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Small Arms Training

Volume I, Pamphlet No. 18, 1939

SUPPLEMENT No. 3

Pistol Course

(For all Units at Home)

1940

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By Command of the Army Council,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. H. Jones'.

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THE PISTOL COURSE

General

1. The course is designed to practise individuals in delivering fire instantly by sense of direction. The speed at which one or more effective shots can be fired is more important than the close grouping of the shots.

2. To obtain full value from this course, a period of about one week should be devoted to preliminary practice in holding and snapping with an empty pistol before firing with live ammunition.

Range Discipline and Safety Precautions

3. See Pamphlet No. 1, Sec. 3, and Pamphlet No. 11, Lesson 1.

Grouping Practice

4. Before men are allowed to shoot by sense of direction only, their individual ability in trigger pressing and holding must be ascertained. For this reason, sights will be used in firing the grouping practice.

Misfires and Jams

5. See Pamphlet No. 1, Sec. 3, para. 27.

PISTOL COURSE

Part I.—PRELIMINARY (using sights)

No.	Practice	Detail	No. of rounds	R'ge, yards	Target	H.P.S.	Remarks
1	Grouping	Double action. Using sights. Firer to re-turn to "Ready" position after each shot.	4 either hand.	10	4-ft. with two 2-in. aiming marks.	H.P.S. 20. Faults to be carefully noted.	<p>i. Target is shown in Vol. V, 1931, Plate 109, page 216.</p> <p>ii. SCORING: 4 shots within 8 × 4-in. rect-angle = 20 points. 4 shots within 12 × 8-in. rect-angle = 16 points. 4 shots within 16 × 12-in. rect-angle = 12 points.</p> <p><i>Note.</i>—The pistol grouping rect-angle (Vol. V, 1931, Plate 116) will be applied, the centre to the bottom of the aiming mark.</p>
		Total Part I	4 rds.				

Part II.—INSTRUCTIONAL (without using sights)

2	Applica-tion.	Double action, with-out use of sights. Firer to return to "Ready" position after each shot. Time 1 sec. for each shot. No standard interval between shots.	3 either hand.	10	1 Fig. 2	15	<p>i. Fig. targets 2 and 3 will be marked with a rectangle as shown in Vol. V, Plates III and 112A.</p> <p>ii. <i>Practice 5.</i> Two Fig. 2 targets on sledge (Vol. V, Plate 110) capable of movement. Two Fig. 3 targets. On the com-mand "Fire", one of the two</p>
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Part II.—INSTRUCTIONAL (without using sights)—continued

No.	Practice	Detail	No. of rounds	R'ge, yards	Target	H. P. S.	Remarks	
3	Application.	Double action. 3 secs. for 3 shots.	3 either hand.	10	1 Fig. 2	15	<p>Fig. 2 targets (as indicated by the conducting officer) will be charge. The firer will first fire at the charging target, then advance 5 yds. and fire at the remaining three. Where several firers are firing in one detail, the conducting officer will ensure, as far as possible, that all firers advance together.</p> <p>iii. SCORING—Practices 2 to 7, Each shot within 16 × 12-in. rectangle=5 points. Each shot on remainder of target=3 points.</p>	
4		Double action. 1 shot at each target. Time, 6 secs. for practice.	4 either hand.	10	4 Figs. 2	20		
5	Attack	Double action. Firer advancing 5 yds. Time, 6 secs.	4 either hand.	20 to 15	2 Figs. 2 (one charging). 2 Figs. 3.	20		
6	Defence	Double action. Drawing loaded pistol from case. Time, 4 secs.	2 either hand.	15 to 5	2 Figs. 2, both charging.	10		
7	Surprise and disappearing (gas).	Double action. For each exposure 2 rounds to be fired. Time for each exposure, 2 secs. Respirators will be worn.	4 either hand.	10	Fig. 2 to be exposed and moved with- in a frontage of 3 yds. 2 shots to be fired during each run of the target.	20		
			Total Part II					
			20 rds.					