CHAPTER 37

UNIFORM - INTRODUCTION AND ORGANISATION

(Sponsor: NAVY PEOPLE-PSP EXEC SO3)

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CHAPTER 37

UNIFORM - INTRODUCTION AND ORGANISATION

3701. Application and Terminology

a. Part 6 (Uniform Regulations) of this BR, of which this is the opening chapter, is the definitive authority for providing all officers, ratings and RM other ranks (ORs) with the necessary direction for the wearing of Royal Navy, Royal Marines, QARNNS, Royal Fleet Auxiliary and Naval Retail Staff uniform clothing. It sets out policy, authorised items of clothing, method and occasions of wear and standards of personal appearance. The Naval Service Clothing Committee (NSCC) advises the sponsor on maintenance of this Part.

b. For the purpose of Naval Uniform definitions, the term Naval Service is used to indicate the Royal Navy (RN), the Royal Marines (RM), Royal Fleet Auxiliary (RFA), Queen Alexandra's Royal Naval Nursing Service (QARNNS), Royal Naval Reserve (RNR), Royal Marines Reserve (RMR), Royal Naval Volunteer Band Association (RNVBA), NAAFI, RFA Afloat Support (AFSUP), Combined Cadet Forces Royal Navy (CCF RN) and Sea Cadet Corps (SCC).

3702. Standards

a. Uniform identifies all members of the Naval Service. High standards of dress, deportment and grooming are universally recognised as marks of a trained, disciplined and professional Service and Commanding Officers are to ensure that their personnel maintain the required standards at all times. Modified or idiosyncratic dress is indicative of an inefficient and undisciplined Service.

b. Members of the Naval Service shall wear uniform in accordance with the instructions contained in these regulations.

3703. Authority

a. Changes in clothing policy, dress regulations, the design of uniforms, accessories, accoutrements or insignia shall only be made with the approval of Navy Command HQ through the Naval Service Clothing Committee (NSCC).

b. Flag and Commanding Officers are responsible for all clothing matters within their commands and for ensuring compliance with BRd 3(1).

c. Local management may set standards to meet unique operational requirements and may establish local rules for the wearing of operational rigs.

d. In order to ensure that the required standard for the wearing of uniform in public is maintained, local orders shall conform to policy approved by Navy Command HQ. Flag and Commanding Officers shall not permit any diminution of this standard.

e. Commanding Officers shall ensure that personnel under their command are dressed in accordance with these instructions.

3704. Naval Service Clothing Committee (NSCC)

The Naval Service Clothing Committee (NSCC) ensures that Naval Service clothing policy is delivered through a properly governed procedure and that funding implications are addressed and clothing supply issues considered with the Defence Clothing (DC) Team. It sets out the committee structure and provides direction and guidance to change sponsors.

3705. NSCC Responsibilities

The NSCC Chairperson is responsible to DDPS for the following:

a. Maintaining Naval Service Clothing policy and dress regulations in BRd 3(1).

b. Making decisions within its authority on Naval uniform and clothing matters which require resolution at Service level, or referring sensitive issues to a higher level for resolution.

c. Final arbitration on the design and appearance of uniforms, work-wear and personal protection equipment, accessories, accoutrements or insignia and occasions of wear.

d. Providing advice and recommendations to senior management on Naval clothing matters.

e. Providing a focal point for the administration and the co-ordination of design and development by Defence Clothing Team.

3706. NSCC Membership

The NSCC Membership comprises key stakeholders to facilitate the varied consultation necessary for policy making:

Chairman.
NAVY PEOPLE-PSP EXEC SO1.

Members.
NAVY LOG INFRA-OPS SC POL SO1 (Logs Commodities).
NAVY LOG INFRA-OPS SC CPO RN.
NAVY NPS EXEC FXO SO2 (Secretary).
NAVY SSM-AW NAVSURF SO2 (Seamanship).
NAVY OCGRM-ACSEC (RM Rep).
NAVY CSAV-AHF SO2 (Fleet Air Arm Rep).
NAVY LOG INFRA-OPS DFLO RFA (RFA Rep).
NAVY MED-PERS POL SO1 (Medical Rep).
DEC DC-CSTCSORN (Operational Clothing).
NAVY OP TRG-CWD EXEC SCTO (Ceremonial).
DMC-OPS PR NAVY SO2 MARKETING (Corporate Identity/Image).
NAVY-PERS-WONS (2SL's Office).
NAVY PERS-CNPS DandI SO2A (Diversity and Inclusion).
NAVY SSM-AW SW SO2 (SSM CDT Rep).
NAVY SSM-SS E CBRNDC SO2 (CBRNDC Rep).

Advisors. DC Team (Development and Supply Chain performance)

Proposal Sponsors. As required

3707. Royal Marine Clothing Committee (RMCC) Membership

The RMCC is a sub-committee of the NSCC, established to consider matters relating to RM Dress Regulations and associated Reservists and Cadet Forces. It provides the NSCC and DC Team with co-ordinated priorities for clothing supply for the RM. RMCC membership comprises:

Chairman.
Deputy Commandant General Royal Marines.

Vice Chairman.
Corps Secretariat (NAVY OCGRM-CORPS SEC).

Members.
Asst Corps Secretariat (NAVY OCGRM-ACSEC) (Secretary).
SO1 Logistics and Commodities (NAVY LOG INFRA-OPS SC POL SO1).
HQ BSRM SO(M) (NAVY RM BAND-HQBSRM SO2 BAND).
CTCRM DLO (NAVY TRG CTCRM-SPTW LOG DLO).
Corps RSM (NAVY OCGRM-CORPS RSM).
Corps Drum Major (NAVY RM BAND-HQBSRM CDM).
CTCRM: First Drill (NAVY TRG CTCRM-SW ISC DL WO1).
DES DC Parade Ceremonial RM/RN (DES DC-ParadeCere-RMNavy).

Note. *Additional members will be co-opted as necessary (which occurs on a regular basis).*

3708. Change/New Introduction Proposal Procedures (Clothing)

a. To ensure coherent, consistent policy development that is properly considered and submitted for the necessary level of Senior Management endorsement, all proposals for change or additions to Naval Service Clothing, badges, insignia and/or occasions of wear, including proposed changes to BRd 3(1), are to be formally submitted by sponsors through the chain of command, authorised at AD/DACOS level to the NSCC (via the Secretary). Minimum detail to be included is as follows:

(1) Description of/reason for the proposal;

(2) Draft design (for new to Service/change items);

(3) Anticipated scale (number per person, number of personnel);

(4) Anticipated initial roll-out quantities and required annual maintenance; and,

(5) Estimated unit/total costs and any 'trade-offs' eg. where replacing an existing item.

b. For new to Service or change items, final endorsement will require submission of a Statement of User Requirement (SUR) to the DC Team, via the Fleet Logistics Staff. A SUR template is at Annex 37A which sponsors should use to present their initial proposal. When planning a submission, sponsors should be cognisant of supply chain lead times (simple items such as badges can take a minimum six months to introduce) so it is important to manage expectations at the early stage and defer publication of roll-out plans or 'authority to wear' notices until stock is known to be available. Funding is also an important factor; clothing consumption is a charge to the Navy Command stock budget, submissions that do not offer compensating reductions should be supported by a Resource Change Requirement (RCR) where initial roll-out costs are estimated to exceed £10k.

c. **Maritime Operational Clothing (MOC).** Proposals for new to Service or changes to MOC must be staffed in the first instance through the appropriate Navy Command desk officer (see below). The range of clothing that constitutes MOC are the components of the following:

(1) Action Dress - (NAVY SSM-SS E FMEO SO1).

(2) Flight Deck Wear - (NAVY CSAV-AHF SO2).

(3) Immersion Suits - (NAVY SSM-AW NAVSURF SO2).

(4) CS95 and the successor ensemble PECOC – (NAVY LLM-DCC SO2).

CAP AW-MAR PRESENCE retains an interest in MOC and is to be consulted on related change proposals. FCIG/DEC endorsed MOC proposals do not require NSCC approval other than when issues of uniformity and corporate image emerge; however, to maintain coherence, proposals will be reported to the NSCC for information.

d. The NSCC meets biannually, in June and November. Sponsors may submit proposals at any time but no later than six weeks prior to the next scheduled NSCC meeting in order to allow full members to pre-read submissions. At the discretion of the NSCC Chairman, minor or urgent issues may be taken outside the full committee either via ad hoc sub-committee or limited, informal consultation. Sponsors should, however, be prepared to present their proposals to the NSCC meeting if called to do so.

3709. Definitions of Terms

a. **Accessories.** Small articles such as cuff links, worn as additions to various orders of dress.

b. **Accoutrements.** Items other than garments, accessories and weapons which form part of an individual's outfit. Examples include aiguillettes and Royal cyphers.

c. **Action Working Dress (AWD).** Flame retardant blue working rig.

d. **Categories of Dress.** Indicate classes of uniform designed to support activities ranging from ceremonial and duty, to the action clothing system in the Fleet.

e. **Climatic Clothing.** Items designed to provide protection from extreme climatic conditions and provided on either personal loan or by temporary issue.

f. **Combat Clothing.** Disruptive pattern material (DPM) clothing worn by personnel employed in land/field operations and training.

g. **Flying Clothing.** Operational clothing worn by aircrew.

h. **Optional Items.** Those items that are authorised for wear in these regulations but which are not provided at public expense as part of outfits or kit scales.

i. **Orders, Decorations and Medals.** Insignia worn as stars or suspended by their ribbons and worn in accordance with Chapter 44.

j. **Officers' Outfits.** Scaled items of clothing and equipment which are initially issued to officers without charge and maintained subsequently by the individual.

k. **Ratings'/ORs' Kit.** Scaled items of clothing and equipment which are initially issued to ratings/RMORs without charge and maintained by one-for-one exchange.

l. **Specialist Clothing.** Scaled clothing and equipment which is retained for the duration of the recipient's service or until the requirement for it ceases. Examples include Flying Clothing, Boots DMS, AWD and Foul Weather Clothing. It is issued and maintained by replacement at public expense.

m. **Undress.** Uniforms or items worn on less formal occasions. An historic term, now only used in specific instances such as Mess Undress.

3710. Words and Phrases - Interpretation

a. **"Shall", "May" and "Should"**

(1) **"Shall".** Shall be construed as being imperative.

(2) **"May".** Shall be construed as being permissive.

(3) **"Should".** Shall be construed as being informative only.

b. **"Practicable" and "Practical"**

(1) **"Practicable".** Shall be construed as physically possible.

(2) **"Practical".** Shall be construed as reasonable in the circumstances.

3711. Orders of Dress

Clothing is divided into the following orders, each of which may have three or more subdivisions in order to provide variations of the basic rig more suited to specific occasions or conditions.

a. **Ceremonial Uniform (No 1).** Uniform worn on formal occasions with orders, decorations, medals and other ceremonial accoutrements and accessories as appropriate for the particular occasion.

b. **Evening Uniform (No 2).** Evening dress and undress uniforms worn at naval, military and appropriate civilian functions.

c. **General Duty Rig (No 3).** Should be worn as directed by Commanding Officers as a semi-formal rig where No 1's is deemed inappropriate.

d. **Action Working Dress / Daily Working Rig (Rig 22).** Functional, protective working dress worn at sea, in naval bases and in air stations. Combat clothing is the Royal Marines equivalent.

e. **Occupational Clothing (No 5).** Clothing worn by those working in specific occupations such as nursing, catering, fire-fighting who require safety equipment and unique clothing to carry out their tasks.

ANNEX 37A

STATEMENT OF USER REQUIREMENT - TEMPLATE

GUIDE TO INFORMATION TO BE CONSIDERED WHEN COMPILING GROUND CLOTHING USER REQUIREMENT DOCUMENT/STATEMENT OF USER REQUIREMENTS

The aim in compiling the SUR should be to state clearly what the need is in order to aid the development of a solution. This guide provides a checklist of those aspects to be considered when compiling the SUR; only those headings appropriate to the requirement should be completed.

STATEMENT OF USER REQUIREMENT FOR CLOTHING
(Issue 1 – Jul 06)

1. Title:

2. Customer Sponsor: NAVY COMMAND HQ

3. Users:

4. Required In-Service Date (ISD) and Reason:

5. Background:

6. Existing Item(s) to be replaced:

7. Disadvantages of existing Item(s):

8. Requirement:

9. Costs:

10. Users:

11. Use:

12. Risk Assessments:

13. Operational Requirement:

14. Physical Characteristics:

15. Legislation/Standards:

16. Life Expectancy of the Product:

17. Repair and Maintenance:

18. Training:

19. Care and Use:

20. Compatibility:

21. Proofing:

22. Climatic:

23. Sizing:

24. Storage Life:

25. Item Marking:

26. Packaging:

27. Dependency and Scale of Issue:

28. Trials:

29. Deployment Approach:

CUSTOMER SPONSOR & BUDGET AUTHORITY

I authorise the DC Team to proceed with this.
I certify that adequate financial provision has been made to meet the costs of this requirement.

Signature:……..

Name:…….

Appointment:…….

Telephone:…….

Date:……