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OUR RESPONSIBILITIES.

The preservation of social order and the safeguarding of the property and personal safety of the community rests at the present time upon the Irish Republican Army. Their duty is being energetically and efficiently performed in most parts of the country. It is only natural that such an unsettled period as the present should be availed of by unscrupulous and evilly disposed people to break the ordinary laws of society in their own interests. It is only natural that many difficult and delicate situations should arise in different parts of Ireland with which the I.R.A. have to deal to the best of their ability. Considering the difficulties they have had to encounter it must be admitted that officers of the Army generally speaking have handled the situations which have arisen in a manner highly creditable to themselves and the Army they represent. Mistakes have undoubtedly occurred but generally speaking the splendid sense of discipline, the fine national outlook and the common sense which characterises the typical Army man have guided officers and men in the performance of their functions wisely and efficiently. The new responsibilities placed upon them by the British evacuation are being undertaken for the most part with an energy and ability worthy of the high traditions of the Army.

GENERAL NOTES

Reports have reached G.H.Q. to the effect that levies are being exacted in the name of the Irish Republican Army in the Clonmel and Carrick-on-Suir area. It is necessary to make it clear that no such levies have been sanctioned by G.H.Q. and that the exacting of levies in any form from the civilian population is entirely unauthorised.

NOTES FOR INSTRUCTORS.

SQUAD DRILL.

MOVEMENTS AT THE HALT.

In training men for Squad Drill the following movements and positions should be taught in the order given below. These instructions, however, should be sandwiched in between periods of vigorous marching and such exercises as keep the men wide awake.

1 *Position of Attention.* In this position particular stress should be laid upon the following points:—head well up—chin drawn in—eyes looking straight to the front (not up or down)—chest thrown out—knees pressed back—arms extended to the full extent—*the weight of the body on the fore part of the feet rather than on the heels*—heels touching each other—feet turned out at an angle of 45 degrees.

2 *Standing at Ease.* Points to note:—the left foot carried off about 12 inches to the left—the weight of the body distributed equally on both feet—head well up—chin drawn in—eyes looking straight to the front (not up or down)—hands lightly clasped together behind the back (left hand in right.)

NOTE:—The position of *Stand at Ease* is not to be confused with *Standing Easy*. It must be maintained just as strictly as standing to attention and without any movement whatsoever.

3. *Turning to Right and Left.* Points to note:—Head kept well up—eyes off the ground,—the movement to be in two distinct parts—the heel of the last foot moved (e.g. in turning to the right, the left foot, in turning to the left the right foot) brought up to the other foot so that the heels click smartly together.

4. *About Turn.* Points to Note:—Same as above.

5. *Half Right or Left Turn.* Points to Note:—Same as above.

6. *Form Fours.* Points to Note:— Position of head and body as at attention—movement to be carried out in smart time—in completing the movement the left heel should be brought to the right heel with a sharp click.

MOVEMENTS ON THE MOVE.

1. *Quick March.* Points to note:— A short sharp step to be set—position of head same as in attention—arms to be swung freely. They must swing straight from front to rear.

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TRAINING OF LEWIS GUNNERS.

The Lewis Gun section will consist of one N.C.O. and eight men per half company.

The N.C.O. of the Lewis Gun section leads his section into action, chooses the actual position for the gun, and gives the Fire Orders. He must be specially trained in Fire control, Judging distance, and in Observing Fire. He must be practised in quick decision, control of men, and ability to make his meaning clear in the fewest possible words, or by a simple system of signalling.

He must be thoroughly trained in the Lewis Gun, and realise its difficulties, and possibilities. In the event of the Lewis Gun having a prolonged stoppage in action, he will at once reorganise the remainder of his team, as a rifle section, while Nos. 1 and 2 try to remedy the stoppage.

Each man of the gun team must be trained to take any position in the team, and must be able to examine the gun in detail, to clean it without damaging it, to fire accurately at a given target, and to remedy stoppages without delay.

No. 1 carries the gun into action, loaded with one magazine, and fires it. No. 2 acts as his assistant, lies on his left while firing, and carries spare parts and additional magazines. Nos. 1 and 2, are armed with revolvers, and must be trained in their use. The remainder carry rifles and ammunition.

No. 3 carries a supply of magazines, and acts as a link between the gun, and its ammunition supply. In action he will keep close to Nos. 1 and 2, and bring forward to them magazines as required.

All numbers must be practised in carrying the heaviest loads they may be required to carry in action. This is largely a question of knack, and training, the right muscles. The Lewis Gunner must be taught to cultivate an eye for country, to recognise good and bad positions, to utilise covered lines of advance, and to realise the advantage of a good background.

He requires individual instruction in the use of ground, where to place his bipod on uneven ground, so that he can fire at the target without further movement. He should learn to crawl for short distances with the gun, resting it upon his leg to keep it out of the mud or dust. He must be taught what is a suitable target for a Lewis Gun, and what is best engaged with the rifle.

Every man of the team must be a good rifle, and revolver shot, and trained in the use of the grenade.

The whole team must be trained in observation of fire. The small beaten zone of the gun lessens the difficulty of picking up the strike of the bullets.

Every man must be trained to judge distance accurately up to 700 yards. It is with its first burst of fire that a Lewis Gun usually gets its best opportunity of doing damage, and a knowledge of the

correct range is necessary if this first burst is to take effect.

Every team is responsible for its own protection, and all, therefore, should be trained in the duty of scouts, a pair of whom will precede the rest of the team whenever it moves.

Some form of signal communication is of the greatest use to Lewis Gun section 2. The team will disclose the position of the gun if they bunch round it in action. Yet it is impossible to hear orders at any distance when the gun is firing. Moreover, information can be received more rapidly from scouts and observers. They can then use signals for correcting range or direction, used by machine gunners. The code used should be uniform throughout the Division, so that gun teams can communicate with one another.

In arranging tactical exercises for a section, it is important not to start with anything too complicated. The training should be progressive, but however simple the scheme, it is imperative that the directing officer should carefully choose the ground beforehand, and make himself thoroughly acquainted with it.

It is quite possible to expect attack from the air. Therefore every unit must provide its own protection against aerial attack. Moreover, aircraft flying below 3,000 ft. can only be dealt with by small arm fire and anti-aircraft guns cannot attack aeroplanes flying at these low altitudes.

Lewis Guns are one of the chief weapons that can be used against these aeroplanes, and Lewis gunners must be trained accordingly. To carry out this work adequately they must be provided with anti-aircraft back and foresights, and instructed in their use.

At all times rigid discipline must be enforced; unless this is done it will not be possible to control the team in actual fighting. Each man must be made to realise that his work is just as important to success as that of the man actually firing the gun.

Hereunder is given a table of effective Machine Gun and rifle fire, against Aircraft, also note on visibility from the air.

TABLE OF EFFECTIVE MACHINE GUN AND RIFLE FIRE AGAINST AIRCRAFT.

VICKERS.	Total range.	3,200 feet.
LEWIS.	" "	3,000 "
THOMPSON.	" "	2,500 "
RIFLE FIRE.	" "	3,000 "
ANTI-AIRCRAFT ARTILLERY.	" "	20,000 "

VISIBILITY FROM THE AIR.

Careful forethought and a knowledge of the extent to which objects on the ground can be distinguished from the air, will enable Unit Commanders greatly to reduce the amount of information which can be acquired by hostile aircraft. As an instance,

shadow cast by an object is more noticeable from the air than the object itself, and troops can often escape detection if they remain in shade while the aircraft are overhead.

Movement is easily distinguished by low flying aeroplanes, but if troops lie face downwards, and are not in regular lines they are difficult to observe even in the open.

Visibility from the air depends largely on atmospheric conditions, but the following table may be taken as a rough guide as to the detail which can be seen from various heights in fair weather.

At 500 feet Troops can be recognised as hostile or friendly.

At 1,000 feet concentration in trenches can be seen.

At 1,500 feet movements of small parties in the open can be observed.

At 5,000 feet movements of formed bodies on a road are visible.

GUARDS AND SENTRIES.

MODEL STANDING ORDERS.

To be read to, and understood by, all Officers, N.C.O's, and men of the Guard.

1. The Guard will occupy the Guardroom, and no man will leave same without special permission.
2. No man on Guard will remove his clothing or equipment, without special permission.
3. The Officer or N.C.O. of Guard will be responsible for all equipment and other property in the Guardroom, until he hands same over to Officer or N.C.O. of new Guard.
4. Sentries will be posted, as detailed in special orders
5. *No Sentry will leave his post under any circumstances, If he wants anything, he will call the Sergeant of the Guard.*
6. Sentries will carry Rifles with bayonets fixed, and magazines fully charged, but no bullet in the breech.
7. Sentries will do two hours on, and four off. No sentry will leave his position, until he is relieved by another sentry.
8. From Sunset to Sunrise, sentries will challenge all persons, and ascertain their business. *Sentries will challenge in a loud voice.* If any person or persons fail to halt, after being duly challenged three times, the Sentry will call out the Guard, who will if necessary, resort to force of Arms.
9. *In case of attack,* Sentries will turn out the Guard, by shouting "Guard turn out." The Officer or N.C.O. will have the Alarm sounded—alternate long and short whistle blasts.
10. *In case of Fire,* the Guard will turn out, and the Alarm sounded.

11. The Officer or N.C.O. of Guard will have rations drawn for his men also coal. He will also arrange for Tea or Coffee for his men during the night.
 12. The Officer or N.C.O. of Guard will visit his Sentries regularly by day and night. He will be responsible for the following:—
 - Calling the Cooks at - - 6.00. hours.
 - Sounding the Reveille at - - 7.00 "
 - Calling the Orderly Officer at - 7.00. "
 13. The Front Gate will be kept locked between 22.30 hours and Reveille.
 14. Sentries will salute all Officers.
 15. The Guardroom will be thoroughly cleaned, and the ashes removed, before the new Guard arrives.
 16. The Guard will change daily at 10.00. hrs. The old Guard will be turned out when the new Guard is approaching.
 17. The Officer or N.C.O. of Guard will report in writing to the Adjutant when he hands over to the New Guard.
 18. Members of the Guard only, are permitted to remain in the Guardroom.
 19. Persons placed under arrest by Guards or Sentries will be detained in the Guardroom, and the Adjutant notified, at the earliest possible moment.
- Signed Captain.
Adjutant No. 2 Depot.

MOTOR CYCLISTS.

TECHNICAL INSTRUCTION.

All motor cyclists must be capable of executing simple repairs to their machines.

They will be instructed in:—

- (i) Identifying the different parts of the cycle by name.
- (ii) Lubricating the various parts of their machines.
- (iii) Repairing and mounting tyres.
- (iv) Adjusting brakes.
- (v) Shortening, repairing and mounting driving chains.
- (vi) Adjusting and tightening bearings.
- (vii) Adjusting and cleaning of a carburettor.
- (viii) Adjusting and cleaning of a magneto.
- (ix) Adjusting and cleaning of belts.
- (x) Cleaning, lighting and maintaining acetylene lamps.
- (xi) Manipulation of the gas and air levers, so as to obtain the best running with minimum petrol consumption.
- (xii) The theory of a petrol engine, action of the "gears" and "timing wheels"; but these portions of the machine should only be dealt with by a qualified mechanic.

NOTES ON INSTRUCTION. (*Continued from page 1*)

2. *Halt.* Points to note:— Right foot brought smartly up to the left, heels coming together with a sharp click. This brings the recruit to the position of attention. Arms to be cut smartly to the side at the same time that the right foot is brought up to the left. *Above all* on halting the recruit must be trained to stand absolutely still. No fidgeting whatever should be permitted.
3. *Marking Time.* Points to note:— Head and body held as at attention—the knees well raised so that the foot is at least six inches above the ground.
4. *Forming Fours.*
5. *Forming Two Deep.*

General Note: In all movements great stress should be laid on the recruit keeping time and a smart sharp pace should invariably be set. Although every one of these points is probably well known to every instructor, yet a constant failure to make them a reality for the recruits has been noticed.

Squad drill is useless unless a maximum of "snap" and mental and physical concentration is got from recruits. The object must be to keep the men tensely on the alert and make movements short and sharp. Every muscle of the recruit must be under control, and every nerve concentrated on his work.

Squads must be small so that the instructor can watch each man and any mistake must be noticed and corrected at once. Any failure to correct mistakes at once will cause more trouble in the end.

SIFTING INFORMATION.

Information may be positive or negative; it is usually easier to extract the latter from civilians and the former from men with military training.

Except in cases where the informant is particularly intelligent, it is better to arrive at your information by putting questions rather than to merely tell the informant to go ahead with his tale. Having asked him all the questions you can think of, then (if time permits) let him tell the tale all over again in his own way and cross-question him.

Remember a civilian is always liable to exaggerate numbers, and refugees or soldiers in retreat will usually over estimate the enemy, thus strengthening their own excuse for running away.

When questioning civilians avoid military technical terms. *E.g.*, ask: "Have any soldiers on horses passed this way?" and not: "Has a squadron of cavalry gone by?"

When trying to find out the numbers of infantry it is a good plan to bear in mind that one infantry battalion has seven mounted officers, and instead of asking how many companies went by, inquire how many officers on horseback there were.

Check estimate of numbers by finding out how long the column took to pass by. If a civilian tells you he knows any one thing, ask him how he knows it, and you will frequently discover that he is only guessing.

It is consistent with human nature that an informant should try to make his information bulk as important as possible at the expense of the truth, and it is not a bad plan to always appear to be greatly impressed by any information brought to you, even if you are not, for this will usually prevent the informant from drawing upon his imagination in order to have the satisfaction of visibly impressing you.

The following is a sample of an interrogatory. An excited farmer has come in at 8 p.m. with the news that a large force of the enemy's cavalry, infantry, and guns occupied his farm at 5 p.m.; some of them are staying there and others are coming on in your direction.

First, from your knowledge of the local situation, decide in your mind: (1) what force the enemy is likely to consist of, (2) what they are likely to be doing, (3) why they should have allowed your informant to escape then ask questions destined to elucidate those questions, as follows:

The first arrived at 5 p.m., you say? Were they on horseback? When did the next batch arrive? When did the last lot come in? How many foot soldiers, how many cavalry? What kind? (Describe various kinds of machine and field guns.) Where are they sleeping? How many men will your farm buildings and farm accommodate? (Ask the dimensions.) Did you notice the uniforms, shoulder straps, etc.?

Where had they come from? Were they very dusty (or muddy)? Did they look tired? Were they prepared to cook dinners? All of them? Did they seem very hungry or thirsty? Any signs of telephone or telegraph installations being erected? Any requisition of spades, pickaxes, etc., barbed wire, or farm implements? Where are trenches being dug? Did they seem in a hurry? What questions did they ask?

How did you get here? Did they see you come? When did you start and how long did it take you? Did you see any more of them on your way? Where? What were they doing, where going?

Next tell your informant that you are going to send scouts to verify his statements, and that he will remain under guard until their return.

Remember that it is an old dodge to allow spies, inhabitants, or scouts to gather false information and to escape with it. If you have the apparent good luck to capture one of the enemy's dispatch riders with an apparently important message, be very chary of taking it as gospel truth; a rigid cross-examination of the messenger will tell you whether he is more a fool than a knave, and therefore whether the whole business is a "plant" or a real piece of good luck for you.