

## 62 AMALGAMATION OF THE TRADES OF VEHICLE MECHANIC AND ELECTRICIAN

1. It has been decided that the training of Vehicle Mechanics will be extended to include electrical training; thus, in due course Specialist Electricians will no longer be needed. This will have the effect that Royal Marines Vehicle Mechanics will have the same qualifications as their RFME equivalents. A further effect of this amalgamation will be to increase flexibility in drafting.
2. This combined trade will be introduced in April, 1966 and will be then known as Vehicle Mechanic. Until then, the present trades of Vehicle Mechanic and Electrician will continue, but men who are trained in both trades will be known as Vehicle Mechanic/Electrician (VM/E).
3. With effect from the date of this Order no more qualifying or upgrading courses for Vehicle Mechanics or Electricians as such will be run. All men entering the trade will be trained as VM/Es. Existing Vehicle Mechanics and Electricians will be affected as shown below.
4. **Existing VMs.** These will be given training VM electricians, either in the case of VM1s, as a course to become VM/E in their present grade; or in the case of VM2s and VM3s, as part of the upgrading course to VM/E2 or VM/E1. In all these cases men must come within the terms of RMI 0633 (as amended by RMRO 36/64) before extra training is given.
5. **Existing Electricians.**
  - a. Electricians within 4 years of pension, or who end non-pensionable engagements before 1st April, 1966 and have not re-engaged, will not remuster but will continue to be employed as Electricians in their present grade until they leave the Service.
  - b. Electricians who end non-pensionable engagements between 1st April, 1966 and 31st December, 1967 may either remain as Electricians in their present grade or be given upgrading and conversion training to become a VM/E. In exceptional cases DOPAR may authorise transferring into other Trades, Sections or the General Duty Branch.
  - c. Electricians ending engagements of any type after 1st January, 1968 will be transferred. They are encouraged to transfer to the new trade of VM/E. Those who do not wish to do so will be considered for transfer to the Drivers Section or General Duty Branch.
3. In future, men selected for training as VM/Es must show a high degree of aptitude for such training. RMET1 will be a pre-requisite for men considered for qualifying courses.
7. RMRO 287/63 will be revised in due course.