

POLICE ORCER No. 247

TEAR SMOKE

A—Dos and Donts

1. Do always envisage the possibility of having to take action, and reconnoitre and take mental stock of places, people and situation present or potential.
2. Do use a sufficiency of gas when you have undertaken its use. Let there be whenever possible range of at least 80—100 yards between the gas-squad and the crowd when initiating action. Do ensure that your athi men have easy access so that they may not get intermingled with the gas-squad.
3. Do ensure that movements of your lathi and rifle (or musket) squads do not clash. Failure to ensure this will almost invariably lead, perhaps immediately, to serious consequences. Do remember your squad personnel are virtually surrounded and helpless in a melee, so keep them sufficiently distant from the crowd and covered in front by lathi personnel.
4. Do realise that it is simple to evolve a few action signals (with the hands) and to sound a cautionary blast on a small but loud whistle kept in the mouth, when wearing the anti-gas respirator face piece. In the general noise and confusion of a civic disturbance trying to shout intelligibly through the face-piece is entirely futile.
5. Do use too much smoke rather than too little, remembering the time of emission of a grenade—1 mt. 12 ces.—a rough guide to show the concentration of smoke required is as follows:—
 - (i) In broad streets and open places:—

10 grenades should be used for a target area of 100 sq. yards. The grenades should and so as to form a group of not more than 5 yards in diameter.

In narrow streets and places:—

A small number of grenades closely grouped will of ten prove effective.
 - (ii) Before grenades are used, decide whether respirators are worn on the face or not. If so, they must be put on before and not after the throwing has commenced.
6. Do think of the local protection of safeguard the actual men employed in throwing the grenade keeping in view the close proximity of the crowd. This protection may take the form of either cover by fire or cover from view (throwing from behind a house or cover)

(In foreign countries round wicker work shield or iron shield has been adopted as a protection cover for lathi or baton party. In certain other places dannert wire are carried in front of security force vehicles or parties)
7. Remember that solid ammunition creating heat also creates possible fire hazards.
8. When firing high angle, fire high enough to ensure that the shell falls first in front of the crowd and not in it.
9. Do not forget that D. M. may, and should be used unhesitatingly on a really violent and dangerous crowd, especially if the use of C. N. has not had the desired effect. Do not forget that the effects of D. M. are not by any means, as serious as more or less tactly described in the Tear Smoke Manual and as generally supposed.
10. Do not omit to be on the look-out for any sign of the crowd reassembling and do take prompt gas action accordingly.
11. Do not forget that any avoidable failure or partial failure has a disastrous effect on Police morale and inevitably leads to further defiance on the part of the mob.
12. Do not omit to make proper provision for your ammunition carrying transport.
13. Never pickup any ammunition after initial use until possible time-period of action has been used up at least three-fold.
14. Short-range cartridges must never be fired directly at the face as they may cause blindness.
15. When using 'Spedeheat' shells, always avoid direct hits and thereby injuries.
16. On no account must 'Flite-rite' shells be used against a crowd, owing to velocity and power of penetration.
17. Do not forget that gass training is to include, in a greater or lesser degree, all personnel and that training must be in the nature of combined operations, as it concerns, among others, Magistracy, Police Fire Services, Medical personnel and leading men of the public.
18. Almost above all, do not forget the gass training of motor drivers concerned. The implications of any neglect in this regard are obvious.

B. STORAGE INSTRUCTIONS

The composition of Chemicals loaded in Tear Smoke Munitions is of a corrosive nature which affects rubber, steel and iron. In order to obtain the maximum efficiency from the munitions supplied by us, it is recommended that the following storage conditions are strictly observed and necessary precautions taken—

1. The store should be separate and if possible away from other buildings.
2. The store should be provided with a lightning conductor.
3. All electrical fitting in the store should be at least six feet away for the munitions.
4. The store should be properly ventilated and kept dry and as cool as possible.
5. The munitions should be protected from moisture.
6. Riot guns, respirators, rifles and other muskets should not be stored with the gas munitions.
7. No other ammunition should be stored along with the gas munition.
8. Only grenades held in the carriers for emergency use may be fitted with bouchons and stored separately. All other grenades in the stores should not be fitted with bouchons.
9. All spare bouchons duly packed in their original card board cartons, should be kept in a closed box free from gas.
10. All stoppers in the Reserve Grenades should be given two or three twists or removed and refitted occasionally to avoid corrosion.
11. In order to correctly identify the munitions, it is necessary that—
 - (a) different types of munitions should be kept on separate racks;
 - (b) on labels legible from a distance of at least six feet bearing the words 'LIVE MUNITIONS DO NOT TOUCH' should be hung on each rack.
12. No munition should be stored on the ground.
13. Gas cartridges and grenades deteriorate slowly, age, especially in warm and damp climates and should therefore, be used in rotation within a period of 3 years to ensure desirable results i.e. the oldest should be used first. For this purpose all fresh receipts should be date stamped and kept behind old stocks to facilitate work.
14. All bouchons on their first receipts should be very carefully examined to make sure that the ends of the split pins are adequately splayed out.
15. After every action the riot guns and respirator should be thoroughly cleaned at the first opportunity. A good nitrosolvent (Hopee's/9) or sal-soda should be used to remove traces of gas and powder in the barrel. Tear gas is corrosive and will pit and rust the gun unless promptly removed.
16. No open flame i.e. fire should be taken in or near the store.
17. The temperature of the store should not be allowed to be abnormally hot.