

Island of  Guernsey

Ordinance of the States. **XVIII**

1955

Made 12th September, 1955.

Coming into Operation . . 12th September, 1955.

Laid before the States . . 12th October, 1955.

**The Fort Le Marchant Rifle Range
(Safety and Control) Ordinance, 1955.**

THE STATES LEGISLATION COMMITTEE, under and by virtue of the powers conferred upon them by paragraph three of Article sixty-six of the Reform (Guernsey) Law, 1948, and on the representations of the States Military Service Committee, hereby order:—

1. A person shall not fire or attempt to fire any weapon, other than a weapon to which this Ordinance applies, on or from the Range.

2. (1) Weapons to which this Ordinance applies may be fired, subject to the succeeding provisions of this Ordinance, on the Range on any weekday only between the hours of sunrise and sunset.

(2) Weapons may not be fired at any time on the Range without the permission, in that behalf, of the Committee having been previously obtained.

3. (1) At least thirty minutes prior to the time when any firing is about to take place on the Range there shall be displayed at the places mentioned in the next succeeding subsection, signals of the type and in the manner specified in that subsection, which signals shall remain so displayed until at least five minutes after that firing has ceased.

(2) The signals required to be displayed under the provisions of the last preceding subsection shall be in the form and shall be displayed, as follows—

- (a) a flag at least six feet square, red in colour, on a flagstaff at a height not less than thirty feet from the ground at the south-east corner of Fort Le Marchant;
- (b) a flag at least six feet square, red in colour, on a flagstaff at a height of not less than fifteen feet above the top of No. 4 Martello Tower;
- (c) a flag at least six feet square, red in colour, on a flagstaff at a height of not less than thirty feet from the ground, at the top of La Grande Hougue.

4. When the signals as specified in the last preceding section are displayed as specified therein—

- (a) a person shall not enter or remain in the Danger Area;
- (b) a person, being in charge of an animal or vehicle, shall not cause or permit that animal or vehicle to enter or remain in the Danger Area;
- (c) a person, being in charge of a vessel, shall not cause or permit that vessel to enter or remain in the Danger Area;

(d) a person, being in charge of an aircraft, shall not cause that aircraft to land on the surface of the water in the Danger Area or permit that aircraft to remain on the surface of the said water.

5. (1) A person, being in charge of an aircraft, shall not, on any day between the hours of sunrise and sunset, cause that aircraft to fly over the Danger Area at a height of less than five hundred feet from ground level.

(2) At least forty-eight hours prior to the firing of mortars taking place on the Range the Committee shall inform the Airport Commandant of the date on which and the period during which such firing is going to take place.

6. Nothing in the last two preceding sections shall be taken to apply to—

- (a) a person, being in charge of a vessel, who is compelled to cause or permit that vessel to enter or remain in the Danger Area by reason of factors beyond his control;
- (b) a person, being in charge of a vessel, employed in tending, placing or replacing buoys or other navigational aids within the Danger Area;
- (c) a person, being in charge of an aircraft, compelled to alight on or unable to leave the surface of the water in the Danger Area, or compelled to fly over the Danger Area at a height of less than five hundred feet from ground level by reason of factors beyond his control;
- (d) a person, being in charge of a vessel belonging to the Corporation of the Elder

Brethren of Trinity House, whilst employed on any duty or service on behalf of that Corporation;

- (e) a person, being in charge of a vessel in which a person is undergoing an examination for a Pilot's Licence under and by virtue of the provisions of the Pilotage Ordinances, 1946 to 1952.

7. At all times when firing is taking place on the Range there shall be a person in charge of the Range (hereinafter referred to as the "Range Officer"), who shall be approved for that purpose by the Committee and who shall be responsible for discharging such duties during firing on the Range as are assigned to him by this Ordinance and for ensuring that the provisions of this Ordinance are enforced.

8. The weapons to which this Ordinance relates are those specified in the left-hand column of the First Schedule to this Ordinance and the types of ammunition which may be discharged from those weapons respectively are those specified in the right-hand column of that Schedule.

9. Targets shall be erected only at the butts and must be removed after firing has ceased.

10. Firing must only take place from one of the firing points on the Range and weapons shall be fired only towards the targets.

11. Firing on any occasion shall not commence until a look-out man has been posted at the flagstaff on the top of La Grande Hougue and he shall, before being so posted, be supplied with a copy of the Orders for Look-out Men set out in the Third Schedule to this Ordinance, which Orders shall be

read to him before taking up his post by the Range Officer and shall be complied with by the look-out man.

12. When a red flag is displayed at the butts firing shall not commence, or shall cease, as the case may be.

13. The said red flag shall not be removed until the whole of the butts party is under cover and the Range between the firing point and the butts is clear and shall be removed only on the orders of the Range Officer.

14. A red flag shall, on the orders of the Range Officer, be displayed at the firing point when firing is not taking place and shall always be displayed when a red flag is flying at the butts.

15. A person shall not leave the butts until the cessation of fire has been notified from the firing point by or on the orders of the Range Officer and the red flags at the firing point and at the butts have been displayed.

16. The order for fire to cease shall be given by the Range Officer and the red flag at the butts or at the firing point shall not be displayed, except in the case of an emergency, without the permission of the Range Officer.

17. Firing shall immediately cease when the flags at the butts or firing point are displayed, when the look-out man blows his whistle or raises his hand flag or in the event of an accident.

18. On the cessation of fire the Range Officer will ensure that—

- (a) all weapons are unloaded, inspected and all live ammunition is collected;
- (b) the targets are removed and the telephone disconnected;
- (c) the Range is clean and tidy.

19. (1) At all times when firing is taking place the Range Officer shall be at the firing point.

(2) Firing shall not take place at any time unless the Range Officer is in communication by telephone or radio with the butts.

20. (1) Weapons or ammunition shall not be stored on the Range.

(2) No person may remove or attempt to remove any ammunition whether live, spent or blank or any projectile or any part thereof from the Range without the permission in that behalf of the Committee.

21. Anti-aircraft firing shall not be practised on the Range.

22. Any person who fails to comply with, or contravenes, any of the provisions of this Ordinance shall be guilty of an offence and liable, on conviction, to a fine not exceeding one hundred pounds or to a term of imprisonment not exceeding six months or both such fine and such imprisonment.

23. In this Ordinance, unless the context otherwise requires, the following expressions have the meaning hereby respectively assigned to them—

“ aircraft ” includes balloons whether fixed or free, kites, airships, aeroplanes, sea planes, flying boats, gliders or any other flying machine;

“ Committee ” means the States Military Service Committee;

“Danger Area” means the area defined in the Second Schedule to this Ordinance;

“the Range” means the Fort Le Marchant Rifle Range;

“vehicle” includes a wagon, cart, lorry, tractor or carriage, the motive power of which is animal, steam, oil, electricity or other mechanical force and includes a bicycle, autocytle, motor bicycle or tricycle;

“vessel” means anything made for the conveyance by water of human beings or property.

FIRST SCHEDULE

<i>Weapon</i>	<i>Ammunition</i>
Rifle	.303 marks IV and V
Light Machine Gun	.303 Bren
Sten Machine Gun	9 millimetres
Pistol	.38 pistol
2" Mortar	Smoke, green and red flares or illuminating stars.

SECOND SCHEDULE

Danger Area

The Area enclosed by lines joining the following map reference points on the Ordnance Survey Map of Guernsey (scale three inches to one statute mile) printed at the Ordnance Survey Office, Southampton, 1934.

E 150 N 137
 E 150 N 127
 E 145 N 111
 E 140 N 127
 E 140 N 137

THIRD SCHEDULE

FORT LE MARCHANT RIFLE RANGE

Orders for Look-out Man

1. You will read these Orders and retain them until you are relieved, when you will hand them to your relief, who must also read them, before you leave your post. If you are the last look-out man on duty for the day, you will return the Orders to the Range Officer.
2. You will blow your whistle and raise the hand flag in the event of an emergency and continue to do so until you have attracted the attention of the Range Officer.
3. In the event of any person or domestic animal about to enter the Danger Area in front of the firing point actually in use, or any vessel or aircraft about to enter the Danger Area you will blow your whistle and raise your hand flag so as to draw the attention of the Range Officer to the presence of such person, animal, vessel or aircraft.
4. You will ensure that a red flag is always flying at the top of the flagpole at your post when you are on duty.
5. Remain alert at all times: **REMEMBER LIVES MAY DEPEND ON YOU.**

R. A. MALLETT,

Her Majesty's Deputy Greffier.