



*Revoked by
SI 1950/1949*

Okehampton Range

BYELAWS

Made by Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the War Department, under the provisions of Part II of the Military Lands Act 1892, for regulating the use of the above-mentioned range.

ARMY**The Okehampton Range Byelaws 1963**

Made 3rd September 1963

Coming into operation 16th October 1963

Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the War Department in exercise of the powers conferred upon him by sections 14 and 15 of the Military Lands Act 1892(a) and of all other powers enabling him in that behalf hereby makes the following Byelaws:—

AREA OF LAND AFFECTED

1. The area to which these Byelaws apply (hereinafter referred to as "the Danger Area") consists of the Okehampton Range, situated in the Parishes of Okehampton Hamlet, Belstone, South Tawton, Throwleigh, Gidleigh, Lydford, Peter Tavy, Bridestowe and Sourton in the County of Devon the limits of which are set out in the Schedule hereto and are, for convenience of reference, marked with a thick black line on the plan hereto annexed and identified as "Plan of the Okehampton Range".

USE OF DANGER AREA

2. The Danger Area may be used for the firing of artillery (up to and including medium), and all infantry weapons including anti-tank, and for all activities ancillary to such use.

PROHIBITION OF ACCESS

3. (1) When the Danger Area is being used for any of the military purposes specified in Byelaw No. 2, it shall be an offence for any person, except in so far as paragraph (2) of this Byelaw otherwise provides, to:—
- (a) enter into or upon or pass over or through the Danger Area, or
 - (b) be or remain in or upon the Danger Area, or
 - (c) cause or permit or suffer any vehicle, animal, aircraft or thing to enter into or upon or to pass through or to be or remain in or upon the Danger Area, or
 - (d) cause or permit any aircraft to fly over the Danger Area at a height less than 7,500 feet above mean sea level.

(a) 55 & 56 Vict. c.43.

(2) This Byelaw shall not apply to—

- (a) anything done with the authority or consent of the Duke of Cornwall or the Secretary of State;
- (b) the exercise of any right conferred by the Duke of Cornwall or the Secretary of State;
- (c) the exercise of a right of pasturage or other right of common by a commoner or venville tenant in a part of the Danger Area over which that right is exercisable.

(3) "Aircraft" includes any craft or contrivance which though not an aircraft is for the time being airborne.

WARNING SIGNALS

4. Whilst the Danger Area is being used for any of the said military purposes, notice of the fact shall be given by the display, on the day or night of firing, of the following signals, that is to say by the display of a red flag by day and a red light by night hoisted at the following places:—

(a) In respect of firing by day—

- (i) at the summit of Yes Tor;
- (ii) at the summit of Blackdown;
- (iii) at a place near St. Michael's Bungalow 100 yards west of the road from Okehampton to Okehampton Camp and 150 yards north of Okehampton Camp;
- (iv) at a place 800 yards south-east of Moorgate Farm and 1,250 yards south of Halstock Farm;
- (v) on Watchet Hill 700 yards south-west of Belstone;
- (vi) at the summit of Steeperton Tor;
- (vii) at the summit of Hangingstone Hill;
- (viii) at the summit of Quintin's Man;
- (ix) on the knoll at the southern end of Amicombe Hill;
- (x) on the north-west slope of Rattlebrook Hill;
- (xi) at the summit of Kitty Tor.

(b) In respect of firing by night—

- (i) at the summit of Yes Tor;
- (ii) at a place near St. Michael's Bungalow 100 yards west of the road from Okehampton to Okehampton Camp and 150 yards north of Okehampton Camp;
- (iii) on Watchet Hill 700 yards south-west of Belstone;
- (iv) at the summit of Hangingstone Hill;
- (v) at the summit of Steeperton Tor;
- (vi) at the summit of Kitty Tor.

PROJECTILES

5. It shall be an offence for any person without the authority of the Secretary of State to:—

- (a) dig or search for any projectile in or on the Danger Area;
- (b) interfere with, take, retain or be in possession of any projectile found within the Danger Area;
- (c) remove any projectile from the Danger Area.

“Projectile” includes any shot, shell, bomb or other missile and any part of a projectile.

GOVERNMENT PROPERTY

6. It shall be an offence for any person without the authority of the Secretary of State to interfere with or remove from the Danger Area any stores or articles belonging to the War Department or otherwise the property of the Crown.

WARNING NOTICES

7. It shall be an offence for any person without the authority of the Secretary of State to deface, interfere with, move or remove any warning notice, danger sign or boundary marker.

ENFORCEMENT

8. The following persons are hereby authorised to remove from the Danger Area and to take into custody without warrant any person found therein when it is being used for any of the military purposes specified in Byelaw No. 2 or found committing any other offence against any of the said Byelaws, and to remove from the Danger Area any vehicle, animal, vessel, aircraft or thing whatsoever found in the Danger Area in contravention of any of the said Byelaws:—

- (a) the General Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Southern Command;
- (b) the Camp Commandant, Okehampton Camp;
- (c) the Officer in charge of the Okehampton Range;
- (d) any officer, warrant officer, non-commissioned officer, or any military policeman or War Department constable, in uniform and being for the time being under the Command of the said General Officer Commanding-in-Chief or the Officer in charge of the Okehampton Range;
- (e) any person authorised in writing by or on behalf of the said General Officer Commanding-in-Chief or the Officer in charge of the Okehampton Range; and
- (f) any member of a police force.

INTERPRETATION

9. The Interpretation Act 1889(a) shall apply to the interpretation of these Byelaws as it applies to the interpretation of an Act of Parliament.

DATE OF OPERATION OF BYELAWS

10. (1) These Byelaws shall come into operation on the 16th day of October 1963, and may be cited as the Okehampton Range Byelaws 1963.
- (2) The Byelaws in respect of the Okehampton Ranges dated the 12th day of June 1940(b) are hereby revoked.

THE SCHEDULE

The limits of the Danger Area are as follows:—

On the East

Commencing at a point (at M.R. 595926) on the Military Road where it is joined by the drive from Higher Halstock Farm, thence along the south side of the drive towards Higher Halstock Farm starting in a generally NORTH-EASTERLY direction and turning with the drive in an EASTERLY direction and thence generally SOUTH-EAST to meet the moor wall (at M.R. 603929) 650 yards north-west of Scarey Tor and continuing SOUTH-EAST along the moor wall to its junction (at M.R. 606924) with the East Okement River 150 yards west of Scarey Tor thence over the top of Scarey Tor and EAST BY SOUTH to a point on the track (at M.R. 610924) 350 yards east by south of Scarey Tor thence due SOUTH along the track for 400 yards to the junction of the track and Irishman's Wall (at M.R. 610920) thence SOUTH-EAST for 1,400 yards passing between Higher Tor and Winter Tor to the junction of the Small Brook and the River Taw (at M.R. 618909) thence SOUTH-EAST for 2,200 yards following the Small Brook to its head and across to the track leading from Sticklepath to Hound Tor by White Moor Stone (at M.R. 632896) thence SOUTH for 3,350 yards to the corner of the moor wall (at M.R. 631865) 350 yards south-east of Watern Tor thence WEST for 200 yards to a point (at M.R. 629865) 250 yards south of Watern Tor thence in a direction SOUTH BY WEST parallel to and 200 yards west of the moor wall for 3,000 yards to the summit of Quintin's Man (at M.R. 621839) thence SOUTH BY EAST for 1,000 yards to a point (at M.R. 622829) 1,250 yards west of Sittaford Tor; thence

On the South

From the last-mentioned point in a direction WEST BY SOUTH for a distance of 6,100 yards crossing the East Dart River, Cut Hill, the River Tavy and Eastern Red Lake to a point (at M.R. 566824) on Western Red Lake 2,000 yards east of Tavy Cleave; thence

(a) 52 & 53 Vict. c.63.

(b) S.R. & O. 1940/984.

On the West

From the last-mentioned point (at M.R. 566824) in a direction generally NORTH BY WEST for a distance of 2,350 yards to the Hut Circles (at M.R. 563845) 1,350 yards east-south-east of Sharp Tor thence in a NORTH-WESTERLY direction for a distance of 1,400 yards to a point (at M.R. 554855) on Rattlebrook Hill 1,350 yards south by east of Great Links Tor thence NORTH-EAST for a distance of 2,000 yards to a point (at M.R. 567867) 600 yards south of Kitty Tor 1,800 yards due east of Great Links Tor thence in a direction NORTH BY EAST for a distance of 5,600 yards skirting east of Kitty Tor crossing the West Okement River skirting Black Tor and passing over Okehampton Common and the Red-a-Ven Brook to the corner of the moor wall (at M.R. 572918) 950 yards south-east of Meldon Viaduct thence EAST-NORTH-EAST for 1,850 yards to the moor brook at a point 1,300 yards south by west of St. Michael's Bungalow and thence EAST BY NORTH for 750 yards to the point of commencement on the Military Road.

Dated this 3rd day of September 1963.

(Sgd.) W. GERAGHTY

By order of Her Majesty's Principal
Secretary of State for the War Department

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 Byelaw 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 Byelaw from the area, whether land or water, to which the Byelaw 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 Byelaw, 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 Her Majesty.

INSPECTION OF BYELAWS AND PLAN

2. A copy of these Byelaws and a plan showing the Danger Area may be inspected at the Police Stations at Okehampton, Mary Tavy, Tavistock, Lydford, Princetown and Chagford, at the Office

of the Clerk to the Okehampton and Tavistock Rural District Councils, and at Post Offices situated at the following places:—

Okehampton	Princetown	Belstone
Peter Tavy	Sticklepath	Mary Tavy
Throwleigh	Lydford	Chagford
Bridestowe	Brentor	South Zeal
Gidleigh	Moretonhampstead	South Tawton
Lustleigh	Sourton	Walkhampton
Whiddon Down	Yelverton	Bovey Tracey
Shaugh Prior	Tavistock	Postbridge
Ilsington	Widcombe-in-the-Moor	Buckfastleigh
Holne	Horrabridge	

- A copy of these Byelaws and a plan showing the Danger Area may also be inspected at the Office of the War Department Land Agent, Higher Barracks, Exeter, Devon, where copies of the Byelaws may be obtained at the price of one shilling for each copy.

ADDITIONAL PRECAUTIONS AND WARNINGS

3. (1) Notice Boards with a suitable warning are placed on the approaches of all recognised roads and pathways to the Range.
- (2) The public are warned not to touch any object on the Range. It may be dangerous.
- (3) The public are warned to be especially careful during conditions of low visibility as firing may take place at any of the times specified in the Firing Notice regardless of weather conditions.

RECOVERY OF PROJECTILES

4. Any person who finds a projectile within the Danger Area must not disturb it but should report the finding of it to the Camp Commandant, Southern Command Battle Camp, Okehampton, Devon, or to the police at the first opportunity.

PUBLIC NOTIFICATION OF FIRING

- 5. Public Notification that firing will take place will be given by the publication of a notice each Friday in the "Western Morning News", the "Western Times and Gazette" and "Express and Echo" which will give particulars of the intended date, time and duration of the firing to be practised on the Range during the following week. Copies of this notice are also sent to the Post Offices, Police Stations and most Hotels in the vicinity of Dartmoor.

COMMONERS

6. Agreements have been made with certain commoners under which they have undertaken on agreed terms not to use the Danger Area while artillery or other practice is being carried out.

