

## (U)\*1028.—Royal Marines—Officers—Special Entry for Flying Duties

(N.P.1/N/R.M. 180/64/A.—16 Oct. 1964.)

1. In view of the increased numbers of helicopters introduced into the Navy, largely to meet the requirements of the commando ships, the Admiralty Board has decided that the Royal Marines shall share with the Royal Navy the task of piloting troop lift helicopters. To achieve this aim, they intend progressively to increase the number of regular Royal Marines officers employed on pilot duties and to institute a Special Entry Flying Service List of Royal Marines officers for aviation duties.

2. This Special Entry will be introduced early next year with a view to building up progressively and as quickly as possible to at least 100 R.M. pilots qualified to fly helicopters in the commando role.

3. The main conditions will be as follows:—

a. *Age and Length of Commission*

Age	Type of Commission	Option to Terminate
17 years but not yet 22	Pensionable commission to age 38	After 5, 8 and 12 years' service.
22 years but not yet 26	12 years' short service commission	After 5 and 8 years' service.

b. *Gratuities for Short Service.*

£900 after 5 years  
£1,750 after 8 years  
£5,000 after 12 years

c. *Educational Qualifications.*

Five GCE passes at "O" level, including English language and mathematics.

d. *Rank on Entry and Promotion.*

Entry in the rank of Second Lieutenant. Promoted to Acting Lieutenant 2 years and 4 months after entry. Promoted to Lieutenant 3 years and 6 months after entry. Gains in training of up to 12 months' seniority to be allowed for promotion to Lieutenant.

e. *Training.*

Officers will undergo about 6 months' initial basic infantry training. This training will include a certain academic element (*e.g.*, aerodynamics) to enable Royal Marines helicopter pilots to start flying training at R.A.F. Linton-on-Ouse, on equal terms with their R.N. counterparts.

f. *Transfer to Full-Term Permanent Commissions.*

There will be opportunities to be considered for transfer to a full-term permanent commission on the R.M. General List with General List promotion prospects or on the R.M. Special List for Flying Duties, with the chance of selection for promotion to Major.

g. *Flying Pay.*

Flying pay will be as for R.N. Supplementary List Helicopter Pilots.

4. A further Instruction will be issued shortly about revised selection arrangements for ratings and R.M. other ranks who apply for aircrew commissions. Meanwhile, applications from serving personnel who wish to be considered for a commission on the R.M. Special Entry Flying Service List are to be dealt with and forwarded to the Ministry of Defence (Naval Personnel Division 1, Room 413) as under the existing procedure for candidates for R.N. Supplementary List aircrew commissions.