

11/2000

NORTHERN IRELAND SECURITY GUARD SERVICE INSIGNIA

by Tom Wylie

The N.I.S.G.S. was formed on 1st November 1997. They took over the duties of the Ministry of Defence Guard Service. Members are attested as Special Constables while on duty and in uniform, they are armed. A uniform of beret, woollen pullover, and black/blue trousers were issued, the embroidered circular badge was worn on the left breast of the pullover. A cap and jacket will be issued when they become available.

The headdress badge is a white metal star with the gilt crowned badge mounted on it, fastening is a slider inscribed 'London Badge and Button Co. Ltd'. The collar badges are of similar construction, the harps in the centre are paired, that is the curved front pillars face each other, fastening is by eyelets. Both headdress and collar badges have flat back and voided centres. The white metal title has eyelet fastenings.

The three sizes of button are silver anodised metal, backmark 'London Badge and Button Co Ltd'.

On the black disc embroidered, crown, harp and letters in yellow thread, the crown with a red cap of maintenance and a white base. Under the crown a red circular ribbon with a yellow dot on each side, and an outer dark green wreath, the yellow harp with black strings sits on a dark green centre. This badge will be worn on the sleeve of the jacket when it is issued. The woven badge worn on the left breast of the pullover, is on a dark blue square, the colours are darker than the embroidered badge, though there is more detail, particularly on the crown and harp.

Acknowledgements

Photograph reproduced by courtesy of the National Museum and Galleries of Northern Ireland
Northern Ireland Security Guard Service

