



SYDLING ST. NICHOLAS 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.

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1. These Ranges may be used for Rifles, Revolvers, Machine Guns, Light Machine Guns, Mortars, Rifle Grenades, Hand Grenades, Anti-Tank Guns and Anti-Tank Rifles.

LANDS AFFECTED.

2. The area of land affected by these Bye-laws, and set out in the Schedule hereto, comprises the NEW BARN, BRITISH SETTLEMENT and HOG FIELD Danger Area.

OFFENCES DURING FIRING.

3. During such time as notice is given by the hoisting and display of signals as hereinafter provided in Bye-law No. 4 that firing is taking place on the Sydling St. Nicholas Ranges, then so long as the said signals are displayed the New Barn, British Settlement and Hog field danger area including all roads and footpaths crossing the said danger area, will be closed to the public, and no person shall enter or remain therein, and no vehicle, animal or thing shall be permitted to remain therein except that farm implements may be permitted to remain therein at the owner's risk, and that subject to the terms of the agreement between the Military Authorities and the farmers concerned, grazing stock may be permitted to remain in any part of the danger area, other than those enclosures in which the range works, buildings and structures are situated.

SIGNALS.

4. Notice that firing is taking place on the SYDLING ST. NICHOLAS RANGES is given by the following signals:—

By Day.

(a) By a red flag hoisted on a flagstaff at each of the following places:—

(i) A point at the Northern end of the 600 yards Firing Point on "A" Range.

- (ii) On the cross tracks on BALL'S HILL.
- (iii) On the summit of WEAM COMMON HILL (200 yards from N.E. corner of WELL COPPICE).
- (iv) A point 250 yards north of B.M. 725.6 between HOGHILL and ROWDEN HILL.

(b) Notice to Aircraft that Mortar firing is taking place will be given by exposing a suitably sited letter "F" (8 feet by 6½ feet), in black on a white background.

By Night.

(c) By red lamps or red flares displayed on the flagstaffs referred to above.

The positions of the flagstaffs referred to in this Bye-law are shown on the plan attached hereto.

DURATION OF SIGNALS.

The signals referred to in this Bye-law will be hoisted or displayed one hour before firing commences, and will be lowered and, in the case of the letter "F" referred to in Bye-law No. 4 (b) above, covered up immediately firing has ceased.

RECOVERY OF SHELL, ETC.

5. No person shall search for or otherwise interfere with any shot, shell, bomb, bullet or other projectile or portions thereof within the SYDLING ST. NICHOLAS RANGES area or take, retain or be in possession of any such shot, shell, bomb, bullet, or other projectile or portions thereof found within the aforesaid Range Areas.

Provided, nevertheless, that the provisions of this Bye-law shall not apply in cases of persons who recover shot, shell, bombs, bullets or other projectiles under the instructions of the local Military Authority.

OFFICERS AUTHORISED.

6. Any person doing anything prohibited by or otherwise contravening Bye-law No. 3 or 5 shall be deemed to commit an offence against the Bye-law so contravened.

The persons hereby authorised to remove or take into custody without warrant any person committing an offence against Bye-law No. 3 or 5 or to remove any vehicle, animal or thing found in the Danger Area in contravention of Bye-law No. 3 are :—

- (i) The Major-General i/c Administration, Southern 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 Major-General i/c Administration or of the said Officer in Charge.
- (iv) Any person authorised in writing under the hand of the said Major-General i/c Administration or the said Officer in Charge.
- (v) Any Constable.

AIRCRAFT IN DANGER.

7. When any aircraft is observed flying over the Danger Area, when Mortar firing is in progress, at a height estimated to be less than 3,000 feet firing will immediately cease, and will not be resumed until the Aircraft is out of danger.

DATE OF OPERATION OF BYE-LAWS.

8. These Bye-laws shall come into force at the date hereof.

SCHEDULE.

DESCRIPTION OF LANDS AFFECTED.

The area of land affected by these Bye-laws comprising the NEW BARN, BRITISH SETTLEMENT and HOGFIELD DANGER AREA is situated on private property in DORSET in the parishes of SYDLING ST. NICHOLAS and CERNE ABBAS, and is shown coloured red on the map referred to in Notice No. 5 hereof, and is bounded as follows:—

By a line commencing at a point 75 yards South of NEW BARN-BRITISH SETTLEMENT and running in a N.E. direction for 630 yards, thence crossing COMBE BOTTOM and through CLAPPER'S COPPICE to a point 200 yards North of B.M. 760.9 situated in the parish boundary. From thence continuing in a N.E. direction through GREAT WOOD and WANCOMBE BOTTOM to a point 50 yards N.W. of MANOR HOUSE LODGE. Thence along the road to a point 230 yards S.E. of MANOR HOUSE LODGE. Thence S.E. to a point 150 yards N.W. of CERNE UNION WORKHOUSE. Thence S.W. through ROWDENFOOT COPPICE and SOUTH HANGING being part of CERNE PARK to a point 230 yards South of B.M. 763.5 situated in the parish boundary, and continuing across HOG HILL and HOG FIELD to a point 100 yards east of the FORD on the SYDLING ST. NICHOLAS-CERNE

ABBAS ROAD. Thence north to point of origin at NEW BARN-BRITISH SETTLEMENT.

Dated this tenth day of June, One thousand nine hundred and forty-one.

*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 Acts, 1892, it is provided :—

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 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.

PERIOD AND TIMES OF FIRING.

2. Firing may take place from these Ranges at any time of the day or night throughout the year.

ADDITIONAL PRECAUTIONS.

3. The Limits of the Danger Area described in the Schedule hereto are marked by War Department Notice Boards, and a board displaying a copy of these Bye-laws is placed at each end of any roads and footpaths where they enter the said Danger Area.

AIRCRAFT WARNING.

4. Aircraft are warned not to fly in the vicinity of the Ranges while Mortar firing is in progress, and no liability for accident to Aircraft arising from the use of the Ranges can be admitted.

WHERE PLAN OF RANGE CAN BE INSPECTED.

5. A map showing the limits of the Danger Area, the positions of the Signal Flags and Signal to Aircraft referred to in Bye-law No. 4, and the roads and footpaths affected can be inspected at the Royal Engineer Office, Depot Barracks, Dorchester.

WHERE COPIES OF BYE-LAWS CAN BE OBTAINED.

6. Copies of these Bye-laws can be obtained at the Royal Engineer Office, Depot Barracks, Dorchester.

COMPENSATION CLAIMS.

7. The loss of or injury to any cattle, sheep or horses shot on the Ranges should be reported to the Officer i/c Range, Depot Barracks, Dorchester, within forty-eight hours. Claims in writing should be submitted to Officer i/c Range without delay.