

SER No	CONTENT
	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>LESSON PLAN :FC & BC 8</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>FIRE CONTROL ORDERS</u></p> <p>Period - Two</p> <p>Type - Lecture/Practice</p> <p>Code - FC & BC 8</p> <p>Term - III</p> <hr/> <p><u>Training Aids</u></p> <p>1. Computer Slides, Pointer, Charts, Black board & Chalk.</p> <p><u>Time Plan</u></p> <p>2. (a) Introduction and Aim - 03 Min</p> <p>(b) Importance of fire discipline and fire control orders -20 Min</p> <p>(c) Important Terms, Points for section commander & Method of Giving the Fire Control Orders. - 20 Min</p> <p>(d) Sequence of fire control orders - 25 Min</p> <p>(d) Types of fire control orders - 10 Min</p> <p>(f) Conclusion - 02 Min</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>INTRODUCTION</u></p> <p><u>General</u></p> <p>3. By opening of fire indiscriminately, too early or at too great a range, the defender's position will be disclosed prematurely which will mean wasting of ammunition without advantage. This means Section Commander should be able to control the fire of his section by exercising good fire discipline.</p> <p>4. It is the duty of the commander to ensure that the enemy is engaged effectively by bringing down the correct volume of fire at the most effective range by using the most appropriate weapon(s). Also in the battle, all personnel of a section/platoon may not be able to observe the</p>

(a)

enemy and even if they can, they may either not open fire thinking that others would do so or all of them may open fire resulting in wastage of ammunition.

5. It is also the duty of a commander to assess the effect of fire on the enemy and then either stop the fire, or re-adjust it or add the fire of additional weapons to make it effective. Therefore the commander ensures effectiveness of fire and expenditure of ammunition.

AIM

6. The aim of this lecture is to teach you the importance of fire discipline and giving of fire control orders.

SCOPE

7. The lecture will be covered in four parts :-

- (a) Part I : Importance of Fire Discipline and Fire Control Orders.
- (b) Part II : Important Terms, Points for section commander & Method of Giving the Fire Control Orders.
- (c) Part III : Sequence of Fire Control Orders.
- (d) Part IV : Types of Fire Control Orders.

(b)

PART I – IMPORTANCE OF FIRE DISCIPLINE & FIRE CONTROL ORDERS

8. Fire discipline is a battle winning factor which will stand you in good stead, especially in situations where surprise is of paramount importance. Indiscipline firing starts with an individual and spreads like wild fire. Should the troops have confidence of correct, accurate and effective fire orders, they may not indulge in opening of premature/indiscriminate firing, thereby giving away position or wasting ammunition. Fire discipline and fire control orders are very important in all operations of war.

9. **Defence.** In defence, if fire is opened up prematurely, it will give away the defender's location allowing the enemy to change his plan and surprise the defender subsequently. Moreover, fire opened up at long ranges, is rarely effective and results in leaving the defender with less ammunition for the eventual attack by the enemy. Therefore good fire discipline and correct fire orders, as I said earlier, assumes added significance in the following cases:-

- (a) During hours of poor visibility/darkness when men are jittery and tend to fire at imaginary targets.
- (b) When enemy patrols try to draw fire from the defender in order to find his disposition.

(c)

PART II – IMPORTANT TERMS, POINTS TO REMEMBER &

METHOD OF GIVING THE ORDERS

Important Terms

10. Certain terms connected with fire control orders are: - (a) **Fire Unit.**
Any number of men firing under a commander, usually a section. The personal responsibility for giving them the executive order to fire is the fire unit commander.

(b) **Fire Direction Orders.** These are the orders which the fire unit commander receives from his superior, telling him when, at what target, and with what intensity to open fire. A section commander will receive fire direction orders from his Platoon commander. They may include key ranges and any specific direction about withholding of fire.

(c) **Fire Control Orders.** These are the orders given by the fire unit commander to direct and control the fire of his fire unit. Emphasis should be on control and surprise. These orders are the final and complete instructions after all factors have been considered and before fire is actually opened.

(d) **Arc of Fire.** This denotes the area of ground for which the fire unit is responsible and within which it will engage targets. An arc of fire must not be confused with a field of fire, which is the area over which it can fire effectively.

Points for Section Commander

9. There are certain factors which must be remembered before giving fire control orders.

(a) **Indication.** No fire order can be effective unless the target is clearly indicated and can be easily recognised by the men of the fire unit.

(b) **Range.** Do the range, visibility and vulnerability of the target justify fire at all? Would it be better to wait and get a more vulnerable target or achieve more/complete surprise?

(c) **Best Weapons to Use.** What is the best weapon or weapons to use? Although the LMG is the main weapon of the section, the target may be more suitable for rifle fire only, or possibly for a combination of weapons, eg a LMG and rifle grenade.

(d) **Rate of Fire.** Should the fire be in single round or in bursts? Should it be rapid or at the normal rate? Rapid rate is justified only on a few occasions, when it allows the maximum effect to be gained from surprise and volume of fire or when an especially vulnerable target presents itself or to cover move of troops in the final stages of an assault.

Method of Giving the Orders

11. Having decided to open fire, there is then the need to give orders. The four main rules which must be adhered to are: -

- (a) The orders should be given clearly, calmly and concisely.
- (b) It should be given loudly so as to be heard above the noises of the battle.
- (c) It must be given as an order, to be obeyed as such.
- (d) It should be given with adequate pauses, so that those being addressed may have the time to take the correct action. For example there must be time for sight adjustment after the range is given.

(d)

PART III – SEQUENCE OF FIRE CONTROL ORDERS

Sequence of Fire Control Orders

12. Fire control orders must be given in the laid down sequence so as to avoid confusion and misunderstanding. For ease of remembering the sequence for giving fire control orders, remember the catch word 'GRIT'.

- (a) G -The Group of the section which is addressed, i.e the LMG group, the rifle group or the whole section. An order starting 'No 1 Section indicates that the whole section will fire, 'LMG Group' or 'Rifle Group' means that group only is to fire.
- (b) R -The range to the target should be given next. It is to ensure accuracy of fire and to draw attention on a limited area of ground (Instructor to explain why range has to be given before indicating the target).
- (c) I - The indication of the target by the simplest form of indication.
- (d) T - The type of fire to be emp. i.e open fire at once, or on further orders, or when the opportunity arises.

(e)

PART IV – TYPES OF FIRE CONTROL ORDERS

Types of Fire Control Orders

13. There are four types of fire control orders as under :-

- (a) **Delayed Fire Control Orders.** These orders are given as an early warning

when enemy is seen approaching at a longer range so that necessary preparations are made by the troops to open fire, as soon as the enemy appears within the effective range of weapons. Delayed fire control orders are executed in two manners:-

- (i) When the initiative to open fire is left to the man eg..

"No 1 Sec - 800 - JUNGLE se dushmankaek sec advkarraha hai. Jab mar keilake men aye to FIRE".

- (ii) When initiative to open fire is with fire unit commander. eg

"No 1 Sec - 800 - JUNGLE se dushmankaek sec advkarraha hai - mere agale hukam kaintizarkaro".

(b) **Full Fire Control Orders.** As the name suggests these are orders complete in all respects. These fire control orders are given when fire is to be brought down immediately on a target within the effective range of weapons. There are two types of full fire control orders.

- (i) **Distributed Area Target.** This is when the enemy presents itself over an area. eg

"No 1 Sec - 200 - JHARI - DAINE tin baje DARKHT - tak dushmanki position. LMG Group char burst, rifle group tin tin round FIRE".

- (ii) **Pin Point Target.** This is when enemy presents itself at one place only. eg

"Rif Gp 300 Akela Darkhat, Darkhatke niche dushmanka sniper, Rfn No 1 - tin round 'FIRE'".

(c) **Opportunity Fire Control Orders.** These orders are given when the target is not continuously seen by every one in the section or when the enemy has taken cover, eg:-

"No 1 Sec 400 tuti futizamin me dusman chhupahu hai, nazarane per FIRE".

(d) **Brief Fire Control Orders.** These are given when time is not available to give out a full fire order. In this only essential details are given. This type of order is normally given when enemy appears at close range and surprises us. eg

"LMG group sights down enemy running left to right - FIRE (Instructor to explain significance of the phrase sights down)".

CONCLUSION

14.(a) Necessity of fire discipline and hence fire control orders to conserve and expend ammunition judiciously and effectively. Not to disclose own position prematurely at long

ranges, as chances of enemy escaping are more and they would have taken away information of your dispositions, which is not desirable.

- (b) Fire direction orders.
- (c) Components of fire control orders - GRIT.
- (d) Fire orders themselves may be:-
 - (i) Full fire control orders.
 - (ii) Opportunity fire control order.
 - (iii) Brief fire control orders.
 - (iv) Delayed fire control orders.

15. Fire Control Orders are essential to maintain surprise, save ammunition and engage targets with speed. The correct sequence must be followed to avoid confusion.

16. Fire discipline should be exercised through fire control orders; however it does not imply that a soldier should never fire without orders. There will be many an occasion when the soldier must use his initiative and fire on the enemy. This applies in defence once the main attack has developed and need for concealing the position no longer exists. An enterprising rifleman can influence the course of the battle by picking on and killing enemy commanders and other key personnel such as radio operators.