

LAND RANGES SAFETY SUB COMMITTEE

RANGE SAFETY NOTICE 02/14

For issue by the 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:

<http://defenceintranet.diif.r.mil.uk/Organisations/Orgs/HOCS/Organisations/Orgs/DSEA/Pages/DLRSCAdviceandSafetyNotices.aspx>

RANGE SAFETY NOTICE 02/14

RANGE TEMPLATE CONTROLLER IN CONTROL OF MOVEMENT ON PARALLEL RANGES OR MULTIPLE UNITS ON A SINGLE RANGE

Safety Issue

1. During an incident in 2013 it came to light that individuals who were appointed "Range Template Controller (RTC)" on a range complex, required more guidance on their additional responsibilities. A RTC is only appointed when there are a number of ranges/lanes that are being conducted at the same time and individuals can potentially encroach into each others' danger area.
2. If for example there are three parallel ranges within a complex and they are all in use, the forward movement of all personnel on the ranges needs to be controlled centrally. Or if there are two units using one range with an allocation of three lanes each, the forward movement of all personnel on the range needs to be controlled centrally.
3. Due to the variations in the distances between the ranges, local range orders should give guidelines to the distances necessary to maintain safe place under the circumstances highlighted at paragraph 2.
4. In line with JSP 403 Vol 1, civilian users cannot apply the 200 mil rule¹ on MoD Land Ranges. If the range complex is being used by military and civilian firer's, the military cannot apply the 200 mil rule whilst the civilians are using an adjacent range.

Further Control Measures to be Implemented

5. When using a range each individual unit is to have a RCO who retains responsibilities for their unit and signs the MoD 906. A RTC cannot accept responsibility for another unit on the ranges outside of the responsibilities of the RTC, unless this has been mutually agreed by the Rifle Club senior members, who are present on the range.

¹ JSP 403 Volume 1, Chapter 3, paragraph 0335b

6. If an incident/accident occurs it is the responsibility of the RCO of that unit to deal with it in accordance with the local Range Orders.
7. At the moment of an incident/accident occurring, the relevant RCO must inform the RTC in order for them to step in and control the movement of all users on the ranges.
8. The units involved are to agree a RTC prior to live firing; this should be annotated in the MoD 906. If the range is being used by military and civilian personnel, the military RCO will always take the role of the RTC. If the units fail to agree a RTC, the senior range warden is to nominate one. Failing to accept this, the units are not allowed to fire until an agreement is made.
9. The responsibilities of the RTC are summarised as follows:
 - a. They are to identify themselves to all RCO's on the range complex.
 - b. They are only responsible for controlling the movement of personnel on the range complex. The aim will only be to prevent individuals encroaching into another firer's danger area.
 - c. If more than one unit is using a range, they are to control the movement of all personnel on the range, with the aim being to prevent individuals encroaching into another firer's danger area.
 - d. They are not responsible for dealing with any incidents other than their own unit.

Effective Date

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

Date of Issue: 30 May 14, Chairman Land Ranges Safety Sub Committee.