

277 RANK—INSTITUTION OF THE RANK OF LANCE-CORPORAL

Queen's Regulations, 1955 Amendment No. 50 of 1961 will institute and authorise the substantive rank of lance-corporal from 1st September, 1961.

2. *Promotion to Lance-Corporal.* To meet specific requirements, Commanding Officers of units other than ships' detachments may promote marines to the rank of lance-corporal. Normally only marines who are noted as candidates for promotion should be promoted. Exceptionally, where there are no candidates, Commanding Officers may promote suitable non-candidates, but consideration should be given to making those marines candidates for promotion.

3. *Members of Ships' Detachments.* Marines serving in HM Ships as members of a ship's detachment are not eligible for promotion to the rank of lance-corporal.

4. *Conversion to the rank of Lance-Corporal.* A marine holding the appointment of lance-corporal on 1st September, 1961 will be deemed on the authority of this order to hold the rank of lance-corporal with effect from that date and his seniority will be that of his original appointment.

5. *Reduction on disciplinary grounds.* Where a Commanding Officer finds a lance-corporal guilty of an offence he will be able, from 1st September, 1961, if he awards no other punishment or no other punishment except stoppages, to order the accused to be reduced to the ranks. (See section 78 of the Army Act, 1955 as amended by section 87 of the Army and Air Force Act of 1961). Before awarding this punishment, a Commanding Officer must afford the accused an opportunity of electing to be tried by court-martial.

6. *Reversion on the grounds of inefficiency or unsuitability.* Commanding Officers, from 1st September, 1961, can revert a lance-corporal to marine on the grounds of inefficiency or unsuitability. (Queen's Regulations, 1955 paragraph 406 has been amended accordingly).

7. *Reversion.* Commanding Officers, from 1st September, 1961, will revert a lance-corporal to marine:—

- (a) When he ceases to hold an appointment for which the rank is considered necessary.
- (b) When he is drafted from the unit, except for a course at the NCOs' Training Wing or NCOs' Training Cadre overseas.

8. *Musicians and Buglers.* Under the revised Queen's Regulations the ranks of *Band* lance-corporal and lance-corporal *Bugler* cannot exist. With effect from 1st September, 1961 musicians and buglers can be promoted therefore only to the rank of lance-corporal without either the prefix "*Band*" or suffix "*Bugler*". Musicians and buglers serving in HM Ships cannot be promoted to the rank of lance-corporal.

9. *Promulgation.* All promotions to and reductions or reversions from the rank of lance-corporal are to be published in Part I and Part II orders. Particular care is to be taken to distinguish between reversion specified in paragraph 6 and reversion specified in paragraph 7 of this order. It should be noted that promotion to and reversion from the rank of lance-corporal is a change in rank which is to be recorded on page 2 of the Service Certificate.

10. *Regulations.* ACI 291/61 should be studied but the regulations which apply to the Royal Marines are those contained in this RMRO. RMI 0651 is hereby cancelled and this order will replace it as an amendment in due course.



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