

*1781.—Rangetakers, Royal Marines.

(N. 2590/24.—4.7.1924.)

There is a shortage of Rangetakers, 1st and 2nd Class, in the Royal Marines, which cannot be made good unless larger numbers are selected as Acting Rangetakers in H.M. Ships, as without one year's experience as Rangetaker, they are ineligible to undergo the R.T. II Course in the Gunnery School.

The attention of Commanding Officers of H.M. Ships is therefore drawn to the necessity for seeing that a proper proportion of Acting Rangetakers are allocated to Royal Marines. Junior Corporals, or Marines passed for Corporal, who are qualified as Q.M. should be utilised, if possible, as these ranks will be able to go through to Rangetaker, 1st Class, candidates for which rating must be of N.C.O. rank.

Notation in all cases should be made in Quarterly Returns (S.365), and on Gunnery History Sheet (S.1245) of :—

- (i) Date selected for training as Acting Rangetaker.
- (ii) Whether recommended for training as Rangetaker, 2nd Class, when one year's experience has been gained as a Rangetaker.

(A.F.O.s 2749/23 and 3385/23.)

(This Order will be reprinted for posting on Notice Boards.)