

**\*1506.—Royal Marine Gunnery SQs.—Future Policy**

(R.M. 103/58.—20 Jun. 1958.)

In view of the small size of Royal Marine detachments in the future, it would be uneconomical for the Royal Marines to continue providing Gunnery rates.

2. The Board have therefore decided that :—

- (a) No new R.M. gunnery SQs. will be trained.
- (b) R.M. manned Quarters will be retained as long as possible by making use of the existing R.M. Gunnery Branch, and thereafter with assistance from R.N. higher SQs.
- (c) Royal Marines will continue to do basic gunnery training as long as Seamen also continue to carry out basic training (i.e., qualification as SG (Q) or (C)) ashore. Thereafter detachments forming for sea service will be trained in gunnery in the same way as the Seamen, during commissioning training.
- (d) The regular R.M. recruits course will continue to include seamanship training so that the detachment will be capable of taking its share in the communal duties of the ship.