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DCI RN 248-254
1989

M433

Defence Council Instructions



Royal Navy

By Command of the Defence Council

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cancelled after one year**

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
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Purpose

1. This DCI announces the introduction of Jersey Wool Heavy (HWJ) and slip on rank/rate badges for QARNNS Women Officers and Ratings and the deletion of Cardigan, Blue, WRNS from their compulsory Outfit/Kits.

Background

2. QARNNS Women Officers and Ratings are required to undertake an ever increasing range of outdoor activities including sentry/guard duties for which current Outfit/Kit scales do not provide suitable clothing. The Admiralty Board has decided therefore that QARNNS Women Officers and Ratings should be allowed to wear Jersey, Wool, Heavy instead of Cardigan, Blue, WRNS and, in consequence of this, shoulder badges of the same pattern already worn by QARNNS Male Officers and Ratings.

Badges

3. The badges to be worn are the detachable, slip on type to be fitted over shoulder flaps. They comprise:

Matron in Chief	VO85-99-130-5793
Principal Nursing Officer	“ “ “ 5794
Chief Nursing Officer	“ “ “ 5795
Superintending Nursing Officer	“ “ “ 5796
Senior Nursing Officer	“ “ “ 5797
Nursing Officer	“ “ “ 5798
Warrant Officer	“ “ “ 3126
Chief Petty Officer	“ “ “ 0367
Petty Officer	“ “ “ 132-6491
Leading Rate	“ “ “ 6492

- The badges will be worn on the following garments:
- a. *Officers*: HWJ, Raincoat, White Collar attached Shirt, White Ward Dress and Tropical Dress (on occasions when shoulder straps are not appropriate).
 - b. *Senior rates* (and Warrant Officers where appropriate): HWJ, Raincoat, White Collar attached Shirt, White Ward Dress and Tropical Dress. The metal rate badge will be retained for wear, in accordance with current uniform regulations, on No 8 Dress and in 2N Dress when white temperate shirts without shoulder flaps are worn.
 - c. *Leading Rates*: On garments as for Senior Rates with the addition of the summer blouse. Exceptionally, when summer blouses without shoulder flaps are worn, embroidered rate badges will be worn in accordance with current uniform regulations.

Heavy Wool Jersey (HWJ)

5. Initially, the RN pattern narrow-ribbed V-neck HWJ (VO23-99-130-7608 to 7616) recently introduced for the WRNS will be issued to QARNNS female personnel. It has been accepted, however, that that garment does not provide an acceptable fit for female personnel and it is planned to re-introduce the broad-ribbed, V-neck HWJ (VO35-99-132-5026 to 5032) worn previously by WRNS personnel once stocks have been re-established.

New Dress Tables

6. The HWJ is for wear with slacks/trousers for outdoor activities for which no other uniform garment is practical or appropriate and with the uniform skirt for non-nursing duties such as clerical work. Introduction of the HWJ has made it necessary to extend the current Dress Tables by adding the following:

- a. *Officers*:
No 5J Undress (Jersey) — as for WRNS officers (BR 81, page 8A-3)
No 12 Day Undress (Shirt Sleeve) — as for WRNS Officers BR 81, page 8A-4.
- b. *Ratings*:
No 2J Dress — as for WRNS Ratings (BR 81, page 9A-2; Leading and below to wear the Hat, Naval, Nurse).

Occasions for wear

7. Officers will wear the HWJ and shoulder badges in 5J Undress. Shoulder badges will also be worn in 4W, 5W, 7W, 8W, 9W and 12 Undress.
8. Ratings will wear the HWJ and shoulder badges in 2J Dress, (see para 6 above). Shoulder badges will be worn in 6, 7, 10 Dress and also 2N on temperate white shirts with shoulder flaps when the metal rate badge will not be worn.

Method of introduction

9. Introduction will be by gratuitous issue of one pair of badges and one HWJ per person for all new entrants and serving QARNNS Women Officers and

Ratings. Personnel who already possess an old style broad ribbed, V-Neck FFW may delay claiming their gratuitous issue until stocks of this garment are available again.

Maintenance

10. Maintenance will be through OUR/KUA.

Cardigan

11. Cardigan, Blue, WRNS (VO35-99-124-2499 to 2502) is deleted from compulsory Outfits/Kits with immediate effect but will continue to be stocked and may be worn as an optional item: occasions for wear remain as laid down in BR 81.

Supply arrangements

12. Demands to cover requirements for gratuitous issues and for Establishments' stocks should be placed on PSTO(N) Devonport on receipt of this DCI. Further DCI will be issued when supplies of the broad ribbed V-neck FFW are available.

Publications

13. A copy of this DCI should be retained within the covers of BR 81 until its contents have been incorporated in the text by the next routine amendment.