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DCI RN 64-75
1996



Defence Council Instructions

Royal Navy

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MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
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65/96 Disbanding The Instructor Branch (U)

Introduction

1. Following the Navy Board decision in December 1994 to disband the Instructor Branch, work was set in train to ensure that the skills resident in that Branch were retained during the transitional development of the Platform Derived Structure (PDS). The Navy Board directed that the skill areas principally supported by the Instructor Branch would evolve as follows:

[D/BSDP/768/3: 23077PY]

- a. *Meteorology and Oceanography* - Will become a PDS specialization within the Warfare Branch (see para 3a);
- b. *Training and Training Management (TM)* - In the short to medium term to become a specialization of the Engineering Branch E(TM), outwith the mainstream PDS. In the longer term the aim will be to increase the use of civilians and maximize the use of PDS officers;
- c. *Information Systems Management (IS)* - In the short to medium term to become a specialization of the Engineering Branch E(IS), outwith the mainstream PDS. In the longer term the aim is to increase the use of civilians and maximize the use of PDS officers;
- d. *Personnel Selection Officer, Fleet Analyst, and Photographic Interpreter Tasks* - To be absorbed by PDS Branches.

2. Although the longer term work on the development of appropriate career paths in the PDS Branches is ongoing, the career management process for currently serving Instructor Officers has been endorsed. This DCI details the arrangements for all Instructor Officers serving in the Royal Navy beyond 6 Jul 96.

Categorization

3. From 6 Jul 96, Instructor Officers will be categorized as follows:
 - a. *X-Metoc* - Officers with in-date meteorological and oceanographic skills who are widely employable in Metoc appointments at the appropriate rank. A distinction is made between X-Metocs, who are ex-Instructor Officers, and X(HM)s, who will be either crosstrained or newly recruited Seaman Officers;
 - b. *Engineer (information Systems) (E(IS))* - Officers with in-date Information Systems (IS) skills who have the requisite experience to fill appointments in the IS area at the appropriate rank;
 - c. *Engineer (Training Management) (E(TM))* - All other Instructor Officers to include those with:
 - (1) Specialist Training Management qualifications and experience;
 - (2) Experience in Training Execution and/or Education and Resettlement.

Appointing

4. To ensure that a seamless transfer between Branches takes place, the following arrangements will apply:
 - a. *Captains* - Current procedures will remain extant, i.e. NA/NAVSEC appoints.

- b. *All X (Metoc) Officers (less Captains)* - Progressively transferred to DNOA(X) from DNOA(SI), from 1 Apr 96.
 - (1) *Cdrs* - Cdr D Larmour RN (DNOA(X)(AIR)) Location: Victory Building Room 119; Tel 27443VB
 - (2) *Lt Cdrs and Lts* - Lt Cdr M Winchurch RN (DNOA(X)(H)) Location: Victory Building Room 109; Tel 27453VB
- c. *All E(TM) and E(IS) Officers (less Captains)* - Transferred to DNOA(E) from DNOA(SI) on 5 Jul 96.
 - (1) *Cdrs and Lt Cdrs* - Cdr W M Sutherland RN (DNOA(E)(TM/IS 1)) Location: Victory Building Room 177; Tel 27475VB
 - (2) *Lts and Sub Lts* - Lt Cdr K Pearce RN (DNOA(E) (TM/IS 2)) Location: Victory Building Room 177; Tel 27476VB

Promotions & Transfers

- 5. The current procedures for promotions and transfers will remain extant for the 1996 Rounds. All eligible Instructor Officers will be considered in competition with each other at Boards appropriate to their commission and seniority held under the auspices of DNOA(SI).
- 6. The 1997 Boards will reflect the new categorizations of Instructor Officers which take from 6 Jul 96. From 1997 onwards promotions and transfers will be held under the auspices of the appropriate DNOA as follows:
 - a. *X-Metoc* - DNOA(X) to administer boarding arrangements whereby X-Metocs are considered in competition with each other, in isolation from both E(TM)/E(IS) officers and other X (PDS) officers;
 - b. *E(TM) and E(IS)* - DNOA(E) to administer boarding arrangements whereby E(TM) and E(IS) officers are considered in competition with each other, in isolation from both X-Metoc officers and other E (PDS) officers.
- 7. Apart from the categorization aspects there will be no change to these procedures in advance of any changes yet to be implemented as a result of ongoing OSG work.

PSO and PI Officers

- 8. Officers who joined the Instructor Branch with PSO and PI skills who wish to be employed principally within those skill areas will have the opportunity to categorize within the Branches which take responsibility for the associated jobs. The jobs have been allocated as follows:

- a. *PSO - To DNOA(S)*. PSOs who do not wish to be categorized as E(TM) may elect to continue to be employed as PSOs, appointed by DNOA(S).
- b. *PI - To DNOA(X)*. Photographic Interpreters who do not wish to be categorized as E(TM) may elect to follow an Intelligence career path within the X Branch.

9. In these cases, the decision on categorization will be based on perceived career opportunities within the different skill areas.

FA Officers

10. Officers who joined the Instructor Branch with FA skills have already been categorized on an individual basis.

Key Events

11. The Instructor Branch has a history which spans 270 years. Its passing will be appropriately marked by a number of social events. Outline details are at the ANNEX; detailed arrangements will be promulgated as appropriate.

ANNEX

Disbanding The Instructor Branch - Social Events

Retired Officers' Dinner	29 Mar 96
Final Branch Dinner	21 Jun 96
Ceremony of Valediction	4 Jul 96
Final Cocktail Party	5 Jul 96