

328 OFFICERS—TRAINING AS PILOTS

AFO 1992/59 described the arrangements for training RM officers as pilots. It has now been agreed that Royal Marines will be trained only as helicopter pilots for service in Commando Carriers and will not be trained in the A/S role.

Age

2. Officers volunteering for flying training will normally start flying training between the ages of 22 and 25. If it is found that there are insufficient volunteers for training between these ages the upper age limit will be extended to 26. This extension will only apply, however, to those starting training in 1961.

Cycle of Flying Service

3. As a general rule, the following cycle will be followed :—

12 months flying training.

24 months in Commando Helicopter Squadron.

24 months Royal Marines Service.

24 months in Commando Helicopter Squadron.

Return to Royal Marines service.

Officers are not precluded, in the future, from holding the appointments of senior pilot and squadron commander.

Volunteers

4. Officers up to the age of 26 who wish to be considered for the above duties should apply through the normal service channels. Applications should be accompanied by a provisional certificate of medical fitness for flying duties. Officers who have already volunteered need not re-apply. RMRO 212/58

5. Queen's Regulations & Admiralty Instructions 0611 will be amended in due course. RMRO 212/58 is cancelled.