL 1992

### ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

#### SECTION

1. Short title.
2. Insertion of new section 49A in the Principal Act.

## A BILL

Intituled

AN ACT to amend the Defence Act.

A. D. 1992

Enacted by the Parliament of Guyana:—

Short title.  
Cap. 15:01

1. This Act, which amends the Defence Act, may be cited as the Defence (Amendment) (Amnesty) Act 1992.

Insertion  
of new sec-  
tion 49A in  
the Princ-  
pal Act

2. The Principal Act is hereby amended by the insertion after section 49 of the following section as section 49A —

\*Amnesty  
granted to  
soldiers.

49A.(1) Notwithstanding anything in this Act, any person subject to military law under this Act who deserts in contravention of section 47 or who is absent without leave in contravention of section 48 shall not be arrested or charged or tried by court-martial or by a civil court under this Act for any such desertion or absence without leave if, during the period commencing on 1st August, 1992 and ending on 31st October, 1992—

- (a) he reports at the location and to the person, notice whereof shall be given in a daily newspaper published in Guyana; and
- (b) at the same time, he delivers up all clothing, kit or any part thereof, arms, ammunition or other equipment or property issued to him or entrusted to his care under the Act which are still in his possession.

(2) The President may, by order, prescribe any other period during which a person, who deserts or absents himself without leave, shall not be arrested, charged or tried by court-martial or by civil court for desertion or absence without leave in contravention of this Act.

(3) Any person subject to military law under this Act, who deserts in contravention of section 47 or is absent without leave in contravention of section 48 and complies with the provisions of subsection (1) shall, notwithstanding anything in this Act, be treated



as properly discharged under this Act and shall be issued with a certificate of discharge.”.

#### EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

This Bill seeks to amend the Defence Act, Cap. 15:01, to provide amnesty to persons, subject to military law, who desert or are absent without leave in contravention of the Act.

Any such person who reports to the person and at a place, to be notified in a daily newspaper published in Guyana, and who delivers up all property in his possession issued to him or which had been entrusted to his care under the Act, shall not be arrested, charged or tried by court-martial or by a civil court.

The amnesty is sought to be granted for a period commencing from 1st August, 1992 and ending on 31st October, 1992.

*K. S. Massiah,*  
Attorney-General  
and Minister of Legal Affairs.

(BILL No. 17/1992)