

Drivers' & Mechanics' Award

That "Motor Vehicle Driver and Mechanic Award" (see Fig.) which so proudly we hailed back in August, is now, according to the front office, ready for delivery to the depots. (Authorized by War Dep't Circular #248, July 28, 1942.) You can start submitting your requisitions (just like any other requisitions) for them now.

The Award, which is worn on the left chest below any medals or service ribbons, will be awarded to qualified drivers and mechanics with the appropriate bar:

- "Driver-W" for wheeled vehicles,
- "Driver-T" for track or half-track vehicles,
- "Driver-M" for motorcycle,
- "Mechanic" for automotive or allied trade mechanic.

To qualify for the award, a driver must have passed the aptitude and standard driver's tests (in FM 25-10 for drivers of wheeled vehicles, FM 17-5 for track-laying vehicles); performed his duties for at least three months without accidents or traffic violations and with a rating of excellent, and be assigned to a vehicle as a driver or assistant driver. Mechanics must have completed a standard mechanic's course with a rating of skilled or have enough past experience to be rated skilled, and must have worked as a 2nd echelon or higher mechanic for 3 months with a rating of excellent.

The award of the new badge will be made by the CO of a regiment, separate battalion, or separate organization upon the recommendation of the immediate organization commander.

As we once said, it's not the red hat with the striped ostrich feathers which we originally recommended as a Driver's and Mechanic's award, but it sure shows the front office is thinking in the right direction.

Wear it proudly lads.

