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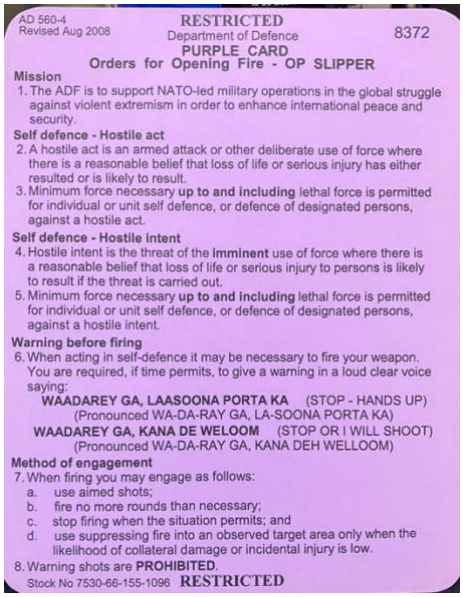
Forthcoming Anniversaries

17 February 1803: *Cdr Matthew Flinders, RN, HMS* Investigator, *found a fleet of 60 Malayan proas fishing in the Gulf of Carpentaria, of about 25 tons*
18 February 1865: *The Confederate raider Shenandoah sailed from Port Phillip and later raided the American whaling fleet in the North Atlantic*
18 February 1942: *The carriers* Akagi, Kaga, Hiryu *and* Soryu *with 5 heavy cruisers and 20 destroyers entered the Banda Sea to launch the air attack on Darwin*
19 February 1942: *Japanese aircraft attacked Darwin*
21 February 1945: *HMAS* Napier *bombarded Japanese positions on the Burma coast*
23 February 1861: *A 76-man-strong naval brigade from HMS* Fawn *was despatched from Sydney with a military contingent to put down lawlessness among miners at Lambing Flat*
24 February 1941: *The cruisers HMAS* Perth *and HMS* Bonaventure *landed a Commando force on Castellorizo in the Dodacanese coinciding with the landing of a stronger enemy force*

RUSIA Defence Update

A weekly e-newsletter relating to our security & defence

Rules of Engagement Cards (II)



AD 560-4
Revised Aug 2008

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Department of Defence
8372
PURPLE CARD
Orders for Opening Fire - OP SLIPPER

Mission
1. The ADF is to support NATO-led military operations in the global struggle against violent extremism in order to enhance international peace and security.

Self defence - Hostile act
2. A hostile act is an armed attack or other deliberate use of force where there is a reasonable belief that loss of life or serious injury has either resulted or is likely to result.
3. Minimum force necessary **up to and including** lethal force is permitted for individual or unit self defence, or defence of designated persons, against a hostile act.

Self defence - Hostile intent
4. Hostile intent is the threat of the **imminent** use of force where there is a reasonable belief that loss of life or serious injury to persons is likely to result if the threat is carried out.
5. Minimum force necessary **up to and including** lethal force is permitted for individual or unit self defence, or defence of designated persons, against a hostile intent.

Warning before firing
6. When acting in self-defence it may be necessary to fire your weapon. You are required, if time permits, to give a warning in a loud clear voice saying:
WAADAREY GA, LAASOONA PORTA KA (STOP - HANDS UP)
(Pronounced WA-DA-RAY GA, LA-SOONA PORTA KA)
WAADAREY GA, KANA DE WELOOM (STOP OR I WILL SHOOT)
(Pronounced WA-DA-RAY GA, KANA DEH WELLOOM)

Method of engagement
7. When firing you may engage as follows:
a. use aimed shots;
b. fire no more rounds than necessary;
c. stop firing when the situation permits; and
d. use suppressing fire into an observed target area only when the likelihood of collateral damage or incidental injury is low.
8. Warning shots are **PROHIBITED**.

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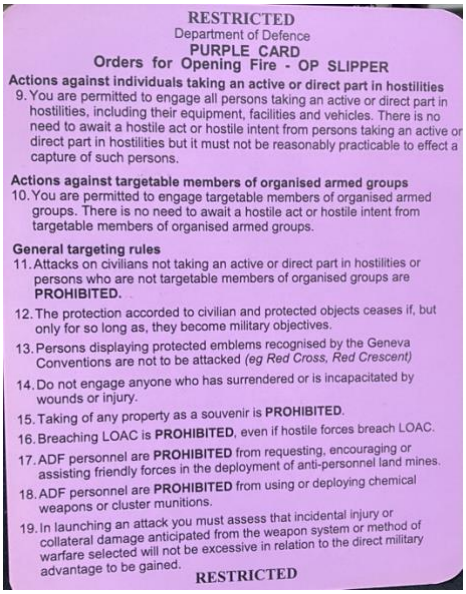

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Orders for Opening Fire - OP SLIPPER

Actions against individuals taking an active or direct part in hostilities
9. You are permitted to engage all persons taking an active or direct part in hostilities, including their equipment, facilities and vehicles. There is no need to await a hostile act or hostile intent from persons taking an active or direct part in hostilities but it must not be reasonably practicable to effect a capture of such persons.

Actions against targetable members of organised armed groups
10. You are permitted to engage targetable members of organised armed groups. There is no need to await a hostile act or hostile intent from targetable members of organised armed groups.

General targeting rules
11. Attacks on civilians not taking an active or direct part in hostilities or persons who are not targetable members of organised groups are **PROHIBITED.**
12. The protection accorded to civilian and protected objects ceases if, but only for so long as, they become military objectives.
13. Persons displaying protected emblems recognised by the Geneva Conventions are not to be attacked *(eg Red Cross, Red Crescent)*
14. Do not engage anyone who has surrendered or is incapacitated by wounds or injury.
15. Taking of any property as a souvenir is **PROHIBITED**.
16. Breaching LOAC is **PROHIBITED**, even if hostile forces breach LOAC.
17. ADF personnel are **PROHIBITED** from requesting, encouraging or assisting friendly forces in the deployment of anti-personnel land mines.
18. ADF personnel are **PROHIBITED** from using or deploying chemical weapons or cluster munitions.
19. In launching an attack you must assess that incidental injury or collateral damage anticipated from the weapon system or method of warfare selected will not be excessive in relation to the direct military advantage to be gained.

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The two-sided "Orders for Opening Fire" pocket-sized card illustrated was issued to Australian defence personnel in 2017 for Operation SLIPPER in Afghanistan, an involvement from 2001 to 2006.

There are 19 conditions listed on the card, including one unexplained acronym (LOAC). Is it fair to say that exact application of these orders may have been difficult?

Key: (M) – magazine or website; (N) – newspaper; (F) – film; (P) – podcast

Strategy

RUSI of NSW Strategy Report February 2026: (F)RUSINSW

Defence

Australia's new National Defence Strategy must embrace adaptation as warfare evolves: (M)Lowy

Navy

Destroyer capability enhancement launch - HMAS *Hobart* docks in South Australia: (F)BAE

Air Force

RAAF F-35A brings the thunder from Down Under to Singapore: (F)RAS
Why the RAAF refuses to retire the Super Hornet: (F)DefAsia

Indonesia

The placebo risk to the Australia–Indonesia "common security" treaty: (M)Lowy

UK

Gaslighting the enemy: The undersea lamprey drone that hitches a ride into battle: (F)BFBSForcesNews

Canada

Carney's guide to Australia's middle power dilemma in the Pacific: (M)Lowy

US

How Trump wants to change American weapon sales abroad: (F)BreakingDefense
Bipartisanship lurks below the surface in Washington: (M)AspiStrategist
Navy advances plans to reshuffle traditional carrier strike group model: (M)BreakingDefense

NATO & EU

Hegseth skips NATO meeting; Pentagon No. 3 urges 'partnership rather than dependency': (M)TheHill

Middle East

USS *Gerald Ford* the second aircraft carrier sent to Middle East: (M)MilitaryTimes

Ukraine

Ukraine just did something irreversible to Putin's nuclear power: (F)MilitaryShow
Ukraine just hit something across Russia that Putin can never replace: (F)MilitaryShow

Russia

Russia receives upgraded Su-57 fighter jets with advanced weapons: (M)DefensePost

China

Why Xi Jinping has been purging China's military leadership, and what may come next: (M)BreakingDefense
America and China at the edge of ruin: a last chance to step back from the brink: (M)ForeignAffairs

Military History

Tom Kirk: working alongside the Royal Australian Navy in Vietnam: (F)WitnesstoWar
NZDF Haka meets Gurkari Kukri dance: (F)NZDF
Firepower history seminar - Gallipoli, command and control: (F)UNSWCanberra

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