

*†457.—Uniform—Naval Ratings and Royal Marines Other Ranks—Restoration of Gold Badges to Compulsory Kits

(V.2A/79/34/55.—21 Feb. 1958.)

With effect from the 5th April, 1958, gold badges, which have already been restored to the compulsory kits of more senior ratings and Royal Marines other ranks, will be restored to the compulsory kits of ratings below Leading Rate and ranks below Corporal, for wear on best blue uniform.

2. Subject to paragraphs 3 and 4 below, ratings below Leading Rate and ranks below Corporal serving on the 5th April, 1958, are to receive initial free issues of gold badges as follows :—

Appropriate Branch or Specialist Qualification Badge	..	1 No.
Any Skill or other special badge for which qualified	..	1 No.
Any good conduct badge(s) for which qualified, set of 1, 2 or 3 as appropriate	1 set

3. Ratings below Leading Rate and ranks below Corporal who, on the 5th April, 1958, are already in possession of appropriate gold badges in satisfactory condition may be credited with the value of the badges at the current Issuing Price instead of receiving the free issue.

4. The arrangements in paragraphs 2 and 3 are not applicable to any ratings or ranks who, during the preceding twelve months have received a free issue of gold badges (under special arrangements authorized by the Admiralty) for wear on a ceremonial occasion, except in so far as they may have changed their rating, rank or specialist, etc., qualification during the intervening period.

5. In future, ratings below Leading Rate and ranks below Corporal (a) on qualifying for, or on advancement in specialist or technical qualification (b) on qualifying for skill or other special badges (c) on qualifying for good conduct badges, are to receive 1 No. gold badge and 1 No. red badge of the appropriate pattern instead of 2 No. red badges as at present authorized. (B.R. 93, Appendix 64, Scale A, II (c), III (b) and IV (b) and Scale B, III (a), V (a) and VI). Similarly juniors in H.M.S. "Ganges" and H.M.S. "St. Vincent" are to receive 1 No. gold badge and 2 No. red badges instead of 3 No. red badges (B.R. 93, Appendix 64, Scale A, VII, III, IV).