

## CHAPTER 4

### DISTINGUISHING INSIGNIA

#### General

0401. Only authorized RAF badges (including aircrew badges) are to be worn on RAF, PMRAFNS and WRAF uniforms, except that the approved detachable insignia for NATO HQ may be worn by RAF and WRAF personnel whilst serving on posted tours of duty at these headquarters.

0402. RAF GAI 5039 sets out the policy for distinguishing badges and the rules for examination and submission of new badge proposals.

#### Distinctive shoulder straps: officers

0403. **Marshals of the Royal Air Force.** Distinctive ranked shoulder straps are worn by Marshals of the Royal Air Force on the greatcoat and with Nos 1A, 6, 8 and 8A Dress. The greatcoat version illustrated in Plate 43 is faced with blue/grey Crombie cloth. Barathe blue/grey is specified for the shoulder straps of Nos 1A, 8 and 8A Dress and stone colour worsted polyester for No 6 Dress. For wearing of Royal Cyphers, see Chap 8.

0404. Distinctive blue/grey barathea unranked shoulder straps are worn by Air Chief Marshals, Air Marshals, Air Vice-M Marshals, Director Nursing Services (RAF) and Director WRAF when in No 1A Dress. However, when a greatcoat is worn with No 1A or No 5 Dress, detachable gold ranked shoulder straps in Crombie material are worn. (Illustration at Plate 74.)

0405. With No 1 Dress, plain shoulder straps are worn by officers entitled to wear aiguillettes and/or the Royal Cypher and by AVMs and above, DNS(RAF) and DWRAF. (See Plate 74.)

0406. With No 5 Dress, plain shoulder straps in Venetian cloth are worn by male officers entitled to wear aiguillettes and/or the Royal Cypher. (See Plate 43.)

#### Rank badges – officers

0407. The basic rank identification for officers on Nos 1, 1A, 2, 3, 6, 6B and 7 Dress is light blue on black braid in three widths: narrow – ¼ in (6 mm) for Pilot Officer; medium – 9/16 in (1.4 cm) for Flying Officer and broad – 2 in (5.1 cm) for Air Commodore. Rank badges for other officers is a combination of the braiding as illustrated in Plate 41 for sleeves, and Plate 42 for shoulder straps.

0408. Composite blue/black rank braid on blue/grey background is available for the ranks of Flight Lieutenant to Group Captain and Air Vice-Marshal to Air Chief Marshal.

#### 0409. Positioning of rank badges.

- a. *Jacket sleeves, Nos 1 and 1A Dress.* All officers wear rings of black and blue ranking braid as appropriate, the centre of the braid being 3¾ in (9.5 cm) from the bottom of the cuff and the distance between each row 1/8 in (3 mm).
- b. *Shoulder straps for Nos 2, 3, 6, 6B, 7 Dress and the greatcoat.* Generally, the bottom row of composite braid should be at the base of the strap. When single braid is used, the first row should be 1/8 in (3 mm) from the base of the strap and the space between rows 1/16 in (2 mm) for ranks AVM to ACM and 1/8 in (3 mm) for officers below air rank. ~~There is no space between rows for MRAF ranking on Nos 2, 3, 6B and 7 Dress. For Plt Off and Fg Off, the braid should be mounted centrally on a backing of material matching the host garment – ½ in (13 mm) wide for Plt Off and 3/8 in (9 mm) wide for Fg Off.~~
- c. *Provost and RAF Regiment officers.* The base of 'APM' and 'RAF Regiment' shoulder slides is to be aligned with the base of the shoulder strap. Rank braiding is to be set 1/16 in (2 mm) above the top of the APM slide and the upper letters of the Regiment slide.

0410. **Gold lace ranking.** Full width gold lace is worn on the sleeves of RAF Nos 5 and 9 Dress, composed as prescribed for No 1 Dress. Excepting MRAF, half width gold ranking lace is worn on shoulder straps of Nos 6A, 8, 8A, 10 and 11 Dress and on greatcoat shoulder straps, as prescribed in para 0404. The gold-embellished shoulder straps for Nos 6A, 8, 8A and 11 Dress are illustrated at Plate 43.

0411. **Mess Dress rank brooches – Women officers.** PMRAFNS and WRAF officers' mess dress brooches are illustrated at Plate 43. Women medical officers wear the PMRAFNS brooch.

0412. Officers' raincoat lapel rank badges for Gp Capt and below are illustrated in Plate 43. The badge has gilt bars inset in a frame of royal blue enamel and is positioned as illustrated in Plate 35.

**Rank badges – airmen and airwomen**

0413. The badges of rank for airmen and airwomen are illustrated in Plates 44 and 45. The sleeve badges are embroidered in light blue on backgrounds of dark blue felt. Shoulder rank badges for warrant officers and NCOs in the same colour combinations are worn on temperate climate and warm-weather clothing. Woven sleeve rank badges, on stone colour background, are provided for ranks below corporal for wear on men's bush jackets and women's Nos 6/7 Dresses.

0414. List and composition of sleeve rank badges:

RANK a	BADGE b
Master aircrew	A gilded metal eagle within embroidered laurel leaves surmounted by the Royal Arms
Warrant officer	The Royal Arms
Flight sergeant aircrew	An eagle and 3-bar chevron, surmounted by a crown
Flight sergeant	A 3-bar chevron surmounted by a crown
Chief technician	A 3-bar chevron surmounted by a 4-bladed propeller
Sergeant aircrew	A 3-bar chevron surmounted by an eagle
Sergeant	A 3-bar chevron
Corporal	A 2-bar chevron
Junior technician	A 4-bladed propeller worn with the blades of the propeller diagonally as in the cross of St Andrew
Senior aircraftman	A 3-bladed propeller, worn with one blade vertical, in the form of a letter 'Y'
Leading aircraftman	A 2-bladed horizontal propeller

*Notes*

1. Tips of the aircrew eagles' wings are to be horizontally in line 1/8 in (3 mm) below the upper points of the chevrons.
2. Base of flight sergeant aircrew crown is to be centered ¼ in (6 mm) above the eagle.
3. Base of flight sergeant (ground) crown to be 1/8 in (3 mm) above a horizontal line joining upper tips of chevrons.
4. Chief technician propeller to be positioned with blades diagonally as in the cross of St Andrew with the centre of propeller boss ½ in (1.2 cm) above a horizontal line joining the tips of the ends of the chevrons.
5. Excepting flight sergeant musicians of established bands, who also wear them on No 11 Dress, flight sergeants' metal crowns are to be worn on No 1 Dress jackets only. An embroidered crown is provided for working dress clothing, raincoat and the greatcoat.

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6. Metal components of aircrew sleeve rank badges are not to be worn on No 6 Dress jacket, the rain-coat or greatcoat, or flying clothing.
7. In all cases the eagle is to face to the rear.

### 0415. Regulations for wearing of rank badges by airmen and airwomen.

- a. Sleeve rank badges described above are to be worn as follows:
  - (1) By all ranks on Nos 1 and 2 Dress jackets and raincoats.
  - (2) By personnel issued with No 6 (pool) uniform for SDL postings. However, warrant officers should wear shoulder flashes on No 6 uniform. Metal aircrew eagles are not to be worn by NCOs.
  - (3) By all ranks on pool greatcoats on long term loan but only warrant officers and NCO badges are to be worn on greatcoats loaned from a pool for particular ceremonial occasions – vide para 0231.
- b. On authorized garments, sleeve rank badges are to be displayed centrally on the outer face of both sleeves and positioned as follows:
  - (1) Warrant officers – Centre of badge 6½ in (16.5 cm) from sleeve bottom
  - (2) Non-commissioned officers – Lowest point of chevrons 9½ in (24.1 cm) from the shoulder seam
  - (3) Junior technicians and aircraftmen/women – Centre of propeller bosses 6 in (15.2 cm) from the shoulder seam

*Note.* Badges are to be sewn on in their original sizes and are not to be folded or turned over.

- c. Shoulder rank badges are to be worn by warrant officers and NCOs on appropriate shoulder strapped garments other than No 2 Dress jackets. They should be neatly folded to the width of the shoulder strap, pressed flat and fitted at the base of the strap, with badge motif centrally positioned. RAF Police and RAF Regiment personnel wearing their distinctive shoulder slides are to conform with para 0409c.
- d. Woven sleeve badges for warm-weather dress below corporal are to be worn on bush jackets, Nos 6 and 7 Dresses. The badge is to be centred on the outer face of both sleeves, 5 in (12.7 cm) from the shoulder seams. Before sewing on, unfinished ends or selvages are to be turned in to present balanced, equal sized, flat images.
- e. Mess dress rank badges for warrant officers and SNCOs on Nos 5 and 8 optional dress is detailed at para 0308a for men and para 0310 for women. The men's single badge is worn as prescribed for No 1 Dress.

## QUALIFICATION BADGES

### Flying badges (Plate 46)

0416. This section should be read in conjunction with QRs 206, 435, J 727 and 728. The following is the list of flying badges currently awarded, with descriptions of the patterns generally worn on flying clothing and uniform.

BADGE	DESCRIPTION
Pilot	Wings of drab silk embroidery with monogram 'RAF' in centre, surrounded by laurel wreath of brown silk and surmounted by a crown – on dark blue melton cloth.
Navigator	The letter 'N' of drab silk surrounded by a laurel wreath of brown silk with an outspread drab silk wing 2½ in (6.35 cm) long – on dark blue melton cloth.

BADGE	DESCRIPTION
Air Electronics Officer or Operator (AE)	) As for Navigator, but with the alternative letters ) in brackets ) )
Air Engineer (E)	
Air Loadmaster (LM)	
Preliminary – Flying (Pilot) (QR 728)	Eagle of drab silk embroidery – on dark blue melton cloth
Parachute Training Instructor (Honorary aircrew status – (QR 435))	As for Navigator but with small parachute in drab silk within the laurel wreath

0417. When entitled to wear one of the flying badges described at para 0416 it is to be worn on the left breast of a uniform jacket, immediately and centrally above the top line of conventional breast pockets (when fitted) and in a corresponding position on the heavy jersey, pocketless uniform jackets and women's frocks. When medal ribbons are worn, flying badges are to be placed directly above the top row of medal ribbons, with a space of  $\frac{1}{4}$  in (6.5 mm) between the lowest part of the badge and the upper edge of the ribbon/s.

0418. Flying badges worn with Nos 5 and 8 Dress are to be half size, gold embroidered on blue/grey material. For RAF officers the badge is positioned on the left lapel with the top of the centre of the badge  $1\frac{1}{2}$  in (3.8 cm) below the inner end of the collar step opening. For WRAF it is positioned as illustrated for SNCOs' optional mess dress in Plate 52.

#### Other qualification badges (Illustrated at Plate 50)

0419. Unless otherwise stated, qualification badges for wear on temperate climate dress are silk embroidered on dark blue felt and are to be worn without any trimming or reduction of the background. Appropriate versions are also prescribed for RAF No 6 Dress, but woven versions of some, on stone colour background, are provided for short sleeved garments such as men's bush jackets and women's Nos 6 and 7 Dress, as detailed at para 0431.

0420. **Parachutist badge with wings** (see QR 436). The parachutist badge with wings depicts an opened parachute flanked by a pair of wings. The parachute is embroidered in white and the wings in light blue. When authorized the badge is to be worn on the right sleeve, with the badge centre 3 in (7.6 cm) below the shoulder seam on Nos 1, 1A, 2, 3, 4, 6 and 6A Dress. A small gold embroidered version may be worn on Nos 5A, 5B and 8 Dress in the same position.

0421. **Parachutist badge without wings** (see QR 436). The parachutist badge without wings consists of an opened parachute in white on a circular background. The badge is to be worn by qualified officers and airmen in the same manner as for the parachutist badge with wings.

0422. **Flight Medical Officer (FMO) badge**. The badge depicts a central design of brown staff and gold serpents flanked by white wings. It is to be worn by authorized officers on the right sleeve of the jacket of Nos 1, 2, 6 and 6B Dress and on flying clothing with the badge centred 4 in (10.2 cm) below the shoulder. A miniature gold embroidered version may be worn in the same position on Nos 5 and 8 Dress. An officer entitled to wear this badge and the parachutist badge, with wings, is to wear only the FMO badge.

0423. **Air Steward badge**. The badge design is a pair of wings in light blue silk with a central motif of the letters 'AS'. It is to be worn on the right sleeve of Nos 1, 2 and 6 Dress, centrally positioned, with the top of the central motif 4 in (10.2 cm) below the shoulder seam.

0424. **Flight Nursing Attendant badge**. This is similar to the air steward badge except that the central motif is a red cross on a light blue background and is to be worn as prescribed for the air steward badge.

0425. **Mountain rescue badge**. The badge is in light blue silk. This badge was reintroduced in 1979 to replace the general rescue badge. It is to be worn only by airmen below the rank of warrant officer whilst serving as members of a mountain rescue team. It is worn on the right jacket sleeve of Nos 1 and 2 Dress, centrally positioned with the base of the badge 4 in (10.2 cm) from the bottom of the sleeve.

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0426. **Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) badge** (Plate 50). The RAF bomb disposal badge was reintroduced as a special qualification badge in 1976 for EOD qualified airmen below the rank of warrant officer whilst employed on full time bomb disposal duties. The badge is to be worn as follows:

- a. By NCOs on the right sleeve of Nos 1, 2, 2A, 3A and 6B Dress, with the top edge of the badge background  $\frac{1}{2}$  in (1.3 cm) below the point of the chevron.
- b. By aircraftmen on the right sleeve of above garments with the top edge of the badge background 9 in (22.9 cm) below the shoulder seam.

When actively engaged in EOD duties, 'BD' armlets (Plate 55) are to be worn by officers, warrant officers and airmen employed full or part time when wearing protective clothing.

0427. **Marksmanship badge**. The marksmanship badge consists of crossed rifles worked in light blue silk. The bottom edge is to be 4 in (10.2 cm) from the bottom of the right sleeve. This badge is to be worn only by qualified personnel below the rank of warrant officer.

0428. **Drum major badge**. This is a trade qualification badge for qualified musicians only and is not a rank badge. Description and dress regulations are as follows:

- a. The badge comprises four chevrons with a drum above. The badges, embroidered in gold, are to be worn on both sleeves of Nos 9 and 11 Dress only, with the chevrons positioned  $\frac{1}{2}$  in (1.3 cm) above the cuff designs and with the base of the drum  $\frac{1}{2}$  in (1.3 cm) above the point of the chevrons. The drum is anodized for No 11 Dress.
- b. With Nos 1 to 8 Dress (inclusive) a drum major is to wear his appropriate badges of rank.

No drum (or pipe) major badge is authorized for wear on official service dress by members of voluntary bands, who should continue to wear their usual badges of rank and their voluntary bandsman badges.

0429. **Voluntary Bandsman badge**. The voluntary bandsman badge consists of an anodized lyre in a wreath. It is worn on the jacket of Nos 1 and 2 Dress, above the elbow on the left sleeve only, as follows:

- a. By NCOs with the top of the badge  $\frac{1}{2}$  in (1.3 cm) below the point of the chevron.
- b. By junior technicians, aircraftmen/women top of the badge 9 in (22.9 cm) below the shoulder seam.

0430. **Trumpeter badge**. The trumpeter badge consists of crossed trumpets in anodized metal. This badge is worn with the mouthpieces upwards and as prescribed for the voluntary bandsman badge.

0431. **Qualification badges – RAF No 6B and Women's Nos 6 and 7 Dress.**

- a. Woven badges on a stone colour background are provided for bush jackets and dresses as follows:  
Flight Nursing Attendant  
Air Steward  
Parachutist (with and without wings)
- b. Only one of these, or a trade badge vide para 0457 may be worn on the short sleeved garments, see para 0458. The badge is mounted on the outer face of the right sleeve only, 3 in (7.6 cm) below the shoulder seam.
- c. Before sewing on, the unfinished edges of these badges are to be turned in to present flat images.

0432–0434. Not allotted.

## HAT AND CAP DISTINCTIONS

### General

0435. Hat and cap badges for all ranks are illustrated in Plate 47. Hats and caps for RAF, PMRAFNS and the WRAF are illustrated in Plates 31, 32 and 33 respectively.

0436. Plate 31 illustrates the following:

- a. The oak leaf gold embellished patent leather SD hat peaks for Air officers and Group Captains. This is also worn by WRAF officers of Air and Group Captain rank.
- b. The Air officers' blue piped field service cap and the plain version for other officers and airmen.
- c. The all ranks beret which is subject to restricted wear by officers, vide para 0213.
- d. White-topped 'Duty' head dress for RAF police. The WRAF equivalent version is shown in Plate 33.
- e. Distinctive ceremonial peaked hats for Directors of Music, warrant officer musicians and airmen of The Queen's Colour Squadron.
- f. The RAF established bands busby, illustrating the style and distinguishing elements. Plumes are red for officers and warrant officers and blue for airmen.

**Badge regulations**

0437. **SD Hats.**

- a. *Air Officer.* The badge consists of a wreath of laurels surmounted by lion and crown, all in gold embroidery with an eagle in gilt metal superimposed.
- b. *Group Captain, other officers and officer cadets.* The badge consists of an eagle in gilt metal above entwined laurel leaves in gold embroidery. The whole is surmounted by a crown in gold embroidery.
- c. *Warrant officers.* The badge consists of an anodized eagle above laurel leaves surmounted by a crown.
- d. *Airmen and PMRAFNS airwomen.* The badge consists of the letters 'RAF' within laurel leaves surmounted by a crown, the whole badge being anodized.
- e. WRAF airwomen wear a miniature version of d above.

0438. **Beret.**

- a. *Officers.* Subject to para 0213, male officers of the RAF are to wear miniatures of their SD hat badges. The Service supplied badge for officers below air rank is metal, but embroidered versions may be worn optionally at personal expense. Similarly WRAF officers and women officers of the medical, dental and legal branches wear the miniature badge on the airwomen's SD hat. Personnel undergoing initial officer training are to wear the miniature badge superimposed on a white disc.
- b. *Warrant officers.* Warrant officers wear a miniature version of the warrant officer's hat badge.
- c. *All airmen and airwomen.* All airmen/women are to wear the SD hat badge.

0439. **Optional Field Service cap (men only).**

- a. *Air Officers.* Air officers are to wear a miniature embroidered version of the SD hat badge. The two front buttons on the cap are the mounted gilt type.
- b. Other officers and warrant officers are to wear the anodized eagle and crown badge, with matching anodized front buttons.
- c. Airmen are to wear the SD hat badge with matching anodized buttons.

0440. **Duty Head-Dress RAF/WRAF Police.** RAF/WRAF Police are to wear the appropriate badge of the male ranks' SD hat.

**0441. Positioning of hat and cap badges**

- a. *SD hats*
  - (1) *Officers, warrant officers and personnel undergoing initial officer training.* The base of the surmounting crown is to be in line with the top of the hat band.
  - (2) *Airmen.* The bar of the central letter 'A' is to be in line with the top of the hat band.
  - (3) *PMRAFNS airwomen.* After removing the lugs, sew the badge at top and bottom centrally on the hat band.
  - (4) *WRAF airwomen (miniature badge).* The badge is sewn on the wearer's left side of the outer flap, positioned vertically, with the front edge of the badge 2 in (5.1 cm) from the centre front of the hat and with the top of the crown ½ in (1.3 cm) from the top of the flap. (PMRAFNS and WRAF officers and warrant officers who wear this hat as working dress are to wear miniatures of their SD hat badges in the position prescribed above for airwomen.)
- b. *Berets.* The appropriate badge as defined in para 0438 is to be positioned as illustrated in Plate 31 (RAF) and Plate 33 (WRAF). Positioning is guided by the fixed eyelets for Service supplied badges.
- c. *Field service caps.* The appropriate badge as defined in para 0439 is to be positioned as illustrated in Plate 31.

0442–0444. Not allotted.

**BRANCH AND TRADE GROUP BADGES****Medical and PMRAFNS (Plate 48)**

0445. The winged caduceus of Mercury surmounted by a crown is the collar lapel badge for all ranks, including officers of the Medical Technician Branch (Medical Section) and the Medical Secretarial Branch. Separate versions of the badge are to be worn as follows:

- a. The gilt wing caduceus badge is the lapel badge for Nos 1, 2, 6 and 6B Dress and the collars of women's Nos 6 and 7 Dress. The bottom of the badge is to be positioned 1 in (2.5 cm) above the inner end of the step opening; the staff of the badge is to be parallel with the inside (rolled) edge and midway between that and the outer edge of the collar.
- b. The point of the wing is to be positioned ¼ in (6 mm) below the inner end of the step opening with the staff of the badge parallel to the inside rolled edge.
- c. A single badge, either gilt or silver winged caduceus, may be worn by PMRAFNS or WRAF warrant officers and SNCOs on the optional Nos 5 and 8 mess dress. The badge is to be positioned vertically and centrally on the wearer's front right quarter of the dress collar.
- d. On the PMRAFNS officer's ward dress cape, the staff of the gilt winged badge is placed diagonally on the front corners, midway between the points of the facing, (Plate 22).

**0446. Identification/Qualification badges for PMRAFNS nurses and trainee nurses.**

- a. The medical badge, blue embroidered within a wreath, on a white background, is to be sewn on the wearer's upper left front of PMRAFNS No 3 Dress as illustrated in Plate 22.
- b. The nurse training school badge is to be positioned on the wearer's upper right front of PMRAFNS No 3 Dress.
- c. SRN/SEN qualification is identified by shoulder strap sleeves of petersham ribbon (Navy blue – SRN: Green – SEN). NCO shoulder rank badges are to be fitted over the ribbon so that ½ in (1.3 cm) of the ribbon is visible below the base of the rank badge.
- d. One and 2–bar green ribbon on white shoulder strap slides are worn on duty dress shoulder straps to identify 1st and 2nd year pupil nurses.

**Dental (including Med Tech Branch—Dental Section)**

0447. The collar lapel badge for all ranks is gilt, comprising a laurel wreath enclosing the letters 'DB' and flanked on each side by wings, as illustrated at Plate 48. The badge is to be worn as follows:

- a. The dental collar badge is to be worn as prescribed for the Medical Branch badge in paras 0445a, b and c. The long axis of the badge is to be horizontal.

- b. By male officers, warrant officers and SNCOs on the lapels of Nos 5 and 8 Dress —as specified for the medical badge, with the long axis of the badge horizontal.
- c. Singly, by women officers, warrant officers and SNCOs on the WRAF Nos 5 and 8 mess dress gown; badge to be horizontally centred on the wearer's front right quarter of the collar.

#### **RAF Regiment (Plate 49)**

0448. The 'RAF Regiment' lettered arm badge is embroidered in light blue on dark blue felt for temperate dress and No 6 Dress uniforms. The RAF Regiment band wear a similar arm badge, but with gold wire lettering on a dark blue background on Nos 9 and 11 Dress. The badge is worn by all ranks of the RAF Regiment following successful completion of basic specialist training, and by members of the RAF Regiment band. It is to be worn by officers and airmen on both jacket sleeves of Nos 1, 1A, 2, 6, 6A, 6B, 9 and 11 Dress and on the greatcoat by officers and airmen of The Queen's Colour Squadron only. The badge is to be mounted with the centre point  $\frac{1}{4}$  in (6 mm) below the sleeve head seam. A miniature RAF Regiment shoulder badge of the approved pattern woven in gold wire and mounted on Venetian cloth, is to be worn by RAF Regiment officers, RAF Regiment Auxiliary officers on Nos 5 and 8 Dress. To facilitate laundering the badge is to be mounted on press studs for wear with No 8 Dress. Similarly, warrant officers/SNCOs of the RAF Regiment and RAF Auxiliary Air Force Regiment who possess optional mess dress may also wear this badge. The badge is to be mounted with the centre point  $\frac{1}{4}$  in (6 mm) below the sleeve head seam.

0449. **RAF Regiment shoulder slides.** The RAF Regiment shoulder slide, illustrated in Plate 49, may be worn by all ranks on appropriate garments. Positioning of the shoulder rank badges with these slides is described in para 0409c for officers and para 0415c for warrant officers and NCOs.

#### **Provost armbands and badges (Plates 56 and 49)**

##### **Armbands**

0450. The armband (APM for provost officers and RAFP for RAF Police) is to be worn on the left arm, above the elbow, by provost officers when on duty with RAF police and by RAF police, including WRAF, when on uniformed police duty in Nos 1 and 2 Dress and No 6 Dress (RAF only).

0451. Rank armbands for warrant officers and NCOs are provided for wear on protective outer garments not fitted with shoulder straps.

##### **Duty shoulder slides**

0452. Red and black shoulder slides, inscribed APM and RAFP, are approved for wear by provost officers and RAF police with forms of dress which do not permit the wearing of armbands. These slides may be worn on police duties with Nos 2A, 2B, 6B, 7A and 7B Dress; and Nos 6 and 7 Dress by women. At the discretion of local commanders, these slides may be worn by provost officers and RAF police when dressed in combat clothing.

0453. **The eagle arm badge (Plate 49).** This badge is provided only for greatcoats for airmen and airwomen below the rank of warrant officer.

#### **Trade Badges, Airmen/Airwomen**

0454. **Physical Training Instructor badge (Plate 50).** The badge worn by NCO physical training instructors depicts crossed swords with an eagle superimposed, surmounted by a crown. The badge is to be worn on the right jacket sleeve of Nos 1, 2 and 6 Dress with the top edge of the background  $\frac{1}{2}$  in (1.3 cm) below the point of the chevron.

0455. **Telecommunications badge (Plate 50).** The telecommunications badge depicts sparks emanating from a closed hand. The badge is to be worn in the following manner:

- a. *By flight sergeants, chief technicians, sergeants and corporals.* On the right sleeve of Nos 1, 2 and 6 Dress with the top edge of the background  $\frac{1}{2}$  in (1.3 cm) below the point of the chevron.
- b. *By junior technicians and below.* On the right tunic sleeve of Nos 1, 2 and 6 Dress with the top edge of the background 9 in (23.5 cm) below the shoulder seam.

0456. **Musicians, established bands** (Plate 50). The badge of the musicians of the established bands consists of a lyre in a wreath surmounted by a crown. It is to be worn on Nos 1 and 2 Dress and the Service greatcoat, on both sleeves, with the centre of the badge 5 in (12.7 cm) from the bottom of the cuff. The badge is not, however, to be worn on the bandsmen's full-dress greatcoats. For Nos 9 and 11 Dress the badge is embroidered in gold and should be positioned  $\frac{1}{2}$  in (1.3 cm) above the cuff design.

0457. **Trade badges for bush jackets and women's Nos 6 and 7 Dress.** Woven versions of the PTI and telecommunications badges on a stone colour background are to be positioned on both sleeves as follows:

- a. The PTI badge is to be centred 5 in (12.7 cm) below the head of the shoulder seam.
- b. The bottom edge of the telecommunications badge is to be centred 2 in (5 cm) from the bottom of the sleeve.

0458. Owing to the surface limitations of these short sleeved garments, not more than one qualification or trade badge is to be worn in addition to the sleeve rank badges for junior technicians and aircraftmen/women; see also para 0431. If entitled to more than one badge that would generally be worn on the sleeve, the badge to be worn should be that appropriate to the wearer's current duties.

#### **Distinguishing badges for auxiliary/reserve forces, ATC/CCF and Royal Auxiliary Air Force**

0459. Gilt metal badges 'A'  $\frac{1}{2}$  in (13 mm) in height for greatcoat shoulder straps and  $\frac{3}{8}$  in (9 mm) in height for all other purposes are to be mounted as follows:

- a. **Jackets of No 1 Dress**
  - (1) *Medical officers.*  $\frac{1}{8}$  in (3 mm) below the Medical badge.
  - (2) *Dental officers.*  $\frac{1}{8}$  in (3 mm) below the Dental badge.
  - (3) *Chaplains.*  $\frac{1}{8}$  in (3 mm) above the Chaplain's badge.
  - (4) *Other officers.* On the collar of the jacket 1 in (2.5 cm) above the inner end of the step opening midway between the outer edge and the inner (rolled) edge, placed in such a way that a line drawn through the centre of the badge is parallel to the inner (rolled) edge.
- b. **Greatcoats and other garments with shoulder straps**
  - (1) *Flight Lieutenants and above.* Midway between the top and bottom edges of the rank braid.
  - (2) *Flying Officers and below.* With the bottom of the letter contiguous with the bottom edge of the rank braid.
- c. **Chaplain's scarf.** When robed as clergy at parade services the scarf is to bear on each end below the badge the letter 'A' embroidered in gold.

0459A **Wearing of badges.** Airmen and airwomen are to wear embroidered distinguishing badges on Nos 2 and 6 Dress and greatcoats. They are to be worn on both sleeves as follows:

- a. *Warrant officers.* Position the 'A' immediately below the Royal Arms and master aircrew badge.
- b. *All other airmen.* Position the 'A' centrally  $\frac{1}{4}$  in (6 mm) below the shoulder seams.

#### **Distinguishing badges for RAF Volunteer Reserve (Plate 48)**

0460. a. Gilt metal badges 'VR'  $\frac{1}{2}$  in (13 mm) in height for greatcoat shoulder straps and  $\frac{3}{8}$  in (9 mm) in height for all other purposes are to be worn in accordance with the directions given in para 0459 above.

- b. Airmen and airwomen are to wear the embroidered RAFVR and WRAFVR distinguishing badges in accordance with the direction given in para 0459A above.

#### **Distinguishing badges for RAF Volunteer Reserve Training Branch (Plate 48)**

0461. Gilt metal badges, (VR(T)) 1 in (2.5 cm) in height for wear on the greatcoat and raincoat and  $\frac{1}{2}$  in (13 mm) in height for No 1 SD tunic are to be worn by officers in accordance with the directions given in para 0459 above.

#### **Gliding Instructor badges**

0462. Qualified RAFVR(T) and RAFRO (J Class) gliding instructors are to wear the Air Cadets 'Gliding Pilot' or 'Gliding Pilot Instructor' badge as appropriate, on RAF Nos 1 and No 2 jacket and on flying over-

alls. The gliding badges are to be positioned above the left-hand breast pocket. The miniature versions of these badges are half size, gold embroidered on blue/grey material. The appropriate badge is to be worn by qualified personnel on Nos 5 and 8 Dress, positioned on the left lapel with the top of the centre of the badge 1½ in (3.8 cm) below the inner end of the collar step opening.

#### **ATC and CCF/RAF proficiency and advanced training badges**

0463. Whilst undergoing airmen recruit training in the Royal Air Force, ex-cadets of the Air Training Corps and RAF Sections of the Combined Cadet Force may continue to wear the proficiency badge or the advanced training badge they gained during their pre-Service training. The appropriate badge is to be worn with Nos 1 and 2 Dress centrally on the left sleeve with the centre of the badge 5 in (12.7 cm) from the lower edge of the sleeve and with one blade uppermost. These badges are not to be worn after the completion of recruit training.

#### **Miscellaneous duty armlets**

0464. The following armlets are authorized for wear by entitled personnel:

- a. The Provost Marshal armlet is made from cloth 3½ in (8.9 cm) wide and consists of alternate bands of black, red and black with an air officer's cap badge centrally positioned.
- b. *Deputy Provost Marshals.* As for a above, except that the letters 'DPM' are substituted for the air officer's cap badge.
- c. Distinguishing armlets are provided for personnel to wear when actually engaged on specific duties, eg movements, RAF Police, recruiting staff, bomb disposal, orderly officer/sergeant. They are to be worn on the left sleeve above the elbow.

#### **RAF College Initial Officer Training**

0465. All personnel undergoing Initial Officer Training are to wear the following distinguishing insignia:

- a. *No 2 Dress, heavy duty jersey and combat dress*  
On all forms of working dress personnel undergoing Initial Officer Training are to wear a white band 1½ in (3.8 cm) wide on each shoulder strap on the appropriate dress. The white bands are to have coloured braid centrally imposed to denote the squadron.
- b. *Head-dress*
  - (1) On the beret a white plastic roundel is to be worn with an officer's miniature cap badge superimposed.
  - (2) On the officers' Service dress hat, a white band 1½ in (3.8 cm) wide is to be worn round the cap so that it covers the black mohair band, and an officer's hat badge is to be superimposed.
- c. *Raincoat and greatcoat.* No distinctions are to be worn on raincoats or greatcoats.

#### **University Air Squadrons**

0466.

- a. *RAFVR (Ordinary Members)*
  - (1) *No 2 Dress and heavy duty jersey.* A white band 1½ in (3.8 cm) is to be worn by cadets on each shoulder of the No 2 Dress and heavy duty jersey. In addition, university squadron arm badges are to be worn on the shoulders of the No 2 Dress and on the right shoulder patch of the heavy duty jersey.
  - (2) *No 1 Dress.* On the No 1 Dress cadets are to wear on the shoulder, university squadron arm badges.
  - (3) *Head-dress.* On the beret a white plastic roundel is to be worn with an airman's cap badge superimposed.
  - (4) *Raincoat.* No distinctions are to be worn on the raincoat.
- b. *University Cadets.* When at university, university cadets are in all respects to dress as fully commissioned officers except during courses of instruction at the RAF College Cranwell when their badges of distinction are to be at the discretion of the Air Officer Commanding and Commandant.

## DISTINGUISHING INSIGNIA

0467. Any variation will be as approved by the Air Officer Commanding in Chief, RAF Support Command. Changes that may require financial approval are to be submitted to ADCRP(RAF) in accordance with GAI (RAF) 5022.

### **Recruit training establishments**

0468. The wearing of distinctive badges or insignia by personnel undergoing training at apprentice, recruit and technical training schools is to be approved by the Air Officer Commanding in Chief, RAF Support Command. Changes that may require financial approval are to be submitted to ADCRP(RAF) in accordance with GAI (RAF) 5022.



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