



UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS  
TRAINING AND EDUCATION COMMAND  
1019 ELLIOT ROAD  
QUANTICO, VIRGINIA 22134

IN REPLY REFER TO

3550

C 465

15 Jul 20

From: Commanding General, Training and Education Command  
To: Distribution List

Subj: SAFETY OF USE MEMORANDUM 4-20; ADVANCIA 7.62X39MM AVTOMAT  
KALASHNIKOVA-47 BLANK FIRE ONLY WEAPON SYSTEM

Ref: (a) MCO 3570.1C  
(b) Weapons System Explosives Safty Review Board  
Concurrence ltr dtd 27 April 2020 (NOTAL)

1. Purpose. Per reference (a) and (b), this Safety of Use Memorandum (SOUM) provides guidance for the use of Advancia weapons when firing blank ammunition on operational training ranges to be used by Marine Corps personnel, government civilians, and contractors.
2. Background. The weapons and full charge blank ammunition will be used during outdoor force-on-force training events. This will provide the capability to participate in an immersive training environment to U.S. Marine Corps (USMC) active duty personnel, as well as USMC civilian personnel assigned to support USMC forces. These training events are designed to enhance individual weapons proficiency, tactical decision making, and escalation of force realism during operational range training.
3. Specifications and Safety Considerations. Marine Corps personnel, government civilians and contractors acting as role players in support of training are authorized to use the Advancia Avtomat Kalashnikova-47, blank-fire-only weapon system with internal and external blank-firing-adapters (BFA) on operational training ranges only if the following conditions are met:
  - a. Ammunition is restricted to Advancia full charge 7.62x39mm blank ammunition.
  - b. Advancia full charge blank ammunition will only be used during outdoor training. Indoor training with this ammunition is prohibited.

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c. All role players must be trained on the safe handling and employment of these systems.

d. The contracted agency is responsible for the inspection, safe operation, maintenance, functionality, and serviceability of the weapon systems with BFAs. The contracted agency assumes all responsibility for blank ammunition transportation, storage, and use during training.

e. Limited Technical Inspections / Pre-Fire Inspections will be conducted on all weapons in accordance with weapon technical manuals. Prior to the training, the contracted agency will provide copies of the completed inspection checklists to the exercise Officer in Charge (OIC).

f. The Range OIC rank requirement will be E-7 and above for training with contracted role players using contractor-owned blank-fire weapons.

g. The Range Safety Officer (RSO) rank requirement will be E-6 and above for training with contracted role players using contractor-owned blank-fire weapons.

h. The OIC / RSO will inspect all personnel, magazines, and equipment prior to and immediately following all training in accordance with the reference.

i. The OIC / RSO will confirm that all administrative and supervisory controls are in place to ensure no live ammunition is present during the issue of blank ammunition.

j. The OIC / RSO will conduct a safety brief, to include the contents of this SOUM, so that role players understand the safety requirements prior to participation in the training.

k. A minimum five meter standoff distance shall be maintained during all blank-firing evolutions.

l. All role players shall wear personal protective equipment level zero. Double hearing protection is recommended.

m. Any safety or blank fire weapons anomalies that may occur during training with these systems will be reported to the point of contact of this SOUM via the installation Range Control Officer.

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4. Responsibilities. The installation commander is ultimately responsible for the safety of all base / station training.

5. Applicability. This SOUM is Marine Corps specific and applicable to the total force.

6. Cancellation. This SOUM will remain in effect until 31 May 2022, unless cancelled sooner by this office.

7. Point of contact. Mr. Carlos N. Hathcock Jr., Head, Range Safety and Design Section, Range and Training Area Management Branch, Range and Training Program Division, Training and Education Command, (703) 784-2841 (DSN 278-2841).



W. F. MULLEN III

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