
LAND RANGES SAFETY SUB COMMITTEE

RANGE SAFETY NOTICE 7/12

For issue by Defence Munitions Bicester to all those on the current distribution list for Volume 2 of JSP 403. This Range Safety Notice is also available for viewing in the Joint Service Publications area of the Defence Intranet website alongside JSP 403, and available on the internet on the following website:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/jsp-403-volume-2>

The revised detail will be incorporated in JSP 403 Volume 2 Change 6 Amendment 1

RANGE SAFETY NOTICE 7/12

BLINDS ON GRENADE RANGES

Reference:

- A. JSP 403 Vol.2
- B. PAM 21

SAFETY ISSUE WITH BLIND CLEARANCE

1. Several blind L109 grenades have been located by EOC to one side of the grenade range at Barry Buddon between 40 and 100 m from the impact area. The HE grenades had not detonated but did show sign of damage it is presumed from the blind clearance charge. This is not the first incident of this type. Blind grenades have been found on at least two other DTE grenade ranges outside of the fenced impact area. This problem could of course occur on tactical grenade ranges where the blind clearance charge throws rather than destroys the grenade.

2. Reference A already addresses the potential for grenades to be thrown clear of the impact area by the blind clearance charge by calling for a 20 m clear zone around the fenced impact area. Reference B sets out the procedure for blind clearance and includes the following advice - *If a filled sandbag is placed to the side of the blind opposite the disposal charge, it may prevent the blind being thrown any great distance by the blast from the explosive.*

CONTROL MEASURES TO BE IMPLEMENTED

3. With immediate effect all access into the area between the cleared area and perimeter fence or to a point 150 m from the impact area is to be prohibited. Many ranges already have prohibition and UXO warning signs around the area. On those ranges that do not have such controls already in place a demarcation fence and warning signs will be required. As stated in Reference A, the 20 m clear zone is to be maintained around the grenade range impact area.

EFFECTIVE DATE

4. The required action is to be taken immediately on receipt of this notice.

Date of Issue: 17 Dec 12, Chairman Land Ranges Safety Sub Committee.