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BIBLIOTECA
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Estado Maior do Exercito

BIBLIOTECA



CONFIDENTIAL CIRCULAR REGARDING LEAVE IN FRANCE.

[ISSUED WITH G.R.O.S DATED 19TH JUNE, 1918.]

1. The following instructions are issued in continuation of Confidential Circular A.G./441/P.S./1, dated 25-5-18, issued with G.R.O.s of 26-5-18, and extend the conditions under which leave may be granted in France.

2. From 21st June, 1918, a special leave allotment for leave in France will come into operation. This leave will be for ten days, inclusive of days of travel. (For leave to Paris see para. 5 (g).) The allotment will be kept separate from the ordinary leave allotment.

3. Leave in France under para. 6 of A.G./441/P.S./1, dated 25th May, 1918, may still be granted, but will only be given in lieu of leave to England; the period will be as stated in para. 6 of A.G./441/P.S./1.

4. The leave allotment issued to Armies, G.O.C. L. of C., R.A.F., D.G.T., Commandant G.H.Q. Troops, Director of Forestry, etc., is based on the number of Officers and men to be allowed to be away from their units on leave in France at any one time, and will under no circumstances be exceeded.

5. The following regulations will be strictly adhered to in connection with this allotment:—

(a) *Period.* Officers and other ranks granted leave will return to their units by midnight of the 10th day—thus, if proceeding on Tuesday, June 18th, the officer or other rank will be due back with his unit by midnight, Thursday, June 27th. The period of leave to Paris is stated in (g) below.

(b) *Numbers away at one time.* Officers and other ranks may not leave their unit to proceed on leave until an equivalent number of those who have already proceeded have rejoined their unit.

(c) *Places.* Leave may only be given to places in France, to which an Army Commander may grant leave without reference to A.G., G.H.Q. Leave to Boulogne, Calais, Dieppe and Havre will only be granted sparingly.

(d) *Authority to issue passes.* Authority to issue passes for this leave will be delegated to Corps Commanders, G.O.C. Royal Air Force, D.G.T., and the Director of Forestry, and the first paragraph of section 18 of S.S. 523 (a) will be suspended until further orders.

(e) *Passes.* A.F. W.3774 will be issued in all cases. As these passes are only in possession of A.G., G.H.Q., Armies, Corps, G.O.C. L. of C., G.O.C. R.A.F., D.G.T., and the Director of Forestry, the necessary information to enable passes to be issued will be sent by lower Formations to the authority by whom they are administered. These authorities will keep a check on the numbers proceeding to various places and ensure that the G.O.C. L. of C. Area is notified immediately passes are issued.

(f) *Accommodation.* Other ranks when reporting to an A.P.M. in accordance with G.R.O. 4221 should be instructed to ask for particulars of available accommodation. A.P.M.s will keep lists of suitable hotels, etc.

(g) *Train Accommodation.* Officers and other ranks proceeding on leave to Paris will proceed by British Military trains to Rouen. A special British Military leave train will run from Rouen to Paris every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, and return trains will leave Paris for Rouen on the same days. The period of leave for all ranks proceeding to Paris will commence on the date of leaving Rouen for Paris and will terminate eight days later, e.g. Officers and men who leave Rouen on a Monday must leave Paris on the following Monday. It must be pointed out to all ranks that tickets have to be purchased when travelling by other than British Military trains. Tickets are issued by French authorities at reduced military rates on presentation of a movement order, or where it is not possible to obtain a movement order, by presentation of the leave pass.

(h) *Arms.* Attention is directed to G.R.O.s 1110 and 2869.

(i) *Rations.* Men proceeding on leave *via* Rouen will take sufficient rations with them from their units to last up to the time of their arrival at Rouen, where arrangements will be made to issue the necessary meals until the special trains depart to Paris. Ration allowance will be drawn for the day of departure from Rouen up to the day of departure from Paris or other place of leave. Meals will be provided at Rouen for men arriving from leave and waiting for trains to proceed to their units. Men proceeding on leave to places other than *via* Rouen will draw 10 days' ration allowance.

6. The allotment given is for a period of ten days and does not represent a daily number of vacancies.

It will be sub-allotted in the proportion of 1 officer vacancy to every 5 vacancies to other ranks. Not more than 6 officers and 30 other ranks will be absent from a Division under this allotment at any one time.

For the purpose of sub-allotment vacancies should be given at the rate of 6 vacancies for officers and 30 vacancies for other ranks per Division. The sub-allotment to other formations will be calculated on a basis of approximately 6 officers and 30 other ranks to 12,000 all ranks. (Basis for L. of C. is 6 Officers and 30 other ranks per 30,000 all ranks; basis for G.H.Q. is 6 Officers and 30 other ranks per 24,000 all ranks.)

Leave in France (for all reasons) not exceeding 10 days away from unit, including leave to Paris under para. 5 (g), will come out of this allotment.

7. In view of the time which will be occupied in travelling, this leave will not count as leave for more than seven days, and therefore will not affect eligibility for leave to England (*see* G.R.O. 2787).

The position of an officer or other rank on the ordinary leave roster will be left to the discretion of Unit Commanders. As this leave is designed to supplement the restricted leave to England, it should be granted, as far as possible, only to those who will not in the ordinary course of events be due for leave to England for some time, or who are in need of a rest.

8. The allotment of leave is based on the location of formations on the 7th June, 1918. A proportionate sub-allotment will be transferred to any unit which has moved or will move to another Army area before a new allotment is issued by G.H.Q. The allotment will be changed from time to time, and ten days' notice of change of allotment will be given.

9. *G.H.Q.*—The allotment for all officers and other ranks of *G.H.Q.* has been given to the Commandant, *G.H.Q.* Troops, who will sub-allot to Camp Commandant, *G.H.Q.* 1st Echelon. Applications should therefore be submitted 4 days before the date desired for departure through the usual channels to:—

(a) Commandant *G.H.Q.* Troops by all officers and other ranks administered by 2nd Echelon; and

(b) Camp Commandant, 1st Echelon, by all officers and other ranks administered by 1st Echelon.

The Commandant, *G.H.Q.* Troops, and Camp Commandant, 1st Echelon, will obtain the passes in cases where vacancies have been allotted from the A.G.'s office. No application for a vacancy should be submitted to A.G., *G.H.Q.*

G. H. FOWKE, *Lieutenant-General.*
Adjutant General.

G.H.Q.,
1st Echelon,
17-6-1918.