

executing the office of Lord High Admiral, are joint captors, &c., with other ships or vessels under a flag or flags, the like regulations as to the apportionment of the flag share to the flag officer or officers are to be observed.

With reference to flag officers it is to be noted:—

That when an inferior flag officer is sent to reinforce a superior officer on any station, the superior flag officer shall not share in any prize taken by the inferior flag officer before he has arrived within the limits of that station, unless the inferior officer shall have received some order directly from, and shall be acting in execution of some order issued by, such superior flag officer.

No chief flag officer quitting any station, except upon some definite urgent service, and with the intention of returning to the station as soon as such service is performed, shall share in any prize taken by Our ships or vessels left behind after he has passed the limits of the station, or after he has surrendered the command to another flag officer appointed by the Admiralty to command in chief upon such station.

An inferior flag officer quitting any station (except when detached by orders from his Commander-in-Chief upon a special service, accompanied with orders to return to such station as soon as the service has been performed), shall have no share in prizes taken by the ships and vessels remaining on the station after he has passed the limits thereof.

In like manner flag officers remaining on such station shall not share in the prizes taken by such inferior officer, or by ships or vessels under his immediate command, after he has quitted the limits of the station, except he has been detached as aforesaid.

A Commander-in-Chief or other flag officer belonging to any station shall not share in any prize or prizes taken out of the limits of that station by any ship or vessel under the command of a flag officer of any other station, or under orders from Our Commissioners of the Admiralty, unless such Commander-in-Chief or flag officer is expressly authorized by Our said Commissioners to take the command of that station in which the prize or prizes is or are taken, and shall actually have taken upon him such command.

Every commodore having a captain under him shall be esteemed a flag officer with respect to the thirtieth part of prizes taken, whether he be commanding-in-chief or serving under command.

Any officer on board any of Our ships of war at the time of capturing any prize or prizes who shall have more commissions than one shall be entitled only to share in such prize or prizes according to the share allotted to him by the above-mentioned distribution in respect to his superior commission or office.

And with reference to these regulations it is to be noted, that a captain, commander, or other commanding officer of a ship or vessel shall be deemed to be under the command of a flag when he shall actually have received some order from, or be acting in the execution of some order issued by a flag officer, whether he be or be not within the limits of the station of such flag officer; and in the event of his being directed to join a flag officer on any station, he shall be deemed to be under the command of such flag officer from the time when he arrives within the limits of the station, which circumstance is always to be carefully noted in the log book; and it shall be considered that he continues under the flag officer of

such station until he shall have received some order directly from, or be acting in the execution of some order issued by some other flag officer duly authorized, or by the Lord High Admiral, or Our Commissioners for executing the office of Lord High Admiral.

Every commodore of the second class shall share as captain.

And We hereby direct, that the captain, commander, lieutenant commanding, staff commander commanding, navigating lieutenant commanding, or any other officer duly commanding any ship or vessel of war, singly making a capture or seizure, or otherwise entitled to the distributive benefit arising from any proceeds, reward, grant, bounty, salvage, or other award as aforesaid, that is to say, the officer actually in command at the time, shall have one tenth of the remainder, or if there is no flag officer to share, one tenth of the entire net proceeds, except that if the single capturing ship be a rated ship having a commander under the captain the commander shall take a portion of the one tenth part according to the proportion hereinafter set forth; and if more than one commanding officer of the same rank of command shall be entitled to share as joint captors, &c., the one tenth shall be equally divided between them; but when captains, commanders, lieutenants, staff commanders, and navigating lieutenants commanding, respectively, Our ships and vessels of war, and commanders under captains in rated ships, shall share together in whatever variety of combination, the one tenth shall be so divided into parts for a graduated apportionment as to provide for each captain receiving six parts; each commander commanding, or commander under the captain in a rated ship, three parts; and each lieutenant commanding, staff commander commanding, or navigating lieutenant commanding, or other officer actually commanding a vessel of war, two parts; which We hereby direct shall be the proportion in which they shall respectively share; colonel of marines (artillery or light infantry), or of land forces serving as marines, doing duty with a battalion or force employed on shore for naval operations to share as captains; lieutenant-colonel of marines (artillery or light infantry) or of land forces serving as marines employed on shore for naval operations, if in actual command of a battalion or force to share as captains, if second in command to share as commanders; major of marines (artillery or light infantry) or of land forces serving as marines employed on shore for naval operations, if in actual command of a battalion or force to share as commanders. And We further direct, that after provision shall thus have been made for the flag share (if any), and for the portion of the commanding officer or officers and others as above specified, the remainder of the net proceeds shall be distributed in eleven classes, so that each officer, man, and boy composing the rest of the complements of Our ships and vessels of war, and actually on board or absent on duty in a prize (who it is Our will and pleasure shall be the only absentees entitled to share), at the time of any such capture, seizure, &c., as aforesaid, and every person present and assisting, shall receive shares, or a share, according to his class, as set forth in the following scale:—

First Class: Staff captain, deputy inspector general of hospitals and fleets when borne on ship's books, secretary to admiral of the fleet or to commander-in-chief, paymaster-in-chief, in the event of such an officer being employed afloat, chief inspector of machinery and inspector of machinery,