

CHAPTER 3

SIGHT SETTING AND AIMING

Introduction

1. No two people see exactly the same aim picture. As long as a cadet's aim is consistently the same, accept it, provided that the error is only slight.
2. Always make sure that sights are upright and correctly set.
3. When cadets are aiming at figure targets, consider an aim correct if the point of aim is nearly in the centre of the target.
4. Where practicable, conduct this lesson in the open air and set up 6 inch range targets and miniature figure targets at varying distances up to 25 yards. If the lesson is conducted in the classroom, set up the targets at convenient points as far as possible from the squad. A landscape target can also be used to provide variations.

Equipment Required

5. DP rifles, aiming rests, range and figure targets are required.

Preliminaries

6. *SAFETY PRECAUTIONS.*
7. Examine sights to see that there is no play in the backsight, the aperture is not deformed and the foresight blade is firm and not deformed. Always do this before aiming instruction.

Sight Setting

8. A shot cannot be accurate unless the aim is correct. Aiming is not automatic. You must concentrate on seeing the same aim picture every time you fire a shot.
9. Explain and demonstrate, making the squad copy your actions:
 - a. The backsight is marked with numbers which represent hundreds of yards. It is set for a given range when the line on the slide is opposite the appropriate line on the leaf.
 - b. To set the sights, press the catch on the slide or turn the adjusting screw according to the type of sight fitted.
10. Practise the squad at setting their sights at ranges up to 600 yards.
11. Explain that the battle sight is only for use by the Army and can be ignored.

The Aiming Rest

12. Show the squad how to set up the rest (if one is available), with one of its legs towards the target; how to put the rifle in it with the magazine above the curved piece and the sling to the right.
13. If aiming rests are not available, improvise by using a table and two sandbags in which to bed the rifle. A box with two grooves cut into the sides may prove useful.

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Aiming

14. Using the blackboard, explain the aim picture which must be seen each time (Fig 9), and how to get this picture:



Fig 9. Aim Picture—Range, Figure and Natural Targets

- a. Close the left eye (right eye for a left handed shot).
 - b. Look through the middle of the aperture at the target and choose the point of aim.
 - c. Keep the sights upright and put the tip of the foresight on the point of aim:
 - (1) At a range target, put the tip of the foresight immediately under the middle of the black aiming mark.
 - (2) At the figure target, put the tip of the foresight in the middle of the target.
 - d. Make sure that the point of aim is still in the middle of the aperture.
15. Lay correct aims at range and figure targets.
16. Get the squad to look at your aims and then lay their own aims at various targets. Combine this practice with sight setting and different elevations.

Conclusion

17. Questions to and from the squad.
18. Sum up. Emphasize that the most important point to remember is the aim picture for each type of target.
19. **SAFETY PRECAUTIONS.**

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