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U.S. Army Garrison-West Point DPTMS – Range Operations Policy & Procedures

Standard Operating Procedure Range 2 (Buena Vista) Artillery Firing Point



Department of the Army
U.S. Army Garrison West Point
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West Point. New York 10996-5000

Document History

Document Location

All hard copies will be located at Building 1403 Range Operations Fire Desk. Also, electronic copies may be retrieved via DPTMS website (Training Link), or upon request.

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Approvals

This document requires the following approvals:

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1. General Information

1.1 Purpose

This Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) provides standard instructions and checklists for unit and individuals using Range 2, Indirect Artillery Firing Point. It defines standardized steps and procedures to be followed for its safe and efficient use.

This SOP is directive based and complies with applicable United States Military Academy and Department of the Army Regulations, current doctrine, policy and guidance.

1.2 Applicability

This SOP is designed to provide units with safe range operating procedures and guidelines. It applies to all units of the U.S. Armed Forces, civilian organizations, and individuals who are authorized to use this range or training facility at West Point, and by all applicable users IAW West Point Regulation 350-11 and DA Pam 385-63.

1.3 Responsibility

Use this SOP in conjunction with AR 385-63, DA Pam 385-63 and West Point Reg. 350-11 which provide specific and detailed range firing responsibilities for using units. These directed and required actions are necessary for the safe conduct of all range firing and training. Full compliance IAW the afore-mentioned regulations as well as steps and procedures of this SOP, is the responsibility of the commanders, as well as the personnel of using organizations or units. Personnel of any non-DoD civilian agency or activity, using West Point ranges and training facilities must also comply with the provisions and requirements outlined in West Point Reg. 350-11.

1.4 References

All required and related publications are those covering the training conducted and those listed in the applicable chapters and Appendix A of West Point Reg. 350-11 or other respective regulations, policies and procedures. Additional references are also listed at Appendix A, of AR 385-63, DA Pam 385-63, and TC 3-09.8.

1.5 Suggested Improvements

The proponent of this Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) is the Director of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security, U.S. Army Garrison West Point, ATTN: DPTMS, Building 621 Wilson Road, United States Military Academy, West Point, New York 10996-5000. Users are encouraged to send comments and suggested improvements on DA Form 2028 (Recommended Changes to Publications and Blank Forms).

2. Range Description & Characteristics

2.1 Range Description & Definitions



2.1.1 Range Description

Range 2 is a Field Artillery firing point consisting of 4 (four) gun emplacements. This range is used to train field artillery crews on the skills necessary to apply fire mission data to engage and hit stationary targets in a tactical array in a designated common impact area. Visual observation is Operations led for this indirect fire range from Range 13 - Observation Post 13. Range 2 also provides for an adjacent area for crew drills to practice gun emplacement crew drills (Reconnaissance, Selection, and Occupation of a Position – RSOP). Indirect weapon firing requires the coordinated use of Special Use Airspace (SUA), R-5206 atop the impact area.

2.2 Range Location

Range 2 is located in Training Area Z2, vicinity grid WL 83428129, Elevation is 350.1 meters. It can be accessed from Highway 293, via the entrance to the Ammunition Supply Point (ASP). A key is needed to access this range.

2.3 Standard Supported Courses of Fire

Range 2 consists of four (4) firing points that support the below indirect weapon system training. Standard tables are designed to ensure progressive and gated sequences of training. These gated tables allow for the safe and efficient performance of required gunnery tasks. Table VIII Live Fire (Section/Crew Qualification) qualifies the members of the section/crew for collective training at the next higher level.

Gunner's Qualification Test for 105mm Howitzer (FM 6-50, Appendix B)

Artillery Section/Crew Training & Evaluation (FM 6-50, Appendix G)

Skills Proficiency Testing for Artillery Section/Crew Members

Tables I-VII, Artillery Individual & Crew Training, Certification & Qualification (Dry Fire)

Table VIII, Artillery Section/Crew Qualification (Live Fire)

2.4 Authorized Weapons & Ammunition

WEAPON CALIBER	AUTHORIZED PROJECTILES	AUTHORIZED FUSES
105mm Howitzer, M119, M102 * CHARGE 2 ONLY *	HE, HC	PD, MT

2.5 Range Specific Safety Measures

2.5.1 Danger Areas

Training Areas Z2, Z3, Z4, Z5, Z6, E2, D4, D6. Mine Torne Road is closed for all traffic between Gate #28 and Gate #31, as well as Stillwell Lake. Occupation of OP McNair is unauthorized.

Range Gate Guard Requirements

Range 2 requires four (4) gate guards positioned at the below locations with radio communications to the Range 2 OIC. The Range 2 OIC is responsible to conduct a visual inspection of Mine Torne Road and Still Well Lake prior to firing and to ensure the correct and proper placement of guards.

2.5.2 Range and Gate Closures

Range 2 requires the closure of the following:

GATES	RANGES
Gate Guard #1 will be posted at the entrance to Range 2.	
Gate Guard #2 will be posted at the entrance to the Ammunition Supply Point (ASP).	6, 12 and OP McNair Mine Torne Road Closures Signs
Gate Guard #3 will be posted at Gate #31 on Mine Torne Road (Northern most gate).	(4 Signs) will be in "Road Closed" position and orange barricade pulled across road adjacent to
Gate Guard #4 will be posted at Gate #28 on Mine Torne Road (Southern most gate).	Snake Pit.
Gate closures 15, 17, 18, 19, 20, 22, 23, 27	

2.6 Range Targetry

Range 2 indirect fires engage various armored vehicle hulls, thin skinned targets and steel tripod targets in the designated common impact area. At **NO** time will a target be selected or engaged along the top portion of Cranberry Mountain or within Deep Hollow Creek.

2.7 Range Support Facilities

Range 2 has the following range support facilities to support operations:

Operational Buildings	Guard Shack at Range entrance	
Covered Bleachers	Latrines	

NOTES:

2.8 Authorized Parking

Military Vehicles – Parking is available across the road from the four firing positions.

Civilian Privately Owned Vehicles (POVs) – Parked in POV Parking Lot off Range Road 29. No POVs may park in any location past the gate shack.

2.9 Communications

All live fire ranges must maintain two separate means of communication with Range Operations at all times. Primary means of communication with will be by Motorola Handheld "Livefire" Channel. Alternate means of communication will be by commercial telephone in the range tower.

There is a commercial telephone located at Building # 1393, telephone number is (845) 938-3222.

A quick reference phone index is located at the front of this SOP binder.

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3. Range Safety & Security Procedures

3.1 Individual Hearing Hazard Zone

DA Pam 40-501 specifies that hearing protection is required for any exposure noise decibel greater than 140 dBP. All personnel within the 140 dBP hearing hazard zone will wear approved single point hearing protection. The size varies based upon the weapons system being used. Multi-use ranges will establish the zone based on the loudest weapon used. The following list of distances to the hazard contours for common military weapons is conservative (m = meters):

a. Artillery Firing = 350 meter radius from the weapon(s) firing.

3.2 Individual Personal Protection Equipment (PPE)

- a. Ballistic (Kevlar or Army Combat Helmet (ACH) **WILL** be worn for safety and protection by all military personnel on the firing line of all ranges. This requirement applies to firer's and non-firer's (coaches, range personnel) alike.
- b. Individual Body Armor (IBA) or Flak Jackets are required on all firing ranges, and **WILL** be worn by all personnel engaged in any live fire activity. This reinforces appropriate combat conditions and proper training environment of any weapon marksmanship training program.
- Eye Protection. All personnel engaged in any live fire activity WILL wear individual approved eye
 protection.
- d. Hearing Protection. All personnel engaged in any live fire activity WILL wear approved single point hearing protection. This requirement applies to firer's and non-firer's (coaches, range personnel) alike.

3.3 Indirect Weapon Firing Precautions

- a. Procedures will be established for indirect weapon systems producing blast overpressure hazards to reduce the risk to mortar and artillery sections/crews from auditory and internal injury caused by blast overpressure from specific charges. Individuals who experience shortness of breath, chest discomfort, bleeding from the mouth, nose or ears or excessive shakiness (tremors) when exposed to weapon system firings may be suffering from a blast overpressure injury. Individuals with any of these symptoms will be instructed to lie down and remain quiet and immobile. Injured personnel will be transported to the nearest medical facility for immediate evaluation and treatment.
- b. Area E (Echo) is the danger area located immediately in front of the firing position. Variable hazards are blast overpressure, noise, ground and muzzle debris, or other potential injuries related to indirect weapon system firing. Un-protected and non-firing unit personnel are NOT allowed within Area Echo. Protected mission essential personnel of the firing unit MAY occupy Area Echo for mission related requirements (access to lay/safety circle, etc...) Area Echo is defined as:
 - 1. 445 mils to the right and left of the Azimuth of Fire (AOF) of the emplaced weapon system.
 - 2. 350 meters to the front of the weapon system.

3.4 Malfunction & Misfire Procedures

a. Under NO circumstances will any individual attempt to reduce a stoppage of a weapon by use of force or tools not specifically designed for such a purpose. In circumstances where a weapon system or ammunition has malfunctioned or misfired:

STEP	ACTION
1	Firer or crew should immediately take the appropriate individual or crew actions required IAW the applicable weapon system FM / TM publication.
2	If immediate action drill does not remove the stoppage, the weapon will be checked by the RSO, and the Range OIC will be notified.
3	Report the malfunction / misfire to Range Operations by type and nomenclature. Range Operations will contact the Quality Assurance Specialist, Ammunition Surveillance (QASAS) or a Logistic Assistance Representative (LAR) from DOL.
4	Weapon will remain on the firing line, oriented down range.
5	Weapon will be safeguarded until QASAS or LAR arrive to investigate.
6	Should a misfire occur during the firing of authorized artillery or mortar ammunition:
6a	Restore any misfired rounds to an unarmed or "safe" condition by resetting the fuse and reinstalling any safeties applicable for the round.
6b	Place the misfired round into the original shipping container and label the container as a misfired round.
6c	Upon completion of the range firing, return any misfired ammunition items to the ASP.
7	If the misfired round cannot be made safe or disarmed:
7a	Establish a "misfire" pit (normally 50 feet in front of the firing line in a defilade), and ensure there are proper markings to identify the dud pit.
7b	Initiate a follow up report to Range Operations of the misfire, and provide the location of the misfire pit, as well as the name and unit of the individual who has knowledge of the circumstances of the misfire.
7c	Explosives or ammunition remaining in the misfire pit at the completion of firing will be guarded against pilferage or unauthorized handling until removed or disposed of by appropriate means.
7d	Misfired rounds will NOT be removed from the range until they are inspected by EOD or Range Operations personnel.

3.5 Ammunition Handling & Storage

All training ammunition, pyrotechnic items or explosive material will be handled and stored IAW Chapter 2, FM 9-13 and DA Pam 385-64. Issuing and accounting for all training ammunition and explosive items will be IAW Chapter 11, DA Pam 710-2-1 (Supply Update). Contact the West Point Ammunition Supply Office for specific procedures for requesting, drawing and turning in ammunition and any residue.

Using units are responsible for the physical security, safeguarding, storing, and handling and will ensure the ammunition or explosive items are protected from the weather.

Using units will perform the following ammunition or explosive storage actions any time ammunition or explosive items are stored on a range, at a firing point, or at any field storage location. All live or blank ammunition and explosive items; will adhere to the actions and procedures below.

STEP	ACTION	
1	Will either be placed on pallets or dunnage at the range site; or utilize the covered ammo shelter or ammunition issue and breakdown building on the range if present.	
2	Be positioned in a dry or well drained area if stored on pallets.	
3	Be covered by tarpaulins for protection from sparks, direct sunlight, rain or other weather effects.	
4	Have on hand the proper type and required number of functional fire extinguishers, located at the ammunition storage site.	
5	Have the proper type and number of warning placards displayed.	
6	Have "NO SMOKING" signs prominently posted. Have storage site access, guarded and secured.	
7		
8	Be segregated by class and type. This requirement specifically applies to blank ammunition, simulators and pyrotechnic items.	

	9	Limit the unpacking of all ammunition items at a range or firing point to the minimum number of rounds needed for efficient firing of the exercise.
All vehicles will have the proper type and numbers of identifying placards prominently dis whenever a vehicle is used to transport ammunition, explosives or pyrotechnic items.		All vehicles will have the proper type and numbers of identifying placards prominently displayed whenever a vehicle is used to transport ammunition, explosives or pyrotechnic items.
	11	Vehicles transporting ammunition will move directly to and from the range and ammunition supply point.

3.6 Army Range Safety Memorandums/Messages (ARSMMs)

Interim changes may be published to AR or DA Pam 385-63 as Army Range Safety Memorandums/Messages (ARSMMs). A file of all current ARSMMs is maintained at Range Operations. Range OIC/RSO personnel will be familiar with ARSMMs associated with specific training being conducted prior to conducting operation on the range.

3.7 Unexploded Ordnance (UXO) and Reporting of Duds

Do NOT touch or disturb any Unexploded Ordnance (UXO) encountered. Leave any UXO discovered in place, including all rounds observed as falling into or within the designated range impact area but which fail to function (detonate). All rounds that fall into the common impact are, but fail to detonate will be reported to Range Operations at the conclusion of the range firing.

If a round, a suspicious item or ordnance, or a UXO item is found outside a designated range firing impact area do NOT disturb the item. Conspicuously mark the item, route traffic a safe distance around. Report the UXO immediately to Range Operations and initiate a dud report.

3.8 Ammunition Amnesty Program

The Ammunition Amnesty Program is designed to ensure maximum recovery of ammunition and explosives. This program is not intended to circumvent normal turn-in procedures. Other munitions and ammunition above 7.62mm will be retrieved only by EOD, ASP or Range Operations personnel. Documentation is not required for turn-in under the Ammunition Amnesty Program. Contact West Point ASP Office at Commercial phone 938-3216 for further information.

4. Range Operational Requirements/Responsibilities

4.1 Range Officer in Charge (OIC) / Range Safety Officer (RSO) Appointment Requirements

WEAPON SYSTEM	OFFICER IN CHARGE (OIC)			RANGE SAFETY OFFICER (RSO)		
	OFF	CADET	NCO	OFF	CADET	NCO
Practice hand grenade simunitions training devices; simulators, and small arms (5.56mm and below)	X	N/A	E6(P)	Х	X (Wpns Qualified)	E5(P)
Chemical Agents (CS) and smoke	×	N/A	E6 (MOS Qualified)	X	N/A	E5
Aerial gunnery, live grenades, grenade launchers, grenade machine guns; Live mines, and demolitions.	Х	N/A	E7	Х	N/A	E6
Field Artillery and LASER ranges	X (0-3)	N/A	N/A	Battery XO X	N/A	N/A
Live Fire Exercises using organic weapons, team through squad.	×	N/A	N/A	х	N/A	E7
Mortars	Х	N/A	N/A	Х	N/A	E6
Direct fire antitank rockets	Х	N/A	E7	х	N/A	E6
Specialty Non-LFX Courses	Х	N/A	E6	Х	Х	Х
Specialty Non-LFX Courses (Rappel) * Rappel Master Certified	X*	N/A	E7*	х	N/A	E6

Table 4-1, OIC / RSO Appointment Requirements

4.2 Range Officer in Charge (OIC)

The Range OIC has the responsibility and accountability for the conduct of the activity and the adherence to governing regulations and guidance.

4.2.1 OIC Qualifications

A commissioned, or warrant officer may serve as a Range OIC. OIC's will be in the grade as shown in Table 4-1 above, at a minimum. Range OICs will be qualified on the weapon(s) systems being fired, and will have satisfactorily completed a range safety certification program in the weapon system(s) for which they are responsible conducted by their Battalion/Unit (O5 & above Command) to which they are assigned.

4.2.2 OIC Actions & Procedures before Range Occupation

STEP	ACTION	TAKEN
1	Thoroughly plan the range operation and/or training activity and determine the personnel and equipment support requirements.	
2	Be weapons system(s) qualified, and that his/her command safety certification and appointment is completed, and on file at Range Operations.	
3	Receive the mandatory Range Operations briefing within ONE DAY prior to use.	
4	Ensure a qualified RSO is command safety certified and appointed, and briefed by Range Operations. OIC briefs the RSO on his/her duties to be performed.	
5	Verify that all personnel in a direct supervisory role or safety position are familiar with the provisions of this SOP, USMA Reg. 350-11, AR/DA Pam 385-63, and the FM/TMs governing the weapon(s) system and ammunition to be fired.	
6	Ensures that the required and appropriate medical support personnel are qualified, and that the appropriate equipment and supplies will be available to support the range operation(s) and/or training activity.	
7	Check in at Range Operations upon arrival to the installation to receive an updated briefing and sign for the range and necessary support equipment.	
8	Assign an Ammo NCO to be responsible for, and to ensure that ammunition and explosives are properly drawn, transported, handled, stored, and accounted for, from time of receipt, to the time of expenditure or turn in.	
9	Develops a composite risk management worksheet for all phases of the range operation(s) and/or training activity, and mitigate initial high and extremely high hazards through appropriate Operations measures, using DA Fm 2977.	

4.2.3 OIC Actions & Procedures before Operations

STEP	ACTION	TAKEN
1	Ensures the correct range/firing position and or training facility is occupied, and conducts a joint inventory with a Range Operations representative to ensure the presence and condition of the range facilities and equipment.	
2	Conducts a Range OIC brief to the RSO, Range Safety Assistants, Medical NCO, Assistant Instructors, Ammunition detail, Range Gate Guards reinforcing their duties and responsibilities on the conduct of the range operation, and on UXO recognition.	
3	Directs and supervises that the required designated areas of the range are established and set up as required/planned.	
4	Establishes primary radio and secondary telephone communications with Range Operations, and notifies Range Operations upon initial occupation.	
5	Ensures that the red range flag is displayed during daylight operations, and that the red flashing light on the flag pole is displayed during periods of limited visibility.	
6	Verify that the down range portion of the range and impact area are clear of unauthorized personnel and that the appropriate range specific safety measures for range gates, barriers, gate guards and danger areas directed by Range Operations have been taken (Refer to paragraph 2.5 of this SOP).	
7	Verify that the required medical personnel and equipment support is on site, with strip maps to local medical treatment facilities is present, prior to requesting a HOT status.	
8	Verify the continuous safety and security of ammunition on the range. Under NO circumstances will ammunition or explosives be unguarded or unattended. Ammunition must be stored in the designated area and NO smoking is allowed within 50 feet of the ammunition or the firing line.	
9	Verify that all weapons are mechanically safe to fire.	

10	Verify that all personnel wear the required personal protection equipment.	
11	Ensures that ONLY authorized shell / fuze combinations are fired per weapon system.	
12	Ensure all applicable references and regulations are physically present and on hand:	
13	Receive authorization from Range Operations to use Restricted Air Space (R-5206) for ranges 2.	
14	Notifies Range Operations and requests permission to place the range in a HOT status (Refer to paragraph 7.1).	
15	Implements risk management actions and applicable Operations measures identified for this phase of the range operations and/or training event.	

4.2.4 OIC Actions & Procedures during Operations

STEP	ACTION	TAKEN
1	Be present at all times while the range is in a HOT status, and maintains a constant observation of the firing line at all times during range firing. Be prepared to meet and brief all range visitors/VIPs, and range Operations personnel.	
2	Verify that all personnel prior to firing receive a range safety briefing, and that only authorized weapons and ammunition are about to be used.	
3	Ensures that the left and right deflection limits and the minimum and maximum quadrants are appropriately marked with safety stakes / tape.	
4	Verify that the quantity of ammunition unpacked at the designated ammunition storage site is kept to the minimum number of rounds needed for efficient firing for the exercise/course of fire being conducted.	
5	Notifies Range Operations when first round is fired down range (Refer to paragraph 7.2).	
6	Ensures that primary and secondary means of communication with Range Operations are maintained, and that hourly radio checks are performed (Refer to paragraph 7.8)	
7	Ensures that communications are maintained with all road/gate guards.	
8	Maintains a constant observation of the gun line at all times, and that the down range safety danger areas remain clear.	
9	Immediately calls or announces a self-imposed "Cease Fire" and notifies Range Operations when (Refer to paragraph 7.5):	
9a	Any unsafe action is observed or reported by ANY individual observing an unsafe act.	
9b	When communications are lost with Range Operations and/or Gate Guards.	
9с	When any personal injury, major weapon or ammunition malfunction occurs.	
9d	When any personnel, vehicle, animal or aircraft is observed down range, or in the safety zone danger areas.	
9e	When a range or woodland fire is observed.	
9f	When any rounds or projectiles are observed to land outside the prescribed impact area.	
9g	Whenever the OIC, RSO, or medical support leaves the range	
10	Verify that all weapon malfunctions are handled IAW appropriate FM/TM.	
11	Ensures that all misfires, hang fires, or cook-offs are handled IAW appropriate FM/TM.	
12	Notifies Range Operations when a change in OIC/RSO is needed (refer to paragraph 7.7).	
13	Notifies Range Operations when last round is fired down range (refer to paragraph 7.3).	
14	Implements risk management actions and applicable Operations measures identified for this phase of the range operations and/or training event.	

4.2.5 OIC Actions & Procedures after Operations

STEP	ACTION	TAKEN
1	Notify Range Operations upon completion of firing/training and request permission to go COLD (reference procedure 7.4). Be prepared to report:	
1a	Number of personnel trained.	
1b	Number of rounds expended by type and DODAC.	
2	Verify 100% accountability for all weapons and ammunition.	
3	Verify that ALL personnel are searched for ammunition prior to their departure from the range.	
4	Notify Range Operations if applicable, on any duds observed.	
5	Contact Range Operations for range clearance/inspection after performing the following:	
5a	Range flag is lowered and red blinking lights are recovered (if applicable).	
5b	Police range for all prescribed CL V recoverable items, packing material and unexpended ammunition are returned to the ASP.	
5c	Police range for all trash and place in local dumpster. NO MREs, kitchen waste or CL V ammunition dunnage will be placed in the dumpsters.	
5d	Check overall condition of the range to include all range support facilities.	
5e	Road barriers, gates are re-opened and gate guards are recovered.	
5f	Hand receipted range equipment and supplies are recovered, cleaned and prepared for turn-in.	
6	Conduct a joint inventory IAW range clearance agreement with a range Operations representative for clearance of range/training area, and secure the range facility	
7	Return all hand-receipted range equipment, along with any applicable reports/forms to Range Operations.	

4.3 Range Safety Officer (RSO)

A direct representative of the Range OIC and responsible to the OIC for insuring the adequacy of safety of firing, training operations, and ensuring compliance to governing regulations and guidance.

4.3.1 RSO Qualifications

A commissioned or warrant officer may serve as the RSO. Grade requirements will be in accordance with Table, 4-1 above, at a minimum. Personnel assigned as RSO will have NO other duties during that period of training. RSOs will be qualified on the weapon(s) systems being fired, and will have satisfactorily completed a range safety certification program in the weapon system(s) for which they are responsible conducted by their Battalion/Unit (O5 & above Command) to which they are assigned.

4.3.2 RSO Actions & Procedures before Operations

STEP	ACTION	TAKEN
1	Assist the Range OIC in the planning of the range operation and/or training activity when needed or as applicable to ensure its safe and efficient operation.	
2	Be weapons system(s) qualified, and that his/her command safety certification and appointment is completed, and on file at Range Operations.	
3	Receive the mandatory Range Operations briefing prior to use of range/training facility.	
4	Ensure that all personnel appointed to assistant range safety positions are qualified and familiar with the provisions of this SOP, USMA Reg. 350-11, AR/DA Pam 385-63,	

	and the FM/TMs governing the weapon(s) system and ammunition to be fired.	
5	Ensure that all personnel appointed as section chiefs and gunners are qualified IAW	
5	FM 6-50.	
	Ensures that the down range portion of the range and visible portion of the impact area	
6	are clear of unauthorized personnel prior to range OIC requesting the range be placed	
	in a HOT status.	
7	Ensures that the required medical personnel and equipment support is on site and	
	remains on site at all times while the range is in a HOT status.	
8	Ensures the continuous safety and security of ammunition on the range.	
9	Assist the Range OIC when needed or as applicable to ensure that the requirements	
9	for procedures 4.2.2 and 4.2.3 above are met.	

4.3.3 RSO Actions & Procedures during Operations

STEP	ACTION	TAKEN
1	Be present at all times on the gun line while the range is in a HOT status, and perform NO other duties except that of the RSO. Ensure safety is paramount.	
2	Receive and verify all firing commands are being checked by gun chiefs.	
2a	Ensure that only authorized shell and fuze combinations are being used.	
2b	Ensures that all weapons are mechanically safe to fire. (A weapon will NOT be fired if it is overdue for bore-scoping, gauging, required periodic inspections or the application of modification work order).	
2c	Ensures that all personnel wear the required personal protection equipment.	
2d	Verifies the proper type and quantity of ammunition issued to each gun, and ensures that ammunition unpacked is kept to a minimum to ensure efficient firing of the course of fire being conducted.	
3	Ensures that all unused charge increments are stored properly and accounted for upon conclusion of firing. Validate with the FDC the number and type of charges that are remaining.	
4	Maintain a constant observation of the firing line at all times, and that the visible down range safety area remains clear.	
5	Ensures that all weapons engage targets ONLY within the prescribed impact area, and that all rounds fired are observed by visual or electronic means.	
6	Immediately announces and calls for a self-imposed "CEASE FIRE" and notifies the Range OIC when any of the following is heard or observed:	
6a	Any unsafe action is observed or reported by ANY individual observing an unsafe act.	
6b	When any personal injury, major weapon or ammunition malfunction occurs.	
6c	When any personnel, vehicle, animal or aircraft is visually observed down range.	
6d	When a range or woodland fire is observed.	
6e	When any rounds or projectiles are observed to land outside the prescribed impact area.	
6f	Whenever the medical support leaves the range.	
7	Ensure that the ammo issued is properly accounted for on DA Fm 5515.	
8	Ensure that all weapon malfunctions are handled IAW appropriate FM/TM.	
9	Ensures that all misfires, hang fires, or cook-offs are handled IAW applicable FM/TM.	
10	Notifies Range OIC when a change in RSO is needed (refer to paragraph 8.7).	

4.3.4 RSO Actions & Procedures after Operations

STEP	ACTION	TAKEN
1	Ensure 100% accountability for all weapons and ammunition.	
2	Ensure that ALL personnel are searched for ammunition and recoverable CL V components prior to their departure from the range.	
3	Report to the Range OIC upon completion of firing/training the following:	
3a	The number of rounds expended by type and DODAC that was issued and tracked by the Fire Direction Center.	
3b	The police of the gun line, and that all prescribed CL V recoverable items, packing material and unexpended ammunition has been accounted for and is prepared for turnin to the ASP.	
3с	The police of the range overall for all trash, and that the designated areas of the range that were established are recovered back to the original condition.	
3d	That the overall condition of the range and support facilities are in the original condition.	
3e	All hand receipted range equipment and supplies are recovered, cleaned and prepared for turn-in to the Range OIC and/or Range Operations.	
4	Assist the Range OIC when needed or as applicable to ensure that the requirements for procedures 4.2.5 above are met.	

4.4 Range Gate Guards

The Range OIC will ensure gate guards are posted and gates are locked as required for the range being utilized as outlined in paragraph 2.5. Gate guards will be briefed on their duties, the training that is being conducted and perform their duties IAW West Point Reg. 350-11. Personnel acting as gate guards will:

STEP	ACTION	TAKEN
1	Greet all visitors, provide a short explanation of the training being conducted, identify the Range OICs name and location on the range, and warn of live firing as appropriate. They will direct authorized visitors to a specific location where the visitors will be met by the Range OIC. When entrance to the range is not authorized, the gate guard will advise visitors to wait or to use another route.	
2	Maintain <u>continuous</u> radio communications with Range Operations or with the Range OIC accordingly. The arrival of visitors will be reported immediately to the Range OIC. If the gate guard is unsure whether a visitor is authorized on the range, the gate guard will contact the Range OIC for clarification before granting entrance.	
3	Remain at the gate shack or the gate if no shack is present. Maintain the assigned gate while the range is hot.	
4	POV's will NOT be used to assist in barrier Operations or gate guard duty.	
5	Permit Range Operations personnel and vehicles full and un-restricted access to all ranges and training areas while performing their assigned duties.	

5. Range Medical Requirements & Evacuation

5.1 Unit Medical Support Requirements

Units will comply with the following range medical support requirements:

a. A trained medical aid person, MOS qualified. This individual will be equipped with a litter, radio communication, and a complete medical aid bag, containing all required CL VIII items that have a valid expiration date.

b. A dedicated medical evacuation vehicle, capable of transporting a litter, and properly equipped, and with a current PMCS. Medical aid personnel assigned to these ranges, along with the supporting medical vehicle, will not be used for any other duty.

5.1.1 Execution

a MEDEVAC mission.

- a. Using unit medical personnel will review and familiarize themselves with the strip map route(s) to KACH ER and the local community hospital prior to live fire range operations are conducted.
- b. Whenever the dedicated medical aid person or vehicle must leave the area for any reason the range must Cease Fire and remain in a "COLD" status until a replacement is provided, or until the assigned vehicle and medical personnel have returned to the range. Range Operations will then grant the unit permission to re-open the range and place the range in a "HOT" status.
- c. Medical support personnel at the range will provide treatment for minor injuries and basic first-aid for life-threatening injury or illness.
- Medical evacuation vehicles will display all frequencies and telephone numbers in case of immediate use:
 - a. Range Operations Frequency is Motorola Handheld "Livefire" channel.
 - b. West Point Fire & Emergency Services Division 845.938.5197
 - c. Range Operations Air Frequency is VHF 126.20.
 - d. KACH ER 845.938.4004 / 5169.

5.2 Keller Army Community Hospital (KACH)

Injuries and/or illness requiring immediate emergency support will be immediately reported to the KACH ER, with the location of the range site for patient evacuation by KACH.

5.3 Serious Incident Report (SIR) Requirements

Full and immediate medical attention directed at the patient is the first and foremost priority. As soon as possible, the Range OIC or RSO will contact Range Operations and report the medical injury/accident. Be prepared to provide at a minimum "the Five W's" (Who, What, When, Where and Why).

5.4 Emergency MEDEVAC Flight Requests

The USMA does NOT have an organic MEDEVAC capability to support the Training Complex operations; therefore units and organizations will plan medical evacuation with their organic assets. Stat Flights are for the emergency evacuation of injured personnel by air ambulance. Only the emergency first responder on site, DES dispatcher or KACH medical personnel are authorized to request or terminate

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To obtain a Stat Flight, contact Range Operations by Motorola Handheld "Livefire" Channel or by telephone at (845)938-3930. After Hours the Military Police Dispatch at (845)938-3333.

9-LINE MEDEVAC			
ANNOUNCED		LINE WES DESCRIPTION	
LINE	LINE INFO	LINE INFO DESCRIPTION	
1		Location of the Pick-Up site by 6-digit grid and any prominent terrain features nearby.	
2		Unit Identification	
3	A= B=	Number of Patients by evacuation category/precedence A=Urgent (requires immediate evacuation to prevent loss of life B=Priority (serious injury, but <u>NOT</u> life threatening	
4	A= B= C= D=	Special equipment needed: A=none B=hoist C=extraction equipment D=ventilator	
5	A= B=	Number of patients A=litter B=ambulatory	
6		Number and types of wounds, injuries and illnesses	
7		Method of marking landing zone/pick-up site A=panels B=pyrotechnic signal C=smoke signal D=none E=other	
8		Patient nationality and status A=US military B=US civilian C=other (describe)	
9		Terrain description of pick-up site, any site hazards; if none=so state	

5.5 Hospital Strip Maps & Directions

5.5.1 Keller Army Community Hospital

Reference Tab 11A, Local Strip Map to Keller Army Community Hospital

5.5.2 St. Luke's Community Cornwall Campus Hospital, Cornwall, NY

Reference Tab 11B, Local Strip Map to Saint Luke's Community Hospital.

6. Range Concept of Operations

6.1 Declination Station Information

Units must properly declinate all M2/M2A2 Aiming Circles for the Training Center area prior to laying in a gun section or crew on any and all indirect fire weapons systems.

Permanent certified declination stations are available for units to declinate. Range Operations maintains data for each of the reference points, as well as Survey Operations Points (SCPs) established and located in the tactical training areas.

The gun laying and positioning system (GLPS) supplements the M2A2 aiming circle, and can be used to orient indirect fire weapons systems. An independent check of the GLPS orientation MUST be made before using it to lay the weapon systems.

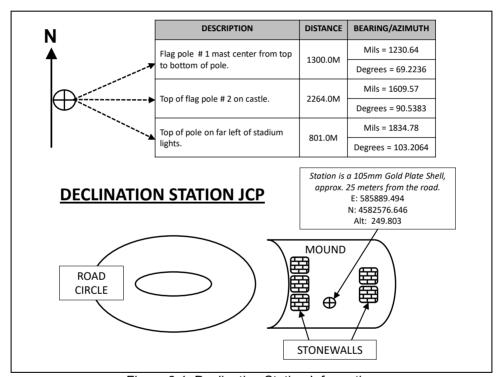


Figure 6-1, Declination Station Information

6.1.1 Laying of Indirect Fire Weapon Systems

- a. All indirect weapon systems will be laid by orienting angle by an aiming device (lay circle).
- b. A second, properly declinated aiming circle (safety circle) will be used to verify (refer) the lay circle. Lay and Safety circles MUST agree within +/- 10 mils.
- c. Safety circle will be used to verify lay of all weapons within a tolerance of +/- 2 mils.

6.2 Range 2 Safety Data

105mm HOWITZER SHELL HE; FUSE PD				
	CHARGE	RANGE	AZIMUTH	
MINIMUM	2	2100		
MAXIMUM	3	3700		
LEFT			3600	
RIGHT			3770	

6.3 Airspace & Firing Restriction Times

- a. Indirect weapons system firing is considered an airspace event within the West Point Restricted Airspace designated as Special Use Airspace (SUA), R-5206 with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA).
- b. Indirect Fires are allowed up to 30,000 MSL.
- c. Indirect fires can ONLY be conducted between the hours of 0730-1900 hours, Monday thru Friday with a 30-minute notification to Range Operations. All other times require a two hour notification.
- d. NO indirect live fire is allowed after 1900 hours due to noise consideration with the surrounding community/civilian population.

NOTE: Additional confirmation of initially observed rounds is also required for each gun.

NOTE: ALL live fire of indirect weapon systems requires a 30-minute notification to Range Operations prior to going "HOT".

6.4 Indirect Weapon Firing Incidents

Any artillery projectile that functions or lands outside the prescribed range safety limits of the firing point, or the sensing of a round as "unobserved", requires the IMMEDIATE ACTIONS of the Unit OIC/RSO as outlined below.

- a. The Range OIC/RSO and/or Range Operations will immediately announce "CHECK FIRE FREEZE".
- b. Immediately suspend the firing of all weapons located at the firing position, until the responsible weapon, or firing position has been identified.
- c. Immediately report the incident to Range Operations. Unit Range OICs will take the necessary actions as indicated on the Range Accident/Incident Checklist.

6.5 Live Fire of Artillery Weapon Systems

Using units will comply with AR 385-63, DA Pam 385-63, FM 6-50, appropriate Firing Tables and all other applicable regulations, TMs, procedures and documents pertaining to their related weapons system and its use. Commanders of field artillery units will conduct an annual Artillery safety training certification program IAW AR 385-63, DA Pam 385-63, and as outlined in FM 6-50 and West Point Reg. 350-11.

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6.5.1 Artillery Firing Requirements & Procedures

- a. All artillery firing points on West Point Installation are established as permanent positions. The use of any caliber other than 105mm Howitzer at any other location other than those approved locations is strictly prohibited.
- b. The Fire Direction Center (FDC) will post on a map the location of the artillery firing point used, as well as depict the limits of the impact area for firing, and the observation post.
- c. The common impact area will be used for all 105mm artillery service firing. The designated impact area is within the following grids (WGS 84): Point 1: 18T 581796 4578749; Point 2: 18T 582246 4578513; Point 3: 18T 581953 4577826; Point 4: 18T 581405 4578109.
- d. Range RSO firing artillery will verify that the appropriate fire computation computers have been correctly initialized. West Point MAPMOD data:
 - 1. Max Easting: 582200
 - 2. Min Easting: 581400
 - 3. Max Northing: 4578800
 - 4. Min Northing: 4577800
 - 5. Grid Zone: 18
 - 6. Sphere: WGS84
- e. The Unit Artillery Range RSO must verify bore sighting of each weapon, and will walk the firing line to verify the parallel and safe lay of the weapons.
- f. The Unit Artillery Range OIC will ensure that the M2A2 Aiming Circles or M2 compasses are properly declinated and have the proper Declination Constant (DC) applied.
- g. Shell / fuse combinations. NEVER fire any artillery projectiles without the proper fuse installed. Units are NOT authorized to fire unauthorized shell/fuse combinations.

NOTE: Only the caliber of 105mm Howitzer is authorized from Range 2. The only shell/fuse combination authorized on Range 2 is HE/PD.

- h. Artillery section chiefs WILL emplace safety stakes, tape, or physical constraints on the weapon according to the procedures in FM 6-50 to ensure that the prescribed safety limits are not exceeded.
- i. Minimum Quadrant (MIN QE). The Artillery Range RSO or Battery XO will determine the lowest quadrant elevation that can safely be fired, and that will ensure projectiles clear all visible crests. <u>The Artillery Range OIC or Battery Commander will verify XO MIN QE</u>. XO MIN QE will be computed using each Howitzer's Section Chief Report (DA Fm 5969-R) and FM 6-50, Chapter 6 and Appendix K.
- j. Charges <u>WILL ONLY</u> be cut after the visual verification by the howitzer section chief. Charge (propellant) increment bags will be dangled over the lip of the cartridge case, allowing the proper seat of the projectile to the cartridge. <u>DO NOT</u> break the cord until the round and charge has been verified by the howitzer section chief. Charges can then be cut after this visual verification on the command "CUT CHARGE".
- k. Unused powder increments/charges will be placed in a metal or wooden container at least 40 meters from the closest weapon.
- I. Observed Fire. Units must observe ALL artillery rounds fired. Units will notify Range Operations that the first round fired was observed "SAFE" by the Observation Point being utilized. All rounds MUST BE observed as safely impacting in the designated impact area either by visual or electronic (radar) methods of observation. Electronic methods of observation, without visual observation, require prior approval from Range Operations. This will normally not be approved during CST as it fails to support the BOLC task of Call and Adjust Fire.
- m. Each artillery section chief will have on his person a "Safety T" prepared by the FDC and approved by the unit Range RSO for the firing position in use. This "Safety T" will cover the type of ammunition authorized to fire.
- n. Any excess or unused propellant powder increments will ONLY be burned at the designated approved site adjacent to Range 2. Unused or excess propellant powder increments WILL NOT be transported from one position to another.

o. Burning of remaining powder residue must take place in designated metal container under the observation of the West Point Fire & Emergency Services Division.

p. OP 13 is the designated Observation Post for artillery and mortar firing. An OIC in the rank of E7 or above most maintain radio communications with range Operations on Motorola Handheld "Livefire" Channel during training. The OIC is responsible for reporting observed rounds out of impact (ROI) and munitions malfunctions. Initial radio check will be made upon occupation and then top of the hour (hourly) radio checks thereafter.

7. Radio Procedures

7.1 Requesting a Hot Status

RANGE: RANGE OPERATIONS, THIS IS RANGE 2, OVER

RANGE OPERATIONS: RANGE 2, THIS IS RANGE OPERATIONS. GO AHEAD, OVER.

RANGE: RANGE OPERATIONS, THIS IS RANGE 2. REQUEST A HOT TIME, OVER.

RANGE OPERATIONS: RANGE 2, THIS IS RANGE OPERATIONS, DO YOU PHYSICALLY HAVE ON SITE REQUIRED MEDICAL SUPPORT WITH EQUIPMENT, RANGE SAFETY SOP BOOK, RED RANGE FLAG FLYING AND GATE GUARD WITH COMMO, AND MINE TORNE ROAD CLOSED AND GUARDED WITH RADIO COMMUNICATION AND SIGNAGE DISPLAYED TO INDICATE CLOSED, OVER.

RANGE: RANGE OPERATIONS, THIS IS RANGE 2, YES, OVER.

RANGE OPERATIONS: RANGE 2, THIS IS RANGE OPERATIONS. I GIVE YOU A HOT TIME OF HOURS. MY INITIALS ARE _____. CONFIRM HOT TIME AND SEND YOUR RANGE OIC INITIALS, OVER.

RANGE: RANGE OPERATIONS, THIS IS RANGE 2. I CONFIRM HOT TIME OF _____. RANGE OIC INITIALS ARE , OVER.

RANGE OPERATIONS: RANGE 2, THIS IS RANGE OPERATIONS. NOTIFY RANGE OPERATIONS WHEN FIRST ROUND IS FIRED DOWN RANGE. CONDUCT RADIO CHECKS WITH RANGE OPERATIONS HOURLY AT THE TOP OF THE HOUR, YOUR FIRST RADIO CHECK IS DUE AT _____. RANGE OPERATIONS OUT.

7.2 Reporting First Round Fired Down Range

RANGE: RANGE OPERATIONS, THIS IS RANGE 2, OVER.

RANGE OPERATIONS: RANGE 2, THIS IS RANGE OPERATIONS. GO AHEAD, OVER.

RANGE: RANGE OPERATIONS, THIS IS RANGE 2. FIRST ROUND FIRED DOWN RANGE, OVER.

RANGE OPERATIONS: RANGE 2, THIS IS RANGE OPERATIONS. I COPY FIRST ROUND FIRED DOWN RANGE AT _____, RANGE OPERATIONS OUT.

7.3 Reporting Last Round Fired Down Range

RANGE: RANGE OPERATIONS, THIS IS RANGE 2, OVER.

RANGE OPERATIONS: RANGE 2, THIS IS RANGE OPERATIONS. GO AHEAD, OVER.

RANGE: RANGE OPERATIONS, THIS IS RANGE 2. LAST ROUND FIRED DOWN RANGE, OVER.

RANGE OPERATIONS: RANGE 2, THIS IS RANGE OPERATIONS. I COPY LAST ROUND FIRED

DOWN RANGE AT , RANGE OPERATIONS OUT.

7.4 Requesting a Cold Status

RANGE: RANGE OPERATIONS, THIS IS RANGE 2, OVER.

RANGE OPERATIONS: RANGE 2, THIS IS RANGE OPERATIONS. GO AHEAD, OVER.

RANGE: RANGE OPERATIONS, THIS IS RANGE 2. REQUEST A COLD TIME, OVER.

RANGE OPERATIONS: RANGE 2, THIS IS RANGE OPERATIONS. I GIVE YOU A COLD TIME OF
_____. MY INITIALS ARE _____. CONFIRM COLD TIME, SEND RANGE OIC INITIALS, YOUR

AMMUNITION QUANTITY EXPENDED BY TYPE/DODAC AND THE NUMBER OF PERSONNEL

TRAINED, OVER.

RANGE: RANGE OPERATIONS, THIS IS RANGE 2. I CONFIRM COLD TIME OF _____. RANGE OIC

INITIALS ARE _____. (#) ROUNDS OF _____ (DODAC) EXPENDED, WITH _____ (#)

PERSONNEL TRAINED, OVER.

RANGE OPERATIONS: RANGE 2, THIS IS RANGE OPERATIONS, ROGER, OUT.

7.5 Requesting a Cease Fire Time

RANGE: RANGE OPERATIONS, THIS IS RANGE 2, OVER.

RANGE OPERATIONS: RANGE 2, THIS IS RANGE OPERATIONS. GO AHEAD, OVER.

RANGE: THIS IS RANGE 2, REQUEST A CEASE FIRE TIME, OVER.

RANGE OPERATIONS: RANGE 2, THIS IS RANGE OPERATIONS. I GIVE YOU A CEASE FIRE TIME OF _____ HOURS. MY INITIALS ARE _____. CONFIRM CEASE FIRE / ADMIN COLD TIME AND PROVIDE YOUR RANGE OIC INITIALS, OVER.

RANGE: RANGE OPERATIONS, THIS IS RANGE 2. I CONFIRM CEASE FIRE TIME OF _____. MY RANGE OIC INITIALS ARE _____, OVER.

RANGE OPERATIONS: RANGE 2, THIS IS RANGE OPERATIONS, ROGER, OUT.

7.6 Requesting to Lift Cease Fire Time

RANGE: RANGE OPERATIONS, THIS IS RANGE 2, OVER.

RANGE OPERATIONS: RANGE 2, THIS IS RANGE OPERATIONS. GO AHEAD, OVER.

RANGE: RANGE OPERATIONS, THIS IS RANGE 2. REQUEST TO LIFE CEASE FIRE TIME AND RETURN TO A HOT STATUS, OVER.

RANGE OPERATIONS: RANGE 2, THIS IS RANGE OPERATIONS. I LIFT YOUR CEASE FIRE TIME STATUS AND PLACE YOU BACK INTO A HOT STATUS AT _____ HOURS. MY INITIALS ARE _____. CONFIRM RETURN TO HOT STATUS AND PROVIDE YOUR RANGE OIC INITIALS, OVER.

RANGE: RANGE OPERATIONS, THIS IS RANGE 2. I CONFIRM RETURN TO HOT STATUS TIME OF _____. MY RANGE OIC INITIALS ARE _____, OVER.

RANGE OPERATIONS: RANGE 2, THIS IS RANGE OPERATIONS, ROGER, OUT.

7.7 Change of OIC / RSO.

RANGE: RANGE OPERATIONS, THIS IS RANGE 2, OVER.

RANGE OPERATIONS: RANGE 2, THIS IS RANGE OPERATIONS. GO AHEAD, OVER.

RANGE: RANGE OPERATIONS, THIS IS RANGE 2. REQUEST A CHANGE OF OIC (or RSO), OVER.

RANGE OPERATIONS: RANGE 2, THIS IS RANGE OPERATIONS. SEND THE LAST NAME AND THE INITIALS OF THE NEW RANGE OIC (or RSO), WITH YOUR INITIALS, OVER.

RANGE: RANGE OPERATIONS, THIS IS RANGE 2. NEW OIC / RSO LAST NAME IS _____, NEW OIC / RSO INITIALS ARE _____, OVER.

RANGE OPERATIONS: RANGE 2, THIS IS RANGE OPERATIONS. ROGER, OUT.

7.8 Requesting a Radio Check (Hourly at the Top of the Hour)

RANGE: RANGE OPERATIONS, THIS IS RANGE 2. RADIO CHECK, OVER.

RANGE OPERATIONS: RANGE 2, THIS IS RANGE OPERATIONS, ROGER RADIO CHECK, OUT.

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8. Range Safety Brief

All firers will be briefed on the following items. This general safety brief in not all inclusive and requires the Range OIC / RSO to include commander's guidance, and/or any unit specific or other situational dependent areas of concern.

NOTE: Insert range, weapon and course of fire specifics that are required and/or applicable.

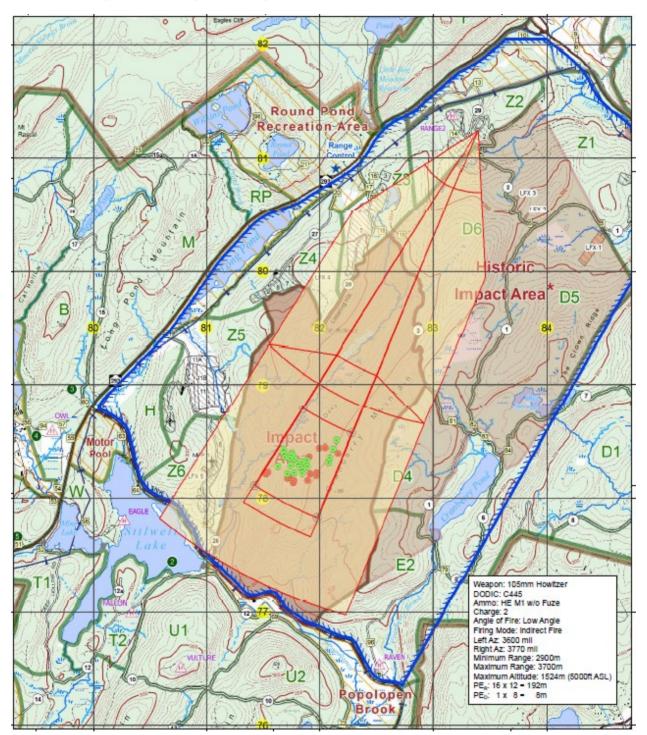
- 1. Identify the Range Officer in Charge (OIC) and the Range Safety Officer (RSO) at a minimum.
- 2. Identify the Location of Range Staff Cadre:
 - a) Range OIC and RSO
 - b) Assistant Range Safeties
 - c) Medic & the Evacuation Vehicle
 - d) Ammo Issue Point/Breakdown Building and CL V NCO
 - e) Observation of Fires by what method and from what Observation Post.
 - f) Others as required
- 3. Prescribed uniforms and personal protection requirements (hearing, eye, helmet and IBA as applicable and required) while on the range.
- 4. Course of fire and standards for the weapon system being fired.
- 5. Locations: Break/Smoking Areas, latrines, mess area, firing line and/or firing points, clearing barrels, parking and bleacher site. Also include any off limit or restricted areas.
- 6. Ammunition holding area/ issue point procedures & security.
- 7. Left, right limits, fire and no fire zones.
- 8. Procedures for Medical Emergency.
- 9. Procedures for range fires.
- 10. Severe weather plan, environmental requirements, issues and concerns.
- 11. NO food or beverages on firing line unless directed by OIC except water.
- 12. Leave all WILDLIFE at this range alone.
- 13. ALL VEHICLES on this Range will have a GROUND GUIDE.
- 14. Movement on firing line is directed by OIC.
- 15. NO pushing, NO shoving or horseplay at ANY time.
- 16. Unit is responsible for a personnel & vehicle shakedown for ammo & brass. No one will leave the range until this has been completed.
- 17. If you observe ANY UNSAFE situation, personnel, vehicles, aircraft, or wildlife down range call & indicate "CEASE FIRE" IMMEDIATELY everyone on the firing line echo "CEASE FIRE". Place all weapons on safe until the OIC or RSO have investigated the situation and declared it safe to resume training.

9. Risk Management & Mitigation

Range OIC will review, add and update DA Form 2977. Deliberate Risk Assessment Worksheet .

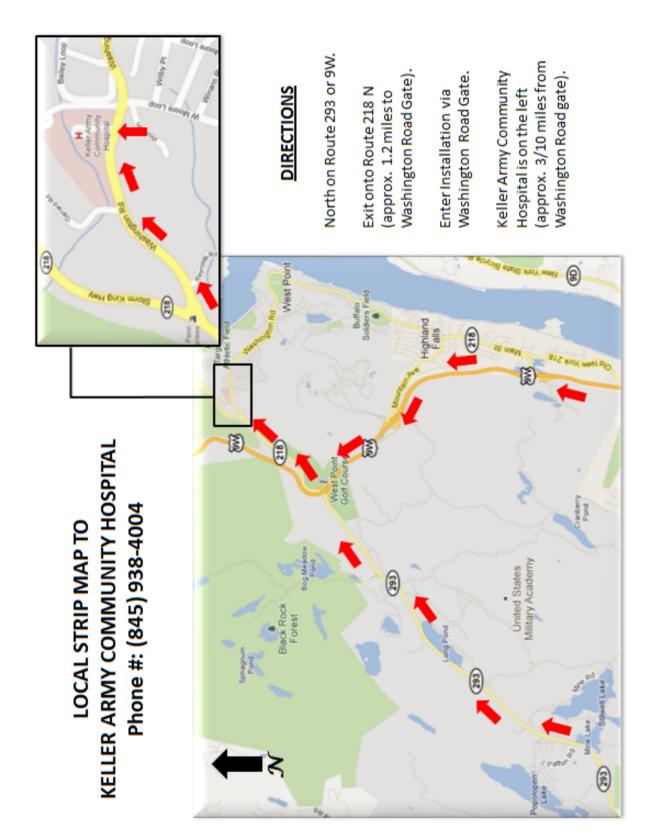
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10. Range Safety Danger Zone (SDZ) Graphic

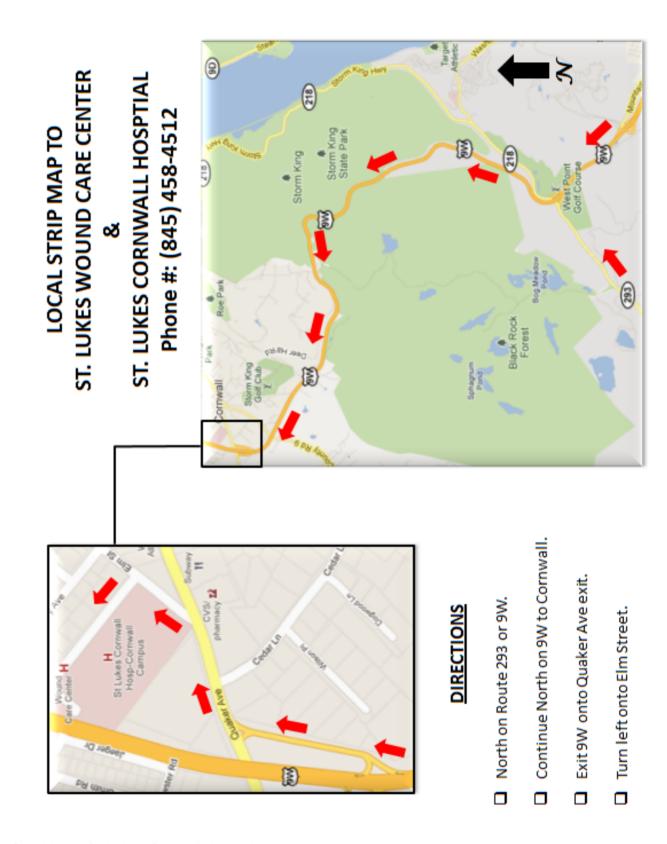


11. Reference Information, Reports & Forms

INDEX					
TAB	NAME				
11A	Local Strip Map to Keller Army Community Hospital				
11B	Local Strip Map to Saint Luke's Cornwall Community Hospital				
11C	Range Accident/Incident Checklist (for Check Fire Freeze)?				
11D	Open				



Tab 11A - Strip Map - Keller Army Community Hospital



Tab 11B – Strip Map to St. Luke's Cornwall Hospital

Tab 11C – Range Accident/Incident Checklist for Check Fire Freeze						

02 July 2020

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