

 <p>DEFENCE ESTATES Delivering Estate Solutions to Defence Needs</p>	<p>TECHNICAL ADVISORY SECTION (ROYAL ENGINEERS) (TAS(RE))</p> <p>Headquarters Defence Training Estate Blenheim Hall Land Warfare Centre, Warminster, Wiltshire BA12 0DJ Tel: 0044 1985 222434 FAX : 2259 Email: frank.compton251@land.mod.uk</p>	
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RANGE ADVICE NOTE 2/09

See Distribution

Your reference:

Our reference: G1-18-1 -

Reference:

Date: Jan 09

A. JSP 403 Vol.2

AKAMAS CONTROL MEASURES.

1. **Background.** Following moves by the Cypriot government in 1998, HQ BFC agreed to cease training on the Akamas peninsular in order for it to be set aside as a country park. The last military exercise took place during Jan 99. HQ BFC DE and HQ SBAA EU & Legislative office have pointed out that the area has not been fully handed over to the Cypriot authorities and that HQ BFC retains responsibility for public safety from unexploded ordnance (UXO) on the area. HQ BFC currently maintains three information boards on the area and visit to patrol the area each year.

2. **General Description of the area.** There are three distinct areas forming the country park. The main tourist site is on the north coast (Area F1 on the map) where no UXO should be found. The western coastal strip (Area F3 – Impact area) has a reasonable dirt access road along the coast open to all without restriction. The central and north west tip (Area F3) has very rough access only for 4 x 4 vehicles on a few established tracks. The old flag line track is the most accessible for 4 x 4 vehicles. There are local wardens who patrol the Akamas peninsular but they have no responsibility for controlling the hazard of UXO in the area.

3. **EOD Clearances.** During the time leading up to this agreement, HQ BFC arranged for 33 Engr Regt (EOD) to start the process of clearing the land impact areas (Area F3 on the map). In the period 9 May till 19 Jun 00 OP UPRAISE 2000 involving 21 Fd Sqn (EOD) RE set up camp on the area to undertake surface and some sub surface clearances in 16 “hot spots” identified earlier in the year by a independent geophysical survey team. During 2003 further clearance work was undertaken by.....

4. **In Theatre and external Assets.** Covering the clearance of the occasional UXO finds are local RN and RAF EOD teams based in Akrotiri who have responsibility below or above the high tide mark. However should there be a need for further searches and

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clearances in the event of further “hot spots” being identified or works that break the surface within Area F3, then 33 Engr Regt (EOD) would expect to be tasked once more through PJHQ.

5. **Review of existing control measures.**

a. **Warning signs.** The current signs provide effective warning but do not conform entirely to current EU Safety signs as set out in JSP 403. See attached clarification relating to the prominence of the Safety Symbol. The size and number of signs / notices will be a matter of balance between the predicted hazard (J3 Trg. based on frequency and density of any UXO finds) and the wishes of those who manage the country park. Local DE can assist with the liaison in this area. As a minimum, all main entry points onto the area F3 should be signed. There is no contact information displayed for the public who might find UXO. HQ BFC should maintain a central reporting point where locating and clearing UXO can be effectively implemented. All finds should be plotted on a master map to assist in determining potential “hot spots” for further clearance work.

b. **MOD Range Warden.** Some of the tracks on Akamas are dangerous particularly after rain. The northern access track into the area is extremely hazardous being cut into the side of the hills with a steep drops into the sea 30 – 50m below. For long stretches there are no passing places. If HQ BFC send a range warden onto the Akamas it should be in a suitable 4 x 4 vehicle and the northern access route should be avoided. UXO is not expected in this area although illum and smoke mortar shells may be found in areas F1 and F2 accessible from the western and flag line main access tracks.

6. **Future Clearances.** Should there be evidence of UXO surfacing in any quantity in a particular area or local authorities commission works that cut into the surface on the area F3, detailed clearance of those areas should be initiated. DE might look at the implication of potential private development in the area and recommend to local planning authorities that UXO clearance is a requirement to be costed into any such developments.

Original Signed

F S Compton
OC TAS(RE)
For Chairman LRWP

Attachments:

Map of the Akamas RDA areas F1, F2 and F3.
Clarification of Safety Sign proportions.

Distribution for information:

Internal:

SO1 Trg Safety
TAS(RE)

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External:

RNRSO

CESO(A) – Trg Safety / Ch LAIT

HQ BFC J3 Trg Ranges

RAF

RSIT(A)

BFC DE – Senior Estates Surveyor

SBAA DM EU&LP

33 Engr Regt (EOD) Ops

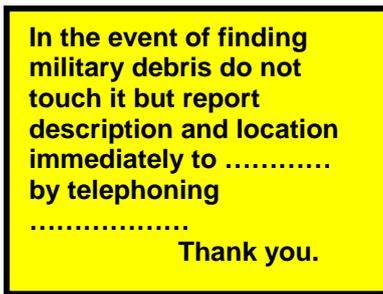
Suggested RDA boundary warning sign in line with JSP 403 Vol.2

(Safety Symbols are regulated by the European Safety signs Directive 92/58/EEC.)



Existing signs on Akamas.

Notices are not regulated so these can include different languages and other info such as that suggested below.



Safety Signs with the symbol representing 50% or more of the sign.

Suggested modified sign with box around the Symbol and "DANGER".

Clarification of current EU and MOD safety signs.