

## 78.—Distinction Marks for Wounded.

(N.L. 58009 10.1.1918.)

Officers, Petty Officers and men of the Royal Navy, and Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers and men of the Royal Marines whose names have appeared on the sick list or in any official casualty list as having sustained a wound or other injury (including shell shock, immersion, &c.), occasioned by an act of the enemy, since the beginning of the present war, shall wear a strip of gold Russia braid, two inches in length, sewn perpendicularly on the left sleeve of the coat or jumper to indicate each occasion on which the wearer has been wounded. For the purposes of the award of a wound stripe, therefore, Medical Officers should only enter on the sick list the names of those Officers and men who are incapacitated from duty by reason of wounds, injuries, immersion or shock, the result of an act of the enemy.

2. The gold braid may also be worn in respect of injuries in regard to which the person's name has appeared on the sick list or in an official casualty list, caused to persons in aircraft by the fall of aircraft while under fire, though not directly due to an act of the enemy.

3. The strips of braid will be worn by Officers of the Royal Navy on the undress coat only. The lower end of the first strip will be in the position defined below, according to rank and branch :—

(i) Military Branch :—

- (a) Commissioned and Commissioned Warrant Officers and Warrant Officers of over ten years' seniority—half-an-inch above the curl.
- (b) Warrant Officers and Midshipmen—half an-inch above the centre button.

(ii) Other branches—

- (a) Commissioned and Commissioned Warrant Officers and Warrant Officers of over ten years' seniority—half-an-inch above the upper row of lace in the middle of the sleeve.
- (b) Warrant Officers of less than ten years' seniority, Clerks and Assistant Clerks—half-an-inch above the coloured cloth in the middle of the sleeve.

4. Petty Officers and men will wear the gold braid in the middle of the sleeve with the lower end three inches from the bottom of the sleeve.

5. *Royal Naval Air Service*.—In the case of Naval Officers, the position of the lower end of the first strip of the distinctive braid is half-an-inch above the badge or star on the left sleeve.

6. *Royal Marines*—

- (a) In the blue uniform, the gold braid will be worn by Officers immediately above the point of the cuff and by all other ranks on the cuff with the upper end two inches below the point of the cuff.
- (b) In khaki service dress, in the case of Officers, the lower end of the first strip of gold braid will be immediately above the upper point of the flap of the cuff. All other ranks will wear the gold braid on the left sleeve, the lower edge of the braid to be three inches from the bottom of the sleeve.

7. Additional strips of gold braid marking each subsequent occasion on which the wearer has been wounded will be placed on either side of the first strip (beginning on the left) at intervals of half-an-inch.

8. The above regulation applies equally to Officers and men of the Royal Naval Reserve, Royal Indian Marine and Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve.

9. The issue of the braid is to be made free from the Paymaster's stock, and demands for supplies are to be forwarded by H.M. Ships to the Royal Victoria Yard, Deptford. These demands are to be limited, in the first instance, to the

quantities required for current issue, further demands being forwarded from time to time as necessary.

10. In the case of Royal Marines serving on shore strength, gold braid will be issued free to Officers and other ranks by the First Quartermasters of the R.M. Divisions and Depôt, who will obtain supplies from the Royal Victoria Yard, Deptford, as indicated in the foregoing paragraph.

*(M.O. 3416/17 is cancelled.)*