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RANGE ADVICE NOTE 2/12

See Distribution

Reference:

A. JSP 403 Volume II Chapter 26

Our reference: 28-14-01

Date 23 Mar 2012

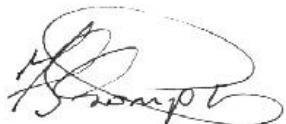
CADET AIR PELLET CATCHERS

1. Reference A provides a generic performance specification for the development of pellet catchers developed to eliminate the risk of backsplash. During 2010 the Youth & Cadet Branch, Personnel and Support Command, Army HQ, HQ SASC and the Assistant Chief Inst CTC Frimley Park introduced a proprietary pellet trap produced by "Air Arms".

2. Following trials in Warminster observed by HQ SASC and TAS (RE) the trap after several alterations to minimise backsplash was seen to meet the requirements for a pellet stop set out in Reference A. TAS (RE) endorsed the pellet trap in June 2011 requesting that its performance was carefully monitored in use to provide assurance that longer term use would not generate backsplash. Since then, two incidents of backsplash have been reported, both caused by failure to pressurise the BSA Scorpion air rifle in accordance with manufacturers instructions. Direction has been issued down the cadet chain of command that Adults and Cadets firing the BSA are to ensure that they are thoroughly familiar with the contents of the DVD and Instructions provided with each rifle, noting in particular:

- a. **All weapons must be kept pressurised iaw the manufacturer's instructions.** Note that the air rifles can be re-pressurised at any time; the BSA DVD advises to top up the air rifle at intervals as it easier to maintain the pressure than to refill from empty.
- b. **The air rifle must be pressurised slowly.** Trying to pressurise the rifle quickly causes the air to heat up and expand; this prevents the rifle from filling to the correct pressure.
- c. **The Manufacturer's Pressure Guide is not to be exceeded.** It can damage the rifle and on very rare occasions cause injury.

- d. **The pressure release valve on the pump must be opened quickly prior to removing it from the rifle;** this prevents air being lost from the rifle.
3. In summary, both the pellet catcher and the SA Scorpion are safe when used correctly. Instructions and the DVD issued with each rifle must be complied with.
4. Any questions relating to this particular pellet trap and Advice Note should be addressed to SO2 Cadets Plans / CCF at Army HQ.



F S Compton
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