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Lieutenant Super Grade

Some Navy two-strippers, despairing of promotion to lieutenant commander, have taken matters in their own hands, they told a Pacific Fleet correspondent of the New York TIMES last week. Their straightfaced solution: the creation of the consoling rank, Lieutenant Super Grade.

To qualify officers must have been lieutenants senior grade for 24 to 29 months, "while their civilian contemporaries in the Army have become colonels and brigadier generals." They will be entitled to wear a neon star with blinker, and cap covers with a center rosette ringed with a one-half-inch band of phosphorescent material. Shirt collars and cuffs will be distinguished by a lacy fringe of fray and tinted a darker hue. (No pay increase is contemplated.)

According to the super lieutenants' charter, they "will rank with, but below, lieutenant generals of the Army, full generals of the Salvation Army and aviation cadets and midshipmen of the Navy."