

NOTICE.

The following summarises the Government's Plan for Partial Demobilisation and Pay Increases. THESE GOVERNMENT PROPOSALS WILL BE DEBATED IN PARLIAMENT.

As soon as possible after the defeat of Germany a certain number of men and women will be released from the Forces on a basis of age plus length of service.

Apart from a partial release there will be a re-allocation of man power to meet the needs of the second phase of the war - the war against Japan.

The calling up of new recruits will still go on. Young men now 'deferred' may be directed into the forces. The number of men released will equal the intake of new recruits in order to maintain full strength forces needed against Japan.

The Government's plan is divided into two schemes - the Main Scheme and a Special Scheme to cover a limited number of men taken out of turn needed for reconstruction.

The first men to be released under the Main Scheme will be those of the age of 50 and over. Priority will then equal age plus length of service.

No one will be compelled to leave the forces if they want to stay in. Some men may have to be retained to meet military needs but the three Services have agreed to keep the numbers down to an absolute minimum.

Release on age plus service grounds will be a continuous process.

Once the needs of the Forces are met to fight the war against Japan and for the occupation of Germany, the numbers released will be increased.

There will probably be a reduction in the size of the Forces, particularly in the Army as there will be fewer opportunities to employ powerful land forces in the Pacific.

Men released will get two months leave with full pay, plus a ration allowance, a dependents allowance and a gratuity. Details of the gratuities will be published later. On release members of the Forces will be given civilian clothes.

It is estimated that 90% of the first half million men released will be married men. In addition there will be one day's leave for every month served abroad.

After release men may start work at any time during their leave without affecting their pay. Members of the Forces will get their old jobs back under the Reinstatement Act.

If they have no job to go to the Ministry of Labour will help them to find one.

If unable to find work they will be directed to other special work.

Full pensions insurances and social rights will be granted.

Women in the Services will be dealt with in much the same way. They will be given money grants instead of clothing and married women will be free to leave the services at any time. All this forms the Main Scheme.

The Special Scheme for Reconstruction covers the release of men for house building. To further this Scheme certain men will be released out of turn. This will be treated as a transfer from the Forces to essential work. No one will be transferred on the mere application of an employer. Only applications from the Ministry of Labour will be granted.

These men will be granted three weeks leave and should they later leave the occupations into which they have been directed, they will be sent back to the Forces.

PAY. The other White Paper issued by the Government covers increases in Service Pay.

Men below the Rank of Sjt and Petty Officer with three years service will have their pay increased by 7/- per week with an increase of 3/6d per week for each additional year.

Sjts and above will receive an increase of 10/6d a week if they have over three years service.

Officers will receive increases of 15/9d to 21/- a week if they have served over three years.

These increases will come into force on September the 3rd.

The second increase will come into force on Nov. 1st. This will be known as Japanese Campaign Pay and will mean a further 7/- a week for private soldiers serving in the Far East. The Amount will be 10/6 a week for Sjts, Petty Officers and Flight Sjts, and 21/- to 77/- for Officers.

Another increase will be a tax free Far East Allowance. This will take the form of the old Field and Colonial Allowance and will amount to 2/4d for Privates and 21/- for Officers.

Under the new rates Privates serving abroad with five years service will get twice as much as they do now. For example a private with five years service and a wife and two children, with dependents allowance, will receive £5.7s.10d per week. Women will receive approximately two-thirds of these increases.

The total cost to the Government will amount to £100,000,000 a year.