

CHAPTER 7

UNCOLLECTED PENSIONS

GENERAL

07001. As in most cases where pensions remain uncollected, for more than three years, there are dependants. All Gurkha pensioners will be invited to sign the undertaking in Annex A. Existing pensioners are to be treated as though they signed the undertaking.

07002. Cases where the pensioner refuses to sign the undertaking and the pension remains uncollected for more than three years are to be referred to the scheme administrators via Records Officer, BG Pokhara.

07003. If the pension remains undrawn for a period in excess of three years and the undertaking at Annex A has been signed or deemed to be signed, the scheme administrators will request HQ BGN to investigate the case. If HQ BGN is satisfied that there is no evidence of the pensioner being alive, a recommendation will be forwarded to the scheme administrators for the dependant to receive the pension. If there is more than one dependant the recommendation will include the suggested proportion for each. HQ BGN will only recommend payment to the dependant where there is little or no chance of the pensioner reappearing.

07004. The scheme administrators will authorise payment at the three year one day point of a pension to the dependant at a rate equal to an ordinary family pension (OFP), or, if this is lower in instances where the pensioner has commuted a proportion of his pension on discharge, a sum equal to but not classed as the residual service pension. Should the pensioner reappear once an award of this nature has been made but before seven years has elapsed the restoration of any arrears payable is at the discretion of the scheme administrators on the recommendation of HQ BGN.

07005. If after seven years the pensioner is still missing he will be presumed dead for pension purposes and the appropriate family pension will be issued to the dependant. The pension administrators will review the case and authorise payment of all arrears including the undrawn pension for the first three years and the difference, if any, between the amounts due and the amounts actually drawn by the dependant.

07006. Should the pensioner reappear after the seven year point the case, with a recommendation from HQ BGN, will be considered by the scheme administrators. If at any stage a pensioner is not satisfied with the action decided by the committee, the case will be referred to the scheme managers.

WITHDRAWN PENSION UNDERTAKING CERTIFICATE

LAPSED PENSION

I, No:..... Rank:..... Name:..... Unit:.....

Voluntarily agree that in the event of my pension being undrawn for a period exceeding three years it may be drawn by my dependants.

Signed:..... Witness:.....

Appt:.....

Date:.....

Notes:

It should be pointed out to the officer/soldier that the advantage of signing the above voluntary undertaking is that if he should disappear unexpectedly his dependants will be able to draw his pension after three years. If he does not sign it they would have to wait for a period of seven years after which he would be presumed dead.