

IV. RANK AND COMMAND.

14. **Precedence.**—The order of precedence of the Naval Forces shall be as follows :—

- (1.) Officers of the New Zealand Division of the Royal Navy ;
- (2.) Officers of the Royal Naval Reserve (N.Z.D.) ;
- (3.) Officers of the Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve (N.Z.D.) ;

and officers shall take precedence in that order, rank for rank, irrespective of seniority, except as provided hereinafter as regards qualified officers of the rank of Lieutenant and Lieutenant-Commander and confirmed in their rank.

15. **Qualified Officers.**—(1.) Officers who have certain qualifications shall be designated "Qualified Officers," and shall be distinguished in the Navy List by a star in a circle against their names.

(2.) Qualified Officers of the Reserves shall, in relation to officers of the New Zealand Division of the Royal Navy of the same rank, and in relation to each other, rank and command according to their respective seniorities ; but officers of the R.N.V.R. (N.Z.D.) shall rank after officers of the R.N.R. (N.Z.D.), and the latter after officers of the New Zealand Division of the Royal Navy of the same seniority.

(3.) Officers of the R.N.R. (N.Z.D.) of the same rank who are *not* qualified shall rank and command after officers of the New Zealand Division of the Royal Navy and Qualified Officers of corresponding rank, and R.N.V.R. (N.Z.D.) officers after R.N.R. (N.Z.D.) officers.

(4.) The Naval Board may grant naval command and authority to any unqualified officers during the tenure of a particular appointment, and such officers shall rank and command as if for the time being they were Qualified Officers.

(5.) The retention of the relative seniority as a Qualified Officer shall be conditional on the officer complying with the regulations and subsequent naval training and being well reported on.

(6.) A Qualified Officer of Lieutenant's rank shall not retain such qualification on reaching the rank of Lieutenant-Commander, but may be granted it again in the higher rank.

16. **Qualifications required to obtain Naval Command—Executive Officers.**—(1.) A Lieutenant or Lieutenant-Commander of the Reserves who is confirmed in his rank, and is recommended as provided by these regulations, may, at the discretion of the Naval Board, be granted the power of exercising naval command as if he were an officer of the New Zealand Division of the Royal Navy, subject to the following conditions :

(a.) He must be recommended for the status of Qualified Officer by an officer of the New Zealand Division of the Royal Navy not below the rank of Commander-in-Command, under whom he has served for a period of not less than twenty-eight days' actual service or naval training.

(b.) In the case of an officer R.N.V.R. (N.Z.D.) he must, in addition to being recommended as above, be in possession of either a Board of Trade yachtsman's certificate of competency in navigation and seamanship, or have passed an examination and obtained a first-class certificate in seamanship and navigation as hereinafter provided.

(i.) Such examination shall be held in New Zealand, and shall be conducted by a navigating officer or an officer in possession of a Board of Trade master's certificate.

(ii.) The result of the examination shall be reported by the Wellington officer conducting the same to the Naval Secretary, Navy Office, Wellington.

(iii.) The officer conducting the examination shall have power to recommend the granting of two classes of certificates—namely, a first-class certificate and a second-class certificate.

(iv.) In order to obtain a second-class certificate in seamanship an officer must show—ability and knowledge as regards use and construction of floating anchor ; marking and use of lead-line ; man overboard and necessary action ; rule of the road ; signals of distress, and for a pilot ; use of rocket apparatus ; uniform system of buoyage ; marking of wrecks ; general pilotage ; getting under way ; tending vessels at anchor ; mooring and unmooring ; how to keep ship's head to sea in heavy weather.

(v.) In order to obtain a first-class certificate in seamanship an officer, in addition to the ability and knowledge required for a second-class certificate in seamanship, must be able to answer any question in practical seamanship relating to auxiliary patrol vessels that the examining officer may deem fit to put.