

Separate Print from "Reichsarbeitsblatt"
(Reich Labor Bulletin) 1942 No.22

Directive concerning the prevention of the following
practices in private economy: Breach of labor contracts,
attempts to induce employees to leave their jobs and
to take up work with another employer, and unreasonable
wage demands (excerpt)

dated 20 July 1942 1)

I hereby issue the following directive based on art.1 of the ordinance concerning wages policy dated 25 June 1938 (RGBl.I p.691) in combination with art.2 of the ordinance for the implementation of the ordinance concerning wages policy, dated 23 April 1941 (RGBl.I p.222), and on the ordinance concerning the authorization of the Plenipotentiary General for Labor Allocation to issue decrees with legal force, dated 25 May 1942 (RGBl.I p.347):

Article 1

If an employee (salaried employee, worker, apprentice, trainee) is obliged by existing rules to accept a certain job, then he is bound to start on this job.

Article 2

No employee may

- a) arbitrarily refuse any job allotted to him or her by the Betriebsfuehrer or his delegate (including overtime, night shift, work on Sundays or holidays), nor may he or she deliberately go slow on his work,
- b) be absent from his or her job arbitrarily, i.e. in particular stay away without sufficient reasons, be late at work repeatedly without sufficient reasons, or leave the job arbitrarily,
- c) disturb normal operations by infractions of discipline, for example acts of violence or gross insults.

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Article 8

- (1) Any person who violates or evades this directive deliberately or by negligence, will -according to art.2 of the ordinance concerning wages policy dated 25 June 1938 (RGBl.I p.691) - be sentenced, by request of the Reich Trustee or the Special

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Labor Trustee, to imprisonment and to a fine (the maximum amount of the latter being unlimited), or to one or the other of these punishments; or he or she will be sentenced -according to Art.1 of the 3rd regulation for the implementation of section III (war time wages) of the war economy ordinance dated 2 December 1939 (RGBl.I p.2370), in combination with the 5th regulation for the implementation of section III (war time wages) of the war economy ordinance (replacement of irrecoverable fines by imprisonment), dated 14 April 1942 (RGBl.I p.180),- to a penalty consisting in a fine, to be replaced, if irrecoverable, by detention of not more than 6 weeks. Accomplices (instigators, offenders acting with common intent, and accessories) are also liable to punishment.

- (2) The jurisdiction for these measures is vested in the Reich Trustee or Special Labor Trustee, on whom it is incumbent to supervise the implementation of the directive, in the individual case in question.
- (3) The jurisdiction is also vested in the Reich Labor Trustee
 - a) in the district of whom the offense has been committed, or
 - b) in the district of whom the accused is being detained by the authorities at the time of the indictment, or
 - c) in the district of whom the accused has been apprehended, or
 - d) in the district of whom the accused is either living or working at the time of the application for punishment or at the time of the initiation of penalty proceedings.
- (4) If according to the above rules jurisdiction is vested in several Reich Trustees or special Labor Trustees, priority will be given to the Trustee who has first taken action in the matter. In doubtful cases, the Plenipotentiary General for Labor Allocation will designate the competent Reich Trustee or Special Labor Trustee.

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1) Published in German Reichsanzeiger and Prussian Staatsanzeiger (Gazette) No.147 dated 28 July 1942.

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