
LAND RANGES SAFETY SUB COMMITTEE

RANGE SAFETY NOTICE 10/12

For issue by Defence Munitions Bicester to all those on the current distribution list for Volume 2 of JSP 403. This Range Safety Notice is also available for viewing in the Joint Service Publications area of the Defence Intranet website alongside JSP 403, and available on the internet on the following website:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/jsp-403-volume-2>

The revised detail will be incorporated in JSP 403 Volume 2 Change 6 Amendment 2

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BLINDS ON GRENADE & LFTTA RANGES

References:

- A. JSP 403 Vol.2.
- B. RSN 7/12 dated 17 Dec 2012.
- C. PAM 21.

FIXED RANGE AND LFTTA BLIND CLEARANCE - ADDITIONAL SAFETY MEASURES

Background

1. Reference A will be amended to highlight the issue raised in Reference B. Reference C will reinforce the need for measures to minimise the chance of grenades being blown clear as opposed to being destroyed by the blind clearance charge. Extract from Reference C; 'On hard ground, such as the Grenade Range impact area a (sand) filled sandbag is to be placed to the side of the blind opposite the disposal charge to prevent the blind being thrown by the blast from the explosive'. See attached amendment that will be added to Reference C.
2. On LFTTA it will not always be possible or practical to ensure blinds have not been thrown clear during blind clearance operations.
3. Grenade Ranges where the RDA is not used for any other purpose are normally fenced and signed with no access points out to 200m or 250m. JSP 403 already calls for a 20m clear area around the impact area to help locate grenades thrown out of the impact area by the grenadier or the blind clearance charge. However with the knowledge of grenades being thrown further than 20m as identified in RSN 7/12 this measure is no longer sufficient.
4. Existing control measures include warning signs around the training areas not to touch or pick up military debris and comprehensive briefings to all those employed on the training areas about military debris. Additionally blind grenades that have been blown clear will have been exposed to considerable shock and therefore not likely to detonate easily if disturbed in the scrub.

Additional Control Measures to be Implemented

5. **Fixed Grenade Ranges.** Due to the variety of situations that exist around fixed grenade ranges the requirements in RSN 7/12 are not always possible or practical to implement.
 - a. On ranges where the areas around the impact area are used for dry training or public access the area is to be treated as a Controlled Impact Area. Where the RDA is not secured by a fence and UXO warning signs, all clear areas where tracks or roads are located are to be cleared by the RCO after each blind clearance out to 150m from the impact area.
 - b. All incidents of blinds are to be recorded in the MOD Form 906.
6. **LFTTA.** Any blind occurring during training must be located and dealt with at the time and the number of blinds recorded in the MOD Form 906. Where on LFTTA blinds occur and cannot be located and cleared the area is to be secured and the RAU informed. The area will be signed and fenced off by the RAU until such time as EOC teams have located and dealt with the blind. Where it is possible to do so, the RCO is to check the area out to 150m following any blind clearance.
7. **RAU.** RAU are to monitor the incidence of blinds recorded in the MOD Form 906 in order to manage the risk and call in EOC when necessary, this will be dependent upon the terrain and likelihood of troops or public accessing the areas where blind OME may lie.

Effective Date

8. The required action is to be taken immediately on receipt of this notice.

Date of Issue: 25 Feb 13, Chairman Land Ranges Safety Sub Committee.

Annex A: Revised Chapter 10 of Pamphlet 21.

Note:

Pamphlet 21 (Reference C) is a protectively marked document, therefore Annex A is not attached to this Range Safety Notice to be published on the internet.

All relevant actions and procedures in Reference C will be carried out by, or under the direction of, the officer conducting the practice who will be cleared to view Reference C. All actions required of range staff are laid out above with reference only to Reference A and B where required.