

C O P Y

(98)

From:- Headquarters Tech. Training Command.

To :- Distribution List 'A'

Date:- 17th Sept. 1957

Ref :- TT/3606/1/P1.

DRESS AIRMAN) WHITE GLOVES)

1. Her Majesty the Queen has recently given her approval to the introduction of white gloves for wear by airman on the following occasions:-

- a) When mounting Royal guards of Honour or guards for Heads of State.
- b) When mounting guard at Royal Palaces.
- c) When performing Drill Displays at the Royal Tournament, International Tournaments or Festivals.
- d) On other occasions approved by the Air Member for Personnel from time to time.

2. Units requiring gloves should apply to this Headquarters (E. 2).

3. Air Ministry Order A.1/53 will be amended in due course.

See E 12

Signed (S.P. RICHARDS)
Squadron Leader,
for A.O.A. Tech Training Command.

From:- Officer Commanding No. 3 (A) Wing

To:- Training Headquarters, R.A.F. Halton ✓

Date:- 23rd January, 1959

Ref:- HN/3AW/C40/8/1/air.

(9A)

GRADUATION PARADE - 83rd ENTRY

93.

1. A request has been received from the apprentices of the 83rd Entry that they be permitted to wear white gloves on their Graduation Parade, which is due to be held on 25th March, 1959. It is clear from the attached copy of a letter from H.Q.T.T.C. (TT/3606/1/P1 dated 17. 9. 1957) that Air Ministry approval is needed for the use of white gloves, and that they should be available from service sources.

2. It is understood that the High Commissioner for New Zealand may be the Reviewing Officer at the Graduation Parade, and although he is not a Head of State, his presence on the Parade will have certain publicity, and the wearing of white gloves on this occasion might serve as a useful precedent for future parades, should Air Ministry's approval be forthcoming.

3. A further point which arises is the question of the provision of a Guard of Honour should the High Commissioner be the Reviewing Officer. If a Guard is needed, it seems that the 85th Entry would have to be called on for this purpose as the 84th are engaged on Schools Finals exams during the week preceeding the Graduation Parade of the 83rd, and thus will not be available for any practices etc.

4. It is requested that Air Ministry authority is sought for the wearing of white gloves on the Graduation Parade and that guidance on the question of a guard of honour be sought.

Charles Newman
(C.W. McN. NEWMAN)
Wing Commander,
Officer Commanding,
No. 3 (Apprentice) Wing.

FR12

Note of Action.

Advised O.C. 3(A)W of Commandant's decisions that :-

- (a) no guard of honour to be provided.
- (b) application to be made for permission to wear white gloves (see ref/4)

[Signature]
27/1/59

From: Air Commodore T.N. Coslett, C.B.E., R.A.F.

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HN/90/23/Air

Royal Air Force,
HALTON,
Aylesbury,
Bucks.

29th January, 1959.

9 B

May I refer to your Headquarters' letter TR/3606/1/P.1, dated 17th September, 1957 regarding the authority for airmen to wear white gloves on certain ceremonial occasions.

As you probably know, the Acting High Commissioner for New Zealand is to be our Reviewing Officer at the next Graduation Parade on 25th March, 1959 because we have a number of New Zealand Apprentices who are due to graduate, and also the three Flight Sergeant Apprentices are New Zealanders. To mark the occasion, I am anxious to obtain authority from A.M.F. for the 83rd Entry to wear white gloves and will be most grateful if you will kindly give this request your support.

Apart from my own wishes in the matter you will be interested to know that the apprentices themselves are most anxious to be granted the privilege of wearing white gloves; this certainly reveals the right spirit and should enhance my parade.

This subject has only been raised recently and so I regret the short notice, but perhaps you will be good enough to obtain a decision as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely,

See 17

Air Vice-Marshal G. Bearne, C.B., R.A.F.,
Headquarters, Technical Training Command,
Royal Air Force,
Brampton,
Huntingdon.

h a z

From:- Air Vice-Marshal G. Bearne, C.B., R.A.F.

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TT/3606/1/AOA

Headquarters,
Technical Training Command,
Royal Air Force,
Brampton,
Huntingdon

6th February, 1959

Dear Norman,

Please refer to your letter HN/90/23/Air dated 29th January. A.M.P. has agreed that, on this occasion, the apprentices taking part in the Graduation Parade of the 83rd Entry may wear white gloves as it is in the nature of a special occasion.

2. Did you have in mind the thought that apprentices should always wear white gloves on all Passing-out Parades. This of course would require separate consideration for a number of reasons, one of which is finance and another is the impact which it would have on other Passing-out Parades, for example, Cadets, Boy Entrants, and so on. Perhaps you will let me know whether this is a once and for all request, or whether you wish it to become a normal form of parade dress for these occasions.

Yours ever
G. Bearne

Air Commodore T.N. Coslett, O.B.E., R.A.F.,
Royal Air Force,
Halton,
Aylesbury,
Bucks.

FR 19

From: Air Commodore T.H. Coslett, O.B.E., R.A.F.

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HN/90/23/Air

Royal Air Force,
HALTON,
Aylesbury,
Bucks.

11th February, 1959.

17

Thank you for your letter WT/3606/1/ACA, dated 6th February, 1959. I am grateful for the permission for the 83rd Entry to wear white gloves on their graduation parade.

My request was for this parade only, but I may consider later asking for permission for white gloves to be worn as part of the normal graduation dress. I will give due notice before asking for this concession.

Yours sincerely,

Air Vice-Marshal G. Bearne, C.B., R.A.F.,
Headquarters, Technical Training Command,
Royal Air Force,
Brampton,
Huntingdon.