

127. RM AIR GUNNERS

1. NCOs and Marines may volunteer for and hold active flying appointments as RM Air Gunners as follows:

- a. *Eligibility.* NCOs and Marines may be selected for Air Gunner training provided:
- (1) They start their training before their twenty-eighth birthday.
 - (2) They will have at least three years to serve on their current engagement on successful completion of training. If an NCO or Marine has insufficient residual service he must re-engage and will have the right, if he does so, to revert to his previous engagement or if appropriate claim his discharge should he fail the course.
 - (3) They have served at least one full tour in a Commando.
 - (4) They are qualified educationally for promotion (*i.e.*, NAMET 5/5 standard) and have passed the JCC before commencing training.
 - (5) They pass the necessary medical and aptitude tests.

b. *Training and Award of SQ.*

(1) NCOs and Marines selected for Air Gunner training will attend the Army Air Gunners ten week course at the School of Army Aviation.

(2) On successful completion of this training, RM Air Gunners will be awarded the SQ of GW(H) and will be entitled to wear the RM Air Gunners' badge.

(3) The SQ of GW(H) is graded in all respects as a second class SQ.

(4) NCOs and Marines who fail to qualify will be returned to their original units.

c. *Employment.*

(1) On successful completion of training, RM Air Gunners will carry out an initial flying tour, normally of three years, followed by a ground tour. Thereafter they will normally carry out second and subsequent flying tours, interspersed by further ground tours as necessary for them to gain the appropriate experience for promotion and to ensure they remain militarily up to date.

(continued)

RM AIR GUNNERS—Continued

d. *Pay and Promotion*

- (1) Experience has shown that the rank of Corporal is best suited for RM Air Gunners, but RM Air Gunners may also hold flying appointments in the rank of Sergeant or Marine. When necessary, Marine RM Air Gunners will be granted the acting rank of Corporal.
- (2) Daily rates of RM Air Gunners pay will be payable to NCO and Marine Air Gunners under the terms of NPR Art 2513, in addition to normal rates of pay, but only whilst serving in flying appointments.
- (3) RM Air Gunners can qualify for first class specialisations of their own choosing during ground tours to become eligible for promotion to WO2.

RMRO 98/71 and 216/71 are cancelled.

RM SPECIALIST, TECHNICAL AND COMMAND TRAINING PRO...