

**\*1209.—Uniform—Badges—Divers, Clearance Divers and Shallow Water Divers**

**(V.2B/62/6/53.—6 May 1955.)**

Particulars of the badges to be worn by ratings holding diving qualifications are set out in Appendix I to this Order.

*Shallow Water Diver's Badge.*

2. A new badge is being introduced for wear by ratings who are fully qualified as Shallow Water Divers as indicated in Appendix II. The badge consists of the traditional diver's helmet with the letters "S.W." below, and is to be worn on the right cuff (in addition to the Branch badge worn on the upper arm).

3. Initial supplies of the Shallow Water Diver's badge are now available in red and in blue. Supplies of the corresponding gold badge will be provided as soon as possible. The vocabulary numbers of the various patterns are :—

Gold	..	..	..	..	..	Vocabulary No. 31340
Red	..	..	..	..	..	Vocabulary No. 32340
Blue (Embroidered)	..	..	..	..	..	Vocabulary No. 30340
Blue (Printed)	..	..	..	..	..	Vocabulary No. 33340

4. Ratings who qualify for the award of the Shallow Water Diver's badge as indicated in Appendix II are to be given an initial free issue in accordance with the scale in Appendix A (III) of A.F.O. 1515/53 (*Uniform—Badges and Buttons—Free Issues to Naval Ratings, Royal Marines and W.R.N.S. Ratings*) as amplified by paragraph 1 (d) and 2 of the Appendix to A.F.O. 156/55 (*Uniform—Naval Ratings—Gold Badges—Restoration to Compulsory Kits of Acting Petty Officers and Leading Rates*). The free issues are to be recorded in ratings' Pay Books (in addition to the notation required on the Service Certificate in accordance with paragraph 7 of Appendix II) and are to be made only on *first* qualifying for the badge—i.e., a second free issue is not to be made in the event of re-qualification following a period of ineligibility to wear the badge (*see* paragraph 6 of Appendix II).

5. *Reports.*—Attention is drawn to the necessity for rendering reports of the award of the Shallow Water Diver's badge (*see* 7 (b) of Appendix II).

6. *Diving Pay.*—As from 1st January, 1956, the only ratings entitled to receive Diving Pay ("Dip Money") under Article 485 (1) (b) of B.R. 1950 (Naval Pay Regulations) will be those entitled to wear the Shallow Water Diver's badge.

#### APPENDIX I

##### *Ratings holding Diving Qualifications—Particulars of Badges to be Worn*

	<i>Description of Badge</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
<i>Divers, 1st Class</i>		
Chief Petty Officers ..	Diver's helmet, crown above and star below.	Worn as a <i>Branch</i> badge on the collar.
Petty Officers and confirmed Leading Rates.	Diver's helmet, crown above	Worn as a <i>Branch</i> badge on the right arm.
<i>Divers, 2nd Class</i> .. ..	Diver's helmet, star above and star below.	Worn on the right cuff in addition to Branch badges. (Divers 2nd and 3rd Class retain their Branch specialist qualifications and should continue to wear their appropriate Branch badge on the upper arm.)
<i>Divers, 3rd Class</i> .. ..	Diver's helmet, star above..	
<i>Clearance Divers</i>		
Chief Petty Officers, 1st Class. Specialist Qualifications.	Diver's helmet, crown above, star and letter "C" below.	Worn as a <i>Branch</i> badge on the collar.
Chief Petty Officers, 2nd Class or lower. Specialist Qualifications.	Diver's helmet, crown above, letter "C" below.	
Clearance Divers, 1st Class (Petty Officers and confirmed Leading Rates).	Diver's helmet, crown above, letter "C" below.	Worn as a <i>Branch</i> badge on the right arm.
Clearance Divers, 2nd Class.	Diver's helmet, star above, star and letter "C" below.	
Clearance Divers, 3rd Class.	Diver's helmet, star above, letter "C" below.	

## APPENDIX I—contd.

Shallow Water Divers	Description of Badge	Remarks
Ratings qualified as indicated in Appendix II.	Diver's helmet, letters "S.W." below.	Worn on the right cuff in addition to Branch badge worn on the upper arm.

## APPENDIX II

*Wearing of Shallow Water Diver's Badge—Qualifications required*

In the past ratings have qualified as Shallow Water Divers on syllabuses which have varied as the duties of such ratings have been evolved.

2. The Shallow Water Diver's badge is to be awarded only to ratings who have reached the standard required in A.F.O. 695/54 (*Training—Shallow Water Diving*), i.e. who have either :—

- (a) successfully completed the 3 weeks course referred to in paragraph 4 of that Order ; or
- (b) qualified under earlier syllabuses and successfully completed a (8 day) conversion course to bring them to the standard required in the 3 weeks course.

The 3 weeks course was introduced in the Home Diving Schools at the beginning of 1953 and at later dates abroad. A copy of the syllabus for the course can be obtained from the Captain, H.M.S. "Vernon".

3. Where a rating's standard of qualification is in doubt, he should be re-examined before award of the badge.

4. The award of the badge is also subject to the rating's not being debarred by lack of practice as indicated in paragraph 5 (b) below.

5. *Withdrawal of permission to wear the badge.*—Ratings will cease to be regarded as Shallow Water Divers and will become ineligible to wear the badge if for any reason :—

- (a) they are permanently unable or unwilling to dive as a Shallow Water Diver ;
- or
- (b) they have not carried out any diving practice as Shallow Water Divers for a period of 12 months.

It is appreciated that the rule at (b) above may result in a rating's losing his Shallow Water Diver status through no fault of his own, but Shallow Water Divers who are out of practice can be a danger to their shipmates as well as themselves.

6. *Requalification.*—A rating who loses his Shallow Water Diver status and eligibility to wear the badge under paragraph 5 above may regain both by passing the examination again under the usual examining officers (B.R. 1066, Article 103A (7) E). No formal requalifying courses will be arranged, but it may often be practicable to give such ratings practice at Port Diving Schools before they take the requalifying examination.

7. *Records and Reports.*—The award of (or withdrawal of permission to wear) the Shallow Water Diver's badge is to be :—

- (a) recorded at the foot of page 3 of the rating's Service Certificate in addition to any previous notation of qualification as a Shallow Water Diver ; and
- (b) reported to the Commodore of the rating's Port Division, with a copy to the Captain, H.M.S. "Vernon".

8. The Shallow Water Diver qualification is open to all ratings of all branches. Telegraphists and U.C. ratings should not, however, be encouraged to become Shallow Water Divers (or Divers) as the efficient performance of their normal work depends to a large extent on aural capabilities.

9. *Officers.*—The Shallow Water Diver qualification is also open to all officers of all branches, but officers do not wear the badge.

(B.Rs. 1066 and 1950.)

(A.F.Os. 1515/53, 695/54 and 156/55.)