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# Defence Council Instructions Royal Navy

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DCIs are automatically cancelled after one year

14 Service with SBS and SAS - Opportunities for Naval Service Personnel (R)



## References:

- A. BR 1283 Royal Marines Instructions.
- B. BR 8748 Terms of Service for RN, QARNNS and WRNS Ratings and RM Ranks.
- C. BR 1950 Naval Pay Regulations.
- D. BR 1066 Advancement Regulations.
- E. BR 8373 Officers Career Regulations.

## Introduction

1. Members of the Royal Navy and Royal Marines may volunteer to serve in either the Special Boat Service or Special Air Service, two of the core components of the UK Special Forces (UKSF). The operational capabilities of both units are broadly similar, however, the SBS being the principal RN contribution to UKSF have the additional training and equipment to lead in the maritime, amphibious and riverine environments. Both units come under the operational command of HQ Directorate of Special Forces (DSF) and undergo an identical selection process, enjoy significant interoperability in training and on operations. The SBS is based in Poole, Dorset and 22 SAS Regt is based in Hereford on the Welsh border.
2. In times of armed conflict and war the Special Boat Service (SBS) and 22 Special Air Service Regiment (22 SAS) are required to operate in small parties in enemy controlled territory. Operations of this nature require men of courage and high morale who are self-disciplined, intelligent, reliable, determined and physically fit, and who possess mental, moral and physical stamina. These units will operate in support of conventional forces or independently. Principle roles are Surveillance Reconnaissance (SR), including information reporting and target acquisition; Offensive Action (OA), including direction of air, artillery and naval gunfire; designation for precision guided munitions, use of integral weapons and demolitions; and Support and Influence (SI), including overseas training tasks. Both units as part of UKSF provide the UK's immediate response Military Counter Terrorism (CT) and Maritime Counter Terrorism (MCT) teams. During peacetime, overseas deployments for training are frequent though usually of short duration, this is balanced by greater stability for families who are able to remain in the Hereford or Poole areas.
3. In accordance with current Government policy on the employment of women in the Armed Forces, service in the SBS and SAS is only open to male volunteers, however appointments do exist for females within the UKSF Group.

## Aim

4. The aim of this DCI is to detail the fundamental entry requirements, selection process and Conditions of Service for RN/RM personnel seeking to serve in the SBS and SAS.

## Responsibilities

5. *Commanding Officers.* Commanding Officers are responsible for forwarding applications from suitable volunteers to the Naval Manning Agency (NMA).
6. *NMA.* The NMA is the central Naval authority responsible for the recruitment and supply of RN/RM Officers and Ratings/Other Ranks (ORs) to UKSF.
  - a. *CNOA.* CNOA is responsible for receipt of officer applications, staffing within the NMA and forwarding to SBS/22 SAS.
  - b. *CND.* CND is responsible for receipt of rating applications, staffing within the NMA and forwarding to SBS/22 SAS.
  - c. *DNM.* DNM is responsible for ensuring the structural integrity of source branches serving the UKSF requirement.



## Entry Standards and Applications

7. *Eligibility* Volunteers may be accepted from any part of the Armed Forces (incl. the Reserves) to serve with SBS or 22 SAS. Volunteers from the RN or RM who wish to serve with the SBS are known as SBS Volunteers and those wishing to serve with the 22 SAS are known as SAS Volunteers. Commanding Officers, Appointing and Drafting desks may NOT withhold applications on manning or structural grounds. Volunteers are subject to the following conditions:

- a. *Officers.* Officers are eligible to volunteer for service with the SBS or 22 SAS at any time after they have completed two years' duty. This excludes training at BRNC, CTCRM and training centres or schools prior to duty. Volunteers can attend Selection up to and including their 30th year. Officers should submit the application form at Annex A. Following a CO's interview, this will be forwarded through the chain of command to the appropriate desk in DNOA. Applications will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis and Appointing Directors will grant clearance. Clearance may only be denied in exceptional circumstances and then only with the personal approval of the Naval Secretary. Officers:

- (1) Must be recommended for service in UKSF by their Commanding Officer.
- (2) Must be capable of passing the UKSF Swimming Assessment (see Para 13).
- (3) Must be capable of passing the Army Basic Combat Fitness Test (Infantry) (BCFT (I)).

- b. *Ratings/ORs.* Ratings/ORs volunteering for service in SBS or 22 SAS should be aged 32 years or under on the date of UKSF Selection Course Assembly. There are exceptions to this rule and those beyond this age should write to OC T Wing SBS or OC Trg Sqn 22 SAS, who will make a decision on a case by case basis on an individual's suitability for service. All volunteers should have completed a minimum of two years service in a complement billet. Ratings/ORs should apply to CND on form C240 (RM C233), which will initiate a manning clearance request. Applications will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis and the appropriate Branch Managers will grant clearance from DNM. Clearance may only be denied in exceptional circumstances and then only with the personal approval of DNM. All requests should be supported by OF 3 or above, with appropriate observations made on the discipline, intelligence, motivation, self-reliance and physical fitness of the individual with regard to service in UKSF. Ratings/ORs:

- (1) Must be recommended for service in UKSF by their Commanding Officer.
- (2) Must be capable of passing the UKSF Selection Swimming Assessment (see Para 13).
- (3) Must complete S2658 (Notice of Waiver) before loading to UKSF Selection.
- (4) Must be capable of passing the Army Basic Combat Fitness Test (Infantry) (BCFT (I)).

8. *Service.* All volunteers must have at least three years still to serve from the date on which they successfully complete the Aptitude Phase. Those who have not will be required to prolong their service for the requisite period and their acceptance will depend upon their doing so. Volunteers who pass "Test Week" will be required to give consent to be restricted in their rights to apply to terminate their commission/to give notice to be transferred to the Reserves/discharged until the completion of three years service from Admin Day (see Para 15). If during subsequent training and before being posted as trained SAS/SBS officers/soldiers they fail to reach the required standard, the restriction of their rights will be cancelled.

9. *Medical Standard.* Volunteers should have a minimum medical classification as follows:

- a. 

P	U	L	H	H	E	E	M	S	CP	PES
2	2	2	2	2	<sup>3</sup> / <sub>1</sub>	<sup>3</sup> / <sub>1</sub>	2	2	4	FE

- b. Spectacles may not be worn but contact lenses are permitted to achieve the standard. In line with MOD policy, those who have undergone refractive surgery including laser surgery may be accepted provided they can satisfy the criteria stated in JSP 346.



- c. In addition to the above, volunteers for SBS are required to have a Full Service Diving Medical and Full Plate Chest X Ray before attending a Special Forces Briefing Course. In exceptional circumstances individuals found to be medically unfit to dive may be permitted to volunteer for service with the SBS. Where required clarification should be sought from Training Wing, SBS.
- d. Volunteers who fall short of the required standard may be referred to MO SBS or SMO SAS for consultation.
- e. *Vaccinations.* The UKSF Selection course includes a jungle training phase conducted in Brunei and because of the increased risk of Japanese B (Jap B) Encephalitis in South East Asia, all personnel should be vaccinated against it. It is not possible to vaccinate against Jap B during UKSF Selection therefore volunteers should be vaccinated before attending the course. Volunteers should ensure, through Medical Centres, that they are vaccinated in accordance with Immunisation Against Infectious Diseases 1996. The full primary schedule must be completed at least 2 weeks prior to attending UKSF Selection. A course of injections involves 3 visits over a 4 -week period. If individuals refuse vaccinations unit MOs are to record this refusal in the medical documents and are to ensure that individuals are aware of the risks and how to reduce the risk of infection. This is also to be recorded.

10. *Rank.* Senior Ratings, Warrant Officers and Non-Commissioned Officers who volunteer will be required to revert to the rank of Marine in the SBS or Trooper in 22 SAS on acceptance. Rules for the promotion of Warrant Officers and Non Commissioned Officers of 22 SAS and SBS are at ANNEX B.

#### **Appointing/Drafting Action**

11. The NMA will forward applications with supporting documentation as follows:

- a. For SBS volunteers: Original to T Wing, HQ Sqn, Hamworthy Barracks, POOLE, Dorset, BH15 4NQ. Copy to Trg Sqn 22 SAS.
- b. For SAS volunteers: Original to Trg Sqn, 22 SAS Stirling Lines, Hereford HR4 7DD. Copy to T Wing SBS.

#### **The UKSF Selection Course**

12. Prior to attending UKSF Selection all volunteers for SBS must first attend a mandatory SBS Special Forces Briefing Course (SFBC) at Hamworthy Barracks Poole, which includes a dive aptitude acquaint. Officers or Ratings/ORs volunteering for SAS service must attend a mandatory briefing course at Hereford. Officers should attend the Potential Officers Briefing Course (POBC) whereas ORs/Ratings should attend the SAS SFBC. All volunteers for service with SBS/SAS then attend the UKSF Selection Course. The course consists of the following two main phases of training:

- a. Aptitude Phase - 4 weeks.
- b. Continuation Training consisting of:
  - (1) SOP and Tactical Training (Temperate and Jungle) - 9 weeks.
  - (2) Employment Training:
    - (a) Surveillance and Reconnaissance Training - 2 weeks.
    - (b) Army Combat Survival Instructor's Course (ACSIC) - 2 weeks.
    - (c) SF Parachute training - 4 weeks.
    - (d) Counter Terrorist (CT) Course - 3 weeks.
    - (e) Signals Training - 1 week.
    - (f) Patrol support weapons and Squadron induction training - 1 week.

Officers attend the same Selection course as soldiers but are also required to undertake an additional week's screening known as "Officers' Week". This assessment takes place immediately following the Aptitude Phase.



13. *Aptitude Phase.* The Aptitude Phase is designed to select those individuals who are suitable for SF training. The initial three weeks are devoted to gradual physical training and progressive exercises designed to develop physical and navigational ability. Volunteers will be expected to complete the Basic Combat Fitness Test (Infantry) on the first day of the course. Exercise HIGH WALK will take place on Day 6 and takes the form of an escorted hill march over approximately 23 kms; as with all assessment marches, additional time may be added for inclement weather conditions. Exercise HIGH WALK identifies those individuals that are not adequately prepared to continue on the course. All other training during this initial period is directed at preparing volunteers for "Test Week" which is the fourth and final week of Aptitude. "Test Week" consists of 5 timed marches of between 23-28 kms conducted on consecutive days followed by a final Endurance march of 64 kms; this must be completed within 20 hours. Bergen weights carried during "Test Week" increase from 40 lbs (18.2 kgs) to 55 lbs (25 kgs) for the Endurance march; in addition a rifle is carried on all marches. Volunteers are also required to pass the UKSF swimming test that consists of; high water entry - 3m, treading water for 9 minutes followed immediately by a swim of 500 metres wearing combat 95. The test finishes with an underwater swim of 10m including a retrieval of a small weight.

14. It is emphasised that a volunteer must be physically fit at the beginning of the course if he is to stand any chance of success. The course requires a far greater expenditure of physical energy than is normally required in other peacetime training. As a guide, anyone who is unable to average 4 kms per hour, carrying a bergen and rifle, across undulating terrain will fail. Whilst this may not seem difficult to a fit person, it is beyond the capabilities of one who has made little or no preparation. It is essential that volunteers arrive fully fit, carrying no injuries and with a sound grasp of basic navigational techniques.

15. The last day of "Test Week" is known as 'Administration (Admin) Day'. From that day all volunteers are attached for administrative purposes to SBS or 22 SAS.

#### 16. *Continuation Training Phase.*

- a. *SOP and Tactical Training Phase.* Those who pass the Aptitude Phase will undertake an intensive period of instruction and assessment of SF Tactics, Techniques and Procedures (TTPs), including SF weapons and SOPs. The majority of this period is spent in the jungle, an environment that is suitable for SF training and ideal to achieve the purpose of this phase. Much of the training is aimed at discovering an individual's qualities. TTPs can be taught; the necessary qualities of selfdiscipline, selfconfidence, determination, integrity and humour are inborn. The suitability of volunteers is assessed by their reaction to, and ability to cope with a series of situations when under physical and mental pressure, and by close observation by instructors at all times. Volunteers generally underestimate the physical demands of this phase of training and many arrive with a poor standard of basic personal military skills. Previous jungle experience is not necessary; however, a good knowledge of basic field craft and patrolling skills is beneficial.
- b. *Employment Training* Those selected then undertake a subsequent period of Employment Training that will provide the additional individual skills necessary for SF service. This period includes the ACSIC and the SF Parachute Course at RAF Brize Norton. All volunteers must attend and pass ACSIC and those who may have attended a previous course will still be required to pass the entire course again as part of the Selection process. Only on successful completion of Employment Training will volunteers be "badged" and posted to an operational Sabre Squadron within the SBS or 22 SAS.

17. *Return to Unit (RTU).* Officers and Ratings/ORs RTU'd from UKSF Selection will be appointed or drafted in accordance with drafting priorities and branch requirements. All RN ratings should submit a C240, and RM ORs a C233 prior to commencing UKSF Selection.

#### **Terms and Conditions of Service in UKSF**

18. *Tours of Duty - Officers.* All officers on completion of a successful initial tour with UKSF may be requested to serve a second tour, return to RN/RM duties or serve in a staff appointment within UKSF. This does not apply to those commissioned from the ranks as LE officers.



19. *Application and Initial Tour.* Officers initially volunteer for UKSF service with a formal request (Para 7, a). Successful officers will take up the appointment of Troop Commander in the rank of Captain in the case of RM and Lt in the case of RN, subalterns will be promoted to Acting Captain from the date of appointment as Troop Commander. As no probationary period applies to officers, they will be entitled to receive the officers' basic rate of SF Pay from 'badging' day.

20. *Extensions and Subsequent Tours.* Extensions to an officer's initial tour are the exception rather than the rule. Requests for extensions will be initiated by HQ DSF and not the officer concerned and will be submitted for negotiation with appropriate desk in DNOA. Similarly, HQ DSF will initiate a request to DNOA for negotiation for officers to serve second and subsequent tours (normally two years in length). Officers will be entitled to officers' higher rate of SF pay after three years service (if on an extended First Tour) and for the full period of any second or subsequent tours within UKSF. SF pay will be retained for a period of 3 years for officers no longer in UKSF employment.

21. *Premature Termination of Tour.* Initial three-year tours may occasionally be foreshortened in the interests of the Service with the mutual agreement of parent units and UKSF.

22. *Tours of Duty - Ratings/Other Ranks.* RN/RM personnel serving with UKSF will be drafted to either the SBS or SAS for an initial tour of duty of three years calculated from 'Admin' day. Any Rating/OR wishing to extend his tour of duty with the SBS or 22 SAS should make a formal application to the appropriate CO (ANNEX B refers).

23. *Premature Termination of Tour.* Ratings/ORs may be RTU'd to their source branch/specialisation at any time during their tour should they prove unsuitable for further service with UKSF. For the first year from 'Badging' Day, ORs will be under probation so that their suitability and compatibility in an SBS/SAS Sabre Squadron can be confirmed. RTU action during this period will be initiated solely by a CO's interview with no further formal administrative action being taken. Thereafter RTU can follow either because of lack of suitability, disciplinary or administrative action and will be at the discretion of the CO. On RTU an individual will rejoin his source branch at his extant RN/RM Service shadow rank (reflecting seniority and any promotion accrued). He will then have a period of 12 months to achieve the necessary outstanding professional qualifications. Failure to achieve the necessary outstanding professional qualifications may result in reversion in rank. In cases where by virtue of time spent away from the source branch it is not possible to catch up the necessary professional qualifications within 12 months, individuals will be employed in source branch in the higher rank held on leaving the SBS/SAS. Any Rating/OR wishing to leave the Service for personal, medical or compassionate reasons or after RTU will be returned to their source branch/specialisation for discharge.

24. *Permanent Cadre.* A Permanent Cadre exists in the SBS and SAS to provide ORs with a greater degree of career security, to simplify administration and to assist career planning. Ratings/ORs will be eligible to join the Permanent Cadre after six years service in UKSF subject to the Commanding Officer's recommendation. Criteria for selection will include potential to reach senior SNCO rank in SBS/SAS, a proven ability to acquire skills readily and motivation beyond doubt for the length of an applicant's career. Transfer to SBS/SAS Permanent Cadre signifies an acknowledgement by the individual that his primary career path is now with UKSF. For RN/RM personnel serving in 22 SAS, transfer to Permanent Cadre will involve a transfer of Service. Further details are at ANNEX B.

25. *SBS/SAS Promotion.* CO SBS/CO 22 SAS in consultation with HQ DSF and NMA/Inf MCM Div (Annex B refers), may select soldiers seconded to SBS/22 SAS for acting promotion in UKSF units.

26. *Pay and Pension.* The normal rates of pay and allowances will apply during UKSF Selection. On successful completion of the Selection Course and on 'badging' day, soldiers accepted for service with the SBS and 22 SAS will move onto the UKSF pay spine. The UKSF pay spine is set at a higher rate of pay for each rank than the normal rates set for the remainder of the Armed Forces. In addition, soldiers will also be eligible to receive SF pay, in the form of additional pay with incremental increases based on time served.



### Return Of Service (ROS)

27. On successful completion of SF Selection the ROS is an initial three-year tour of duty to run from 'Admin' day. This will run concurrently with any existing ROS, and may be served out in an OR's source branch should he be RTU from UKSF.

### Type of Service

28. Service with UKSF will be counted as SEA service for the purposes of drafting and SEA service rosters.

### Discipline

29. RN and RM personnel serving with the SBS (less SBS Permanent Cadre) and RN/RM personnel serving with 22 SAS (less SAS Permanent cadre) will remain members of the RN/RM respectively and will continue to be administered by the RN/RM. However, during their period of service with the SBS/SAS RN/RM personnel will be subject to Military Law in addition to the Naval Discipline Act, under the provisions of the Naval, Military and Air Force (Attachment) Regulations 1964 Regulation 4.i.

### Clearance from Parent Units

30. Officers and Soldiers should completely clear from their unit prior to attending the Selection Course. There is no time available during the course and after "Badging" to return to parent units to clear. Joining a Sabre Squadron is immediate on "Badging" and thereafter newly badged Officers and Troopers SC3s are available for deployment. In the majority of cases however, there may be administrative time and successful volunteers will be able to settle into their new career in slow time. Before leaving parent units SAS volunteers should as part of the clearance procedure pack personnel effects not required on the course into MFO, which should be labelled and submitted to the unit QM for storage. Successful volunteers will have their MFO called forward by QM 22 SAS when necessary and it should NOT be despatched until then. SBS volunteers will have MFO stored by QM SBS during the Selection course. Married men with a family in a quarter are to retain it until successful completion of the course, where upon a new quarter will be allocated at the new unit. After "Badging" a normal family move will take place.

### Briefing Courses

31. There are a number of briefing courses for officers and ratings/ORs that are conducted at Poole and Hereford respectively. These courses are mandatory pre-requisites for UKSF Selection, should be considered as the first step for volunteers and are as follows:

- a. *Special Forces Briefing Course (SFBC)*. The SBS SFBC run at Poole must be attended by all volunteers (officers and ratings/ORs) wishing to serve with the SBS. Ratings/ORs volunteering for service with the SAS must attend the SAS SFBC run at Hereford.
- b. *Potential Officers' Briefing Course (POBC)*. This course must be attended by all officers volunteering for service with the SAS and is run at Hereford.

32. POBC/SFBC are designed to give officers and ratings/ORs interested in volunteering for Service with UKSF a clearer understanding of what is involved, what UKSF expects of its officers and soldiers and how to prepare properly for UKSF Selection. The POBC or SFBC are not a method of pre-selection nor is there any obligation to attend a subsequent Selection Course by individuals. To get the most out of these courses, volunteers should aim to attend a course as early as possible, ideally between six and nine months prior to the intended Selection course. Early attendance enables any preparation advice gained during the course to be implemented. In particular advice on the following is given:

- a. *Medical Problems*. Old injuries frequently recur during the Aptitude Phase of Selection because unit medical officers have not detected them or because volunteers have deliberately concealed them. Advice on each briefing course can prevent further injury and avoid disappointment.
- b. *Physical Preparation*. Volunteers have frequently arrived on UKSF Selection ill prepared. Advice is given during the course on how to train properly.
- c. *Career Advice*. In the case of officers, providing plans are made early enough, there is no reason why service with UKSF should conflict with career courses. Ratings/ORs are interviewed and advised on the best way to proceed.



33. *Aim of POBC and SFBC.* The Aim of the POBC/SFBC is to brief aspiring UKSF Volunteers on the UKSF Selection process and, service with the SBS/SAS, and to assess individual potential in order to give pre-selection preparation advice.

34. *SBS SFBC.* The SBS SFBC is combined with officers and soldiers attending the same course. The SBS run 5 SFBCs at Poole each year and the courses are conducted over 5-day periods. Officers conduct additional aspects of the course during the evenings. Volunteers should arrive having completed a full service diving medical and with F Med 4 and full service medical documents. The courses include the following:

- a. Presentations on the organisation, role and training of the SBS.
- b. Advice on preparation and training for UKSF Selection.
- c. Assessment of individual levels of robust fitness and navigational ability.
- d. Conduct of UKSF swim assessment and SBS dive acquaints.
- e. An individual interview will include advice on the recommended Selection course that should be attended, career implications of a tour with the SBS and pre-course preparation advice.
- f. Officer career advice and estimate revision.

### 35. Application.

- a. *Officers.* Volunteers should apply on the form at ANNEX A to the appropriate desk at DNOA; they will be subsequently loaded onto the course by DNOA. Thereafter OC Trg Wing SBS will inform DNOA of those SBS volunteers who have attended a SFBC and who are considered to be suitable to attend UKSF Selection. Volunteers will then be loaded on to the UKSF Selection Course by DNOA. The additional aspects of the course for officers are designed to give individuals an opportunity to meet serving SBS officers, gain a better understanding of what the SBS expects of its officers and how to prepare properly for UKSF Selection.
- b. *Ratings/ORs.* Volunteers should apply to NMA on C240 (C233 RM); they will be subsequently loaded onto the course by NMA. Thereafter OC T wing SBS will inform NMA of those SBS volunteers who have attended a SFBC and who are considered to be suitable to attend UKSF Selection. Volunteers will be loaded on to the UKSF Selection Course by the appropriate Appointing/Drafting Authority.

36. *SAS POBC.* Trg Sqn, 22 SAS conduct 4 POBCs each over a 36-hour period at Hereford each year. Volunteers should apply on the form at ANNEX A to the appropriate desk at DNOA, they will be subsequently loaded onto the course by DNOA. Thereafter OC Trg Sqn 22 SAS will inform DNOA of those SAS volunteers who have attended a POBC and who are considered to be suitable to attend UKSF Selection. Volunteers will then be loaded on to the UKSF Selection Course by DNOA. SAS POBC includes the following:

- a. Presentations on the organisation, role and training of 22 SAS.
- b. Formal medical examination and advice on subsequent action required to remedy any medical problems pertinent to the Selection Course.
- c. Basic fitness assessments.
- d. Officer career and pre-course preparation advice.

37. *SAS SFBC.* Trg Sqn, 22 SAS conduct 8 SFBCs each over a 48-hour period at Hereford each year. Volunteers should apply on form C240 (C233 RM) and thereafter will be loaded by NMA. OC Trg Sqn 22 SAS will inform NMA of those SAS volunteers who have attended a SAS SFBC and who are considered



to be suitable to attend UKSF Selection. Volunteers will then be loaded on to the UKSF Selection Course by NMA. SAS SFBC includes the following:

- a. Presentations on the organisation, role and training of the SAS.
- b. Advice on preparation and training for UKSF Selection.
- c. Assessment of individual levels of robust fitness and navigational ability.
- d. Conduct of UKSF swim assessment.
- e. Assessment of individual field craft, wpn handling and general military knowledge.
- f. An individual interview will include advice on the recommended Selection course that should be attended, career implications of a tour with the SAS and pre-course preparation advice.

### **Pre-Selection Preparation**

38. *Pre-course administration.* SBS volunteers are required to attend an administration week one week prior to the commencement of the UKSF Selection Course at Hamworthy Barracks, POOLE. This is to ensure that all personal documentation and kit preparation has been completed correctly.

39. *Advice.* Advice on pre-training and preparation for UKSF Selection is always available from the RIC Cell, T Wing, Hamworthy Barracks, Poole or the RIC Cell, Trg Sqn, 22 SAS. Volunteers who are registered to attend UKSF Selection will be offered training advice and an opportunity for practical assistance. The importance of a good standard of physical fitness plus a genuine enthusiasm for soldiering are the essential ingredients of a successful volunteer. A number of pre-course preparation opportunities exists that are appropriate for individual circumstances.

40. *Preparation for Aptitude.* Officers and Ratings/ORs who wish to carry-out pre-course navigation and fitness training in Wales prior to UKSF Selection must apply for permission to conduct Training On Private Land (TOPL). Applications must be sent to S02 LTAR HQ 160 (W) Bde at Brecon on Mil net 94351 2481 (Fax 2492). Once permission has been authorised then an application to use the Sennybridge Camp facility will be forwarded to HQ SENTA by LTAR HQ 160 (W) Bde and applicants will be informed of the dates that have been allocated. This facility will provide food, accommodation and safety cover (via a booking in and out system) for 40 personnel in 2-week periods, during a 10-week block of availability prior to each biannual Selection Course. Where possible applicants will be given the dates requested however, when this is not possible alternative dates will be offered. Applications should be submitted on the form available from LTAR "Application for training on private land in Wales" and applicants should insert "Pre-Selection Training" at para 4. This will assist the LTAR when booking accommodation at Sennybridge Camp. Official training on the hills in this area outside of these dates will be restricted to ensure public relations and goodwill is maintained with the private landowners and Forestry Commission who own the majority of the land used for training. A large number of preparation marches will be provided by Trg Sqn, 22 SAS and located in the Ops Room at SENTA that will be available for use. This allows permission to TOPL for the preparation marches to be preauthorised.

41. *All Arms Infantry Skills Course (AAISC).* An AAISC is run biannually over a 4-week period and finishes well before the start of Selection. It is conducted by the Infantry Training Centre (ITC) Catterick and overseen by a SNCO from Trg Sqn 22 SAS, who will act as chief instructor throughout. Its purpose is to improve the basic field craft and weapon handling skills of volunteers in preparation for the Tactical and Jungle Phases of Selection and is most suitable for those without an infantry background. Nominations for the AAISC are selected and prioritised from those volunteers who attend a UKSF briefing course and deemed most in need. Information regarding application for this course can be gained during a POBC/SFBC. Applications should be made to Trg Sqn 22 SAS at Hereford and in the case of volunteers for SBS a copy should be sent to T Wing SBS, Poole.

42. *Mountain Leader Training* There is an opportunity to attend a Mountain Leader Training (MLT) Course that is run from the Joint Service Mountain Training Centre (JSMTC) in North Wales. A number of these courses are conducted throughout the year and are run over 5-day periods. They are practical in content and concentrate on navigation, although safety in the mountains is covered in detail. Volunteers



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who have applied for UKSF Selection will where possible, be grouped together. Applications for MLT courses should be made to HQ JSMTIC Indefatigable on RAF Valley Mil 95581 7964/05 stating PreSelection training.

43. *Advanced Navigation Course.* RN candidates should be aware that some Army Units run preparatory courses for those individuals under their command, a example of which is the Advanced Navigation Course run by the Household Division and Parachute Regiment Centralised Courses at ATR Pirbright for members of those units. RN personnel may be allocated places on these courses, subject to vacancies. Applications should be made to the Household Division and Parachute Regiment Centralised Courses WO on Pirbright 94211 8204 and copied to either Trg Sqn 22 SAS or T Wing SBS as appropriate. Individuals should be loaded on UKSF Selection prior to application for this course.

44. *Course Dates.* Dates of all SBS/SAS courses covered in this DCI are published annually in DCI (Army) 1, Pamphlet 30. Alternatively course dates can be obtained from RIC Cell, T Wing, SBS on 93884 2266 or the RIC Cell, Trg Sqn, 22 SAS on 94475 2484.

#### **Related Publications**

45. A copy of this DCI should be retained within the covers of the References.

46. This DCI supersedes Annex 35C to Chapter 35 of Reference A and F.

#### **Disclosure Contract**

47. Due to the sensitive nature of the employment, all personnel volunteering for service with UKSF are to be aware that they will be required to sign and abide by a confidentiality contract. Refusal to comply will result in an individual being deemed unsuitable for employment in UKSF. Full details of the provisions and conditions of this Disclosure Contract are given at UKSF briefings.

#### **Summary**

48. UKSF offers a challenging and rewarding career to all officers and ratings/ORs of the Naval/RM Service. UKSF seeks to attract determined, highly motivated, intelligent, reliable and physically fit individuals to serve with either the SBS or 22 SAS. This DCI provides the basic information to allow individuals and their Specialisation/Branch or Commanding Officers to make an informed judgement before applying for UKSF Selection.

#### **ANNEXES:**

- A. Application Form for Officers Volunteering for service with UKSF.
- B. Promotion Rules for Warrant Officers and Non Commissioned Officers.