

THE AWARD OF THE TITLE "KING'S SQUAD" AND THE
AWARD OF THE "KING'S BADGE".

In March 1918, His late Majesty King George V, to mark the occasion of his inspection of the Depot RM, was pleased to approve the grant of the name "The King's Squad" to the Senior Squad of Recruits; and that each squad of Recruits at the Depot RM, as it in turn became senior, should in future be known by that name.

2. Subsequently, His late Majesty was pleased to approve that the best all-round Recruit in the King's Squad should be awarded the Royal Cypher "GVR" surrounded by a laurel wreath and be referred to as "The King's Badgeman". This emblem to be worn throughout his service in every rank.

3. When His late Majesty made this decision, all basic Royal Marine training was done at the Depot RM. The division of basic training has now been established, and the Senior Squad of Recruits under training is the Senior Squad at the Infantry Training Centre.

4. His Majesty the King has accordingly been pleased to approve that, to continue in the spirit of His late Majesty's wishes, the title "The King's Squad" shall be granted to the Senior Squad of Recruits at the Infantry Training Centre; and that the best all-round Recruit in the King's Squad shall be awarded the Royal Cypher and be known as "The King's Badgeman".

5. The "King's Squad" will take its number as such by the number of the squad. When each squad is drafted from Depot RM to a new command, the losing Commanding Officer will send to the gaining Commanding Officer a list of recruits, in order of merit, whom he recommends as candidates for the "King's Badge". The list will be remarked upon by successive Commanding Officers, and will accompany the squad until the end of ITC training. New names will not be added to the list without consultation of previous Commanding Officers.

6. The Group Commander concerned, advised by a Board of Officers appointed by him, will make the final selection, after all candidates have been personally interviewed, and shortly before the squad passes for duty. The King's Badge