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ELECTRONIC WARFARE SPECIALIST

THE ROLE

As an Electronic Warfare Specialist (EWS), you are a key component of the ships war fighting team. EWS primary war fighting role is to identify and defend against Anti-Ship missiles. You will be trained to have intimate knowledge of ships, aircraft, and their associated weapons and radars. Additionally, EWS' provide communications support in a war fighting capacity and assist in early warning of potential threats against the ship. Electronic Warfare Specialists must be able to gain and maintain a TOP SECRET security clearance as your day-to-day work is highly sensitive.

All Electronic Warfare Specialists complete demanding training in technical analysis and equipment usage. Their day-to-day tasks are real challenges that offer great opportunities for high achievers.

Electronic Warfare Specialists are able to understand and meet the strict security constraints that surround this type of work, and are also able to present information clearly and concisely to those in command, giving them an overall picture of what is happening from the information collected and analysed.

JOB ON BASE

When Electronic Warfare Specialists are not deployed they will work in the Naval Operations Support Unit which is located in the Devonport Naval Base in Auckland. In addition to this Electronic Warfare Specialists may be required to take up positions in the Defence Headquarters or Joint Forces Headquarters, or the Joint Electronic Warfare Support Facility which are located in the Wellington region.

JOB ON DEPLOYMENT

Electronic Warfare Specialists at sea primarily work in Defence Watches which consist of a 7 x 5 routine (i.e. 7 hours on, 7 hours off, 5 hours on, 5 hours off). In addition to the primary duties of an Electronic Warfare Specialist, sailors onboard HMNZ Ships are required to perform general tasks, anytime and anywhere to assist with the functioning of the ship. The completion of overnight duties in port is a role performed by all sailors, including Electronic Warfare Specialists, on a rotational basis.

Electronic Warfare Specialists are primarily employed on the ANZAC Class ships. However Electronic Warfare Specialists will deploy on the MRV and OPVs if there is an operational need to do so. There are also opportunities to deploy on one of the NZDF operational missions overseas or undertake a posting overseas that will allow you to enhance your tradecraft.

CAREER PROGRESSION

As soon as basic and specialist training is complete, Electronic Warfare Specialists usually post to a ship to consolidate the skills learnt and work towards your promotion to Able Electronic Warfare Specialist. When at sea, the Operations Room is where the operations/exercises are co-ordinated. Electronic Warfare Specialists have been predominantly employed on both the Royal New Zealand Navy ANZAC Ships. With the introduction of the Project Protector Fleet (i.e. Multi Role Vessel, Off Shore Patrol Vessels and Inshore Patrol Vessels) Electronic Warfare Specialist

personnel will be required to augment these ships in order to enhance the ships Indications and Warnings and Force Protection. In addition, with the specialist training that personnel now receive, there are opportunities for personnel to work in locations around New Zealand and overseas.

PAY & BENEFIT DETAILS

Careers in the Navy are well-rewarded, as well as being diverse and exciting. As you become more experienced and move up through the ranks, gaining additional skills and qualifications, you will see your salary rise accordingly.

While undertaking Basic Recruit Course you will be paid as a Recruit (see attached [pay table](#)). On completion of your Recruit Course you will be paid as an Ordinary Rate and your pay will continue to increase as your career progresses.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

- You must be at least 18 years of age.
- Meet the [citizenship & security](#) requirements to gain **TSV security clearance** for this trade.
- You must be free of any criminal convictions.

EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS

You must have achieved the NCEA level 1 Literacy and Numeracy requirements.

[Find out more about the NCEA levels and certificate requirements](#)

FITNESS REQUIREMENTS

- You must be [medically](#) fit for service.
- Colour perception restrictions may apply.

TRAINING

BASIC TRAINING

Upon successful enlistment into the Navy you'll be posted to Devonport Navy base in Auckland. Here you will do complete your basic training. [Find out more about basic training.](#)

JOB TRAINING

On completion of BCT, an Ordinary Electronic Warfare Specialist (OEWS) will undergo a psychological assessment in order to determine the right career stream. Once this has been decided and personnel have gained their TOP SECRET security clearance, their specialist training commences. Personnel will either undertake the Able Electronic Warfare Specialist Electronic Intelligence (AEWS (E)) course or the Able Electronic Warfare Communications Intelligence (AEWS(C)) course at the Electronic Warfare Specialist School.

All sailors are required to complete damage control (DC) training. The three main components of DC are fire fighting, flooding and toxic gas drills. Seamanship, sea survival, rifle training are also mandatory to be an effective and safe member of the ships company.

ONGOING TRAINING

Further courses, promotions and training opportunities are available throughout your career as are opportunities to deploy on Peacekeeping missions and overseas deployments.

LOCATION DETAILS

You will either be based on one of the RNZN warships or to the Naval Operations Support Unit – Devonport Naval Base.

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