

1841.—Warrant Air Officers (O) and (A.G.)—Future Employment

(C.W. 68507/46.—4 Jun. 1948.)

The crews of Naval aircraft, other than the pilots, will in future be members of the Naval Aircrewman Branch. The establishment of Warrant Flying Officers (Aircrewmen) and above has been fixed at 31, and, allowing for Warrant Officer promotions within the Aircrewman Branch, vacancies will be available for only a portion of the existing Warrant Air Officers (O) and (A.G.) and above to transfer to that Branch.

2. It has been decided, therefore, that the present permanent Warrant Air Officers (O) and (A.G.) and above shall be transferred to the following categories:—

- (a) Aircrewman Branch, as Warrant Flying Officers (A.C.) and above.
- (b) Communications Branch, as Warrant Communications Officers (Air) and above.
- (c) Electrical Branch, as Warrant Electrical Officers (A.R.) and above.
- (d) Air Traffic Control duties with the title of Warrant Air Officers (A.T.C.) and above.

3. The maximum numbers which will be required for transfer to each of the foregoing categories are 20 for (a), 28 for (b), 10 for (c) and 10 for (d). Officers will be transferred with their existing seniority and will be eligible for promotion within their new branches under the conditions applicable to those branches. Only officers transferred as Warrant Flying Officers (A.C.) and above will remain liable for flying duties as aircrew and be eligible to receive Flying Pay. They will have to undergo a conversion course before transfer. Warrant Communications Officers (Air) are required for communication duties at Naval Air Stations, and will require no conversion course. Officers transferred as Warrant Electrical Officers (A.R.) and above will take no initial conversion course, but may subsequently take courses as Electrical Officers.

4. Arrangements are to be made forthwith for all permanent Warrant Air Officers (O) and (A.G.) and above to be medically examined and their present flying medical category reported to the Admiralty, quoting this Order, together with their options for transfer to each of the categories given in paragraph 2, in order of preference. These particulars should be forwarded through the normal channels to reach the Admiralty by 1st July. The candidates at present on the roster for Warrant Air Officer should be included, but their preference is limited to (a) and (d).

5. On receipt of this information a Board will be convened to re-allocate the officers in accordance with their abilities, preferences, medical categories and ages.

6. Existing Temporary Warrant Air Officers (O) and (A.G.) will be transferred to Temporary Warrant Air Officers (A.T.C.) with their existing seniority.