



ABERDEEN

BLACKDOG LINKS RANGES

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 Ranges.

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1940

BYE-LAWS

BLACKDOG LINKS RANGES—ABERDEEN

1. These Ranges may be used for Anti-Aircraft Small Arms, Anti-Tank Guns, Anti-Tank Rifles, Machine Guns, Mortars, Grenades, Revolvers and Rifles.

The Ranges comprise the Classification Range and the Combined Range, which latter is used for Field Firing and other practices carried out on various ranges included in the expression "the Combined Range."

GENERAL PROHIBITION.

2. During such time as notice is given by the hoisting or 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, Mortar, Anti-Tank, Anti-Aircraft and Machine Gun Firing are being carried out on the ranges constituting and hereinafter called the Combined Range all intrusion on the land or any part thereof affected by the said notice (hereinafter called "the land area") and the foreshore and sea abutting thereon (hereinafter called "the sea area"), within the limits set out in the Schedule hereto, of the range, on which firing is taking place and all obstruction of the use thereof is prohibited.

OFFENCES DURING FIRING.

3. While notice that firing is taking place on the Blackdog Links Ranges over the areas mentioned in Bye-law No. 2 is given by the hoisting and display of signals as provided in Bye-law No. 4 then in respect of the Range affected :—

- (i) All roads and footpaths within the land area will be closed, and no person shall enter or remain within the land area, or the sea area ; nor bring, take, nor suffer to remain therein, any vehicle, animal, vessel, aircraft or thing, except as provided in Bye-law No. 8.
- (ii) No vessel shall be employed in fishing in the sea area.
- (iii) No pleasure boat shall cruise in the sea area.
- (iv) No vessel shall anchor or remain anchored in, or ground on the sea area.
- (v) No aircraft shall alight on, or 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 endeavours to pass out of the sea area without loss of time.

SIGNALS.

4.—(1) Notice that Anti-Tank, Field, Mortar, Anti-Aircraft firing, and Grenade practice is taking place on the combined Range will be given by the hoisting and display of the following signals :—

- (a) BY DAY.—A RED FLAG at each of the following places :—
- (i) On No. 1 Flagstaff situated on the high ground near the entrance to the War Department land.
 - (ii) On No. 4 Flagstaff situated 460 yards South of the butts of " B " Range.
 - (iii) On No. 3 Flagstaff situated 1,050 yards North of the butts of " A " Range.

(b) Notice to Aircraft that firing is taking place on the Mortar Range will be given by exposing a suitably sited letter "F" (8 feet by 6½ feet) in BLACK on a WHITE background which has a RED border.

(c) Notice to Aircraft that firing is taking place on the Anti-Aircraft Small Arms Range will be given by exposing a suitably sited letter "A" (8 feet by 8 feet 2½ inches) in Black on a White background which has a Red border.

(d) BY NIGHT.—A RED LAMP at each of the places mentioned in (i) to (iii) of 4 (1) (a) above.

(2) Notice that classification firing is taking place on the Classification Range will be given by the hoisting and display of the following signals:—

(a) BY DAY.—A RED FLAG at each of the following places:—

(i) On No. 1 Flagstaff situated on the High Ground near the entrance to the War Department land.

(ii) On No. 2 Flagstaff, situated 340 yards North of the butts of "A" Range.

(iii) On No. 4 Flagstaff situated 560 yards South of the butts of "B" Range.

(b) BY NIGHT.—A RED LAMP at each of the places mentioned in (i) (ii) and (iii) of 4 (2) (a) above.

DURATION OF SIGNALS.

The Signals referred to in 4 (1) (a), (b) and (c) and 4 (2) (a) in this Bye-law will be hoisted or exposed, a half of an hour before firing is due to begin, and will remain hoisted or exposed until firing has ceased, when they will be hauled down and the letters "F" and "A" covered up.

The "Night" signals referred to in 4 (1) (d) and 4 (2) (b) of this Bye-law will be displayed together with a second RED lamp, 8 feet below, half an hour before firing is due to begin. The second red lamp will be removed when firing begins and subject to the provisions of Bye-law No. 7 the single red lamps will remain so displayed until firing has ceased, when they will be extinguished.

RECOVERY OF SHELLS, ETC.

5. No person shall trawl, dredge or search for or otherwise interfere with any shot, shell or other projectile or portions thereof within either of the sea areas, or take or retain, or be in possession of, any such shot, shell or other projectile, or portions thereof, found within either of 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 any portion thereof, within either of the sea areas, shall not retain it, but shall immediately return it in its then condition, and without tampering with it, into the water.

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 Naval, 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-law so contravened.

The persons hereby authorised to remove or to take into custody, without warrant, any person contravening Bye-laws Nos. 2, 3 or 5 or to remove any vehicle, animal, vessel, aircraft or thing found on the land area or the sea area in contravention of Bye-law No. 3 are :—

- (1) The General Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Scottish Command.
- (2) The Officer in Charge of the Range.
- (3) Any Officer, Warrant Officer, Non-Commissioned Officer or any Military Policeman for the time being under the Command of the said General Officer Commanding or of the said Officer in Charge.
- (4) Any person authorised in writing under the hand of the said Officer in Charge.
- (5) Any Constable.

WHEN VESSEL OR AIRCRAFT IS IN DANGER.

7.—(1) While any vessel or aircraft is observed within the sea area for the time being closed as provided for in Bye-law No. 4 all firing will cease, and the following signals will be made to notify the Master or Pilot or other person in charge of the vessel or aircraft that he is within the sea area affected.

- (a) In respect of the areas mentioned in Bye-law No. 4 (1) by day a second red flag will be hoisted 8 feet below each of the red flags referred to in (i) and (iii) of Bye-law No. 4 (1) (a).

By NIGHT.—A second RED LAMP will be displayed 8 feet below the first RED LAMP displayed on the Flagstaffs referred to in (i) to (iii) of Bye-law No. 4 (1) (a).

- (b) In respect of the area mentioned in Bye-law No. 4 (2).

By DAY.—A second red flag will be hoisted 8 feet below each of the red flags referred to in (i) and (ii) and (iii) of Bye-law No. 4 (2) (a).

By NIGHT.—A second RED LAMP will be displayed 8 feet below each of the first RED LAMPS referred to in Bye-law 4 (2) (b).

(2) When any aircraft is observed on a course likely to bring it flying over the danger area of the Mortar Range, at a height estimated to be less than 3,000 feet, when firing is in progress, firing will immediately cease and will not be resumed until the aircraft is out of danger.

(3) When any aircraft is observed on a course likely to bring it flying over the danger area of the anti-aircraft Small Arms Range at a height estimated to be less than 10,000 feet, when firing on the Range 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 :—

- (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 aids to navigation within the sea area.

- (d) H.M. Ships of War, H.M. Aircraft or any vessel or aircraft employed under Admiralty or Air Council Authority.
- (e) Any aircraft compelled to alight on or unable to quit the sea area.

INTERPRETATION.

9.—(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, gliders and other flying machines.

DATE OF OPERATION OF BYE-LAWS.

10. These Bye-laws shall come into force at the date hereof on and after which date the Bye-laws in respect of Blackdog Links Rifle Range dated Seventh June One thousand nine hundred and thirty-four shall be revoked.

SCHEDULE.

DESCRIPTION OF LAND AND SEA AREA.

COMBINED RANGE.

1. The land and sea areas of the "Combined Range" including Field Firing, Mortar, Anti-Tank, Anti-Aircraft and Machine Gun Ranges are as follows:—

(a) LAND AREA.

By a line starting at the entrance gate to the War Department land and drawn on a North-North-Easterly direction for about 300 yards to a point about 470 yards due East of Wester Hatton Farm Steading, thence—

By a line drawn in an East-South-Easterly direction for about 220 yards, thence—

By a line drawn in an East-North-Easterly direction for about 800 yards, to a point on High Water Mark, thence—

By a line of High Water in a Southerly direction for about 1,780 yards to a point on High Water Mark about 670 yards East-North-East of Blackdog Farm Steading, thence—

By a line drawn in a West-North-Westerly direction for about 910 yards to a point about 810 yards North of Strabathic Works, thence—

By a line drawn in a North-North-Easterly direction for about 580 yards to a point about 410 yards South-South-East of Wester Hatton Farm Steading, thence—

By a line drawn in an East-North-Easterly direction for about 200 yards to the starting point.

(b) SEA AREA.

The Sea Area is bounded as follows:—

On the North.—By a line starting at a point on High Water Mark in Latitude $57^{\circ} 14' 00''$ N. Longitude $2^{\circ} 02' 50''$ W. and drawn in a direction 60° to a point in Latitude $57^{\circ} 14' 46''$ N. Longitude $2^{\circ} 06' 28''$ W., thence—

On the East.—By a line drawn in a direction 180° to a point in Latitude $57^{\circ} 12' 18''$ N. Longitude $2^{\circ} 00' 28''$ W., thence—

On the South.—By a line drawn in a direction 270° to a point in Latitude $57^{\circ} 12' 18''$ N. Longitude $2^{\circ} 02' 05''$ W., thence—

By a line drawn in a direction 325° to a point on High Water Mark in Latitude $57^{\circ} 13' 10''$ N., Longitude $2^{\circ} 03' 20''$ W., thence—

On the West.—By the line of High Water to the starting point in Latitude $57^{\circ} 14' 00''$ N. Longitude $2^{\circ} 02' 50''$ W.

CLASSIFICATION RANGE.

2. The land and sea area of the Classification Range are as follows :—

(a) LAND AREA.

By a line starting at the entrance gate to the War Department land and drawn in a North-North-Easterly direction for about 300 yards to a point about 470 yards due East of Wester Hatton Farm Steading, thence—

By a line drawn in an East-South-Easterly direction for about 760 yards, thence—

By the line of High Water in a Southerly direction for about 1,100 yards to a point about 670 yards East-North-East of Blackdog Farm Steading, thence—

By a line drawn in a North-Easterly direction for about 1,230 yards to the starting point.

(b) SEA AREA.

The sea area is bounded as follows :—

On the North.—By a line starting at a point on High Water Mark in Latitude $57^{\circ} 13' 40''$ N., Longitude $2^{\circ} 03' 00''$ W., and drawn in a direction 108° to a point in Latitude $57^{\circ} 13' 20''$ N., Longitude $2^{\circ} 01' 00''$ W., thence—

On the ~~West~~^{EAST}.—By a line drawn in a direction 191° to a point in Latitude $57^{\circ} 12' 18''$ N., Longitude $2^{\circ} 01' 20''$ W., thence—

On the South.—By a line drawn in a direction 312° to a point on High Water Mark in Latitude $57^{\circ} 13' 10''$ N., Longitude $2^{\circ} 03' 20''$ W., thence—

On the West.—By the line of High Water to the starting point in Latitude $57^{\circ} 13' 40''$ N., Longitude $2^{\circ} 03' 00''$ W.

Dated this twentieth day of August One thousand nine hundred and forty.

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 that :—

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.

TIME OF FIRING.

3. Firing on the Ranges may be carried out throughout the year from sunrise until sunset but firing may occasionally take place during the night ; normally night firing will cease at midnight.

PUBLIC NOTIFICATION OF FIRING.

4. Notice that firing will take place will be given not less than 24 hours previously to :—

The Harbour Engineer, Aberdeen.
 The Harbour Master, Aberdeen.
 The Town Clerk, Town Hall, Aberdeen.
 Aberdeen Town and County Police.
 H.M. Coastguards, Bridge of Don.
 The Officer Commanding R.A.F., Montrose.
 The Officer Commanding R.A.F., Dyce.
 The Officer Commanding R.A.F., Kinloss.
 The Officer Commanding R.A.F., Lossiemouth.
 The Officer Commanding R.A.F., Leuchars.
 Allied Airways, Gandar Dower, Civil Airport, Dyce.
 The Air Ministry.
 The District Fishery Board Inspector, Bridge of Don.
 The Fisheries Division, Scottish Home Dept.
 The Editors of Local Newspapers.
 Messrs. John Hector and Son, 239, Market Street, Aberdeen.
 Air Traffic Control Officer-in-Charge, Aberdeen, Dyce Airport.

ADDITIONAL PRECAUTIONS DURING FIRING.

5.—(a) In addition to the Signals referred to in Bye-law No. 4 sentries will be posted to warn persons approaching the Danger Area and to keep a look-out for vessels or aircraft entering the Sea Area as follows :—

(i) Anti-Tank Weapon Small Arms Field Firing, Mortar, or Anti-Aircraft Range Area :—

- (1) Flagstaff No. 1.
- (2) Flagstaff No. 3.
- (3) Flagstaff No. 4.

(ii) Small Arms Classification Range Area :—

- (1) Flagstaff No. 1.
- (2) Flagstaff No. 2.
- (3) Flagstaff No. 4.

(b) Marking of the Danger Area of Anti-Tank Weapon, Small Arms Field Firing, Anti-Aircraft and Mortar Ranges, will be done as under :—

Notice Boards will be erected at intervals on the Danger Area, described in Paragraph 1 (a) of Schedule ; the lower edge of which must not be less than 6 feet above ground level and painted as under :—

WARNING—DANGER.

SHELLS and BULLETS may fall within the area defined by the lines of RED and WHITE Poles.

The Signal for Firing commencing is the hoisting of the RED FLAG half an hour before firing commences.

In accordance with Bye-laws by the Secretary of State no one is permitted on the foreshore after the RED FLAG is raised.

The WAR DEPARTMENT LAND is NOT open to the Public at any time.

PROCEDURE FOR CLEARING SEA AREAS.

6.—(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 in the ordinary course of navigation or by reason of the exigencies of navigation and exempt from the operation of the Bye-laws under Bye-law No. 8 (a) and (b) are requested to assist the carrying out of firing practice by hastening through the area or by consenting to be towed out of the area, if necessary, by any vessel acting under the orders of the local Naval, Military or Royal Air Force Authorities.

WHERE BYE-LAWS CAN BE OBTAINED.

7. Copies of these Bye-laws can be obtained at the Office of the D.C.R.E., Royal Engineers Office, Gordon Barracks, Bridge of Don, Aberdeen.

WHERE PLAN OF RANGES CAN BE INSPECTED.

8. A plan and chart showing the land and sea areas of the Ranges and the positions of the Flagstaffs referred to in Bye-law No. 4 can be inspected at the above office and at the Fishery Office, Aberdeen.

AIRCRAFT WARNING.

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

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.