

*2749.

Rangetakers—Revised Rules for Grant of Non-substantive Ratings.

(N. 1751.—19.10.1923.)

The regulations for the grant of non-substantive ratings of R.T. II and III are in future to be as described below.

2. Ratings will no longer be selected for Rangetaker, 3rd Class, at the Gunnery Schools while passing through courses. All candidates for Rangetaker will be selected from men rated Acting Rangetaker, 3rd Class, at sea, in accordance with the procedure detailed on page 230 of the Gunnery Training Manual, 1922, who have had one year's experience in the rating. The number accepted will be equal to the number of vacancies at the time for Rangetaker, 3rd Class.

3. The course and examination will be those at present laid down for Rangetaker, 2nd Class (Gunnery Training Manual, 1922, page 36), and ratings who pass the examination will be rated Rangetaker, 3rd Class, and placed on a roster according to the date of being rated Rangetaker, 3rd Class. If recommended by their Commanding Officers, Rangetakers, 3rd Class, will be rated Rangetakers, 2nd Class, from this roster as vacancies occur.

4. Existing Rangetakers, 3rd Class, are to be offered the option of taking the Rangetaker, 2nd Class, course and examination at the first opportunity on the understanding that if they fail they must relinquish the rating of Rangetaker, 3rd Class. If they pass the qualifying test they will be placed on the roster referred to in paragraph 3 from the date of being rated Rangetaker, 3rd Class, and will thus have the advantage of counting the time they have already served towards the grant of Rangetaker, 2nd Class.

5. Existing Rangetakers, 3rd Class, who do not elect to take the Rangetaker, 2nd Class, course under the conditions of the previous paragraph are to undergo a requalifying test of the standard of the present course for Rangetaker, 3rd Class, when three years have elapsed since they qualified and subsequently every three years. These ratings will not be eligible for appointment to the roster for Rangetaker, 2nd Class, and they are to relinquish the Rangetaker, 3rd Class, rating if they fail to requalify.

6. Ratings desiring to exercise the option referred to in paragraph 4 must volunteer for the Rangetaker, 2nd Class, Course before 31st December, 1923.

7. Consequent on the inclusion of the matter of A.F.O. 2519/21 in the Gunnery Training Manual, 1922, this Fleet Order is cancelled.

(Gunnery Training Manual, 1922, pages 36, 37 and 230.)

(A.F.O. 2519/21 is cancelled.)

(This Order will be reprinted for posting on Notice Boards.)