

712.

HEADS OF DEPARTMENTS AS OFFICER OF THE DAY

Heads of Departments are not normally to be employed as Officer-of-the-Day during working hours.

0913.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE OOD/OOW.

Commanding Officers are to ensure that their orders clearly define which responsibilities of the Officer of the Day/Officer of the Watch, as laid down by QR RN Articles 3141 and 3143, are to be undertaken by the Officer qualified to exercise sea command and required to be on board in accordance with FLAQQ 1201.

(S/M) 0914.

FLEET CHIEF PETTY OFFICER - STATUS

1. It is not intended that there should be any departure from existing customs or that the Fleet Chief Petty Officer should differ from Warrant Officers of the Royal Marines, Army or Royal Air Force in this respect. Guidance on these customs is given below:-

a. List of Officers. FCPOs are to be shown on a separate list from officers, which is forwarded in accordance with FLAQQ 0901 para 1.

b. Falling in with officers. FCPOs do not fall in with officers. This applies to 'clear lower deck' or Divisions. They are, however, to fall in separately next to officers, and not with the other senior rates.

c. Wearing of Number 8s. Although it is not intended to abolish the No. 8 rig for FCPOs, they should normally only wear action working dress on the same occasions as officers.

d. Leave. They are to be treated in this respect as officers and are expected to be onboard as their duties require, keeping their Heads of Department informed.

e. Request Forms. FCPOs are not to be required to complete Request Forms. Verbal permission only is needed for most requests as for the officers; a formal letter is required where appropriate. They are not required to appear at the table as Requestmen but should see the Commanding Officer or Executive Officer privately.

f. Honours and Awards. FCPOs are recommended for officers' rather than ratings' awards eg. MBE rather than BEM. They are also eligible for the DSC.

g. Spirits and Beer. FCPOs are subject to the same limitations as CPOs for the consumption of beer and the spirit ration.

h. Accommodation. At present FCPOs cannot expect to be accommodated in cabins when they are afloat.

i. Messing. FCPOs are to mess with CPOs, thus maintaining their influence. In some ships construction may dictate otherwise, eg Heads of Sub-Departments messed together as CPOs; this sensible practice will continue with FCPOs. The President of a combined FCPOs and CPOs mess is to be a FCPO.

2. , FCM(0) 131 paras 8 and 9 are also relevant.