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DCIs (RN)
S139-145

1974

DEFENCE COUNCIL INSTRUCTIONS (ROYAL NAVY)

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
13 September 1974

By Command of the
Defence Council

Michael Caw

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SI41. UNIFORM—RN AND RNR OFFICERS—INTRODUCTION OF NAVY
BLUE HEAVY WOOL JERSEY (U)

[N/V171/69(DGST(N)83A)]

1. A comprehensive review of RN and RNR officers' uniforms has been undertaken and full information about projected new garments, Dress Tables and Regulations will be given in a later DCI. Changes in uniform outfits and garment design to enable the new regulations to be introduced will be made progressively as funds can be obtained and purchases made.

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2. As a first stage in the programme, Her Majesty The Queen has approved the introduction of a navy blue heavy wool jersey for wear by RN and RNR Officers on working occasions.

3. **Garment design.** The jersey is the latest version of the army pattern garment. It is more tightly knit to reduce snagging; it also has a closer fitting neck opening and turn-back cuffs. Shoulder flaps are secured by Velcro fastening to facilitate the wear of rank badges.

Occasions for wear

4. As ordered by Commanders-in-Chief, heavy wool jerseys may be worn:

- on ordinary working occasions in ships and inside Service establishments and naval bases. Such wear is in lieu of No 5 Dress or No 12 Dress on these occasions, and comprises jerseys worn in combination with plain blue uniform trousers, white collar-attached shirt, black day tie and uniform cap. This Dress will be designated No 5J, Day Undress (Jersey);
- with No 11 Dress at action stations, or as part of No 8 Dress, in place of the blue blouse, in field conditions.

Heavy wool jerseys are not to be worn for home-to-duty travel.

Wear of Berets with Heavy Wool Jerseys

5. Further instructions will be issued regarding:

- More widespread wear of berets for ordinary occasions of duty and working
- Provision of berets and appropriate badges in officers' outfits.

For the present, stocks of berets and badges have not been authorized or provided for these purposes, but berets may be worn by officers with heavy wool jerseys at sea as laid down in Article 0312 of BR 81 (*The Uniform Regulations*).

6. **Rank badges.** Initially, woven, No 12 Dress, shoulder badges are to be worn. Improved versions of these badges together with badges for midshipmen have, however, been ordered and a further DCI will be issued when stocks are available. Proposals to provide collar badges of rank for wear with No 5J Dress are also included in the review referred to in paragraph 1 above.

7. **Specialist badges.** Flying, parachutist and submariners' badges are not to be worn on heavy wool jerseys.

8. **Method of introduction.** The heavy wool jersey replaces the blue sleeveless pullover in all RN and RNR uniform outfits and also the seaman's jersey in outfits of officers entering the Service at BRNC Dartmouth (to whom Scales A(2)a and A(2)b of BR 81 apply). Outfits issued from the date of this DCI should be adjusted accordingly.

9. **Serving officers.** Upkeep allowances include elements for replacement of both barathea and diagonal serge reefer jackets (or working dress blouses for some RNR officers), and use of the heavy wool jersey will result in reduced wear on these garments. Serving RN and RNR officers are therefore to adjust their uniform outfits to the revised scales within 12 months in the course of normal maintenance.

Fleet Issuing Prices are:	Price excluding VAT	£4.60
	VAT (8%)	£0.37
	Price including VAT	£4.97

10. SCC and CCF officers. These arrangements do not apply to SCC and CCF officers for whom separate instructions will be issued later.

11. Improved shirts for wear with No 5J Dress. Collar-attached white shirts in polyester/cotton have been ordered and will replace the present cotton No 12 shirt on a wastage basis. A further DCI will be issued when these are available and will give details of changes in scale arising from their introduction.

12. Supply of jerseys. Initial supplies have now been received from contractors and further deliveries are due in shortly. Demands for jerseys may therefore be lodged with PSTO(N) Devonport, on the basis of not more than one jersey per officer. Details of sizes and accounting information are given in the ANNEX to this DCI.

13. Laundry. Instructions are given on a label in each garment. Heavy wool jerseys like woollen items generally should not be machine washed or wrung after washing. They should be hand-washed in warm water (40°C); rinsed in warm water, spun and hung over a hanger to dry; and given a light press using a warm iron (No 2 setting). The garment may be dry-cleaned if this is preferred.

14. This DCI should be noted against Articles 0301, 0331, 0332 and 0317 and Scales A(1) to A(5) (inclusive) in Appendix 5 of BR 81 (*The Uniform Regulations*) pending formal amendment.

ANNEX

DETAILS OF THE SIZE ROLL, VOCAB NOS ETC OF THE NAVY BLUE HEAVY WOOL JERSEY

Vocab No	NSN No	Size	Chest size	Dimensions of Jersey	
				Length—centre back excluding neck rib	Sleeve length (cuff not turned) from point of shoulder
41347	8405-99-137-2070	1	91 (36)	64 (25)	61 (24)
41348	8405-99-137-2071	2	97 (38)	66 (26)	61 (24)
41349	8405-99-137-2072	3	102 (40)	69 (27)	64 (25)
41350	8405-99-137-2073	4	107 (42)	71 (28)	64 (25)

(All measurements in cm with imperial equivalents in inches in brackets)

Denomination of Quantity: No

Accounting Classification: CA

Rate Book Price: £3.84 each