

Navy Order 149 of 1947.

ELECTRICAL BRANCH—INSTITUTION OF—COMPOSITION OF THE ELECTRICAL BRANCH AND QUALIFICATIONS.

In Navy Order 196 of 1946, the Naval Board stated that it was intended to establish a Naval Electrical Branch to be responsible for the installation and maintenance of all electrical installations in H.M.A. ships and establishments, except where special considerations require otherwise, and for operating those electrical equipments which do not form part of the installations for other users.

2. Although many details remain to be determined, additional information is given hereunder of the general scope and prospects, which it is hoped will give sufficient information to prospective applicants for appropriation as ratings in this branch. It is necessary, however, to state that an establishment of ratings for the Electrical Branch has not yet been laid down, that is to say, it has not yet been determined how many ratings, either in the aggregate or in the various substantive rates, shall constitute the branch upon its formation. Accordingly, until this has been done—and arrangements are in train to obtain an approved establishment at an early date—no actual transfers can be made to the branch, but it may be accepted that appointments will be made within the limits of the approved establishment as soon as possible to do so.

3. Electrical Branch ratings will be specialized in either electricity or radio. Leading Electricians' Mates or Leading Radio Electricians' Mates and below will be dressed in Class II uniform, but those Leading rates who transfer from a branch wearing Class III uniform may continue to wear Class III uniform. A list of the ratings of which the branch will consist and equivalent ratings with whom their terms of service will be generally comparable are shown below :—

<i>Electricity.</i>	<i>Radio</i>	<i>Comparable Rating</i>
Chief Electrical Artificer (L).	Chief Electrical Artificer (R).	Present Chief Electrical Artificer.
Electrical Artificer(L).	Electrical Artificer(R).	Present Electrical Artificer
Chief Electrician.	Chief Radio Electrician.	Chief Petty Officer.

Electrician. Leading Electrician's, Mate. Electrician's Mate, 1st Class. Electrician's Mate, 2nd Class. Recruit (Electrical Branch.)	Radio Electrician. Leading Radio Electrician's, Mate. Radio Electrician's Mate, 1st Class Radio Electrician's Mate, 2nd Class. Recruit (Electrical Branch.)	Petty Officer. Leading Rate. "Able" Rate. "Ordinary" Rate. "Recruit" Rate.
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4. *Advancement in the Electrical Branch.* — All new entries in the branch will be recruited as Recruit (L.B.) and qualifications for advancement will be as follows :—

- To EM.2 or REM.2 Three months' disciplinary training in the New Entry School and three months' preliminary training in the Electrical School. On satisfactory completion of this training recruits will be advanced to REM.2 or EM.2 and will continue courses in the Electrical School. This advancement may be retarded up to two months if progress is not satisfactory.
- To EM.1 or REM.1 (a) A normal of eighteen months as EM.2 or REM.2 of which three months must be at sea. Provision will be made for acceleration up to six months.
- (b) Must pass technical examination.
- (c) Recommended by C.O.
- To LEM. or. LREM (a) Not less than two years as EM.1 or REM.1.
- (b) Qualified at Electrical School.
- (c) Recommended by C.O.
- (d) To be rated " Acting " for one year.
- To E.1 or RE.1 (a) Not less than two years LEM or LREM (including acting time).
- (b) Qualified at Electrical School.
- (c) Recommended by C.O.
- (d) To be rated " Acting " for one year.

- To CE.1 or CRE.1
- (a) Not less than three years as E.1 or RE.1 (including acting time).
 - (b) Qualified at Electrical School.
 - (c) Recommended by C.O.

The technical qualifications required and courses will be similar to those shown in Appendices A to E of A.F.O. 6525/46.

5. There will be opportunity in the Electrical Branch for promotion to Commissioned or Warrant rank under the following conditions :—

- (a) Electrical Artificer (L) and (R). Outstanding ratings between the ages of 22 and 26 who have the required qualifications may be promoted to Commissioned rank in the same way as Artificers of other branches.
- (b) Electricians and Leading Radio Electricians' Mates, Radio Electricians, and Leading Radio Electricians' Mates to Commissioned rank; outstanding ratings between the ages of 22 and 26 who have the required qualifications may be promoted to Commissioned rank in the Electrical Branch.
- (c) Electrical Artificer to Warrant rank. Chief Artificers and Artificers may be promoted to Warrant rank six years after being rated Acting Electrical Artificer 4th Class, provided they have the necessary qualifications.
- (d) Electricians and Radio Electricians to Warrant rank. Ratings over the age of 28 and with one year's service in the Petty Officer rank will be required to pass the same examination at sea as Artificers for promotion to Warrant rank. The compulsory part of this examination will deal with basic theory and the optional part with suitable questions for the Electrician, Radio Electrician, or Artificer.

Transfer to the Electrical Branch.

6. (a) Transfer to the Electrical Branch is open to Permanent Naval Forces ratings listed below, provided that on the 1st July, 1947, they have not less than three years to serve before the expiration of their current engagement. Ratings who have less than three years to serve, but who are eligible for a further term of service, may volunteer for transfer, and if

recommended and accepted will be required to sign a form of re-engagement before transfer is effected.

(b) Transfer is open to serving Reserve ratings listed below. If accepted they will be required to sign a form of re-engagement either :—

- (1) For a period of twelve years' service from the date of transfer, or
- (2) From the date of transfer for the period necessary to complete twelve years' service from the date of mobilisation or date of reaching the age of eighteen years, whichever is the later.

(c) Transfer is also open to ratings listed below serving a two years' engagement. If accepted they will be required to sign one of the two forms of re-engagement referred to in paragraph 6 (b) above.

(d) The Radio Mechanic Branch is to die out, and transfer of ratings in this branch who are serving on regular engagements is therefore automatic. Ratings will be transferred as follows :—

- (i) Ratings under going course at the Adelaide School of Mines will transfer as Radio Electrician's Mate 2. All ratings will be advanced to REM.1 on successful completion of their Technical Course at the Adelaide School of Mines. Thereafter these ratings will undergo their Service Course at *Watson*, and their future advancement will be in accordance with paragraph 4 above. The necessary suffix, W/T or R, is to be placed after the man's rate on completion of his course at *Watson*
- (ii) Ratings undergoing Service Training at H.M.A.S. *Watson* will be transferred in accordance with the table below, and future advancement will be in accordance with paragraph 4 above.
- (iii) All other ratings in the Radio Mechanic Branch will be transferred in accordance with the table below, and future advancement will be in accordance with paragraph 4 above

(e) Many of the ratings who transfer will not be fully qualified under their new rating in the Electrical Branch and will retain a suffix, as shown below, to indicate their previous qualifications. This suffix will have no effect upon a man's rate of pay and will be removed as soon as he has successfully completed the necessary conversion courses.

<i>Present rating.</i>	<i>Transfer to.</i>	<i>Alternative.</i>
C.E.A.	C.E.A.(L)	
E.A.	E.A.(L)	
E.M.3 and above.	Not eligible except in accordance with note 1.	
E.M.4	Electrician	See Note 1.
E.M.5	Ldg.Electrician's Mate	See Note 1.
C.P.O. Radio Mechanic (R).	Chief Radio Electrician (R).	See Note 2.
C.P.O. Radio Mechanic (W/T)	Chief Radio Electrician (W/T).	See Note 2.
C.P.O. Radio Mechanic (WR)	Chief Radio Electrician (WR).	See Note 2.
P.O. Radio Mechanic (R).	Radio Electrician (R).	See Note 2.
P.O. Radio Mechanic (W/T).	Radio Electrician (W/T).	See Note 2.
P.O. Radio Mechanic (WR).	Radio Electrician (WR).	See Note 2.
Ldg. Radio Mechanic (R).	Ldg. Radio Electrician's Mate (R).	See Note 2.
Ldg. Radio Mechanic (W/T).	Ldg. Radio Electrician's Mate (W/T).	See Note 2.
Ldg. Radio Mechanic (WR).	Ldg. Radio Electrician's Mate (WR).	See Note 2.
Radio Mechanic (R).	Radio Electrician's Mate (R), 1st Class.	See Note 2.
Radio Mechanic (W/T).	Radio Electrician's Mate (W/T), 1st Class.	See Note 2.
Radio Mechanic (WR).	Electrician's Mate (WR), 1st Class.	See Note 2.
P.O. Wireman	Electrician (L).	
P.O. Wireman (CL).	Electrician (CL).	
P.O. Wireman (CMS).	Electrician (CMS).	
Ldg. Wireman	Ldg. Electrician's Mate (L).	
Ldg. Wireman (CL).	Ldg. Electrician's Mate (CL).	
Ldg. Wireman (CMS)	Ldg. Electrician's Mate (CMS).	
Wireman	Electrician's Mate (L), 1st Class.	
Wireman (CL).	Electrician's Mate (CL), 1st Class.	
Wireman (CMS).	Electrician's Mate (CMS), 1st Class.	
C.P.O., T.I.	Chief Electrician (TI).	Or remain in the Seaman Branch.
C.P.O., L.T.O. (L.P.).	Chief Electrician (LTOLP).	Or remain in the Seaman Branch.
P.O, T.I.	Electrician (TI).	Or remain in the Seaman Branch.
P.O., L.T.O. (L.P.)	Electrician (LTOLP).	Or remain in the Seaman Branch.

P.O., L.T.O.	Electrician (LTO).	Or remain in the Seaman Branch.
<i>Present rating.</i>	<i>Transfer to.</i>	<i>Alternative.</i>
L.S., T.I.	Ldg. Electrician's Mate (TI).	Or remain in the Seaman Branch.
L.S., L.T.O. (L.P.).	Ldg. Electrician's Mate (LTOLP).	Or remain in the Seaman Branch.
L.S., L.T.O.	Ldg. Electrician's Mate (LTO).	Or remain in the Seaman Branch.
L.S., S.T.	Ldg. Electrician's Mate (ST).	Or remain in the Seaman Branch.
A.B., L.T.O. (L.P.O).	Electrician's Mate (LTOLP), 1st Class.	Or remain in the Seaman Branch.
A.B., L.T.O.	Electrician's Mate (LTO), 1st Class.	Or remain in the Seaman Branch.
A.B., S.T. (T.L.W.).	Electrician's Mate (TLW), 1st Class.	Or remain in the Seaman Branch.
A.B., S.T.	Electrician's Mate (ST), 1st Class.	Or remain in the Seaman Branch.
C.P.O Tel. W/T 2 (H).	Chief Radio Electrician (W/T 2).	Or remain in the Telegraphist Branch.
P.O Tel. W/T 2 (H).	Radio Electrician (W/T 2).	Or remain in the Telegraphist Branch.
P.O Tel. W/T 2 (L).	Radio Electrician (W/T 3).	Or remain in the Telegraphist Branch.
Ldg. Tel. W/T 2 (H).	Ldg. Radio Electrician's Mate (W/T 2).	Or remain in the Telegraphist Branch.
Ldg. Tel. W/T 2 (L).	Ldg. Radio Electrician's Mate (W/T 3).	Or remain in the Telegraphist Branch.
Ldg. Tel. W/T 3 (H).	Ldg. Radio Electrician's Mate (W/T 3).	Or remain in the Telegraphist Branch.

Note 1.—Electrical Mechanics who hold special qualifications and are recommended may be considered for transfer to Electrical Artificer (L) or (R), in accordance with A.F.O. 362/45, paragraph 6.

Note 2.—Radio Mechanics ratings (including ex-Telegraphist ratings who have transferred or are transferring to Radio Mechanic) who transfer to a Radio Electrician rating may subsequently volunteer to qualify as Electrical Artificer (R). They will require to be specially recommended and to pass a trade test and to take suitable course. If they do not qualify for E.A.(R), they will be required to compete the regular engagement, which they have signed, as Radio Electrician ratings.

Note 3.—Chief Petty Officers, L.T.O., Chief Petty Officers (T), Petty Officers (T), and Wireman (C/M) are not eligible for transfer to the Electrical Branch.

7. All ships and establishments are to forward to Naval Board on or before 1st August, 1947 (by air from abroad), a return in triplicate in the form shown below, for each rating concerned who is borne on the ship's books a.m. on 1st July, 1947. The triplicate of the form is to be rendered through the appropriate Technical School.

The forms should be prepared on board on *quarto size paper*.

TRANSFER TO ELECTRICAL BRANCH.

To be forwarded to Naval Board in duplicate. The triplicate is to be forwarded to Naval Board through the appropriate Technical School to enable them to remark.

Date.....		H.M.A.S.....	
Surname (in block letters), Christian Names, and Official Number	Substantive Rating and Seniority as Such	Part II (Non- Substantive) Qualification.	Type of Present Engagement and Date of Expiry

Future Branch..... }
 Choice of engagement..... } Rating's signature.....

Recommended by Commanding Officer for

Commanding Officer's remarks :—

Remarks by Technical School concerned :—

FOR USE IN NAVY OFFICE.

The man named above—

- A. Has been accepted for the *Electrical* Branch.
- B. Is not required for the *Electrical* Branch.

Signature.....

8. The table below shows which of the ratings listed in paragraph 4 are required to fill in a form, and the choices open to each. Men must be in the P.N.F., or volunteers to transfer to that Service.

Branch And Engagement	Ratings Required to Complete Form.	Alternatives to be filled in and Signed by the Rating in the Space Marked :—	
		“ Future Branch.”	“Choice of Engagement,” vide para. 6 (a) & (b).
1. Torpedo ratings, P.N.F.	All	(a) Seaman (TAS) (b) Electrical	
2. Torpedo rating on two year Engagement and Reserve Torpedo ratings.	Volunteers only	(a) Seaman (TAS) (b) Electrical	
3. Wireman.	Volunteers only	Electrical	
4. Telegraphist, P.N.F.	All those who are eligible (see para. 6)	(a) Telegraphist (b) (b) Electrical	
5. Telegraphist ratings on two-year Engagement and Reserve Telegraphist.	Volunteers only.	Electrical	
6. Reserve Radio Mechanic.	Volunteers only.	Electrical	
7. Electrical Mechanics on two-year Engagements.	Volunteers only.	Electrical	

9. When the Establishment of ratings has been approved and the necessary selections have been made by the Naval Board, one copy of the form will be returned to the ship (by air to ships abroad) showing whether the rating:—

- A. Has been selected for the Electrical Branch.
- B. Is not required for the Electrical Branch.

10. On receipt of this information, the following action is to be taken on board:—

(i) If the selection is A above, the man is to be transferred from the rating shown in paragraph 6 of this Order. If the man is a candidate for Electrical Artificer in accordance with note 1 or 2 to the table in paragraph 6, the Commanding Officer may forward a recommendation to the Naval Board.

(ii) If the selection is B above and the man is a Seaman rating, the Part II. (non-substantive) qualification which he holds on the date of receipt of this form is to be amended as follows:—

New Title (retaining present

Existing Title.	substantive rating).
T.I.	T.A.S.I. (T)
L.T.O.(L.P.)	T.D.2. (T)
L.T.O.	T.D.2. (T)
S.T.	T.D.3. (T)
S.D.I.	T.A.S.I. (D)
H.S.D.	T.D.2. (D)
S.D.	T.D.3. (D)

Note.—The suffix (T) or (D) will have no effect on pay or advancement and will be removed when a rating successfully completes the necessary conversion course for full qualification.

(iii) In the case of serving Reserve ratings, action in accordance with (i) and (ii) above is dependent on the rating signing an engagement as indicated in paragraph 6 (b).

(iv) In all cases the changes of rating, qualification, and engagement are to be reported on Form A.S.161.

Part III.—Preparation of Advancement Rosters on Transfer

11. (a) All ratings who are accepted will transfer to the equivalent rating shown in paragraph 6, retaining their seniority in their present substantive rating, but as they are transferring to a technical branch some allowance must be made for their varying standards of electrical knowledge.

Consequently, the seniority of certain Seaman and Telegraphist ratings will be adjusted for *advancement purposes only*, as follows:—

To be ante-dated twelve months—

A.B., L.T.O. (L.P)—on transfer to EM.1 (LTOLP).

To be ante-dated nine months—

Ratings of the Radio Mechanic Branch who transfer as R.E.M 1 or R.E.M.2—on transfer or advancement to R.E.M. 1.

To be anty-dated six months—

L.S., T.I.—on transfer to LEM (TI).

L.S., S.T.—on transfer to LEM (ST).

A.B., L.T.O.—on transfer to EM (LTO).

Ldg. Tel. W/T 2 (H)—on transfer to LREM (W/T 2).

Those who have previously transferred from the Telegraphist Branch to Radio Mechanic category and had at that time the above qualifications.

To be post-dated six months—

P.O., L.T.O.—on transfer to EL (LTO).

L.S., S.T.—on transfer to LEM (ST).

P.O. Tel. W/T 2 (L)—on transfer to REL (W/T 3).

These specially adjusted seniorities will be retained, irrespective of passing conversion courses, until the man has been advanced to the next higher rating in the Electrical Branch.

(b) Separate rosters will be maintained for advancement to Chief Electrician, Electrician, Leading Electricians Mate, Chief Radio Electrician, Radio Electrician, and Leading Radio Electrician's Mate, and these are to be made up as follows:—

All ratings with two years' seniority as Electrician's Mate, 1st Class, Leading Electrician's Mate, Radio Electrician's Mate, 1st Class, or Leading Radio Electrician's Mate, or with three years' seniority as Electrician or Radio Electrician (including time in previous equivalent rating adjusted, where applicable, as shown in 9A0 above) are to be rosted in order of seniority, and men who attain the necessary two or three years' seniority later are added to the roster.

12. *Advancements.*—Advancements will be authorised by Naval Board on Forms D.O.10.

13. *Drafting.*—Until schemes of complement have been amended to show the numbers of Electrical Branch ratings required in each ship, ratings will be drafted and employed in accordance with their previous qualifications' as shown by the suffix to their new titles.

14. *Future Advancements*—At later date, it is intended to introduce the system of recommendations on Form A.S.507 as a necessary qualification before a man may be put on the advancement roster.

15. *Pay.*—Ratings, other than Artificers, in the Electrical Branch will be paid in accordance with the special scale laid down for such ratings in the New Pay Code.

(1937/2/389)