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PROVISIONAL PAMPHLET
for
THE 5.56mm ALMALITE RIFLE (AR 15)

Prepared by Jungle Warfare School
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CONTENTS

	<u>PAGE</u>
INTRODUCTION	2
TECHNICAL DETAILS AND ZEROING	3
LESSON	
1. Safety, stripping and cleaning.	6
2. Magazine filling, sight setting, loading and unloading	20
3. Aiming and holding	20
4. Firing	32
5 5. How the rifle works and possible stoppages	39
6. Other positions and firing from cover	45

INTRODUCTION

1. This pamphlet contains the material that an instructor needs to teach soldiers how to handle and fire the 5.56mm Armalite Rifle.

2. Although a bayonet is issued with each rifle its use is not covered in this pamphlet.

3. The range course to be fired with this weapon will be the 1964 Rifle Course as modified for FARELF.

4. If the soldiers who are to be taught are already trained in the use of the 7.62mm self-loading rifle it will only be necessary to teach them the facts and drills which are different. This means that in some cases it will be possible to teach a number of lessons in one period.

TECHNICAL DETAILS AND ZEROING

1. WEIGHTS

Rifle without magazine and sling	6.5 lb
Empty magazine	0.2 lb
Full magazine (20 rounds)	0.7 lb
Rifle loaded	7.6 lb

2. LENGTHS

Rifle	39-in
Rifle with bayonet fixed	44-in

3. RIFLING

Number of lands	6
Twist	Uniform right hand one turn in 12-in.

4. SIGHTING EQUIPMENT

Front	Pillar foresight
Rear	Twin aperture, flip type.
Sight radius	19.75-in

5. AMMUNITION

Calibre	5.56mm (.223-in)
Types	Ball and Tracer

6. Operational Characteristics

Muzzle velocity	3,250 ft per sec.
Cyclic rate of fire	700-800 rds per minute.

7. ZEROING

The conditions and procedures which apply when zeroing the SLR, apply equally to the AR 15. Additional information is outlined below :-

25 METRES

Position of MP1	-	$1\frac{1}{2}$ inches below point of aim.
Each click of sight	-	$\frac{1}{4}$ inch.

100 METRES

Position of MP1	-	On the point of aim.
Each click of sight	-	1 inch.

Elevation

- a. To move the MP1 up, press down the detent of the foresight with the nose of a round and turn the foresight in the direction of the arrow.
- b. To move the MP1 down turn the foresight in the opposite direction to the arrow.

Direction:

- a. To move the MP1 to the right, press down the detent of the backsight and turn the clicking ring in the direction of the arrow.
- b. To move the MP1 left turn the clicking ring in the opposite direction to the arrow.

SAFETY, STRIPPING AND CLEANING

Lesson 1.

AIM

1. To introduce the AR 15 and to teach how to strip, assemble and clean it.

STORES

2. Rifles, magazines, drill rounds bayonets, slings, cleaning kit.

NOTES

3. a. As you handle parts of the rifle, name them and state briefly their purpose, but do not, at this stage, try to make the men memorize the names of parts.
b. Remove bayonets from rifles before beginning the lesson.

PRELIMINARIES

4. Issue stores.

SAFETY PRECAUTIONS

5. Explain and demonstrate paras 6 to 10. Make the men copy your actions.
6. On the command, "For inspection - port arms"
 - a. Bring the 'rifle' to the loading position. Check that the safety catch is at "Semi" or "Auto".

- b. With the right hand cock the rifle. To do this, grasp the cocking handle press its catch and pull it fully to the rear. The breech block retaining catch and empty magazine will hold the breech block and carrier back.
 - c. Return the right hand to the pistol grip.
7. Inspect all rifles to make certain that they are empty. Show the squad your own rifle.
8. On the command, "Ease Springs", or when your rifle has been inspected.
- a. Press the breech block retaining catch, press the trigger and close the ejection opening cover.
 - b. Return to the position of attention and ground arms.
 - c. Unfasten both pouches and take out your remaining magazines and drill cartridges.
9. Inspect pouches and magazines to ensure that they are empty and that the drill rounds contain no live rounds among them. Show yours to the squad.

10. When your pouches, magazines and drill rounds have been inspected, replace the magazines and drill rounds and fasten your pouches. Take up your rifle and stand at ease.

INTRODUCTION

11. The AR 15 rifle is a lightweight gas operated rifle of 5.56mm calibre. It is capable of firing either single shots or bursts and is fed by a magazine which holds 20 rounds.

12. The safety catch can be set at "Semi" to fire single rounds or "Auto" to fire bursts. The safety catch can only be set at "Safe" when the rifle is cocked.

13. The rifle is fitted with a flash hider which also serves as a projector permitting the launching of grenades without the use of supplementary attachments, except a grenade sight.

14. The rifle furniture is made of a heat resistant, fibre glass material and a rubber pad is attached to the butt of the stock to partially absorb the recoil.

15. A bayonet, grenade sight and cleaning tin is provided with each rifle. It is also possible to quickly fit a clip-on bipod which will give added stability when firing from the prone position.

6. This rifle is simple and sturdy in construction, easy to strip, clean and assemble.

TRIPPING

7. Demonstrate paras 18 to 33. Make the men copy your actions.

8. To strip the rifle :-

a. Make certain the rifle is unloaded.
To do this :-

(1) Remove the magazine by pressing in the magazine catch.

(2) Pull the cocking handle to the rear, hold it back and tilt the rifle to the left, look into the chamber to ensure that the weapon is clear. Release the cocking handle.

b. Place the safety catch to "Safe" and leave it there until your rifle is re-assembled.

c. Take off the bayonet if fitted by pressing in the catches on the base of the handle and lifting it off. Remove the sling.

BREECH BLOCK AND CARRIER

19. a. Grip the handguard firmly with the left hand and point the muzzle down.
 - b. Using the thumb of the right hand on the nose of a round push out the body locking pin from left to right and lower the butt assembly.
 - c. Draw the cocking handle fully to the rear and pull the breech block carrier clear of the body. When the carrier is removed, the cocking handle will fall free of it's groove and can also be removed.
20. The rifle is now stripped sufficiently for basic daily cleaning.

21. For cleaning before and after firing it will also be necessary to 'strip' the firing pin and breech block.

BREECH BLOCK AND FIRING PIN

22. a. Push out the firing pin retaining pin with the nose of a round. Raise the front of the carrier and the firing pin will drop from it's well in the breech block.

- b. Rotate the breech block until the cam pin is clear of the gas receiver. Remove the cam pin by rotating it a $\frac{1}{4}$ turn and lifting it out of its well.
- c. With the cam pin removed the breech block can be withdrawn from its recess in the carrier.

3. On occasion it may be necessary to strip the magazines, extractor and possibly the handguard in order to clean the rifle more thoroughly.

MAGAZINE

4. a. With the nose of round press in on the bottom plate catch through the small round hole at the front end of the plate.
- b. With catch held down push the plate towards the rear of the magazine and remove.
- c. Remove the spring and platform by easing the arms of the spring over the bottom plate retaining lugs.

EXTRACTOR

5. a. With the breech block removed from the carrier, press firmly on the rear of the extractor to take up the tension of its spring.

- b. Using the nose of a round push out the extractor retaining pin. The extractor and spring can now be removed.

HANDGUARD

26.
 - a. With the body of the rifle closed place the butt on a firm surface with the muzzle pointing upwards.
 - b. Pull down on the slipring until the lower lip of the handguard is clear; pull out and down on the handguard until the upper lip is free of the handguard cap.
 - c. Repeat the same operation with the second half of the handguard.
 - d. Considerable pressure must be used to force the slipring down. This task will be completed more easily if performed by two men.

27. You must NOT strip the rifle further than this. If you do the chances are that you will assemble it incorrectly and the rifle will be inoperative.

ASSEMBLING

HANDGUARD

28.
 - a. Hold the rifle as you did when stripping and place the upper lip of the handguard into the recess of the handguard cap.

This can best be done by using the blade of the bayonet in much the same way as a tyre lever.

- c. Care must be taken to prevent damage to the upper and lower lips of the handguard and to ensure correct seating.
- d. Repeat the same operation with the second half handguard.

EXTRACTOR

- a. Place the extractor in its seating and press firmly on the rear to take up the tension of the extractor spring.
- b. Ensuring that the holes in the extractor and breech block are in line, replace the retaining pin.

MAGAZINE

- a. Put the magazine platform and spring back in the casing.
- b. Replace the bottom plate from the rear of the magazine, press down on the bottom plate catch and push the plate fully home, ensuring that it slides beneath the securing lugs and that the small detent of the catch protrudes through its slot.

BREECH BLOCK AND FIRING PIN

31. a. Hold the breech block carrier, gas receiver up and to the front.
- b. Insert the breech block into the front of the carrier ensuring that the extractor is to the right and slightly up.
- c. With the long side of the cam pin head in line with the carrier, replace the cam pin. Rotate the cam pin $\frac{1}{4}$ turn so that the gas receiver will prevent it from falling out.
- d. Grasp the lugged rim of the breech block end turn it until the cam pin is directly beneath the gas receiver.
- e. Insert the firing pin through the open end of the carrier and replace the retaining pin from left to right.

BREECH BLOCK AND CARRIER

32. a. Open the rifle, if necessary, and hold it by the handguard with the muzzle pointing down.

- b. Replace the cocking handle into the upper part of the body ensuring that the lugs are seated in their grooves. Do not push the cocking handle fully forward.
 - c. With the breech block in it's forward position in the carrier and the gas receiver up, replace the group into the body and push the carried and cocking handle fully forward. Close the rifle and push over the body locking pin.
 - d. Set the safety catch at "semi". Point the muzzle up and press the trigger. Close the ejection opening cover and replace an empty magazine and if necessary the sling.
3. To fix the bayonet, if required, place the ring over the flashhider and ensure that the bayonet catches engage the bayonet boss.
4. Practise the men in stripping and assembling.

CLEANING

5. Explain and demonstrate paras 36 to 41. Make the men copy your actions.

CLEANING MATERIALS

6. It is important that your rifle is kept clean and in good condition. To enable you to do this the following cleaning materials are contained in the cleaning tin :-

- a. A pullthrough. This consists of a metal weight and a length of nylon cord with two loops.
- b. A tube of graphite grease (XG 340).
- c. A cleaning brush.
- d. Flannelette.

BASIC DAILY CLEANING

37. a. Make sure your rifle is unloaded and then strip it only as far as you have been taught.
- b. The barrel. To clean the barrel:-
- (1) Unroll the pullthrough and straighten it.
 - (2) Put a piece of flannelette, 4 by 2 inches, in the loop.
 - (3) Close the rifle and drop the pullthrough weight through the barrel from the breech end; pull it through in one movement. Do not let the cord rub against the edge of the barrel. Pull the barrel through several times.
 - (4) Open the rifle and examine the bore the bore to see that it is clean, i.e., hold the muzzle to your eye and look into the grooves for dirt. Do the same from the breech end.

(5) Oil the barrel using flannel-ette 4 by 1½ inches.

38. Using a small brush and a slightly oily rag clean the following :-

- a. The body. Clean the inside of the body paying particular attention to the locking lugs, the rear wall of the chamber, the breech block retaining catch and the trigger mechanism.
- b. The breech block and Carrier. Clean the breech block, carrier and cocking handle. Assemble them and close the rifle. Set the safety catch to "semi" and press the trigger.
- c. The magazine. Clean the magazine especially the platform and magazine lips. Place an empty magazine on the rifle.
- d. Clean the outside of the rifle, starting at the flash hider and working down to the butt.

CLEANING BEFORE FIRING

39. a. Check that the rifle is unloaded and strip as taught.
- b. Dry clean the whole of the rifle and inspect.
- c. Slightly oil the following parts, reassembling as you do so.

d. Body

- (1) Trigger mechanism.
- (2) Breech block retaining catch.
- (3) Magazine catch.
- (4) The bearing surfaces in the body.

e. Breech block and Carrier.

- (1) Breech block (except the face).
- (2) Carrier.

f. Using the cocking handle move the working parts backwards and forwards a few times to ensure that they are working smoothly and to distribute the oil.

CLEANING AFTER FIRING

40. a. Check that the rifle is unloaded and strip as taught.
- b. Dry clean the rifle and inspect.
- c. It may be necessary to use oily flannelette to remove fouling from the barrel and the face of the breech block.
- d. When the rifle is clean, slightly oil all metal surfaces paying particular attention to the barrel, breech block and carrier. Reassemble the rifle.

- e. Clean, inspect and re-oil the barrel, breech block and carrier for several days after firing.

CLEANING FOR ABNORMAL CONDITIONS

41. a. Damp or humid conditions. In damp or humid conditions clean as you have been taught, but inspect more frequently. Clean off any rust and re-oil.
- b. Dry, sand or dusty conditions. Under these conditions it is important that all parts of the rifle are kept bone dry. In addition the extractor and magazines must be stripped to clean more thoroughly.
- c. Arctic Cold. When the weather is so cold that the normal oil freezes, dry the whole rifle and if you are issued with low cold tested oil, use it sparingly.
42. Practise the men in stripping and cleaning their rifles.

CONCLUSION

43. a. Questions from and to the squad.
- b. Sum up, stressing the importance of careful cleaning and maintenance.

MAGAZINE FILLING, SIGHT SETTING,
LOADING AND UNLOADING

LESSON 2.

AIM

1. To teach how to fill magazines, set the sights, load, unload and make safe.

STORES

2. Rifles, magazines, drill rounds.

PRELIMINARIES

3. a. Safety precautions.
b. Revise stripping and assembling.

CARE OF AMMUNITION

4. Explain and demonstrate para 6.
Make the men copy your actions.
5. a. The ammunition is rimless.
Its calibre is 5.56mm
(.223 inches)
b. It is packed in twenty round
cardboard boxes.
c. Always look after your ammunition.
Keep it clean and do not let it
lie in the direct rays of the sun.

MAGAZINE FILLING

6. a. The magazine should take 20 rounds. In some cases the 20th round will be a very tight fit. To avoid stoppages occurring these magazines should be filled with 19 rounds only.
 - b. To fill the magazine take a convenient number of rounds from their box and place them into the magazine, bullets towards the front. Make sure that the base of each round is right up against the magazine rear wall.
 - c. To empty the magazine push forward on the base of each round. Replace in the boxes.
7. Practise the men in filling magazines.

SIGHT SETTING

8. Explain and demonstrate. Make the men copy your actions.
 - a. The backsight consists of a twin aperture flip type sight. One aperture is unmarked. This is used when firing at targets up to 200 metres and will normally be in the raised position.
 - b. The aperture marked "L" (Long-range) is used when firing at targets over 200 metres.

9. In due course the rifle will be provided with nightsights. These are likely to consist of the following :-

- a. A short luminous line on the rear of the foresight stand.
- b. A large night aperture in place of the aperture marked "L".

10. If this type of nightsight is adopted it will mean that the firer must aim up when firing at targets over 200 metres in daylight with the small aperture because no long range sight will then exist.

LOADING AND UNLOADING

11. On the command "Load" :-

- a. Adopt the loading position.
- b. Hold the rifle by the pistol grip with your right hand, forefinger outside the trigger guard, muzzle pointing up.
- c. Unfasten your pouch, cant the rifle to the right and remove the empty magazine.
- d. Put on a full magazine and make certain it is secure.
- e. Place the empty magazine in your pouch and fasten your pouch.

f. If preparing for battle you will fill your empty magazine.

12. On the command "Ready" or when a range is ordered, cock the rifle. If you are not going to fire immediately place the safety catch to "Safe". Ensure that the sights are set correctly.

13. On the command "Unload" :-

- a. Unfasten your pouch and remove the magazine.
- b. Cant the rifle to the right, so that the extracted round will fall downwards through the ejection opening and pull the cocking handle to the rear, hold it back and tilt the rifle to the left and look to see that the chamber is empty. Let the cocking handle go.
- c. Ensure that the safety catch is at "Semi" or "Auto", press the trigger, close the ejection opening cover and replace an empty magazine.
- d. Pick up the round which has been ejected, clean it, replace it in the magazine, put the magazine in your pouch and fasten it.

14. On the command "Make Safe" you carry out the same actions as unloading, but you place a full magazine on the rifle.

15. You will normally load your rifle in the standing position and subsequently adopt any firing position which may be ordered. Should you be required to load your rifle in any other position you will be given the command "Kneeling, etc - load". You unload your rifle in the position you are in at the time you are given the order to unload.

16. Once you have been ordered to load you are responsible for keeping your rifle loaded until you are ordered to unload. In the absence of orders, when you consider it necessary for safety reasons, you should unload. At all times you are responsible for the safe handling of your rifle. Make certain that :-

- a. The muzzle is always pointing to the sky, at the ground or in the direction of the target.
- b. The safety catch is always at "Safe" when the rifles is cocked, unless you have been given an order to fire.
- c. Your rifle is always unloaded when you are no longer able to ensure it's safe handling, ie, when you hand it over to another man or when you leave it under guard while performing some task.

17. Practise the men in loading, ready, make safe and unloading.

CONCLUSION

18. a. Questions from and to the squad.
- b. Sum up, stressing the need for :-
- (1) Clean ammunition
 - (2) Safe, quick and accurate handling of a loaded rifle.

AIMING AND HOLDING

LESSON 3

AIM

1. To teach how to aim and hold the rifle in the lying position.

STORES

2. Rifles, magazines, drill rounds, diagrams of sight pictures, eye discs, figure targets.

NOTES

3.
 - a. If the firer is left-handed and his left eye is his master eye, then he should be encouraged to fire from the left shoulder.
 - b. Do not have drill rounds and eye discs in use together.

PRELIMINARIES

4.
 - a. Put out targets.
 - b. Safety precautions.
 - c. Examine sights to make sure they are in good condition.
 - d. Revise loading and unloading.

AIMING

5. Using diagrams show where to aim, the aim picture and how to get correct sight alignment.

- a. Aim in the middle of a man, a figure target or any indistinct target. Sometimes you may be ordered to aim at some particular point, for example; "Bush-left bottom corner".
- b. When engaging a target more than 200 metres away it will be necessary to aim up when the small aperture is used.
- c. To aim :-
 - (1) Close the disengaged eye.
 - (2) Look through the centre of the aperture and select your point of aim.
 - (3) Place the tip of the foresight on the point of aim.
 - (4) Make certain that the sights are upright and that you are seeing the point of aim and the foresight tip through the centre of the aperture.
 - (5) Always place your head in the same position on the butt each time you aim.

6. Question the men on aiming. Let them use diagrams and the sights on their rifles to explain their answers.

THE LYING POSITION

7. Explain and demonstrate para 8. Make the men copy your actions.

8. On the command "Down" hold the rifle in front of you by the handguard and with your left hand lie down, breaking your fall with your right hand :-

- a. Keep the muzzle clear of the ground.
- b. Lie slightly obliquely to your target, legs well apart and heels on the ground if possible.
- c. Hold the handguard with your left hand. Hold the pistol grip with the right hand with the fore-finger outside the trigger guard.
- d. The rifle should be far enough forward to enable you to bring it quickly into the shoulder.
- e. To stand up put your right hand on the ground draw the left hand and rifle back and stand up.

9. Practice the men in getting into the lying position and standing up.

HOLDING IN THE LYING POSITION

10. Explain and demonstrate para 11. Order, "Load", "Down", "Ready" or give a range.

11. a. To hold the rifle look at the target, set the safety catch to "Semi" with your right thumb, lift the rifle, press the butt against your shoulder, put your forefinger on the trigger, rest your cheek lightly against the butt and aim.

b. Points to note :-

(1) Keep both elbows on the ground, with the right shoulder and elbow well forward.

(2) Grip the pistol grip firmly with the right hand and pull the rifle straight back against your shoulder.

(3) Grip the handguard with your left hand as far forward as you can with comfort.

(4) Your cheek should be against the butt so that you can aim without strain and without having your eye too near the backsight.

- (5) If, when you raise the rifle you find that it is not pointing at the target, retain your hold and adjust your position as follows. To move the muzzle sideways, keep your left elbow still and move your body round. To move the muzzle up or down, keep both elbows still and ease your body backwards or forwards.
- (6) Do not rest your magazine on the ground. If you do your shooting will be inaccurate.

12. Order. "Unload".

13. Practice the men in holding.

HOLDING IN THE LYING POSITION
(BIPOD FITTED)

14. Explain and demonstrate para 15.

15. a. You will obtain added stability and more accurate shooting when firing from the lying position or a fire trench if you use the bipod.

b. Fit the bipod, which is a clip on fit, in the recess provided for it on the barrel, beneath the foresight assembly.

- c. To hold in the lying position :-
- (1) Lie directly behind the gun with the legs together. Hold the small of the butt, with an over hand grip, with the left hand. Hold the pistol grip with the right hand. Set the safety catch to "Semi", raise the butt to the shoulder and aim.
 - (2) Keeping the left elbow well forward, pull the butt backwards and downwards with the left hand.
 - (3) With the right hand around the pistol grip and the forefinger on the trigger, pull straight back into the shoulder.
 - (4) To lock your hold twist your wrists inwards and rest your cheek against the butt.

16. Only one rifle in five will be provided with a bipod.

CONCLUSION

17. a. Questions from and to the squad.
- b. Sum up, stressing the importance of accurate aiming and firm holding.

FIRING

LESSON 4

AIM

1. To teach how to fire the rifle from the lying position.

STORES

2. Rifles, magazines, drill rounds, eye discs, figure targets.

NOTES

3. You can only teach a man to shoot properly on the range, but in this lesson you can teach him the drill for firing and make certain that he holds his rifle firmly.

PRELIMINARIES

4. a. Put out targets.
b. Safety precautions.
c. Revise holding.

TYPE OF FIRE

5. The three types of fire used in battle are :-

- a. Deliberate. Used when firing at indistinct enemy positions which have been observed by the smoke or flashes from their weapons. Used also when firing at longer ranges.

- b. Snap shooting. Intermittent firing at enemy who expose themselves for short periods only.
- c. Rapid fire. Quick firing for varying periods of time at well defined targets at short ranges.

DELIBERATE FIRE

- 6. Explain and demonstrate para 7. Order "Load", "Down", "Ready", on given a range.
- 7.
 - a. On the command "Fire", set the safety catch to "Semi" and aim.
 - b. Check your breathing and when the aim is correct press the trigger without jerking it, then release the trigger completely. During training memorize your aim picture as the rifle fires and declare whether it was correct, high, low, right, etc.
 - c. Lower the rifle.
 - d. Go on firing at the deliberate rate, which is about five rounds a minute. Keep a mental count of the number of rounds you have left in the rifle.
 - e. On the command "Stop", lower the rifle, set the safety catch to "Safe" and if necessary change magazines. Fasten your pouch each time.

- f. On the command "Go on", set the safety catch to "Semi" and go on firing.

8. Practise the men in firing at the deliberate rate.

SNAP SHOOTING

9. Snap shooting is similar to deliberate shooting, except that you speed up your actions and shorten the interval between shots.

10. Explain and demonstrate para 11 Order "Load", "Down", "Ready" on give a range.

11. a. On the command "Watch and Shoot" you adopt the 'Alert position'. This is the best position to adopt when expecting an enemy to appear and is a comfortable position to maintain whilst observing your arc. To adopt the alert position, set the safety catch to "Semi", bring the butt into the shoulder with the muzzle pointing downwards and watch the target area.
- b. When a target appears aim quickly and fire at least two quick shots.
- c. When your enemy falls on goes to cover, stop firing but be ready to fire again.

- d. If an enemy moves across your front, aim just in front of him. Maintain your aim by moving your rifle and continue to fire until he drops.
- e. Actions on the command "Stop", "Go on" and the drill for counting rounds are as in deliberate fire.

12. Practise the men in snap shooting.

RAPID FIRE

13. Rapid firing is similar to snap shooting except that you may fire more rounds. With practise you will be able to fire twenty or more accurate shots at different targets in a minute.

14. Explain and demonstrate para 15.

- 15. a. On the command "Rapid", put the safety catch to "Semi", aim and watch the target area.
- b. On the command "Fire", fire as quickly as you can with accuracy switching to fresh targets as your enemy fall.
- c. Go on firing until there are no more enemy at which to fire.
- d. Actions on the command "Stop", "Stop", "Go on" and the drill for counting rounds are the same as in deliberate fire.

16. Practise the men in rapid firing.

NIGHT SHOOTING (Instinctive Pointing)

17. Explain and demonstrate paras 18 and 19.
18. It is possible to fire the AR 15 under conditions of darkness by instingtre pointing.
 - a. Hold the rifle as normal except that the head should be held up and both eyes kept open. This gives a better view of the target and prevents the target being obscured by the outline of the foresight assembly.
 - b. Fire in bursts.

NIGHT SHOOTING (NIGHT SIGHTS)

19. If the rifle is fitted with night sights much greater accuracy can be obtained.
 - a. When the target can just be seen at L.N.V. (Limit of Night Visibility) the hold will be the same as in daylight except that the head position is adjusted for line on the backsight, both eyes are kept open and an accurate line onto the target is obtained by the luminous foresight.
 - b. In moonlight or when because of its close position to the firer it is possible to see the target clearly, a normal aim may be taken using the night foresight.

c. Fire as ordered.

20. Practise the men in the night firing positions.

21. a. The M15 rifle has the capability of your shooting will be done with the safety catch at "Semi". Only set the safety catch to "Auto" to fire bursts when the target warrants it i.e.,

(1) A group of enemy in the open and at short range.

(2) A fleeting or moving target, particularly in close country.

(3) An indistinct enemy or one that can be identified by noise at night.

(4) When in ambush.

b. If at anytime you are required to fire in bursts you will be given the command "Bursts" before the order to fire, for example, "Bursts - Watch and Shoot".

22. Give further practice in the whole lesson.

CONCLUSION

23. a. Questions from and to the squad.

b. Sum up.

HOW THE RIFLE WORKS AND
POSSIBLE STOPPAGES

LESSON 5.

AIM

1. To teach how the rifle works.

STORES

2. Rifles, magazines, drill rounds, targets.

NOTES

3. The rifle is a simple weapon and is easily understood. Keep your teaching simple.

PRELIMINARIES

4. a. Safety precautions.
b. Order "Load", "Ready".

APPROACH

5. If you understand how the rifle works, you will find it easier to understand why stoppages occur and as a result be better able to clear them.

BASIC MECHANISM

6. Explain and demonstrate para 7 the men following you on their own rifles.

7. a. When you press the trigger the hammer strikes the rear of the firing pin and drives it forward on to the cap in the base of the round. The round goes off and forms gas which drives the bullet up the barrel.
- b. When the bullet has passed the gas vent some of the gas goes through the vent and into the gas tube. It then passes through the tube into the gas receiver of the breech block carrier and drives it to the rear.
- c. As the carrier moves rear wards it causes the breech block to rotate and unlock from the firing position. The carrier and breech block go back together, cocking the hammer as they go. The extractor pulls the empty case with it until the case is freed from the chamber, the ejector then forces it from the face of the breech block out through the

the carrier goes through a hole in the butt and compresses the return spring.

- d. The return spring forces the breech block and carrier forward. As it does so the front end of the breech block pushes a round from the magazine into the chamber. When the breech block has gone right forward the carrier continues forward causing the breech block to rotate and lock in position. The extractor grips the base of the round and the ejector is compressed when the breech block is fully home.
- e. If the safety catch is at "Auto" the rifle will continue to fire until the trigger is released or the magazine is empty. If the safety catch is at "Semi" the trigger must be released and pressed again before a second round can be fired.

8. Question the men about how the rifle works. Let them use their rifles to illustrate their answers in their own words.

IMMEDIATE ACTION AND STOPPAGES

9. If you keep your rifle, magazines and

occur.

10. Explain and demonstrate para 11. Make the men copy your actions.

11. If the rifle fails to fire or stops firing, the following Immediate Action must be carried out :-

a. Cant the rifle to the left and look into the ejection opening.

b. If on examination you see :-

(1) The breech block and carrier to the rear and an empty chamber and magazine, change the magazine, press the breech block retaining catch and carry on firing.

(2) The breech block and carrier fully forward, cock the rifle and continue firing.

(3) The breech block and carrier not fully forward, remove the magazine, pull the cocking handle fully to the rear press in the bottom of the breech block retaining catch and

look inside. If an obstruction is present, remove it, replace the magazine, press the breech block retaining catch and continue firing.

12. Practise the men in I.A. The Instructor will nominate the position of the breech block and the condition of the chamber and magazines.

13. If after applying I.A. the rifle still fails to fire the cause must be a breakage or very bad fouling. Unload and look for excessive fouling. If it is present, clean the rifle. If however a broken part is found you will have to have it repaired or replaced by the armourer.

14. It is essential that the gas receiver and the rear of the gas tube are cleaned daily and kept lightly oiled. If this is not done there is a possibility on a long patrol that these two parts may become fused together with a round in the chamber. This will mean either that the weapon will not re-cock after firing the first round or that the round in the chamber cannot be unloaded by cocking. In latter case the breech block carrier may be freed by :-

a. Removing the magazine.

- b. Pointing the rifle in a safe direction and firing the round.
 - c. Clearing the gas affected parts. This method of clearing the stoppage may not be tactically acceptable.
15. Give practice in the whole lesson.

CONCLUSION

16. a. Questions from and to the squad.
- b. Sum up, stressing that with a well cared for rifle stoppages are rare.

OTHER POSITIONS AND FIRING
FROM COVER

LESSON 6.

AIM

1. To teach how to fire from other positions in the open and from cover.

STORES

2. Rifle, magazines, drill rounds, targets.

NOTES

3. a. Choose ground with various types of cover.
b. Two consecutive periods will be required for this lesson.

PRELIMINARIES

4. a. Put out targets.
b. Safety precautions.
c. Revise firing.

APPROACH

5. On many occasions during battle it will be impossible to fire from the lying

position, because of the nature of the ground or the height of the vegetation. You must therefore learn to adopt either the kneeling, sitting or standing positions, making full use of any natural cover. Whatever position you adopt your actions on the commands "Ready", "Fire", "Stop", "Go on", etc, are the same as in the lying position.

THE KNEELING POSITION

6. Explain and demonstrate para 7. Make the men copy your actions.
7.
 - a. Kneel on your right knee, keeping it well out to the right and, if possible, sit on your right heel. Rest your left elbow behind your left knee and the butt on your right thigh.
 - b. Order "Ready", or give a range.
 - c. To fire, slide your left elbow forward to rest in front of your knee cap or behind it, bring the butt into your shoulder, aim and fire.
8. Practise the men in the kneeling position.

THE SITTING POSITION

9. The sitting position is most comfortable and is useful for firing downhill or at moving targets at short range.
10. Explain and demonstrate para 11. Make the men copy your actions.
11.
 - a. Sit down with your legs crossed or apart and put your feet wherever they are comfortable. Hold the rifle as you did when kneeling.
 - b. Order "Ready" or give a range.
 - c. To fire, rest your elbows in front of or behind your knees, bring the butt into the shoulder, aim and fire.
12. Practise the men in the sitting position.

THE STANDING POSITION

13. The standing position is used mainly to fire quick shots when moving forward in the attack or on patrol. It will also be the position most used when firing from a prepared defensive position.
14. Explain and demonstrate para 15. Make the men copy your action.

15. a. Adopt the loading position.
 - b. Order, "Ready" or give a range.
 - c. To fire, lean forward a little, bring the butt into the shoulder, sliding your left hand forward along the handguard as you do so.
 - d. Aim and fire as quickly as you can.
16. Practise the men in the standing position.

GLOSE QUARTER SHOOTING

17. When you are moving in close country on patrol or in abuilt-up area, you may meet the enemy at close quarters and without warning. In conditions such as these it will be the quickness and accuracy of the first shots which gain success.

18. There are two positions of readiness in which you can carry your rifle when you may have to use it instantly. They are the "High port" and the "Alert" positions.

19. Explain and demonstrate paras 20 to 22. Make the men copy your actions.

HIGH PORT

20. a. Hold the rifle diagonally across

your body (with the muzzle pointing up) far enough forward so that you can come instantly into the firing position.

- b. The rifle should be ready to fire with the safety catch at "Semi" or "Auto". You must use your common sense in deciding when to put it to "Safe", e.g., when crossing an obstacle.
- c. The high port position is best when moving through low scrub or when crossing obstacles. Should you stumble you will not fill the muzzle with dirt or be a danger to your comrades.

ALERT

- 21. a. Hold the rifle with the butt in the shoulder and the muzzle pointing down and slightly to the left.
- b. The rifle should be ready to fire as in the high port position.
- c. The alert position is the best position from which to fire quickly. Your body and rifle

are in perfect balance and the barrel can quickly be lined up on any target which may present itself.

22. To fire from either position :-
- a. Bring the butt quickly into the shoulder.
 - b. Aim quickly and fire.
 - c. If the target is very close and does not permit an exact aim to be taken, keep both eyes open, take a quick, rough aim along the barrel and fire.
 - d. In either case continue to fire until the enemy is killed, but the emphasis must be on a first shot or first burst kill.
 - e. When moving in an advance or on patrol, firers should halt momentarily to aim and fire.
23. Practise the men in firing from the high port and alert positions.

FIRING FROM BEHIND COVER

24. In battle you must be able to handle

and fire your rifle accurately from any sort of cover.

FIRING POSITIONS

25. a. If your fire position is a good one, you will :-

(1) Have cover from fire and view.

(2) Have an unobstructed view of your arc of fire or target.

(3) Have room to use your weapons freely, and shoot accurately.

(4) Be able to approach it under cover and advance from it easily.

b. Do not move or expose yourself in your firing position more than you have to, and always rest your weapon correctly.

c. When firing from soft cover, rest your forearm. If the cover is hard, rest your rifle on it as near your left hand as you can.

26. Explain and demonstrate sun paras

a. to e.

- a. LOW COVER - Your position will be almost the same as firing in the open, but you must make sure that you get as much protection as possible by getting the muzzle of your rifle just clear of the top of the bank or the crest of the fold.
- b. KNEELING AND SITTING - Kneel on one or both knees, or sit down which ever suits the cover best.
- c. STANDING - Lean against the cover, if you can to steady your position.
- d. FIRING ROUND COVER - Fire round the right side of the cover, if you can. Steady your rifle against the cover as near your left hand as possible.
- e. NARROW COVER - Lie, kneel, sit or stand straight behind it, with your legs together.

27. Practise the men in adopting firing positions using all types of cover.

TAKING COVER AND FIRING

28. Using low cover, explain and demonstrate para 29.

29. In an attack you must continue to advance until your section commander gives the order "Take cover". You will then carry out the following actions.

- a. Run to the nearest cover, keep your rifle out of sight and observe. This is the position of observation. If no other order follows, shoot at any enemy you can see or any likely enemy positions.
- b. On the command "Ready", or a range being given, get into a firing position and cock the rifle if necessary.
- c. Fire as ordered. Take the opportunity of refilling empty or partially filled magazines during any lull in firing.
- d. On the command "Prepare to advance (or move)", set the safety catch to "Safe", unless the command "Make Safe" has been given previously get behind cover and make sure

you have all your magazines and that your pouches are fastened, remain ready to jump up and move.

- e. On the command, "Advance (or move)", jump up quickly and advance in the direction and formation ordered.

30. Practise the men in firing from all types of cover.

CONCLUSION

31. a. Questions from and to the squad.
- b. Sum up.

Speed
Cover

is fire

Ampl

54

by + cover

and