

At the Court at Buckingham Palace, the 29th day of March 1973

PRESENT

THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY IN COUNCIL

Whereas it is expedient to provide for revised rates and conditions of award of pensions to the widows and children of deceased Officers, Petty Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers and Men of the Royal Navy and Royal Marines:

Now, therefore, Her Majesty, in exercise of the powers conferred upon Her by section 3 of the Naval and Marine Pay and Pensions Act 1865 c. 73, and of all other powers enabling Her in that behalf, is pleased, by and with the advice of Her Privy Council, to order, and it is hereby ordered, as follows:

**Citation**

1. This Order may be cited as the Naval and Marine Pay and Pensions (Family Pensions) Order 1973.

**Interpretation**

2. The Interpretation Act 1889 c. 63 shall apply for the interpretation of this Order as it applies for the interpretation of an Act of Parliament.

**General**

3. Sections I, II, III and IV of the Schedule to this Order shall have effect from 1st December 1972. Section V thereof shall have effect from 1st April 1972.

4. The revised rates and conditions of award of widows' and childrens' pensions in respect of the service of deceased Officers, Petty Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers and Men of the Royal Navy and Royal Marines shall be as specified in the Schedule annexed hereto.

W. G. Agnew.

SCHEDULE

SECTION I

*The Forces Family Pensions Scheme*

The family pensions and other awards provided for in this Schedule are those payable in respect of the service of deceased Officers, Fleet Chief Petty Officers, Chief Petty Officers, Petty Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers, and Men of the Royal Navy and the Royal Marines, and awards which are payable in respect of deaths which are due to service.

2. Except where otherwise stated, the term "Officers" in this Schedule should be read as including Commissioned Officers of the Royal Navy and of the Royal Marines and "RN ratings and RM other ranks" should be read as including Fleet Chief Petty Officers, Chief Petty Officers, Petty Officers and other ratings of the Royal Navy and Non-Commissioned Officers and other ranks of the Royal Marines.

3. Subject to the detailed regulations set out below family pensions may be paid to eligible members of the families of deceased Officers, RN ratings and RM other ranks who were entitled by service to half-pay, retired pay or service pension, or, where death occurred during service, would have been so entitled had they been invalided on the day they died.

SECTION II

*Family Pensions*

4. The provisions of this Section are effective from 1st December 1972 and are applicable to the widows and children of Officers, RN ratings and RM other ranks provided the Officer, rating or other rank was granted, or was entitled to, half-pay, service retired pay or pension, or if death occurred whilst serving would have been so entitled had he been invalided on the date of death; provided also in the case of RN ratings and RM other ranks (excepting Regimental Sergeant Majors, Royal Marines) that service reckonable for pension was given after 31st August 1950, and that, where death occurred before 4th November 1958, the following periods of reckonable service had been completed:

	<i>Years of Reckonable Service</i>
Fleet Chief Petty Officer ... ..	} 22
Regimental Sergeant Major RM ... ..	
Quartermaster Sergeant RM ... ..	
Chief Petty Officer ... ..	
Colour Sergeant RM ... ..	} 27
Petty Officer ... ..	
Sergeant RM ... ..	} 32
Leading Rate and below ... ..	
Corporal RM and below ... ..	

5. *Widows' Pensions.* The rate of widow's pension will be:

- (a) One third of the husband's half pay, retired pay, or pension as defined in Clause 5(b) or the rate according to the husband's rank provided for in Clause 6, whichever is the more favourable.
- (b) For the purpose of Clause 5(a) above, the rate of half pay, retired pay or pension will be the basic rate, ignoring, subject to the exception in Clause 18 Section IV, any commutation that may have been made, plus all the pensions increases appropriate to the basic rate whether or not the husband qualified for these increases by virtue of age or health.

*Children.* Each child one third or, if motherless, two thirds of the rate of widow's pension appropriate to the rank and service of the Officer, RN rating or RM other rank.

6. *Minimum rates of Family Pensions.* If the rates of pension calculated in accordance with Clause 5 would be less than those set out below, the latter will be payable to all widows other than those under 40 years of age without at least one dependant:

(a) *Officers' Widows*

	<i>Annual Rates £</i>
Admiral of the Fleet ... ..	1,183·80
Admiral/General RM ... ..	1,011·78
Vice-Admiral/Lieutenant-General RM ... ..	839·56
Rear-Admiral/Major General RM ... ..	} 724·79
Chaplain of the Fleet ... ..	
Captain RN, after six years' service in the rank ... ..	} 609·96
Colonel RM ... ..	
Captain RN with less than six years' service in the rank ... ..	} 541·04
Lieutenant-Colonel RM ... ..	
*Chaplain with 22 years' service and aged 50 or more at date of retirement ... ..	
Commander RN ... ..	} 449·03
Major RM ... ..	
Chaplain with 14 years' service and over, unless qualified for the rates at*	