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RANGE ADVICE NOTE 2/14

See Distribution

Our reference: **28-14-01**

Date: 28 Mar 2014

12.7 mm LIMITED RANGE TRAINING AMMUNITION (LRTA)–SAFETY CHECKS

Background

1. **Requirement.** There is a requirement to introduce 12.7mm Limited Range Training Ammunition (LRTA) that could be used more frequently on the Training Estate. The existing 12.7mm template extends out to 6400m, which imposes a limitation to the planner on most Training Estates, whereas the 12.7mm LRTA can be used with the standard 7.62 mm/ 5.56 mm template (2900m).
2. **Concerns.** There is the potential for users to mix up 12.7 mm standard rounds and the 12.7 mm LRTA with the consequent practices firing outside the 7.62 mm/ 5.56 mm template. The risk is mitigated in part by:
 - a. The initial batch having a blue line painted around the ammunition H83 container in order to assist in identifying it as LRTA, subsequently the ammunition will be issued in blue H83 containers.
 - b. Subsequent batches of LRTA rounds will have an orange painted tip for identification, but even this could be difficult to identify at night.

Control Measures

3. There are now a series of procedures in Pamphlet 21, Chapter 7, Section 2, LFTT Safety Rules, Limited Range Training Ammunition to ensure the correct nature of ammunition is employed. All are to ensure that Range Standing Orders are amended to highlight this issue and ensure compliance with the following:
 - a. Mixing of standard and LRTA is forbidden; only LRTA will be taken onto the range or exercise and no standard 2.7mm ammunition is to be used at the same time.
 - b. The Planning Officer/RCO is to ensure when submitting the trace to range control that it clearly states that LRTA is being used and that the Range Safety Officer is aware of its use.
 - c. When taking over the range and completing the MOD Form 906, the RCO is to record in the remarks column that 'LRTA is being used'.

- d. To ensure that only LRTA has been issued, the RCO is to personally check all ammunition containers on the range for the correct markings.
- e. Prior to starting firing and after having confirmed that only LRTA is on the range, the RCO is to ask range control for permission to start firing with LRTA.
- f. Prior to starting firing, having opened the ammunition container the Safety Supervisor is to check that only LRTA has been issued to the HMG team. Prior to its use the Safety Supervisor is to repeat this check when each ammunition container is opened.

Effective Date

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

{Original Signed}

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