



UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

Range Control  
Marine Corps Base  
Camp Lejeune, North Carolina 28542

FILE  
IN REPLY REFER TO:

5100  
RCTL  
18 Dec 84

From: Range Control Officer  
To: Assistant Chief of Staff, Training and Operations

Subj: SAFETY DEFICIENCIES: BASE RIFLE RANGE

Ref: (a) MCO P3570.1A  
(b) TC 25-1

Encl: (1) SDZ for M16

1. As previously discussed, there are some safety concerns/actions needed at the Rifle Range.

2. For all firing: downrange sentries are needed to ensure no boat traffic enters Stone Creek. All other ranges where firing is conducted over navigable waters require range sentries for boater safety.

a. Since Stone Creek Sector is a restricted area, emplacement of appropriate warning signs should cover this deficiency. However, until signs are emplaced, sentries should be utilized.

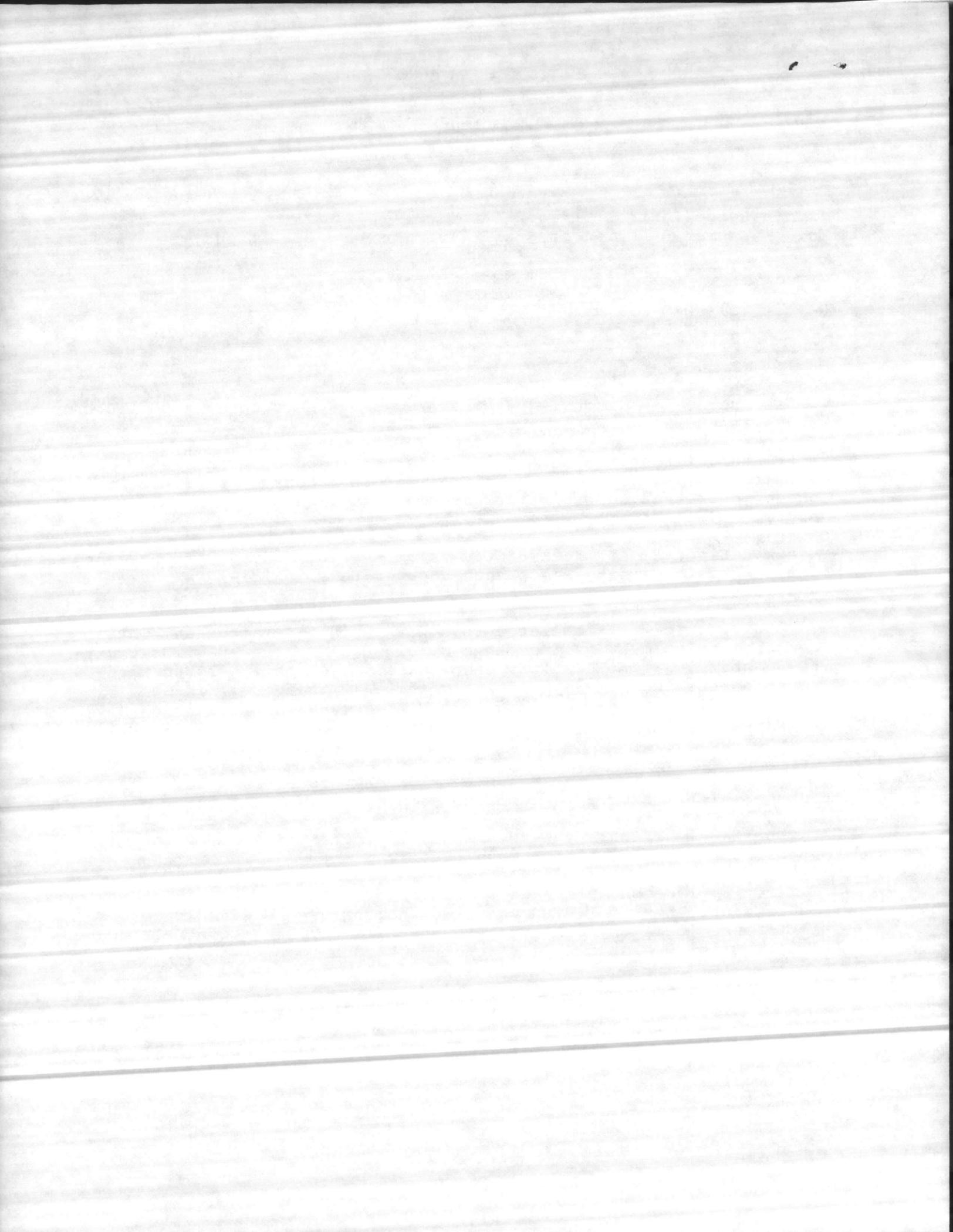
b. A quick fix completed this week by Range Maintenance has been the emplacement of two range warning flag poles at grids vic 764305 and 759321. The Rifle Range must raise and lower red warning streamers from these poles to coincide with actual firing times. To fly streamers continuously, 24 hours a day would be contrary to the requirements of references (a) and (b). Enclosure (1) depicts the SDZ.

c. Signs in the water are part of the New River safety survey package which I expect to complete soon.

3. For M40A1 firing: the downrange area north of Stone Creek Sector must be protected from unauthorized entry during firing.

a. Emplacement of range warning signs will assist with this requirement. However, even when these signs are received from Base Maintenance (delivery unknown) and installed by Range Control, there will still be a hazard to personnel on Verona Loop Road (south portion).

b. Recommend we install two "range gates" with appropriate warning signs at grid VIC 769350 (1) and 752350 (2), which must be closed by the Rifle Range before going hot. The other 4 or 5 trails/roads leading into the SDZ will be covered with our SDZ/IA signs when received from BMO. I believe range gates are necessary at the above east and west sites on VRL Road because it is more heavily traveled as a secondary road. The Game Warden is aware of this downrange hazardous area.



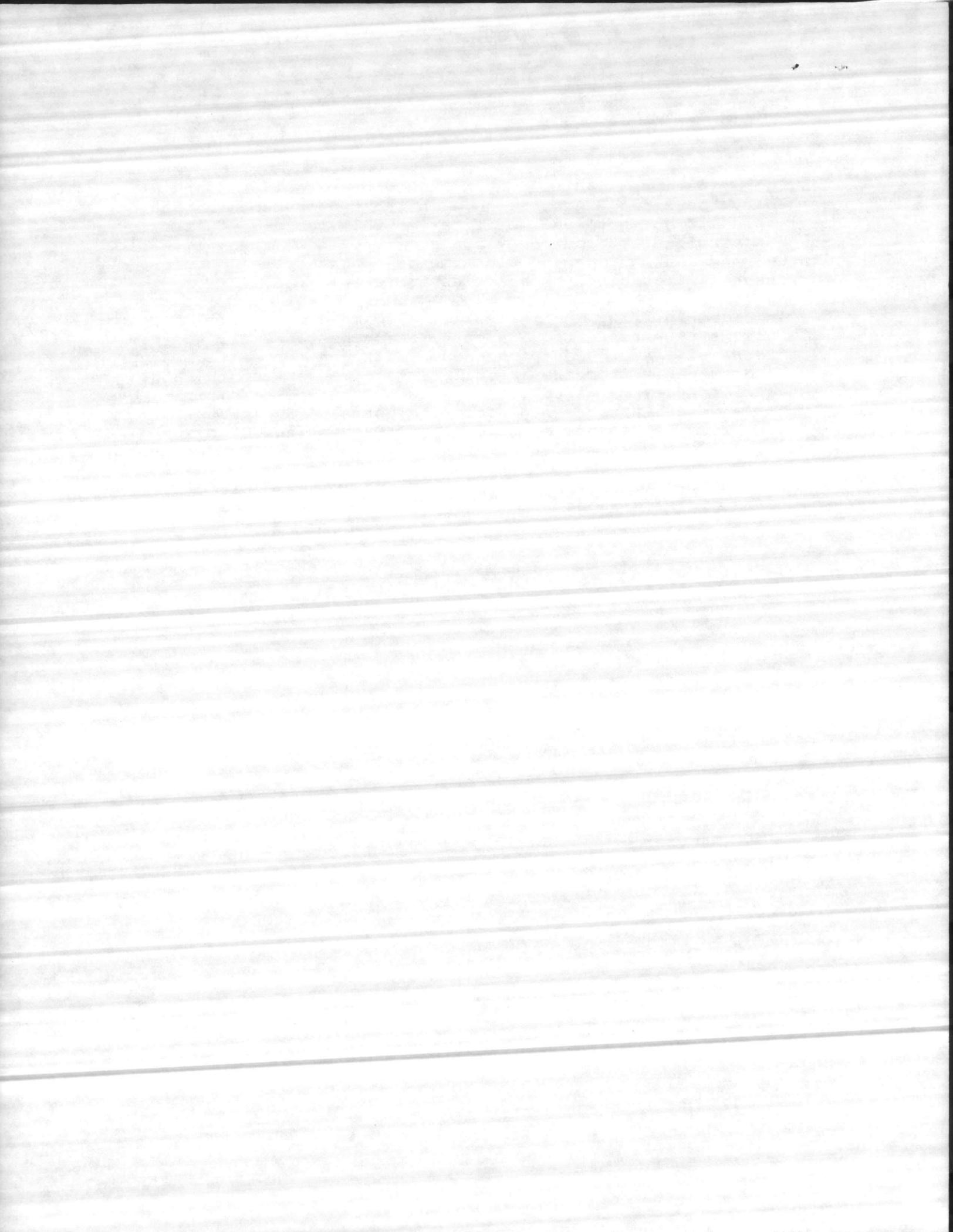
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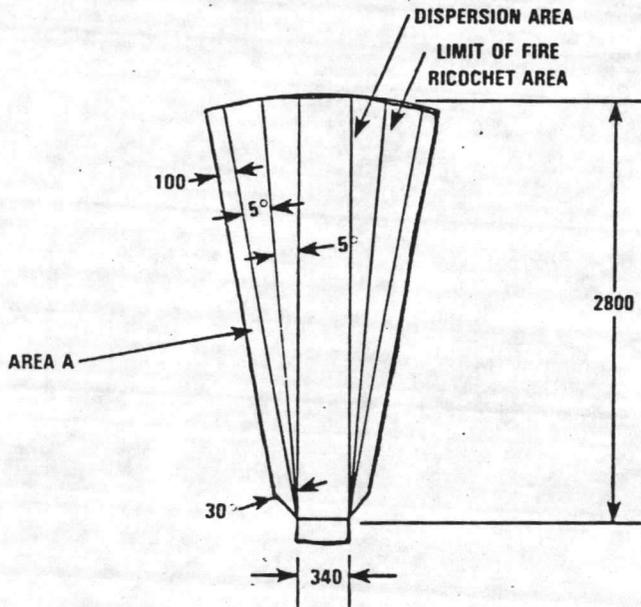
4. Communications with BLACKBURN should be established and maintained by the Rifle Range, along with the requirement to request permission to go "hot" and notification when "cold." Currently, Range Control is not routinely aware of the rifle range live fire status, and can only depend upon the telephone system should a need for check fire or other emergencies arise.

5. In order to bring the installation commander in compliance with regulations, the above requirements/recommendations are the minimum additional safety procedures needed. Although a specific waiver may be obtainable from the installation commander for the SDZ x distance (ref (a) par 1-6d (1)), waivers applicable to firing over navigable waters may be granted by the Corps of Engineers only. The CO, Rifle Range should initiate any waivers he deems appropriate. I have discussed these issues with Maj KARLE.

6. In the absence of written waivers, the above requirements should be directed soonest.

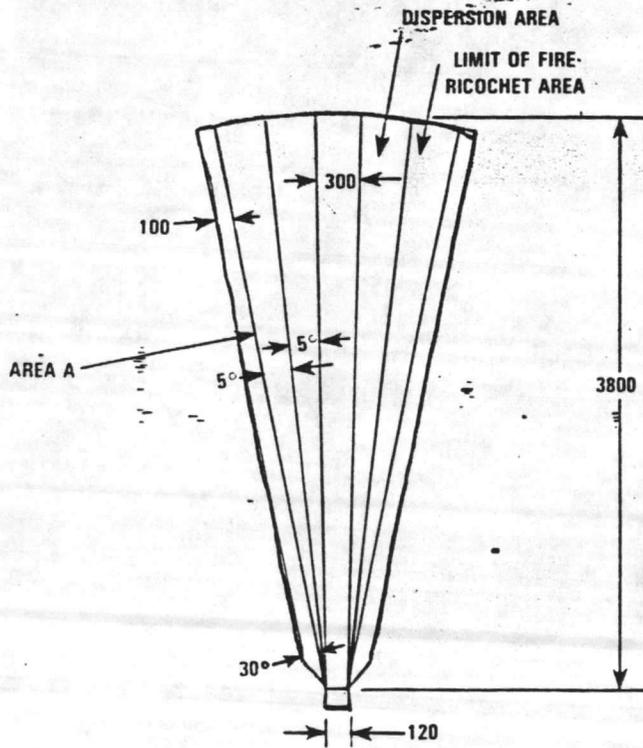
  
F. J. CIERLE





SCALE 1:50,000

Figure B-3 Record firing range - M16



SCALE 1:50,000

Figure B-4 Machinegun transition range - M60

