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# DEFENCE COUNCIL INSTRUCTIONS ROYAL NAVY

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By Command of the  
Defence Council

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE  
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*Frank Cooper.*

564/82. UNIFORM—QARNNS RATINGS—INTRODUCTION OF IMPROVED RATE BADGES (U)

[D/ST83A/300/6/8]

1. Subsequent to the introduction of the Unified Nursing Service and to bring QARNNS badges into line with the RN and WRNS, the red braid currently used by naval nurses and CQAs for rate identification is being discontinued.
2. From the date of this DCI, rate badges, as used by RN and WRNS equivalent rates, but embroidered or printed in red, are to be introduced. Wherever possible existing RN pattern badges are being used. Head NN/CQAs are to wear three gilt buttons on the cuffs of blue uniform jackets.

3. Gilt metal rate badges are to continue to be worn by Head and Assistant Head NN/CQAs with shirt-sleeve rigs, as described in Art 1116 of BR 81. Fleet Chief NN/CQAs are to wear a gilt metal Royal Arms badge, as used by Fleet Chief Wrens, in these rigs. These gilt metal badges are also to be worn with ward dress, and by Fleet Chief and Head NN/CQAs with tropical dresses.

4. An embroidered Red Cross badge for wear by naval nurses (but not by CQAs) on white tropical dresses is also being introduced.

5. Details of newly introduced badges are in ANNEX A.

#### Manner of wear

6. Rate badges and cuff buttons are to be worn by female ratings as follows:

a. *No 1 Dress (blue uniform suit)*

- (1) Fleet Chief NN/CQAs: a Royal Arms badge on both cuffs of blue jackets: the bottom point of the badge  $3\frac{1}{2}$ in from the end of the sleeve. No other badges are to be worn on the jacket by Fleet Chief NN/CQAs.
- (2) Head NN/CQAs: three  $\frac{7}{8}$ in flat-backed anodized buttons in a horizontal row  $2\frac{1}{2}$ in up from the bottom of each cuff of blue jackets.
- (3) Assistant Head and Senior NN/CQAs: a rate badge on the left sleeve of blue jackets with the centre of the badge midway between the point of the shoulder and the point of the elbow.
- (4) Senior CQAs: a rate badge on the left sleeve of summer blouses with the bottom point of the badge  $\frac{1}{2}$ in above the blue cuff braid.

7. a. *No 2 Dress (blue ward dress)*

- (1) Fleet Chief, Head and Assistant Head NNs: a gilt metal rate badge pinned centrally between the collar points.
- (2) Senior NNs: a printed red on white rate badge on the left sleeve in the same position as at para 6a.(3).

b. *Nos 6 and 10 Dress (white tropical dresses)*

- (1) Fleet Chief and Head NN/CQAs: a gilt metal rate badge on each side of the collar, centrally between the points and top edge. No other badges are to be worn on white tropical dresses by Fleet Chief NN/CQAs.
- (2) Assistant Head and Senior NN/CQAs: an embroidered red on white rate badge on the left sleeve in the same position as at para 6a.(3).
- (3) An embroidered Red Cross badge on a white background is to be worn by all naval nurses (except Fleet Chief NN) on the right sleeve midway between the point of the shoulder and the point of the elbow.

8. Separate instructions will be given on the arrangements for QARNNS male ratings.

## Introductory arrangements

9. Serving female ratings are to be given a gratuitous issue of badges and buttons in accordance with the scales in ANNEX B. Changes to the scale of issues of badges and buttons to female ratings on advancement and for wear with tropical uniform are also shown.

10. The new badges are available from PSTO(N) Portsmouth. Demands are to be limited to the quantities required for initial free issues plus two months' maintenance needs. After two months, supply officers are to review stockholdings and return any badges in excess of normal requirements.

11. Residual stock of red braid (Vocab No 39583) held by supply officers is to be returned to PSTO(N) Portsmouth.

12. KUA has been adjusted.

13. BR 81 (*Uniform Regulations*) and BR 96 (*Storekeeping Manual*) will be amended.

## ANNEX A

## NEW BADGES—ACCOUNTING DETAILS

NATO stock no	Vocab no	Description	Acc class	D of Q	Cat price	Fleet issuing price
£						
7455-99-130-5097	32022	Fleet Chief NN/CQA. Embroidered red and gold on blue	L	ea	3.00	
-5098	36001	Assistant Head NN/CQA. Embroidered red on white	L	ea	0.33	
-5099	36002	Senior NN/CQA. Embroidered red on white	L	ea	0.19	As detailed in DCI RN 316/82
Not yet allocated	37002	Senior NN/CQA. Printed red on white	L	ea	0.07	
£						
Badges, rate, QARNNS (arm)						
8455-99-130-5100	36421	Red Cross. Embroidered red on white	L	ea	0.17	

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## ANNEX B

## BADGES AND BUTTONS—REVISED SCALES OF ISSUE

1. Issue of red cotton braid for grade badges is to cease and the following items to be issued instead:

*Scale of issue*

Rate	Vocab no	Description	Serving ratings		On advancement to rate	
			NN	CQA	NN	CQA
Fleet Chief NN/CQA	32022	Embroidered rate badge	2	4	2	4
	35017	Metal rate badge	1	1	1	1
Head NN/CQA	28106	Buttons anodized $\frac{7}{8}$ in	6	12	6	12
	32001	Embroidered rate badge	1	2	2	2
Asst Head NN/CQA	32002	Embroidered rate badge	1	2	1	2
	37002	Printed rate badge	4	-	4	-
Senior NN/CQA	36002	Embroidered rate badge	-	2	-	2

2. Additional issues for tropical clothing are as follows:

*Scale of issue*

Rate	Vocab no	Description	Currently serving at a tropical station		On first draft to a tropical station		On advancement at a tropical station	
			NN	CQA	NN	CQA	NN	CQA
Fleet Chief NN/CQA	35017	Metal rate badge	1	1	1	1	1	1
	35676	Metal rate badge	1	1	1	1	-	-
Head NN/CQA	36421	Red Cross Embroidered rate badge	14	-	14	-	1	1
	36001	Red Cross Embroidered rate badge	14	14	14	14	-	-
Asst Head NN/CQA	36421	Red Cross Embroidered rate badge	14	-	14	-	1	1
	36002	Red Cross Embroidered rate badge	14	14	14	14	-	-
Senior NN/CQA	36421	Red Cross Embroidered rate badge	14	14	14	14	14	14
	36421	Red Cross Embroidered rate badge	14	-	14	-	-	-
NN/CQA	36421	Red Cross Embroidered rate badge	14	14	14	14	14	14
	36421	Red Cross Embroidered rate badge	14	-	14	-	-	-