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FRIDAY, 12 OCTOBER, 1956

At the Court at Buckingham Palace, the 9th day of October, 1956.

PRESENT,

The QUEEN's Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

WHEREAS there was this day read at the Board a Memorial from the Right Honourable the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, dated the 29th day of August, 1956 (N.P. 2596/56), in the words following, viz. :—

"Whereas by Section 3 of the Naval and Marine Pay and Pensions Act, 1865, it is enacted, *inter alia*, that all pay, pensions or other allowances in the nature thereof, payable in respect of services in Your Majesty's Naval or Marine Forces to a person being or having been an Officer, Seaman or Marine therein, or to the widow or relation of a deceased Officer, Seaman or Marine, shall be paid in such manner and subject to such restrictions, conditions and provisions, as are from time to time directed by Order in Council:

"And whereas by the Pensions (Increase) Acts, 1920, 1924, 1944, 1947, 1952 and 1954, provision is made subject to certain conditions and restrictions, for the increase of certain civil pensions payable in respect of public service:

"And whereas by Orders in Council dated the 13th August, 1920, 8th December, 1924, 25th June, 1925, 1st February, 1926, 28th September, 1944, 24th January, 1945, 20th March, 1946, 2nd April, 1947, 4th September, 1952, and 3rd June, 1954, provision is made for the increase of certain Naval pensions and other awards including awards administered by the Ministry of Pensions and National Insurance, to correspond as nearly as may be, with the benefits provided by the aforementioned Pensions (Increase) Acts:

"And whereas we now deem it expedient to make further provision for the increase of such awards to correspond, as nearly as may be, with the benefits provided, in the case of certain civil pensions, by the Pensions (Increase) Act, 1956:

"We beg leave humbly to recommend that Your Majesty may be graciously pleased by Your Order in Council to sanction the provisions set out in the Schedules annexed hereto with effect from 1st April, 1956.

"The Lords Commissioners of Your Majesty's Treasury have signified their concurrence in these proposals.

" SCHEDULE I

"This Schedule relates to:—

"(a) Officers' service retired pay or the service portion of disability retired pay if assessed under regulations in force before 1st January, 1956.

"(b) the service retired pay or the service portion of disability retired pay of members of Queen Alexandra's Royal Naval Nursing Service and Nursing Service Reserve if assessed under regulations in force before 1st January, 1956.

"(c) men's Service pensions including elements for rank and age if assessed under regulations in force before 1st January, 1956.

"(d) pensions payable under Order in Council of 23rd May, 1952, and previous Orders relating to Riggers and Yardcraft personnel if beginning before the relevant date.

"(e) pensions payable under Order in Council of 3rd July, 1939, and previous Orders relating to European and Indian members of the Hong Kong Dockyard Police if beginning before the relevant date.

"(f) pensions payable under Order in Council of 3rd July, 1939, relating to European and Indian (or otherwise Asiatic) members of the Singapore Dockyard Police if beginning before the relevant date.

"(g) pensions payable under Order in Council of 23rd May, 1952, and previous Orders relating to certain Shipwrights if beginning before the relevant date.

"(h) Officers' and Mens' widows' 'ordinary' pensions and Childrens' 'ordinary' pensions.

"(i) Victoria Cross Annuities of £10 (with £5 for each bar) and pensions for distinguished conduct.

"(j) Meritorious Service Annuities payable to Royal Marines when the recipient is also in receipt of another pension increasable under this Schedule.

"(k) Retired Officers' Naval Pensions and Good Service Pensions.

"(l) Any award increased under Orders in Council of 13th August, 1920, or the 8th December, 1924, or which would have been increasable under those Orders but for the income limits imposed thereby.

"(m) Pensions payable under Order in Council of 11th July, 1951, and previous Orders relating to Officers of the Royal Fleet Auxiliary Service if beginning before the relevant date.

"(n) the service retired pay of Officers of the former Royal Indian Navy.

"Note: Additions to pension in respect of gallantry awards shall for the purposes of this Schedule be regarded as service elements of pension forming a part of the pension to which they are attached.

"2. An award to which this Schedule relates may be increased provided

"(a) the pensioner has attained the age of 60 years or, where the pension is a widow's pension, 40 years, or has not attained the age of 16 years; or

"(b) the pensioner was invalidated from the Naval service; or

"(c) the pensioner is a woman who has at least one dependant (as defined in Clause 8 below); or

"(d) the pensioner is permanently incapacitated by physical or mental infirmity from engaging in any regular full time employment.

"3. Except in the cases specified in Clauses 4 and 5 below, the increase admissible shall be 10 per cent. of the basic pension, as defined in Clause 6, but subject to a maximum increase of £100 a year.

"4. In the case of Officers retired pay assessed under regulations having effect from a date after 31st August, 1950, where the award takes into account service in ranks or equivalent ranks above that of Commander, the increase shall be the following percentage of the basic pension:—

"(a) Where the rate of retired pay takes into account less than 6 years service as Captain R.N.