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DCI RN 234-238  
1989



## Defence Council Instructions

# Royal Navy

By Command of the Defence Council

*W. S. Gindan*

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE  
18 August 1989

**DCIs are automatically  
cancelled after one year**

**Uniform – introduction of an optional mess dress for QARNNS and QARNNS(R) Women Senior Rates (U)**

[D/ST/S3/317/1/5: 8282EA]

1. Approval has been given for QARNNS and QARNNS(R) Women Senior Rates to wear a uniform mess dress at mess functions as an alternative to civilian dress. This does not prejudice their right to wear civilian dress if preferred.

**Design**

2. The approved dress design is essentially the same as that worn by QARNNS Women Officers except that:

- a. It excludes the tippet and red cuffs piped white
- b. The white Peter Pan collar of the Officers' tippet has been incorporated in the dress.

The dress is to be:

- Full length with 2 panel seams front and back.
- A slide fastener in the centre back seam finishing at the natural waist.
- A dart positioned centrally at the back shoulder.
- Long 2 piece set-in sleeves.
- White pointed Peter Pan collar split at back opening.

**Supply arrangements**

3. Supplies of the blue polyester twill material (NSN: VO66-99-138-7308) are available on repayment from Service retail sources. Making up of the dresses is to be arranged by individuals at their own expense.

**Rank markings, badges, medals and medal ribbons**

4. Rank is to be denoted by the wear of a metal rate badge at the throat between the 2 collar points. No other badges are to be worn. Miniature medals will be worn on all occasions other than mess functions attended only by RN personnel, when miniature medal ribbons will be worn. The position on the dress is to be 6 inches below the neck point of the shoulder seam.

**BR 81 (RN and RM Uniform Regulations)**

5. BR 81 will be amended. In the meantime a copy of this DCI should be kept within the covers of the BR.