



**LOWER HALSTOW
CLASSIFICATION 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-mentioned Range.

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This Range may be used for Rifles, Machine Guns, Light Machine Guns and Revolvers.

1. The land and sea areas affected by these Bye-laws lie between Halstow Creek and Funton Creek in the parish of Lower Halstow, Kent, and are described in the Schedule hereto.

GENERAL PROHIBITION.

2. During such time as notice is given by the hoisting and display of signals in manner hereinafter provided in Bye-Law No. 4 that firing is taking place on the range, all intrusion on the land area, and the foreshore and tidal waters abutting thereon, hereinafter called the tidal waters area, within the limits set out in the Schedule hereto and all obstruction in the use thereof are prohibited.

OFFENCES DURING FIRING.

3. While notice that firing is taking place on the range is given by the hoisting and display of signals as provided in Bye-Law No. 4, then in respect of the land and tidal waters area affected :—

- (i) No person shall enter or remain within the land and tidal waters 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 or in dredging for oysters or shell fish in the tidal waters ;
- (iii) No pleasure boat shall cruise in the tidal waters ;
- (iv) No vessel shall anchor or remain anchored or ground in the tidal waters ;
- (v) No aircraft shall alight on, remain in, or travel upon the tidal waters ;
- (vi) In the event of any vessel or aircraft being from any cause within the tidal waters area, the Master or Pilot or other person in charge thereof shall use his utmost endeavours to pass out of the tidal waters without loss of time.

SIGNALS.

4. Notice that firing is taking place on the range is given by the hoisting and display of red flags by day and red lights by night at the following places :—

- (a) On a flagstaff (No. 1) situate on the eastern side of the range West of Funton Creek and about 550 yards North-east of the flagstaff at the Butts (No. 5) ;

- (b) On a flagstaff (No. 2) situate on the northern side of the range on the saltings south of Stangate Creek and about 600 yards south-south-west of Slaughterhouse Point ;
- (c) On a flagstaff (No. 3) situate on the western side of the range at the northern extremity about 800 yards south-west of Slaughterhouse Point and 300 yards west of flagstaff No. 2 ;
- (d) On a flagstaff (No. 4) situate on the western side of the range about 650 yards north-north-east of the flagstaff at the Butts ;
- (e) On a flagstaff at the Butts (No. 5).

Notice to aircraft that firing is taking place will be given by exposing a suitably sited letter " F " (8 feet by 5 feet) in black on a white background.

DURATION OF SIGNALS.

The Day Signals referred to will, subject to the provisions of Bye-Law No. 7, be hoisted or exposed one hour before firing commences and will remain so hoisted or exposed until firing has ceased, when the flags will be lowered and the letter " F " covered up. The Red Lights will be displayed one hour before firing begins and will be hauled down and extinguished when firing has ceased.

RECOVERY OF SHELL, ETC.

5. No person shall trawl, dredge, or search for or otherwise interfere with any shot, shell, bomb, bullet or other projectile or any portion thereof found within the land and tidal waters area, or take or retain, or be in possession of any such shot, shell, bomb, bullet or other projectile, or any portion thereof found within the land and tidal waters area.

Any person who when trawling, dredging, or in any manner whatsoever, shall come into possession of any such shot, shell, bomb, bullet, or other projectile, or any portion thereof, within the tidal waters area, 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-laws 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 and tidal waters area in contravention of any of the said Bye-laws are :—

- (1) The General Officer Commanding-in-Chief, South-Eastern Command.
- (2) The Officer in Charge of the Ranges.
- (3) Any Officer, Warrant Officer, Non-Commissioned Officer, or 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 said Officer in Charge ; or
- (5) Any Constable.

WHEN VESSEL OR AIRCRAFT IN DANGER.

7. While any vessel or aircraft is within the danger area described in the Schedule hereto a second red flag by day or red lamp by night will be hoisted six feet below the first red flag by day or first red lamp by night on the flagstaff at the Butts (No. 5) referred to in Bye-Law No. 4 to notify the Pilot or other person in charge of the vessel or aircraft that he is within the danger areas.

EXEMPTIONS.

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

- (a) Any vessel entering or passing through the tidal waters area in the ordinary course of navigation.
- (b) Any vessel compelled to enter or unable to quit the tidal waters area by reason of the exigencies of navigation.
- (c) H.M. and Allies Ships of War, H.M. and Allies Aircraft, or any vessel or aircraft employed under Admiralty, Army Council, Air Council or Allied Governments authority.
- (d) Any aircraft compelled to alight on or unable to quit the tidal waters 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 or other flying machines.

DATE OF OPERATION OF BYE-LAWS.

10. These Bye-laws shall come into force at the date hereof.

SCHEDULE.

DESCRIPTION OF LAND AND TIDAL WATERS AREA.

POINT OF ORIGIN.—Latitude $51^{\circ}22'24''$ N. Longitude $0^{\circ}40'40''$ E. (about 300 yards S.W. of GREAT BARKSORE).

On the WEST.—From a point 420 yards bearing $019\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ true from the point of origin in a direction of $019\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ true to a point 2,400 yards from the point of origin.

On the EAST.—From a point 420 yards bearing $033\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ true from the point of origin in a direction of $033\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ true to a point 2,400 yards from the point of origin.

On the NORTH.—By an Arc of a circle 616 yards in length between the east and west boundaries at a radius of 2,400 yards from the point of origin.

On the SOUTH.—By an Arc of a circle 100 yards in length between the east and west boundaries, at a radius of 420 yards from the point of origin.

Dated this eighth day of December, One thousand nine hundred and forty-two.

*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 TIDAL WATERS 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 TIDAL WATERS AREAS.

3.—(a) Vessels entering or remaining within the tidal waters 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 case 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 tidal waters 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 8 are requested to assist the carrying out of the 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.

TIMES OF FIRING.

4. Firing may take place on this range at any time of the day or night throughout the year.

WHERE BYE-LAWS CAN BE OBTAINED.

5. Copies of these Bye-laws can be obtained at the office of the Headquarters, Kent Area, Sevenoaks.

WHERE PLAN OF RANGE CAN BE INSPECTED.

6. A plan and chart showing the land and tidal waters area of the range and the position of flagstaff signals can be inspected at the office of the Headquarters, Kent Area, Sevenoaks.

AIRCRAFT WARNING.

7. " Aircraft are warned not to fly at low altitudes in the vicinity of these ranges while firing is in progress and not below 3,000 feet when the letter ' F ' is exhibited, and no liability for accidents to aircraft flying over the ranges contrary to this notice and which arise from the use of the ranges, can be admitted."