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Statutory Rules and Orders:  
No. 1920 of 1939.



**YANTLET (GRAIN ISLAND)  
ARTILLERY RANGE  
IN THE COUNTY OF KENT.**

**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 range.

Revised by  
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ARTILLERY RANGE  
IN THE COUNTY OF KENT.**

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**BYE-LAWS**

**GENERAL PROHIBITION.**

1. The War Department property on the Isle of Grain shall, within the boundaries and to the extent hereinafter mentioned and described as the Land Area, be closed to all persons unless provided with a pass signed by the Superintendent of Experiments, Shoeburyness, or an officer acting under his authority.

2. During such time as notice is given by the hoisting or displaying of the appropriate signals in manner hereinafter provided, that firing is taking place from YANTLET BATTERY, all intrusion on such areas of foreshore and sea hereinafter described as the Sea Area is prohibited.

3. The limits of the above-mentioned Land and Sea Areas are set out in the Schedule hereto.

**OFFENCES.**

4. **LAND AREA.**—No person shall enter or remain within the affected land area, nor bring, take or suffer to remain therein any vehicle, animal, vessel, aircraft or thing except as provided in Bye-laws Nos. 1 and 9.

5. **SEA AREA.**—While notice that firing is taking place over the sea area mentioned in Bye-law No. 2 is given by the hoisting or displaying of signals as provided in Bye-law No. 6, then in respect of the Sea Area affected :—

- (i) The sea area shall be closed and no person shall enter or remain within the said area, nor bring, take or suffer to remain therein any vessel, aircraft or thing except as provided in Bye-law No. 9.
- (ii) No vessel shall be employed in fishing in the sea area.
- (iii) No pleasure boat shall cruise in any part of the sea area.

- (iv) No vessel shall anchor or remain anchored in or ground in the sea area.
- (v) No aircraft shall alight on, remain in, or travel upon the sea area.
- (vi) In the event of any vessel or aircraft being from any cause within the sea area, the Master or Pilot or other person in charge thereof shall use his utmost endeavour to pass out of the sea area without loss of time.

#### SIGNALS.

6. Notice that firing is to take place, or is taking place, is given by the hoisting or displaying of the following signals:—

- I.—(a) A Red Flag at Beacon "A."
- (b) A Red Flag at Beacon "B."
- (c) A Red Flag at Yantlet Battery.
- (d) Signal balls of 8 ft. or over in diameter hoisted to yard-arms on Beacons "A," "B" and "C."
- (e) Two black signal balls hoisted horizontally on the yard-arms of the Observation Tower at Fishermen's Head.
- (f) A signal ball, 6 ft. in diameter, hoisted at Shornmead Fort, Gravesend.

#### DURATION OF SIGNALS.

II.—The signals referred to in I of this Bye-law will be hoisted or displayed two hours before firing begins and will remain hoisted or displayed until firing has ceased.

#### RECOVERY OF SHELL, ETC.

7. No person shall trawl, dredge, or search for, or otherwise interfere with any shot, shell, or other projectile, or portions thereof, within either the land or the sea areas.

Any person who, when trawling, dredging, or in any manner whatever shall come into possession of any such shot, shell, or other projectile, or portions thereof, within the sea area, shall not retain them, but shall immediately return them in their then condition, and without tampering with them, into the water.

Provided, nevertheless, that the provision of this Bye-law shall not apply in case of persons who recover projectiles under written instructions from the local Naval or Military Authorities.

## OFFICERS AUTHORISED.

8. Any person doing anything prohibited by or otherwise contravening any of the preceding Bye-laws numbered 1, 2, 4, 5 and 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 person committing an offence against Bye-laws numbered 1, 2, 4, 5 or 7, or to remove any vehicle, animal, vessel, aircraft or thing found at any time in the land area or in the sea area, when closed, in contravention of any of the said Bye-laws, are :—

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

## EXEMPTIONS.

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

- (a) Any vessel entering or passing through the sea area in the ordinary course of navigation.
- (b) Any vessel compelled to enter or unable to quit the sea area by reason of the exigencies of navigation.
- (c) Any vessel employed in tending, placing or replacing any of the Channel mark buoys or other navigation aids within the sea area, in respect of which due notice has been given to the Superintendent of Experiments, Shoeburyness.
- (d) Any vessel belonging to or engaged upon work for the Port of London Authority or their Contractors whilst employed on duty connected with the Port, on the understanding that when possible and particularly in the case of dredging operations, due notice is given to the Superintendent of Experiments, Shoeburyness.
- (e) Any vessel belonging to the Corporation of Trinity House whilst employed on any Trinity House duty or service.
- (f) H.M. Ships of War, H.M. Aircraft, or any vessel or aircraft employed under Admiralty, War Department or Air Council Authority.
- (g) Any aircraft compelled to alight on or unable to quit the land area or sea area.

## INTERPRETATION.

10.—(a) "Vessel" in these Bye-laws includes ship, yacht, lighter, boat and craft of every kind, and whether navigated by steam, motor, sail, oars or otherwise.

(b) "Aircraft" in these Bye-laws includes all balloons, whether fixed or free, kites, airships, aeroplanes, seaplanes, flying boats or other flying machines.

## DATE OF OPERATION OF BYE-LAWS.

11. These Bye-laws shall come into force at the date hereof, on and after which the Bye-laws in respect of Yantlet (Grain Island), dated 11th January, 1924, shall be revoked.

## SCHEDULE.

## DESCRIPTION OF LAND AREA.

The area of War Department land affected by these Bye-laws consists of that portion of Grain Marsh, and the saltings, sea walls and beach down to High Water Mark, commencing at a point on the East Side of Yantlet Creek about one thousand two hundred yards South-East of Yantlet Coast Guard Watch Box, near the mouth of the Creek, thence in a North-Easterly direction following along side of ditch for about three hundred and ninety yards, measured along the said ditch, or two hundred and ninety-five yards from point to point; thence in a North-Easterly direction across Grain and Lees Marshes to Beacon "A" on sea wall (which is about five hundred yards North-East of Rosecourt Barn) and on the High Water Mark; thence along the line of High Water to a point East-North-East of Beacon "B" on the sea wall (which is about two hundred and sixty-five yards North-North-West of White Hall Farm); thence by a line running in a West-South-West direction across Grain Marsh, crossing Hamshill Fleet at a point near the Eastern end of the Peat Way to a point on Old Counter Wall, thence along this wall for a distance of about one hundred and thirty yards to a junction going Northwards, following this to the Flood-gate; thence along the Eastern side of a ditch to its junction with Yantlet Creek, then by the High Water Mark to the starting point.

Notice Boards with a copy of these Bye-laws thereon will be placed at various points leading into the prohibited land area, to warn unauthorised persons from entering therein, in accordance with Bye-law No. 1.

## DESCRIPTION OF SEA AREA (CHART (1185).

The area of foreshore and sea affected by these Bye-laws is bounded as follows :—

*On the West.*—By a line drawn across the River Thames in a direction  $045^{\circ}$  True from Beacon "A" on Grain Island, latitude  $51^{\circ} 28' 18''$  N., longitude  $0^{\circ} 41' 48''$  E. to Beacon "C" near Shoeburyness, latitude  $51^{\circ} 31' 22''$  N., longitude  $0^{\circ} 46' 40''$  E., and thence :—

*On the North.*—By a line drawn from the last mentioned point in a direction  $204^{\circ}$  True to the present chartered position of the West Shoebury Buoy, latitude  $51^{\circ} 30' 12''$  N., longitude  $0^{\circ} 45' 48''$  E. and thence in a direction  $089^{\circ}$  True to the present chartered position of the South Shoebury Buoy, latitude  $51^{\circ} 30' 15''$  N., longitude  $0^{\circ} 51' 15''$  E., and thence :—

*On the East.*—By a line drawn from the last mentioned point in a direction  $245^{\circ}$  True to Beacon "B" on Grain Island, latitude  $51^{\circ} 27' 51''$  N., longitude  $0^{\circ} 42' 48''$  E., and thence :—

*On the South.*—By a line of High Water to the starting point.

Dated this ninth day of November, One thousand nine hundred and thirty-nine.

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.

#### APPLICATION TO SEA AREA.

(2) By Section 2 (2) of the Military Lands Act, 1900, it is provided :—

Where any land, the use of which can be regulated by Bye-laws under the Military Lands Act, 1892, or this Act, abuts on any sea or tidal water, or where Rifle or Artillery Practice is or can be carried on over any sea, tidal water, or shore from any such land, Bye-laws may be made in relation to any such sea, tidal water or shore as if they were part of the land.

#### PROCEDURE FOR CLEARING SEA AREA.

(3).—(a) Vessels entering or remaining within the sea area in contravention of any of the preceding Bye-laws may, under Section 17 (2) of the Military Lands Act, 1892 (see (1) above), be removed from the area. In such cases any vessel acting under the orders of the local Military Authorities will, when necessary, tow the offending vessel out of the area.

(b) Masters of vessels entering or remaining within the sea area by reason of the exigencies of navigation and exempt from the operation of the Bye-laws under Bye-law No. 9 (b) are requested to assist the carrying out of artillery firings by consenting to be towed out of the area, if necessary, by any vessel acting under the orders of the Local Military Authorities.

#### NOTICES OF FIRING.

(4) Notice that firing will take place will be sent by the Superintendent of Experiments, Shoeburyness, not later than twenty-four hours before firing takes place, to the following :—

The Commander-in Chief at the Nore,  
The Admiral Superintendent, Chatham,  
The Captain Superintendent, Sheerness,  
The District Officer of H.M. Coastguard, Ramsgate,  
Southend Royal Naval Shore Signal Station,  
The Port of London Authority,

The Harbour Masters : Gravesend, Rochester, Milton  
Creek,  
The Custom House, London,  
The Trinity House, London,  
The Post Offices : Isle of Grain, Leigh-on-Sea, Brightling-  
sea, and West Mersea,  
The Police at Isle of Grain and Leigh-on-Sea,  
The Piermasters : Southend-on-Sea and Sheerness,  
The Chief Fishery Officers for Kent and Essex—at  
present—  
Mr. E. Stroud, 56, Victoria Street, Whitstable, Kent ;  
Mr. W. Harvey, 34, Grange Road, Leigh-on-Sea, Essex,  
The Thames Estuary Fishermen's Protection Society,  
Southend-on-Sea,  
The Nore Yacht Club, Southend-on-Sea,  
The Alexandra Yacht Club, Southend-on-Sea,  
The Westcliff Yacht Club, Southend-on-Sea,  
The Leigh-on-Sea Sailing Club,  
The Essex Yacht Club.

#### WHERE BYE-LAWS CAN BE INSPECTED.

(5) Copies of these Bye-laws can be obtained, and a plan and chart showing the land and sea areas can be inspected at :—

The Royal Engineers' Office, Shoeburyness,  
The Royal Engineers' Office, Yantlet, Isle of Grain,  
Harbour Master's Office : Gravesend.

Copies will also be deposited with :—  
The Port of London Authority,  
The Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries,  
Trinity House, London.

#### FACILITIES TO FISHERMEN.

(6) The Superintendent of Experiments will afford to fishermen in pursuit of their occupation over the sea area every facility consistent with the carrying out of the firing connected with the range.

#### AIRCRAFT WARNING.

(7) Aircraft are warned not to fly in the vicinity of this range whilst firing is in progress, and no liability for accidents to aircraft arising from the use of the range can be admitted.

A warning by telephone that firing is due to take place on the following day is given to the Control Officer, Croydon Aerodrome, by 4 p.m. on the previous day.