



DIVIS RANGES

COUNTY ANTRIM—NORTHERN IRELAND

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 firing practice from the above-named Ranges.

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1943.

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The Ranges comprise the Classification Range shown on the plan as an area hatched in blue and a Field Firing Area (part of which coincides with the danger area of the aforesaid classification range) shown on the plan as an area outlined in red, both within the area of land described in the Schedule hereto.

1. These ranges may be used for the following weapons :—

- (a) Classification Range .. Rifle.
Revolver.
Machine carbines.
Light machine guns.
Heavy machine guns.
- (b) Field Firing Area .. The weapons specified in 1 (a) above and in addition anti-tank rifles, mortars (2-in., 3-in. and Spigot), grenades.

GENERAL PROHIBITION.

2. During such time as notice is given by the hoisting and display of signals in the manner hereinafter provided in Bye-Law No. 4 either that Classification Firing is being carried out on the Classification Range or that Field Firing with any of the weapons specified in Bye-Law No. 1 is being carried out on the Field Firing Area (which together constitute and are hereinafter referred to as the Combined Ranges), or the Combined Ranges, all intrusion on the land or any part thereof (hereinafter called "the land area") within the limits set out in the schedule hereto, and all obstruction of the use thereof are prohibited.

OFFENCES DURING FIRING.

3. While notice that firing is taking place over the Classification Range or Field Firing Area or Combined Ranges mentioned in Bye-Law No. 2 is given by the hoisting and display of signals as provided in Bye-Law No. 4, no person shall enter or remain in the land area, nor bring, take nor suffer to remain therein any vehicle, animal, aircraft or thing except as provided in Bye-Law No. 8.

SIGNALS.

4. A. Notice that firing is taking place on the ranges is given by the hoisting on flagstuffs of red flags by day and red lights by night at the following places :—

- (a) *Classification Range*, on the Flagstuffs Nos. 1, 2 and 3 shown on the plan.
- (b) *Field Firing Area*, on Flagstuffs Nos. 4 to 11 shown on the plan.

- (c) *Combined Range*, on Flagstaffs Nos. 4 to 11 shown on the plan.
- B. 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 day signals referred to in this Bye-Law will be hoisted and exposed half an hour before firing is due to commence and will remain so hoisted or exposed until firing has ceased, when all flags and pennants will be hauled down and the letter " F " will be covered up. The red lights will be displayed one hour before firing begins and will be hauled down and extinguished when firing has ceased.

RECOVERY OF SHELL, ETC.

5. No person shall touch, search for or otherwise interfere with any shot, shell, bomb, bullet or other projectile or any portion thereof 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 from the local Military or Royal Air Force authorities.

OFFICERS AUTHORISED.

6. Any person doing anything prohibited by or otherwise contravening Bye-Laws Nos. 2, 3 or 5 shall be deemed to commit an offence against the Bye-Laws so contravened.

The persons hereby authorised to remove or to take into custody without warrant any persons committing an offence against Bye-Laws Nos. 2, 3 or 5 or to remove any vehicle, animal, aircraft or thing found on the land area in contravention of any of the said Bye-Laws are:—

- (1) The Officer in Charge of the Ranges.
- (2) Any Officer, Warrant Officer, Non-Commissioned Officer, or any Military Policeman for the time being under the command of the said Officer in Charge.
- (3) Any person authorised in writing under the hand of the said Officer in Charge.
- (4) Any Constable.

WHEN AN AIRCRAFT IS OVER THE DANGER AREA.

7. When any aircraft is observed on a course likely to bring it flying over the danger area of the Field Firing Area at a height estimated to be less than 3,000 ft. when mortar firing on that area is in progress, firing will immediately cease and will not be resumed until the aircraft is out of danger.

EXEMPTIONS.

8. These Bye-Laws shall not apply to any aircraft compelled to alight on or unable to quit the land area.

INTERPRETATION.

9. "Aircraft" in these Bye-Laws includes all balloons, whether fixed or free, kites, airships, aeroplanes, seaplanes, flying boats, gliders, and other flying machines.

DATE OF OPERATION OF BYE-LAWS.

10. These Bye-Laws shall come into force at the date hereof.

SCHEDULE.

DESCRIPTION OF LAND AREA.

(a) *General Description.*—The area of land (surrounded by heavy black line on the plan hereto) affected by the Bye-Laws is situate in the county of Antrim in the townlands of Ballyutoag, Legoniel, Altigarron, Ballygomartin, Divis, Black Mountain, Hannahstown and Ballymagarry, and constitutes a danger area.

The area is bounded as follows :—

- North* .. By county road from Legoniel Village to Clady Bridge, extending from entrance to quarry some 1,000 yards to the west.
- South* .. By an irregular line from the point where the townlands of Ballydownfine, Ballymoney and Black Mountains meet running on the north side of the county road from Belfast through Springfield to Glenavy at Hannahstown with the quarries and dwelling houses outside the area on the south.
- East* .. By eastern slopes of Wolf Hill near Legoniel Village by Crow Glen, along a line running due south to the Forkings and to the eastern slopes of Black Mountain and Black Mountain townland boundary along Black Hill.
- West* .. By a line drawn from the Legoniel Village to Clady Bridge road through Greenhill to the south, with Greenhill House outside the area on the west, to the townland of Altigarron to Armstrongs Hill and thence south to and by the county road to Tornaroy Bridge and Hannahstown.

(b) *Classification Range.*—The land area of the Classification Range comprises the area hatched in blue on the plan.

(c) *Field Firing Area.*—The land area of the Field Firing Area comprises the area outlined in red on the plan, with the Target Area outlined in green on the plan and marked on the ground by conspicuous black and white posts set at suitable intervals.

Dated this twelfth 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:—

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.

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

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

3. A plan showing the land areas of the Ranges and position of the flagstuffs and signals to aircraft referred to in Bye-Law No. 4 can be inspected at:—

(a) The Ministry of Commerce, Chichester Street, Belfast;

(b) Commander, Royal Engineers Office, 603, Antrim Road, Belfast;

and copies of these Bye-Laws can be obtained at the same addresses.

AIRCRAFT WARNING.

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