
LAND RANGES SAFETY SUB COMMITTEE

RANGE SAFETY NOTICE 2/12

For issue by the Defence Storage and Distribution Centre, 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://www.mod.uk/DefenceInternet/MicroSite/DES/OurPublications/JSP403/>

The revised detail will be incorporated in JSP 403 Volume 2 Change 7

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LMG RESTRICTIONS REINSTATED ON GALLERY RANGES FOLLOWING FURTHER INCIDENTS AT ALT CAR.

References:

- A. JSP 403 Volume 2, Design, Construction and Maintenance of Small Arms, Infantry Weapon Systems and 40mm Weapon Systems Ranges.
- B. RSN 3 -10.
- C. RSN 01-12

1. **Background.** The result of monitoring for back splash off the stop butt by DOSG demonstrated that LMG practices did not generate back splash that reached the gallery, therefore the restrictions at Reference A on manning the gallery on Gallery Ranges during LMG practices were lifted at Reference B. It is acknowledged that back splash is not the problem here but debris coming from the targets or target frames into the gallery and this is a known hazard for which the gallery roof protection is provided.

2. **Hazard.** It is now clear from two incidents at Altcar on 22 Feb 12 that where LMG is fired there is the potential for bullet or target debris to enter the gallery with sufficient velocity to cause injury unless those in the gallery are fully under cover. This hazard has only manifested itself at Altcar where LMG practices dominate range use firing up to 10,000 rounds each day at 400 m for several days. Control of those in the gallery in such circumstances is clearly critical.

3. **Control Measures.** In order to ensure those in the gallery are protected from potential injury during LMG practices, helmets and eye protection are to be worn by all personnel in the gallery. The NCO i/c butt party is to ensure that during firing all those in the gallery are back against the rear wall of the gallery. At Altcar where there seems to be a particular problem, the gallery is not to be manned during LMG practices

4. **Effective Date.** The required action is to be taken immediately on receipt of this notice.

Date of Issue: 24 Feb 12 Chairman Land Ranges Safety Sub Committee