

NEW EMBLEMS FOR THE R.A.F.

WOUND STRIPES AND CHEVRONS

The Air Ministry states that dispatches emblems, wound stripes, and chevrons for war service have now been introduced and are subject to the conditions outlined below. Persons of the following classes are eligible:—

Officers and airmen of the British, Dominion, Indian, and Colonial Air Forces; members of Princess Mary's Royal Air Force Nursing Service and its reserve; W.A.A.F. officers and airwomen; V.A.D. members.

The emblems are in bronze in the form of a single oak leaf and distinct from the pattern authorized for mentions in dispatches during the last war. One type is designed to be sewn on blue-grey uniform and another to be fixed by safety-pin to tropical uniform. The emblem is to be worn in respect of mentions in dispatches and commendations gazetted for service during the war beginning September 3, 1939, as a member of one of the classes specified above, or during previous naval or military service, or in civil life.

Only one emblem is to be worn, irrespective of the numbers of awards received. It is not to be worn during the war on a medal ribbon, but is to be fixed to the uniform in the position in which a single ribbon would be worn, or in the position in which a ribbon would be placed immediately after those already worn.

GOLD AND RED STRIPES

The stripes denoting wounds received in the present war are of gold braid 5-32in. wide and 1½in. long. Those denoting wounds received in previous wars are of red rayon of similar dimensions. One gold stripe is to be worn for each occasion on which certain wounds and injuries are received during the present war, but only one red stripe will be worn irrespective of the number of wounds.

Broadly speaking, wound stripes will be worn in respect of all wounds and injuries directly due to enemy action and received while on duty. In the case of persons serving in operational commands (and in operational units in non-operational commands abroad) wound stripes will be awarded whether the wounds or injuries are incurred on duty or otherwise.

Chevrons are printed in red on a blue-grey background for wear with blue-grey uniform, and on a khaki background for wear with tropical uniform. One chevron will be worn for each completed year of service in the present war. Service in the Navy, Army, Home Guard, Police, N.F.S., Merchant Navy, Civil Defence organizations, and other services to which the scheme applies may be aggregated with Air Force service for the award of chevrons.

Applications for the issue of dispatches emblems, wound stripes, and chevrons must be made to the commanding officers of units.