



PIPPINGFORD PARK

OLD LODGE RIFLE (CLASSIFICATION) 2-IN. MORTAR AND GRENADE RANGES

BYE-LAWS

Made by His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the War Department under the provisions of the Military Lands Acts, 1892 to 1903, as amended by Regulation 52 of the Defence Regulations, 1939, and by virtue of that Regulation for regulating the use of the above-named ranges.

1. This range may be used for rifles, machine guns, revolvers, mortars and grenades.

LANDS AFFECTED.

2. The area of land affected by these Bye-laws and set out in the Schedule hereto is situated at Pippingford Park, Ashdown Forest, and comprises the Danger Area of the Old Lodge Rifle (Classification) Range and the Danger Areas of the 2-in. Mortar and Rifle Grenade Ranges.

GENERAL PROHIBITION.

3. During such time as notice is given by the hoisting and display of signals, in manner hereinafter provided in Bye-law No. 5, that firing is taking place on the Old Lodge Range, all intrusion on the land area within the limits set out in the Schedule hereto, and all obstruction of the use thereof, is prohibited.

OFFENCES DURING FIRING

4. During such time as notice is given by the hoisting of signals as hereinafter provided in Bye-law No. 5, that firing is taking place on the Rifle (Classification) Range or on the 2-in. Mortar or on the Rifle Grenade Range; or on the Rifle (Classification) Range and either the 2-in. Mortar or the Rifle Grenade Range, then, so long as the said signals are hoisted, the Danger Area of the Rifle Range or the Danger Area of the 2-in. Mortar Range or the Danger Areas of both Ranges

and all public roads and footpaths crossing the said Danger Area or Areas affected will be closed to the public and no person shall enter or remain within the Area or Areas affected, and no vehicle, animal, aircraft or thing shall be permitted to remain therein, except as is provided for in Bye-law No. 9.

SIGNALS.

5. Notice that firing is taking place on the Old Lodge Rifle (Classification) Range, 2-in. Mortar Range or Rifle Grenade Range or on more than one of these Ranges, as the case may be, shall be given by the hoisting of a Red Flag in respect of Day Firing or a Red Lamp in respect of Night Firing, on flagstaffs situated at the places named below as follows:—

I. As to the Rifle (Classification) Range.

- (a) *On the stop butt.*—When facing the targets the flag is situated at the right hand end of the butts and is about 600 yards east-north-east of Old Lodge.
- (b) At a point between the lodge of "Old Lodge" and the Uckfield-Edenbridge road.
- (c) At a point north-east of the Danger Areas of the 2-in. Mortar and Rifle Grenade Ranges and about 130 yards clear of the Danger Area of the Rifle (Classification) Range.
- (d) At a point south of "Old Lodge" approximately in line with the drive from "Old Lodge."

II. As to the 2-in. Mortar and Rifle Grenade Ranges.

- (e) At a point south of "Old Lodge" and approximately in line with the drive from "Old Lodge."
- (f) At a point north-east of the Danger Areas of the 2-in. Mortar and Rifle Grenade Ranges and about 130 yards clear of the Danger Area of the Rifle (Classification) Range.

III. If firing is to take place on the 2-in. Mortar Range or the Rifle Grenade Range, at the same time as firing is taking place on the Rifle (Classification) Range then, in addition to the places mentioned in I and II above, a second red flag shall be hoisted and displayed on the flagstaff hereinbefore mentioned at a point south of "Old Lodge" and approximately in line with the drive at "Old Lodge."

IV. Notice to aircraft that Mortar firing is taking place will be given by exposing a suitably sited letter "F" (8 ft. by 5 ft.) in black on a white background.

DURATION OF SIGNALS.

The signals referred to in this Bye-law shall be hoisted and displayed one hour before firing commences and shall be lowered when firing ceases, and the letter "F" covered up.

ADDITIONAL PRECAUTIONS.

6. In addition to the signals referred to in Bye-law No. 5 lookout men will be placed around the Danger Area on which firing is taking place to warn persons who may be approaching it.

RECOVERY OF SHELL, ETC.

7. No person shall touch or search for or otherwise interfere with any shot, shell, bomb, bullet, or other projectile, or any portion thereof found within the land area or take or retain, or be in possession of any such shot, shell, bomb, bullet or other projectile or any portion thereof found within the land area.

Provided, nevertheless, that the provisions of this Bye-law shall not apply in cases of persons who recover projectiles under written instructions of the local Military Authorities.

OFFICERS AUTHORISED.

8. Any person doing anything prohibited by or otherwise contravening Bye-laws Nos. 3, 4 or 7 shall be deemed to commit an offence against the Bye-laws so contravened.

The persons hereby authorised to remove or take into custody without warrant any persons committing an offence against Bye-laws Nos. 3, 4 or 7, or to remove any vehicle, animal or thing found on any of the said areas in contravention of Bye-laws Nos. 3, 4 or 7, are —

- (i) The General Officer Commanding-in-Chief, South Eastern Command;
- (ii) The Officer in charge of the Ranges,
- (iii) Any Officer, Warrant Officer, Non-Commissioned Officer or Military Policeman for the time being under the command of the said General Officer Commanding-in-Chief or of the said Officer in charge.
- (iv) Any person authorised in writing under the hand of the said General Officer Commanding-in-Chief or of the said Officer in Charge; or
- (v) Any Constable.

EXEMPTIONS.

9. These Bye-laws shall not apply to:—

- (a) Animals (other than horses or animals of abnormally high value) grazing unattended within the danger area of the Classification Range.
- (b) Any aircraft compelled to alight on or unable to quit the Danger Area.

DATE OF OPERATION OF BYE-LAWS.

10. These Bye-laws shall come into force at the date hereof and shall continue in force for two years from that date.

SCHEDULE.

DESCRIPTION OF LANDS AFFECTED.

The area of land affected by these Bye-laws comprises the danger areas of the Old Lodge Rifle (Classification) Range, 2-in. Mortar and Rifle Grenade Ranges, and lies within a quadrilateral enclosed by lines drawn from the lodge at the entrance to "Old Lodge" from "Old

Lodge" to Pippingford Park House, from Pippingford Park House to Thornhill Farm and from Thornhill Farm to the lodge at the entrance to "Old Lodge" and is more particularly shown on the plan.

Dated this Eighth day of January, One thousand nine hundred and forty-three.

By Order of His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the War Department.

(Signed) G. W. LAMBERT.

NOTICES.

PENALTY FOR OFFENCES.

1. By Section 17 (2) of the Military Lands Act, 1892, it is provided that:—

If any person commits an offence against any Bye-law under this Act, he shall be liable on conviction before a Court of Summary Jurisdiction to a fine not exceeding FIVE POUNDS, and may be removed by any Constable or Officer authorised in manner provided by the Bye-law from the area, whether land or water, to which the Bye-law applies and taken into custody without warrant and brought before a Court of Summary Jurisdiction to be dealt with according to Law, and any vehicle, animal, vessel, or thing found in the area in contravention of any Bye-law may be removed by any Constable or such Officer as aforesaid and on due proof of such contravention be declared by a Court of Summary Jurisdiction to be forfeited to His Majesty.

TIMES OF FIRING AND PUBLIC NOTICES.

2. Firing at the Old Lodge Rifle (Classification), 2-in. Mortar and Rifle Grenade Ranges shall not commence before 9 a.m. and shall cease at 6 p.m. except as follows:—

Firing will be permitted at any time of the day or night provided that at least three days' notice in writing has been given to the local Councils, the local Constabulary and the War Department Land Agent.

3. Notice Boards with a copy of the Bye-laws and of these notices are placed where any road or pathway enters the danger area.

AIRCRAFT WARNING.

4. Aircraft are warned not to fly at low altitudes in the vicinity of these ranges while firing is in progress and not below 3,000 feet when the letter "F" is exhibited, and no liability for accidents to aircraft flying over the ranges contrary to this notice and which arise from the use of the ranges can be admitted.

WHERE PLAN OF RANGE CAN BE INSPECTED AND COPIES OF BYE-LAWS OBTAINED.

5. The office of the

Commander Royal Engineers, Manor House,
Maresfield Park, Maresfield, Sussex.

Notwithstanding any fine limit mentioned in the above byelaws the current maximum fine as at 01/09/2008 is the sum of £500 being the maximum on level 2 of the standard scale.