

21<sup>st</sup> March 1944

349 Plastic Badges and Buttons.

With reference to R.M. Circular No.4799/43.Q. dated 13th. December 1943, (limited distribution), arrangements have now been made to provide stocks of plastic badges and buttons at R.M. Establishments and the following instructions are issued concerning their introduction.

2. R.N. School of Music - In view of the small quantities involved, the release of a small amount of metal has been approved for R.M. Band badges. Metal badges will therefore continue to be worn by R.M. Band ranks until instructions to the contrary are issued. Stocks will be supplied to the R.N. School of Music only.

3. Staff Sergets' Cap Badges. - As no separate plastic badges, Lion and Crown, are being manufactured, when it becomes necessary for Staff Sergeants to wear plastic badges, the normal "Other Ranks" cap badge will be worn.

4. Greatcoats. - Metal R.M. Buttons will continue to be worn on R.M. Pattern greatcoats as long as possible, notwithstanding that the serge tunic worn with the greatcoat may be equipped with plastic badges and buttons. Greatcoats supplied by the War Office will continue to be worn with whatever type of button is supplied. Letters R.M. or Badges, Arm "Royal Marines will not be worn on greatcoats.

5. Gilt Metal Badges. - If stocks of gilt metal badges become exhausted before stocks of G.M. badges, Senior N.C.O's may be issued with the latter type when necessary.

6. R.M. Divisional Band. - R.M. Divisional Band ranks will continue to wear Metal badges and buttons. A reasonable proportion of present stocks should be set aside for this purpose. The special Cap Badge worn by these ranks will continue to be supplied in metal as hitherto.

7. As far as possible, arrangements should be made for complete parties, detachments, squads etc., to be wholly equipped with either plastic or metal badges and buttons.

(4799/43.Q.)