



# QUIZ

on the

## Recall of Army and R.A.F. Reservists for 15 days training

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**Q.** *Why are these defence measures necessary?*

**A.** Because peace cannot be ensured unless the defences of the free world are made sufficiently strong to deter aggression.

**Q.** *Why is it necessary to recall Reservists?*

**A.** To ensure that the Reserves of the Armed Forces are properly fitted into existing units, to test the organisation for call-up, and to provide refresher training. Until the necessary reserves are built up from National Service men going to the Reserve after completing their colour service it is necessary to rely on men trained in the recent war and until 1949.

**Q.** *Why is the call-up limited to Reservists? Why cannot men who were in reserved occupations during the war now be called up for training?*

**A.** Because in the early stages of a war, it would be essential to build up the strength of the fighting Services with trained men of the right kinds as quickly as possible. Men without military training and experience could not take their places. Moreover, men who were reserved in the last war because of their skill (mostly acquired after some years of training) are probably in the same kind of job still and would of necessity be reserved again in the event of a further emergency. Skill cannot,

as a rule, be acquired quickly, either in the Services or Industry, and must not be wasted. By no means all Class Z and equivalent Reservists would be recalled in an emergency. On the other hand some men reserved in the last war and still of military age would doubtless be called up.

**Q.** *What classes of Reserves are to be recalled and how many of each class?*

**A.** (a) The Army is to call up for 15 days up to 235,000 officers and men of the following classes: **Officers:** R.A.R.O., T.A.R.O., Officers on the unemployed list. **Other ranks:** All sections and classes of the Army and T.A. Reserve.

(b) The Royal Air Force will recall for 15 days' training about 10,000 officers and men of the Control and Reporting Organisation—the men being drawn from Class G Reservists.

**Q.** *How and when will recall be notified?*

**A.** A 'Warning Notice' will be sent within the next few weeks to Reservists selected for recall. At a later date a notice to join for training will be sent and this will reach individual Reservists several weeks before the date they are required to report to their units.



**Q.** *How will employers be notified?*

**A.** The Army Warning Notices ask Reservists to tell their employers. It is important that all Reservists should do so.

**Q.** *How will Reservists know they will not be recalled?*

**A.** A date will be announced for each Service after which no further Warning Notices will be issued, and Reservists who have not received a Warning Notice soon after that date can assume they have not been included in the present recall.

**Q.** *Who will select the Reservists to be recalled and upon what basis will the selection be made?*

**A.** Firstly, the War Office and the Air Ministry listed a number of Z and G Reservists whom they might want to recall. Secondly, the Ministry of Labour said which of these Reservists would be available (as far as could be seen at present) for early recall in the event of an emergency. Thirdly, from these the War Office and the Air Ministry selected those Reservists whose qualifications and experience in their rank, trade or arm of the Service fit them to fill the existing gaps in the formations and units in question as they now stand.

**Q.** *Will the selection be made from men who have the least war service?*

**A.** The selection will be, as far as possible, on the basis of "last out, first back". A substantial proportion of those recalled will be men called up after the end of the war. There will be none over 45, few over 40, and not many over 35. Where older men are recalled it is because of their special Service skill or experience.

**Q.** *Is it the Reservists with particular trades or ranks or experience who are to be recalled?*

**A.** The Prime Minister has already announced that as far as the Royal Air Force is concerned the call-up will include technical operating staff in the Control and Reporting Organisation. The Army Reservists will be required to fill vacancies in existing units and formations and for this reason a wide variety of ranks, trades, skills and experience will be needed.

**Q.** *What are the occupations from which men will not be recalled?*

**A.** For security reasons and because any plans of this kind made now must be provisional, it is not proposed to publish information about

these at this stage. It is not, however, intended to recall for training any Class Z or Class G Reservists who would be "reserved" in the event of mobilisation, e.g., as far as can be seen at present, underground coal miners. Both sides of industry will shortly be consulted about the basis of reservation.

**Q.** *Will appeals against recall on the grounds of exceptional domestic or business hardship be considered?*

**A.** Yes. Cases in which Reservists can establish exceptional hardship will receive every consideration. Applications should be made to the Service authority which issues the Warning Notice but no appeal should be submitted before a Warning Notice has been received.

**Q.** *Will appeals against recall on the grounds of conscientious objections to service with the Armed Forces be considered?*

**A.** Yes. A Reservist who claims conscientious objections will be able to have his case considered by a civilian tribunal if he sends written notification of his objections to the Local Office of the Ministry of Labour and National Service nearest to his place of residence within 21 days of the date upon which he received the WARNING Notice.

**Q.** *May employers appeal against this recall for 15 days' training of Reservists on the grounds that their absence will delay important work?*

**A.** No. The provisional basis on which those Class Z and equivalent Reservists who would be available for recall in the event of an emergency have been identified has necessarily been related to the probable circumstances and priorities at the time and not to the circumstances existing at the present time. It is true that a number of men may therefore be recalled who cannot easily be spared now. But one of the objects of the recall would be defeated if they were, on this account, excluded from recall. Apart from this the period of recall is for 15 days only, the training period will be spread over at least five months, and long notice of the recall is being given. It should therefore be possible for employers to make adjustments.

**Q.** *May employers appeal on the grounds that men recalled could not be spared in an emergency?*

**A.** No. It is impossible to decide now individual cases which could only be judged properly at



- the time. In the event of an emergency, however, there would be machinery for dealing with exceptional individual cases.
- Q.** *Is the proprietor of a one-man business liable to recall?*
- A.** Yes. But he may appeal on grounds of exceptional hardship.
- Q.** *Will any provision be made to compensate Reservists for financial loss caused by recall to the Armed Forces?*
- A.** As Reservists will receive full regular rates of pay, etc., as increased last September, very few cases of financial hardship should arise. Such cases as can be foreseen will no doubt largely be met by the arrangements under which Reservists may appeal against recall on the grounds of exceptional hardship (see page 2.)
- Q.** *What should a Reservist do if he is ill at the time he is required to report to his Unit?*
- A.** He should report this fact in writing to the Officer Commanding the Unit or Station to which he is ordered to report, enclosing a doctor's certificate. He should do this as soon as possible.
- Q.** *Will Reservists be medically examined before they commence training?*
- A.** Yes. All Reservists will be medically examined. No Reservist will be required to undergo training unless he is fit to do so.
- Q.** *Does the 15-day period include travelling time?*
- A.** Yes.
- Q.** *Will uniform be provided?*
- A.** **Royal Air Force :** Yes, but the scale on which it will be provided is to be announced later. **Army :** Officers : They should bring with them all the military clothing required for 15 days training. Military outer clothing will be issued to them for the period of call-up if they do not possess this. Other ranks : They will be issued with all the necessary clothing at the place of joining except underclothing, braces and toilet articles, which they must bring with them. They should also bring their battledress and boots if they are still in possession of them. All W.D. clothing issued for the period of the call-up will be handed in before returning home.
- Q.** *What rank will Reservists hold during the period of recall? Will it be the rank they held when they were transferred to the Reserve?*
- A.** So far as the Army is concerned officers will be recalled in their substantive or war-substantive rank, whichever is the higher, provided that war-substantive rank is not higher than major. Other ranks will be recalled in their substantive or war-substantive rank, whichever is the higher. The practice in the Royal Air Force will be broadly similar.
- Q.** *What rate of pay will Reservists receive? Will they be given a gratuity at the expiration of their period of service?*
- A.** The new regular rates of pay and allowances will be paid. Class Z and Class G Reservists and their equivalent will receive £4 at the expiration of their 15-day training period.
- Q.** *Will Reservists have to forgo holidays to which they may be entitled under industrial agreement or custom because they have been recalled, and will they be given any protection against loss of employment?*
- A.** Legislation will be introduced to confer on these men the same protection against loss of employment or holidays on account of their training as is enjoyed by National Service men summoned for training during their part-time service.
- Q.** *Will any women be called up?*
- A.** No.
- Q.** *What is the position of a Reservist who has made arrangements to emigrate?*
- A.** If the Reservist will sail on or before the training dates then his case will be treated as one of exceptional hardship.
- Q.** *What will be the position of any Reservist who fails to comply with a call-up notice?*
- A.** He will be posted as an absentee and treated as such.
- Q.** *Supposing a Reservist has changed his job since he returned the form sent to him by his Service Record Office asking him about his employment. Can account be taken of the change?*
- A.** If the nearest Local Office of the Ministry of Labour and National Service is informed of the change, the Reservist's position will be looked at again and the Service Record Office will be informed about his availability. Often, no doubt, a change of job will make no difference. It will not be possible to take account of changes of job notified after a calling-up notice has been sent to the man in question.

**Q.** *If an employer foresees serious difficulties arising on vital work because of the simultaneous absence of a number of employees, will it be possible for the call-up dates to be adjusted?*

**A.** It will be difficult to make adjustments but the Services are willing to do their best to meet exceptional circumstances. It will be specially difficult to adjust the call-up dates of Class Z Reservists recalled to the Army and employers would be well advised to avoid

making requests in respect of these men. Any representations should be addressed to:

*Class Z Reservists recalled to the Army:*

The War Office, AG.5 (Mob.),  
Lansdowne House,  
Berkeley Square, London, W.1.

*Class G Reservists recalled to the Royal Air Force:*

The R.A.F. Records Office,  
Gloucester.

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### **Royal Air Force and Royal Navy Reservists to be recalled for periods exceeding 15 days**

**Royal Air Force:** About 2,300 officers and men of the Fighter Squadrons of the Royal Auxiliary Air Force, and 1,000 air crew Reservists will be recalled for three months' continuous training. In addition, about 200 Regular and Volunteer Reservists will be recalled for flying instruction duties for periods up to eighteen months.

**Royal Navy:** The recall of Naval Reservists during 1951 is confined to 600 officers of the Emergency List of the Royal Navy and from the Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve, and 6,000 men of the Royal Fleet Reserve. It is not intended at present to call up any of the Naval Reservists corresponding to Class Z Reservists of the Army or Class G Reservists of the Royal Air Force (i.e., Hostilities Only men of the 1939-45 War, or National Service men entered on or before 31st December, 1948, who have not joined one of the ordinary reserve bodies).

Officers and Ratings who are called up will be required to serve for not more than eighteen months. Those affected will receive individual notices and will be given at least six weeks' warning. In many cases two or three months' notice or longer will be given.

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