



**SALISBURY PLAIN TRAINING AREA (SPTA)  
NEWSLETTER – OCTOBER 2010**

**TRAINING ON SPTA**

October will see a significant increase in training across the Plain with the main event being a double TESEX (using the Army Weapons Effect Simulation system), involving 1200 troops from 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion the Royal Regiment of Fusiliers and 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion the Royal Gurkha Rifles. This exercise will run from 9 – 29 October and will include some armoured opposing forces, and increased low level air activity involving both helicopters and fast jets both day and night. Earlier in the month 3 Regt Army Air Corps will conduct pre-deployment training for 12 Apache attack helicopter crews from 3 – 13 October mainly over the Imber Ranges and adjacent areas. Coinciding with this air activity 3 YORKS armoured battle group will be rehearsing for the Land Combat Power Demonstration (LCPD) on 13/14 October in the Battlesbury Bowl/Heytesbury area. This year's event will feature static displays and a mobility demonstration only with no live firing. From 10 – 15 October the Land Warfare Centre armoured troop commanders course will conduct their final exercise SABRES THRUST across all training areas from Warminster to Tidworth using a squadron of Challenger 2 tanks and a company of Warrior armoured infantry vehicles.

**FIRING NOISE**

The 3<sup>rd</sup> (UK) Division artillery concentration, Ex IRON STORM, will take place from 11 – 21 October with 1 RHA converting to AS 90 155mm self propelled guns. This exercise will have a live firing phase from 13 – 19 October during which there may be increased noise levels that will be monitored to ensure they do not exceed the permissible level. Although some may find the noise intrusive, it is well below legal limits. AS90 night firing will take place on Thursday 14 October, Saturday 16 October and Tuesday 19 October.

**Late Firing Days on Larkhill & Westdown Ranges**

5<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> (AS90) 14<sup>th</sup> (AS90), 16<sup>th</sup> (AS90), 19<sup>th</sup> (AS90), 21<sup>st</sup> (AS90), 26<sup>th</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Complaints about Firing Noise should be made to (01980) 620819.**

**MILITARY FLYING**

With the increase in training for operations Helicopters, Hercules (C130) and fast jets may be active at any time. Dropping Zones (DZ) have been booked as follows:

Fox Covert DZ (North of B390 between Chitterne and Shrewton): 1<sup>st</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> October.

Everleigh DZ: 9<sup>th</sup> October.

Fast Jet Activity is possible throughout:

EX Iron Storm	SPTA Centre	11 <sup>th</sup> to 21 <sup>st</sup> October
EX Shark/Wessex Warrior	all SPTA Areas	20 <sup>th</sup> to 28 <sup>th</sup> October
QINETIQ Trial	SPTA Centre	25 <sup>th</sup> to 29 <sup>th</sup> October

**Complaints about low flying should be made to 0207 218 6020 or e-mail [lowflying@mod.uk](mailto:lowflying@mod.uk).**

## ACCESS

This Newsletter is published up to 6 weeks before the event and urgent training bids may come in subsequently. Always comply with local signs and flags.

**Access timings can be found on the SPTA Walks Line: (01980) 67 4763.**

**Bulford Ranges.** The public rights of way (PROW) through Bulford Ranges are closed during firing & red flags are flying. No firing is planned for: **9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> October.**

**Larkhill Ranges.** PROW on Larkhill Ranges are closed when firing is taking place and flags are flying. **No firing is planned for 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> October.**

**Note.** On occasions some range fires may cause some areas to remain closed.

**Imber.** The public are excluded from Imber Ranges at all times, even if flags are not flying. The only exception being when the roads through Imber are opened to allow the public to reduce journey times at Imber Ranges. Provisional dates for opening the roads at Christmas 2010 are:

- From 1800hrs on Friday 17th December to 1800hrs on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2011



These dates will only be changed at short notice due to Operational Training Commitments

**Note.** A combination of difficult terrain and unexploded military debris make it hazardous to leave the marked routes and even when the roads are open the village remains out of bounds to the public.

## PUBLIC USE OF THE MILITARY LANDS

**Offences Causing Most Trouble to Users of SPTA.** Currently the greatest problems are:

- a. Theft of and from vehicles and theft of metal. Secure your possessions!
- b. Criminal damage.
- c. "Off Roding" by 4WD and motor cycles.
- d. Poaching (including hare coursing).
- e. Dog fouling.

**What You Can Do to Reduce Crime.** You can help by reporting suspicious activity to **PLAINWATCH (01980 674700)** (a Ministry of Defence Police intelligence gathering project). The more information given the better e.g. time place, vehicle registration, description of individuals and vehicles. If a crime is taking place call 999 and do not challenge the offenders.

**Dog Walkers.** We have no funds to provide or empty "dog bins" and in large quantities faeces become hazardous waste but in small amounts can be placed in any rubbish bin if "bagged". All we ask is that:

- a. Dog walkers stay away from military training.
- b. Owners pick up faeces, bag them, take them home and put them in their own bin.

*Original Signed*

N D LINGE MBE  
Lt Col (Retd)  
for Commander

17<sup>th</sup> September 2010