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DCI RN 88-97 2002

# Defence Council Instructions Royal Navy

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### Introduction

1. As part of the transition towards Pay 2000 for Reserve Forces, the Director Naval Reserve and Director Royal Marines Reserve have approved the merger of the Ordinary and Able Rate and Marine 2<sup>nd</sup> and 1<sup>st</sup> Class in the Naval Service rank/rate structure. The new structure will be introduced coincident with the delivery of the new pay system, currently planned for November 2002.

### Background

2. Prior to Pay 2000 being introduced into the Naval Service last year, the two sets of rates/ranks were merged (DCI 45/99 gave details and full background). The move in the Reserves is to bring the RNR/RMR in line with the rest of the Naval Service.

### The New Rank Structure

3. *One Generic Rank.* The new rank structure is based on one generic rank from entry to selection for LRICpl or appointment as Lance Corporal (LCpl). The collective term to describe all:

- a. RNR ratings under the rate of LR will be 'Able Ratings'.
- b. RM other ranks under the rank of Cpl will be 'Marines'. The only exception relates to the rank of LCpl. This rank denotes an unambiguous level of leadership and responsibility. It is an appointment and a LCpl will be reverted to the rank of Mne on being drafted. The rank is therefore temporary, relates to Army rank and sits between the RN and Army structures. There is no intention to delete or replace it.
- c. QARNNS(R) ratings under the rank of LR will be 'Able Ratings'.

4. *Progression through the Rank.* Progress through the tables laid out in Chapter 3 of BR60A - Royal Naval Reserve Administrative Instructions, is not affected by this RNRTM nor are the requirements of individual branches and specialisations. Similarly, the existing principles concerning backward ratings/ORs and reversion will remain extant. Since nobody can now be reverted below Able Rate/Marine, the penalty will be simply to suspend incremental pay progression under Pay 2000 until performance improves to an acceptable standard (as detailed in BR 1950 Chapter 41). Owing to the training and attainment of qualifications required early in a RNR rating's career, there is a need to differentiate between those qualified in their specialist area to conduct the full range of specialist and technical duties required of an Able Rate and those effectively still under training. Able Rating's expertise will be recognised by use of their basic and trained Branch Designations, such as AB(AWNIS) 2/AB(AWNIS)1. These branch designations do not equate to the old nomenclature of Ordinary and Able Rate, but are simply specialisation titles and skill level identifiers.

5. Accelerated Incremental Progression points for the direct entry OM(W) will be:

On achieving OPS as OM1	12 months
On being recommended for LOM	6 months
On achieving OPS as LOM	6 months

Transition arrangements for legacy OMs are set out in the Reference.

6. *Badges.* OM(W) badges are to be worn as follows:

Direct Entry OM(W)	On completion of OM2 course
OM(AW)/(EW)/(UW) at OPS	On 1 Oct 02
M(AW)/(EW)/(UW) not yet at OPS	On completion of cross training

7. *Documentation and Publications.* A copy of this DCI is to be retained in the front cover of BR1066 (Promotion and Advancement Regulations) pending the formal inclusion of the changes into the BR.

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5. *General Transfer Arrangements.* Coincident with the delivery of Pay 2000 for the Reserves all Jnr, Ord A/AB and AB rates and Jnr Mne, Mne II and Mne I ranks will be replaced by the single generic rate/rank of AB/Mne. Branch/specialisation designations will remain unchanged:

Existing Rate/Rank	New Branch Designation
<b>RN</b>	
All Junior	
Seaman (AWNIS)	'Branch Designator' 2
Able Seaman (AWNIS)	AB(AWNIS) 2
Probationary Medical Support Assistant	AB(AWNIS) 1
Medical Support Assistant	MSA2
	MSA1
<b>RM</b>	
Junior Marine	
Marine 2 <sup>nd</sup> or 1 <sup>st</sup> Class	Marine
QARNNS(R)	Marine
Student Naval Nurse	
Naval Nurse	NN(S)
	NN

**Documentation and Publications**

6. Where appropriate, the Databases (RNR/RMR) and Certificates of Service (RMR) are to be amended on the introduction of the Pay 2000 for Reserve Forces.