



# LANGPORT 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.*

# STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

1959 No. 1568

## MILITARY LANDS

*The Langport Range Byelaws, 1959*

Made - - - - - 20th August, 1959

Coming into operation - - - 19th October, 1959

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

### APPLICATION OF BYELAWS

1. The lands to which these Byelaws apply (hereinafter referred to as the "Danger Area") consist of the lands (together with all highways and footpaths thereon) known as Langport Range in the County of Somerset, the limits of which said lands are set out in the Schedule hereto.

### USE OF THE DANGER AREA

2. The Danger Area may be used for the firing of machine guns, light machine guns, rifles and revolvers and for all activities ancillary to such firing.

### PROHIBITION OF ACCESS

3.—(1) During such times as notice of firing is given by the display, on the day of firing, of the appropriate signals described by Byelaw No. 5, the Danger Area shall be entirely closed to the public.

(2) Whenever and to the extent that the Danger Area is closed to the public, under the foregoing provisions of this Byelaw, no person shall—

- (a) enter into or upon or pass over or through the Danger Area, or
- (b) be or remain in or upon or over the Danger Area, or
- (c) cause or permit or suffer any animal, vehicle, aircraft or other thing whatsoever to enter into or upon or to pass over or through or to be or remain in or upon or over the Danger Area.

### PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES

4. No person shall interfere with or remove from the Danger Area any stores or articles belonging to the War Department or otherwise the property of the Crown.

## SIGNALS

5.—(1) Notice of firing shall be given as follows:—

By the display on the day of firing, of a red flag hoisted

- (i) at the Range entrance from Wearne-High Ham Road;
- (ii) 230 yards south-west of the stop butts;
- (iii) 200 yards east of the stop butts;
- (iv) 33 yards north-east of the cottage at Bowdens, east of Old Quarry Road;
- (v) on the west side of the track which runs north to south 580 yards south-east of Nettlebed Cottage, Beer;
- (vi) in Mildmays Road, 400 yards west of the junction with Rushley Road;
- (vii) at Sam's Cross; and
- (viii) 300 yards west of Dunch Hill Cottage.

(2) The signals to be displayed on the day of firing shall be hoisted not less than one hour before firing commences and shall remain hoisted until firing has ceased.

## RECOVERY OF PROJECTILES

6.—(1) No person shall dig or search for any projectiles on the Danger Area, or interfere with or take or retain or be in possession of any projectile found within the Danger Area, or remove any projectile from the Danger Area.

(2) Any person who finds a projectile within the Danger Area shall not disturb it but shall report the finding of it to the Officer in Charge of the Range or to the police at the first opportunity.

## OFFENCES

7.—(1) Any person doing anything prohibited by or otherwise contravening any provision of any of the preceding Byelaws Nos. 3, 4 and 6 thereby commits an offence against the Byelaw so contravened.

(2) The persons hereby authorised to remove from the Danger Area and to take into custody without warrant any person committing an offence against any of the said Byelaws Nos. 3, 4 and 6, and to remove from the Danger Area any vehicle, animal, vessel, aircraft or other thing found in the Danger Area in contravention of any of the said Byelaws are:—

- (a) the General Officer Commanding in Chief, Southern Command;
- (b) the Officer in charge of the Range;
- (c) any officer, warrant officer, non-commissioned officer, or any military policeman, for the time being under the command of the above-mentioned Officers;
- (d) any person authorised in writing by and on behalf of either of the officers mentioned at (a) and (b) above; and
- (e) any police constable.

## EXEMPTIONS

## 8. Nothing done by

- (1) The owner or occupier of any land forming part of the Danger Area in regard to the grazing of animals on the said land, or
- (2) Any person using the Danger Area in pursuance of Byelaw No. 2, or
- (3) A person acting under and in accordance with any authority given by or on behalf of the General Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Southern Command or the Officer in charge of the Range

shall be deemed to constitute an offence against any of the Byelaws.

## INTERPRETATION

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

(2) In these Byelaws the expression—

- (a) “projectile” includes any shot or shell or other missile and any portion thereof;
- (b) “aircraft” includes any craft or contrivance which though not an aircraft is for the time being airborne.

## DATE OF OPERATION OF BYELAWS

10. These Byelaws shall come into operation on the 19th day of October 1959 and may be cited as the Langport Range Byelaws, 1959.

## THE SCHEDULE

The Danger Area is bounded as follows:—

*On the South-West*

By a line commencing at the Mill Brook 230 yards upstream from Paradise Mill on the Wearne-High Ham Road and running in a west-north-westerly direction for 620 yards to a point 670 yards south-south-west of Sam's Cross; thence turning north-west by a line for another 1022 yards, twice crossing Mill Brook to a point 1030 yards due west of Sam's Cross; thence turning north-north-west again by a line for another 1000 yards to a point 1420 yards west-south-west of the crossroads at Rushley; thence

*On the North-West*

By a line from the last named point and running in a north-easterly direction for 808 yards to a point 720 yards west by north of Rushley crossroads; thence

*On the North-East*

By a line from the last named point and running in a south-easterly direction for 1000 yards to West Field at a point 470 yards west by south of Dunch Hill Cottage, thence turning south for another 1022 yards crossing Wood Road to a point 400 yards south by east of Sam's Cross, thence turning southwards by a line for 620 yards to meet the Mill Brook opposite the starting point on the south-west boundary.

The foregoing boundaries are marked out by boundary stones.

Dated this Twentieth day of August One thousand nine hundred and fifty-nine.

J. R. MCGREGOR,

*Assistant Under-Secretary of State.*

*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.

## TIMES OF FIRING

2. Firing may take place on the Range on any day between the hours of sunrise and sunset.

WERE BYELAWS CAN BE OBTAINED AND A  
PLAN OF THE RANGE INSPECTED

3. A copy of these Byelaws, and a plan of the Range may be inspected at the Police Station, LANGPORT or at the Office of Deputy Commander Royal Engineers, Somerset and Gloucester, Norton Manor Camp, TAUNTON, where copies of the Byelaws may also be obtained at the price of one shilling for each copy.

## PUBLIC NOTIFICATION OF FIRING

4. A notice giving particulars of the intended time and duration of the firing will be sent to the persons listed in the Appendix hereto.

### APPENDIX

The Occupier	...	...	...	Bowdens Farm.
The Occupier	...	...	...	Forest Lodge, Staple Fitzpaine, TAUNTON.
Messrs. Cook Bros.	...	...	...	Low Ham.
District Officer, Forestry Commission	...	...	...	5, Hammet Street, TAUNTON.

*Notwithstanding any fine limit mentioned in the above byelaws the current maximum fine as at 01/09/2008 is the sum of £500 being the maximum on level 2 of the standard scale.*