

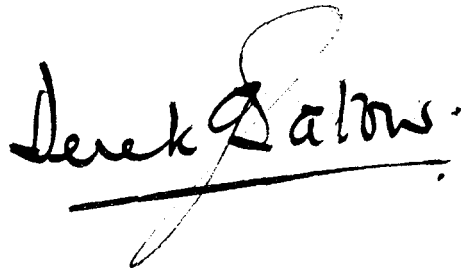


REAR-ADMIRAL D. G. SATOW, CHIEF NAVAL ENGINEER OFFICER

The Royal Navy comprises one of the largest and most diverse engineering concerns in the country; and the Fleet is witnessing many technological and other advances and the advent of a great variety of new hardware. From this, one thing remains constant and certain—the efficiency and effectiveness of the Navy depends on a strong engineering branch of high competence and standards, at all levels. It is to preserve this for the future that changes in the branch are being made*, despite the fact that ‘the engineering branch is at present working well’. We who comprise the branch must recognize the need and be willing to adapt ourselves and our branch to the changing scene.

Planning and preparation are progressing in the Ministry of Defence, Establishments, Commands, and other staffs for the implementation of these changes, which will affect many areas and activities. The full extent of the measures will be evolutionary over the next decade or so; but, over the next few years in particular, the majority of people in the branch will be affected by them, in one way or another to a greater or lesser extent, and faced with the challenge of adapting to new tasks, new relationships and new methods of working.

The success of the engineering branch development calls for the support, understanding, co-operation and resolve of all concerned, from mechanics to admirals, because on this depends our future ability to meet the needs of the Navy. This must be our continuing interest and goal over the months and years ahead.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Derek Salow". The signature is written in a cursive style and is underlined with a single horizontal line.

* DCI(RN) S.166/75.