# RANK BADGES

IN THE

NAVY, ARMY, R.A.F

AND AUXILIARIES



A fully coloured guide to the badges worn by members of His Majesty's Forces

More than 300,000 copies sold



















LONDON

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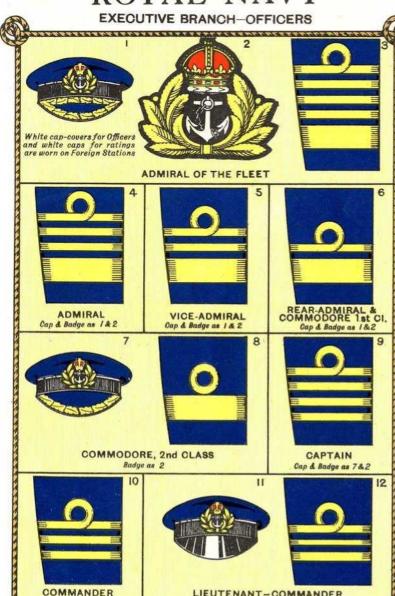
1943

PRINTED IN GREAT BRITAIN

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## · ROYAL NAVY ·



LIEUTENANT-COMMANDER
Badge as 2

Flag Officers are those of Rear-Admiral's rank and above, and who fly a distinguishing flag.
A Commodore flies a broad Pennant (or Pendant).

Cap & Badge as 7 & 2

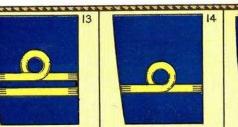
### · ROYAL NAVY ·

EXECUTIVE BRANCH-OFFICERS



LIEUTENANT Cap & Badge as 11&2

THE PARTY OF THE PROPERTY OF THE PARTY OF TH



SUB-LIEUTENANT \* Cap & Badge as 11 & 2



WARRANT OFFICER Cap & Badge as 11 and 2.



DSHIPMAN & CADET Cap and Badge as 11 and 2 (Buttons only in full dress).



MIDSHIPMAN Patch on collar lapel.



CADET Button on collar lapel.

#### EXAMPLES OF FULL-DRESS CUFFS.

The foregoing cuffs, and the remainder given on pages 3 & 5, are those worn with the undress uniform. The three examples below, viz., Admiral, Commodore 2nd Class, and Warrant Officer , show the three styles of full-dress cuff with "slash" as worn by all Commissioned Officers. The rows of "distinction lace" vary in number and style for the different ranks and branches, exactly as on the cuffs of undress uniform.



FLAG OFFICERS & COMMODORES 1st CLASS AAAAAAAA



COMMODORES,(2nd Class) CAPTAINS & COMMANDERS



COMMISSIONED WARRANT & WARRANT OFFICERS ONLY

OFFICERS OF OTHER BRANCHES



AIR BRANCH



ENGINEER



SURGEON



DENTAL



ACCOUNTANT (PAYMASTER)



INSTRUCTOR



SHIPWRIGHT & CONSTRUCTORS



ORDNANCE



ELECTRICAL

Note.—The ranks for all these Officers are the same as for Executive Officers, with the prefix of "Surgeon" for "Surgeon so and so" [(D) added for Dental Officers], "Paymaster so and so" for Accountant, and others as named above. the Engineer Officers, most are called by Executive ranks, but with "E" in brackets afterwards; for instance, Commander (E). A few Captains and upwards, however, still retain the former titles of Engineer Captain, Engineer Rear-Admiral, etc.

The rank shown in all the above drawings is that of Commander. The coloured cloth between the gold is velvet.

#### SHOULDER STRAPS ON GREAT-COATS



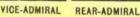
ADMIRAL OF THE FLEET



ADMIRAL



COMMODORE 1st CLASS



Officers of lower rank have the same design upon their shoulder straps as upon their sleeves. Engineer and Surgeon Vice and Rear-Admirals and Paymaster and Instructor Rear-Admirals have suitably coloured edging-purple, red, white and light blue respectively.

## R.N.R., R.N.V.R. & R.M

#### ROYAL NAVAL RESERVE \*



LIEUTENANT 1



PAYMASTER-LIEUTENANT 1



MIDSHIPMAN

#### **ROYAL NAVAL VOLUNTEER RESERVE \***



LIEUTENANT 1



SURGEON-LIEUTENANT



MIDSHIPMAN

#### ROYAL MARINES



CAP BADGE



FIELD OFFICER



OTHER OFFICERS



COMMANDANT



COLONEL









SECOND LIEUTENANT

Cap and Badge as R.N. Highest rank, R.N.R. and R.N.V.R., Commodore, 2nd Class. 1. Half-stripe of Lieutenant-Commander is a wavy gold one, and that of Paymaster

Lieutenant-Commander has a narrow white edging. The Special Branch R.N.V.R. wear emerald green between gold. Officers attached to Sea Cadet Corps wear letters S.C.C. in gold above the curl. CAPS & CAP BADGES OF PETTY OFFICERS, ETC.



CAP & BADGE



PETTY OFFICERS & MEN AND BOYS DRESSED AS SEAMEN



CHIEF PETTY OFFICER



PETTY OFFICER



ENGINEER P.O.



ENGINE-ROOM ARTIFICER, WRITERS, Etc.



PETTY OFFICER



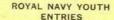
LEADING SEAMAN



**OBSERVERS** 



AIR GUNNERS





Designed for young men aged 17 years, accepted for the Navy, and awaiting call-up at 18. Worn at the top of the sleeve on Home Guard, Sea Cadet or Air Training Corps uniforms.

OFFICERS' BUTTONS



OF FLAG RANK



UNDER FLAG RANK THE STATE OF THE S

Note.—Lettering R.N.R. or R.N.V.R. is on right cuff of Seamen in these Reserves.

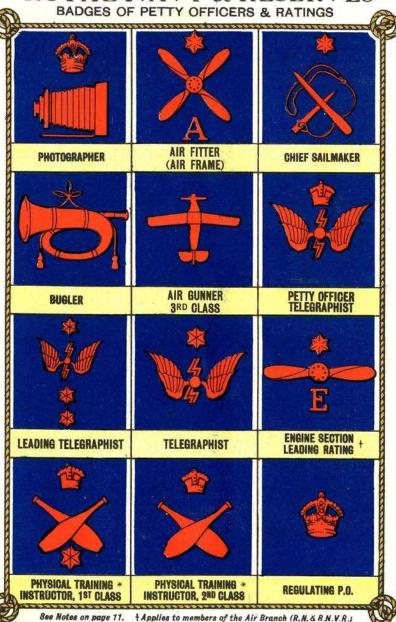
Petty Officers wear a single-breasted jacket for working rig, and a double-breasted otherwise. C.P.O.s wear three large buttons on sleeves and non-substantive badges on their lapels. \*Although it is not worn nowadays, this badge still officially exists.

#### 8 ROYAL NAVY & RESERVES

BADGES OF PETTY OFFICERS & RATINGS **GUNNER'S MATE** GUNLAYER, 18T CLASS + **GUNLAYER, 2ND CLASS GUNNERY RATING** SEAMAN GUNNER TORPEDO GUNNER'S MATE 3RD CLASS LAYER TORPEDO COXSWAIN **LEADING TORPEDOMAN** SEAMAN TORPEDOMAN DIVER **800D SHOOTING BADGE CHIEF YEOMAN OF SIGNALS** 

See Notes on page 11. †Has an "L" below it, and a "Q" for Quarter Rating. "C" for Control and "A" for Anti-Aircraft.

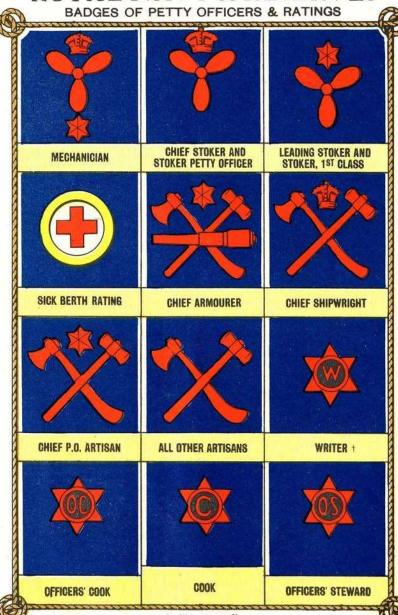
## ROYAL NAVY & RESERVES SADDRES OF PETTY OFFICERS & RATINGS



See Notes on page 11. † Applies to members of the Air Branch (R.N.& R.N.V.R.)

\* In full, "Physical and Recreational Training Instructor."

10 ROYAL NAVY & RESERVES



### ROYAL NAVY & RESERVES

BADGES OF PETTY OFFICERS & RATINGS



MASTER-AT-ARMS

#### NOTE8

The badges shown on pages 8, 9, 10 and 11 are, with the the odages shown on pages 8, 9, 10 and 11 are, with the exception of the last three, worn on the RIBHT arm, and in the case of Chief Petty Officers on the front of the collar lapel. They are, as shown in the drawings, RED on blue serge or working rig, but are in BLUE on white uniforms, also in GOLD when worn on cloth or full dress. The bottom row illustrates LONG SERVICE and GOOD CONDUCT STRIPPS's three streng depoting to least this thirteen. STRIPES; three stripes denoting at least thirteen years, two denoting at least eight years, and one at least five years. These stripes are worn upon the LEFT arm.



RANGETAKER



SURVEYING RECORDER





CHIEF MOTOR MECHANIC (R.N.V.R.)



SUBMARINE DETECTOR INSTRUCTOR



HIGHER SUBMARINE DETECTOR



SUBMARINE DETECTOR







LONG SERVICE & GOOD CONDUCT STRIPES

Worn on the LEFT arm CAN SERVICE CONTRACTOR OF THE SERVICE OF THE SERVIC

## MERCHANT NAVY

**OFFICERS** 



CAPTAIN (CERTIFICATED MASTER)



CAP BADGE



CHIEF OFFICER (GERTIFICATED)



18T OFFICER



2ND OFFICER (CERTIFICATED)



3RD & JUNIOR OFFICER (GERTIFICATED)



CHIEF ENGINEER (CERTIFICATED)



SENIOR SURGEON



PURSER (SENIOR)



RADIO OFFICER



BADGE \*
(for use with plain clothes)



HIFF STEWARD

\* Distributed to Officers and Men of the Merchant Service and Deep-Sea Fishing Fleets, 1940.

Cap badge, etc., are those of the official Merchant Navy uniforms. Many Companies still retain their own distinctive badges and uniforms, which are optional.

## H.M. COASTGUARD



CAP BADGES



AND HIGHER GRADES
Badge as 1



DISTRICT OFFICERS
Badge us 1



STATION OFFICERS AND COASTBUARDSMEN Badge as 2



CHIEF INSPECTOR

\*



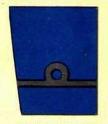
DEPUTY CHIEF INSPECTOR



**INSPECTORS** 



DISTRICT OFFICERS



STATION OFFICERS



DISTRICT OFFICERS AND HIGHER GRADES



STATION OFFICERS

### · ARMY ·

#### OFFICERS' BADGES OF RANK





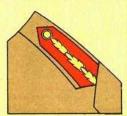
Worn on Service with a plain khaki cloth peak.



FIELD-MARSHAL



GENERAL Cap as a

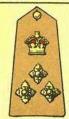




LIEUT-GENERAL ap, Badge and Gorget Patch as a, b & C.



MAJOR-GENERAL Cap, Badge and Gorget Patch as a, b & C.



BRIGADIER Oap, Badge and Gorget Pat As for Colonel on next page

## · ARMY ·

#### OFFICERS' BADGES OF RANK



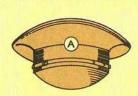
Cap and Badge of Substantive Colonel Worn on Service with a plain khaki cloth peak.



GORGET PATCH
Gorget Patch of Substantive
Colonel.



COLONEL



Cap for Officers of rank below Colonel. Regimental or other badge being worn at A.



Gorget patches are worn in different colours according to the Branch as under:—

BLUE (bright) Royal Engineer Services; (pale) Education. RED (scarlet) General Staff and Ordnance; (cherry) Medical; (maroon) Veterinary. PURPLE. Chaplain. GREEN, Dental. YELLOW, Pay.

Metal Rank Distinctions worn by Officers are sometimes of a dull bronze colour, but are here shown as gilt for greater clearness.

LIEUT.-COLONEL



MAJOR



CAPTAIN



LIEUTENANT



2ND LIEUT.

SOME DISTINCTIVE "STARS"



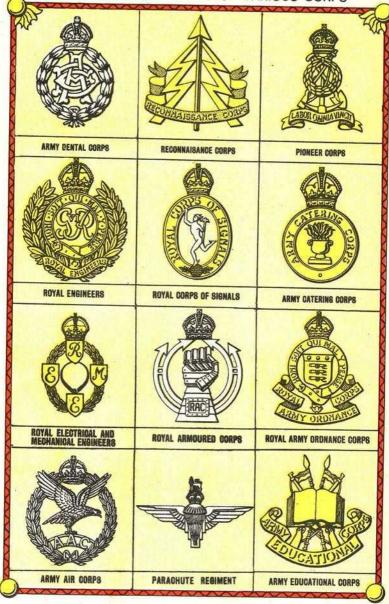






#### ARMY

DISTINGUISHING BADGES OF VARIOUS CORPS

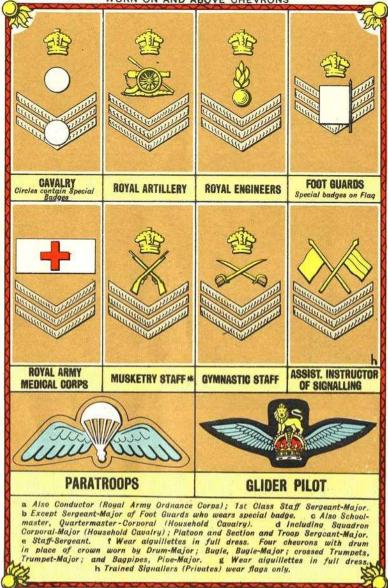


RANK & APPOINTMENT BADGES: W.O.'s, N.C.O.'s & MEN CONDUCTOR AND STAFF 18T CLASS MASTER GUNNER 2ND CLASS MASTER GUNNER SERGT.-MAJOR, 1ST CLASS R.S.M. & OTHER W.O.'s BANDMASTER MASTER GUNNER, 3RD CLASS 1ST CLASS SQUADRON Q.M.S. & COMPANY Q.M.S. W.O. 2ND CLASS W.O. 3PPCLASS 1. SERGEANT. 2. CORPORAL OR **SQUADRON QUARTERS** CORPORAL BOMBARDIER. 8. LANCE-CORPORAL

OR LANCE-BOMBARDIER

## $\cdot$ ARMY $\cdot$

REGIMENTAL & CORPS BADGES WORN ON AND ABOVE CHEVRONS

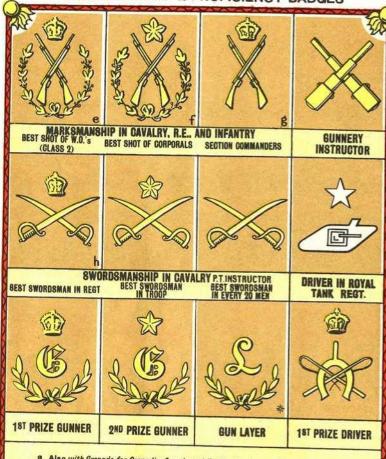


## · ARMY

RANK & APPOINTMENT BADGES: N.C.O.'s & MEN SCOUT-CORPORAL TRAINED RIDING INSTRUCTOR INFANTRY PIONEER (HOUSEHOLD CAV.) SQUADRON-SCOUT SERGT.-TRUMPETER BUGLER TRUMPETER BUGLER (R.E. & R.A.) (RIFLE REGIMENTS) **BOMB DISPOSAL** R.A.M.C. BANDSMAN DRUMMER SQUAD 2ND CLASS ORDERLY (EXCEPT IN CAVALRY) (Except in Foot Guards) TRADESMAN OR FARRIER & SADDLER WHEELER & CARPENTER SHOEING SMITH (EXCEPT IN CAVALRY) FITTER

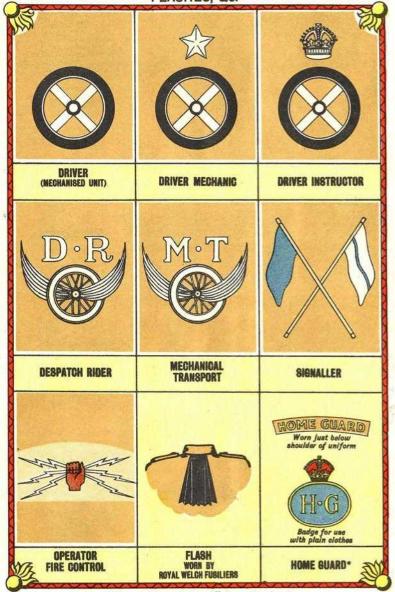
### · ARMY

#### SKILL-AT-ARMS & PROFICIENCY BADGES



- 2 Also with Grenade for Grenadier Guards and Fusilier Regiments; Star for Scots & Irish G.
  Rose for Coldstream Guards; Bugle for Rifle Regiments and Light Infantry.
- b Also Scout-Sergeants and Regimental Scouts in Cavalry of the Line; Scout-Sergeants and 1st Class Scouts in Foot Guards and Infastry.
- C Also with Two Stripes for 1st. Class Orderly.
- d Also Machinery Artifloer and Smith.
- Also Sergeants and Lance-Sergeants of a Battalion
- f Also Lance-Corporals and Privates of a Battalion.
- 6 Of best shooting Squadron or Company in a unit; with Star instead of Crown for best shot in each Squadron, Company or Band; and Rifles only, Marksmen, & Musketry met.
- h Also Sergeants and Lance-Sergeants of a Battalion

ARMY
PROFICIENCY BADGES, DISTINGUISHING
FLASHES, &c.



## ROYAL AIR FORCE

OFFICERS' BADGES OF RANK







Note.—In Full Dress all Officers' sleeve "rings" are in GOLD.









AIR CHIEF MARSHAL

AIR-MARSHAL

AIR VICE-MARSHAL

AIR-COMMODORE





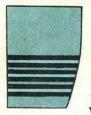


GROUP CAPTAIN +

Note. - On great-coats rank distinctions are worn on shoulder-straps.







WING-COMMANDER AND OTHER COMMISSIONED OFFICERS

(See page 23)

Cap and Badge also apply to Officers in the second row.

<sup>†</sup> Badge is also worn by Commissioned Officers of lower rank. Brass (or gilt) letters (V.R.) are worn on lapels of Officers of R.A.F.V.R.

## ROYAL AIR FORCE

OFFICERS' RANK BADGES; "WINGS," ETC.



SQUADRON LEADER





FLIGHT-LIEUTENANT FLYING OFFICER

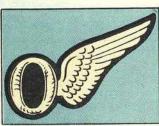


PILOT OFFICER

These badges are worn on the left breast.



QUALIFIED PILOT'S "WINSS" +



OBSERVER & NAVIGATOR
A Radio Operator has the letters R.O. instead of A.G.



AIR-GUNNER



CHAPLAIN-CAP BADGE Collar badge is similar, but without the Imperial Crown



DENTAL COLLAR BADGE



**MEDICAL OFFICER COLLAR BADGE** 

†Note.—Pilot's "wings" are worn by Army Officers attached to the Army Co-operation Squadrons who have obtained their certificates, also by all Officers now serving in any Service, who won the "wings" during the Great War.

## ROYAL AIR FORCE



SHOULDER BADGE\*



WARRANT OFFICER



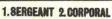
FLIGHT-SERGEANT







GOOD CONDUCT STRIPE





DRUM-MAJOR

**LEADING AIRCRAFTMAN** 

#### NON-SUBSTANTIVE BADGES







PHYSICAL TRAINING INSTRA

**CENTRAL BANDSMAN** 

**BOMB DISPOSAL SQUAD** 





WIRELESS OPERATOR

GUNNER (GROUND)

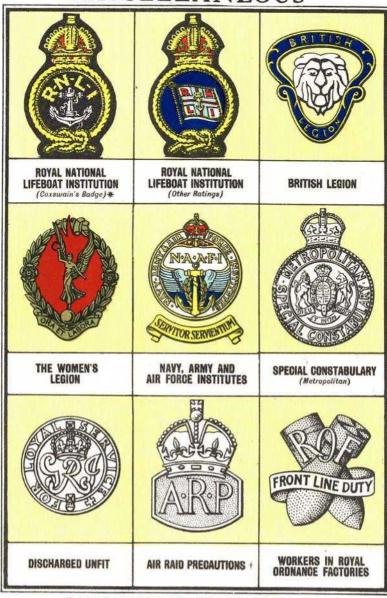
Worn by N.C.O.'s and men on caps similar in shape to those on page 22, bottom row. but in the case of the first with a black shiny peak.

\*Worn by all non-commissioned ranks. Members of the Auxiliary Air Force wear the letter 'A' below the albatross. R.A.F. Regiment. Words in pale blue on dark blue background worn just below shoulder.

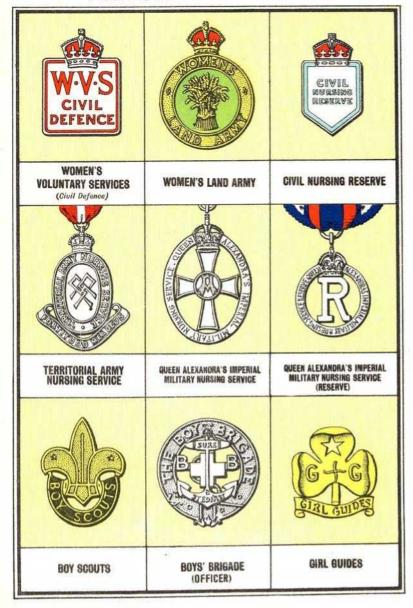
## AUXILIARY & MISCELLANEOUS



## AUXILIARY & MISCELLANEOUS



## AUXILIARY & MISCELLANEOUS

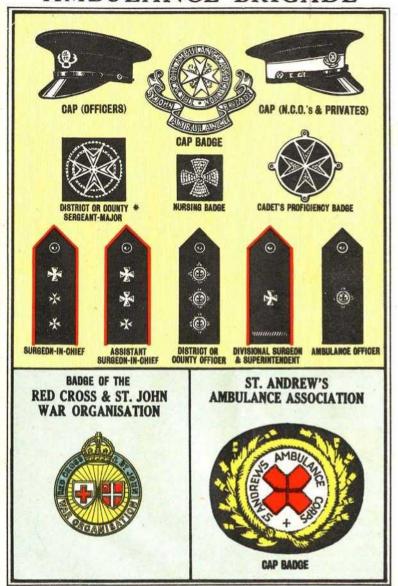


## BRITISH RED CROSS SOCIETY

CAP BADGES, SHOULDER STRAPS, CUFFS, &c.



#### ST. JOHN AMBULANCE BRIGADE

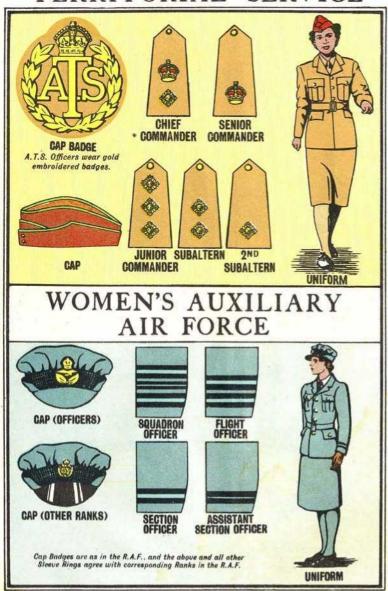


## 30 WOMEN'S ROYAL NAVAL SERVICE

**CUFFS & BADGES** 



#### AUXILIARY TERRITORIAL SERVICE



#### NATIONAL FIRE SERVICE



CAP BADGE



CHIEF REGIONAL OFFICER



FIRE FORCE COMMANDER



**ASSISTANT** FIRE FORCE COMMANDER



DIVISIONAL OFFICER



COLUMN OFFICER



SENIOR COMPANY OFFICER



COMPANY OFFICER



**SECTION** LEADER



LEADING

#### CIVIL DEFENCE GENERAL SERVICES



#### BREAST BADGE

A local marking (e.g. the name of the town) in gold colour can be worn below the breast badge if desired by the local authority.



**HEAD WARDEN** (IN LONDON, POST WARDEN)

Cheurons, two or more in number, worn above the elbow, are issued to all junior supervisory grades, sometimes popularly described as N.C.O.'s.



#### SHOULDER TITLE FOR C.D. RESCUE SERVICE

Similar titles are issued for the following Services :-

- " Warden"
- " Ambulance"
- "First Aid Post"
  "First Aid Party" (in London,"Stretcher Party")
- "Decontamination"
  - " Messenger
- "Report and Control"
  "G.I.O." (Gas Identification Service)



#### CONTROLLER

Similar bars, worn below shoulder titles, and varying in number and thickness, are worn by all Senior Officers.