

Defence Council Instructions

Royal Navy



By Command of the Defence Council

Mike Whitmore

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
9 January 1987

DCIs are automatically
cancelled after 1 year

Contents

I Administrative and general

- 1 Closure of RNTR Arrochar
- 2 Promotion (rating to temporary commissioned rank)—selections for promotion to Temporary Acting Sub-Lieutenant on the Special Duties List
- 3 Ships' Agent—appointment of Mr John David Simmonds in succession to Mr E J Peskett as Ships' Agent
- 4 The Voluntary Sports Subscription

II Service personnel

- 5 Uniform and clothing—review of current programme of improvements

III Operational and training

- 6 National recognition—City and Guilds of London Institute—CG 257 Refrigeration Technician's certificate
- 7 The RN/RMs Colloquial examination

IV Equipment, stores and servicing

- 8 Metrication and Rationalization of Aluminium Tubing Class Group 0282—BR 320
- 9 Stores—CRETE—introduction—Ammeter, clip-on
- 10 Naval Weapons Equipment Establishment Lists ('E' Lists)—revised arrangements
- 11 General stores—introduction—Thermometer, Portable, Probe Kit—stock number 0552/738-3705

Amendments

- 12 Amendment to 17/86—New Construction Ships—Part IV Programme—Control
- 13 Amendment to 290/86—sub-specialization and training of Weapon Engineering Artificers in submarines

Announcement

- Salvage money—HMS Anglesey—distribution

II SERVICE PERSONNEL

5/87 Uniform and clothing - review of current programme of improvements (U)

[D/ST83A/71/1/10/]

1. The purpose of this DCI is to give the Fleet a summary of improvements which have been approved but not yet implemented, together with advance details of the more significant changes under consideration for which approval has yet to be obtained. It does not provide an authority to place

demands or effect issues. The dates by which it is hoped to implement changes are indicated. In some instances they revise forecast dates given last year.

2. Approved changes which have not yet been implemented:
 - a. *Action Coverall*. Supplies to ships nominated by CINCFLEET will start early in 1987. General introduction is expected by late 1987.
 - b. *'V' Neck Heavy Wool Jersey*. Approval has been given to the introduction of a 'V' neck heavy wool jersey as a compulsory item of uniform in officers' and Class I and III ratings' outfits as a replacement for the round neck version. Initial introduction is planned for late 1987. The jersey will also replace the current broad rib pattern in WRNS scales. Ratings dressed in Class II uniform will continue to wear the round neck version.
 - c. *RN officers/ratings windproof jacket*. Introduction of the new jacket and its addition to Class I and III ratings' compulsory kits will be effected by Jan 87. No further issues of the old style jackets to meet initial kitting/outfitting needs will be made after this date. Occasions of wear have been extended to cover all normal occasions of working and duty and wear will also be permitted for home to duty travel and with civilian clothes. Mixed wear of old and new style jackets will be allowed for a three year period.
 - d. *Replacement lace for Officers' shoulder badges*. Approval has been given to the use of a cotton/viscose lace to replace EP wire in the manufacture of officers' shoulder badges. The new lace is less susceptible to tarnishing and will be introduced progressively from 1987.
 - e. *RM King's and Prince's badge*. Approval has been given to the introduction of black-on-green King's and Prince's badges for wear on the RM Jersey Wool Heavy. Supplies should be available early in 1987.
 - f. *RM Combat Shirt*. A smarter and more comfortable shirt will be introduced on a wastage basis from mid 1987.
 - g. *RM Greatcoat*. A loan pool of the new style blue greatcoat will be established in late 1986 for wear as directed by CGRM.
 - h. *RM Hosiery*. Subject to successful trials, stockings, wool rich/nylon, stone coloured will be introduced on a wastage basis from mid 1987 to replace the existing all nylon stocking.
 - i. *RM specialist qualification (SQ) badges*. Introduction of gold on blue SQ badges for wear with No. 1 Blue Uniform will be effected in late 1986.
 - j. *QARNNS Senior Ratings Hat/Cap badges*: New badges, similar in design to those worn by RN and WRNS senior rates but retaining traditional markings and colouring, will be introduced shortly.

3. Proposed improvements for which approval to implement has yet to be obtained.

- a. *FR No. 8's*. Trials of trousers manufactured from a heavier weight, higher quality material are nearing completion: this trouser material should be an improvement over that currently in use. It is the intention that it be introduced progressively, following formal acceptance of the trial reports, commencing in late 1987. However, because of the slow rate of turnover of the present pattern, it will be some two years or more before most sizes of the improved trousers appear in cash clothing stores; a few sizes will be available more quickly. Meanwhile separate trials will commence early in 1987 of both shirts and trousers made from a blend (80/20) of cotton/polyester. Although the material has no easy-care properties, it is hoped these garments will be smarter in appearance and more durable than the all-cotton patterns as well as accepting FR treatment.
- b. *NOMEX*. Trials of No. 8 shirts and trousers manufactured from NOMEX for use in Submarines are continuing: interim reports suggest that the material should be acceptable.
- c. *Tropical Uniform*. Trials have commenced in HMS *Southampton* and Hong Kong of two easy care materials which could replace Cotton Satin Drill in white tropical uniform. An alternative easy care material to replace blue drill in working shorts is also being trialled. A decision on the introduction of new materials will be taken in 1987 with, dependent upon availability of funds, introduction of garments in 1989.