

## **8. CLEANING**

### **Introduction**

The firer must now learn how to

1. Prepare the rifle for firing.
2. Clean the rifle after firing

### **Equipment Required For Preparation And Cleaning**

1. A vice (if possible).
2. Cleaning rod (plastic covered).
3. Rod Guide and stop.
4. Brushes (bristle / phosphor bronze).
5. Jag.
6. Chamber stick.
7. Mop.
8. Screwdrivers (large and small).
9. Flannelette (cut into 4" x 2").
10. Nitro solvent (Hoppes or 009).
11. Oil (Youngs .303 etc).
12. Torque wrench and allen keys.

### **Preparation Before Firing**

1. Place the bipod on the rifle and place the rifle on a suitable dry grit-free surface.
2. Remove the bolt from the rifle
3. Place a 100mm x 50mm (4" x 2") patch on jag and dry the bore. THE ROD GUIDE MUST ALWAYS BE USED WITH THE CLEANING ROD to prevent damage to the barrel and to the cleaning rod. Continue with fresh patches until the patches come out of the bore clean.
4. Use chamber stick and 4" x 2" patch to clean chamber.
5. Dry bolt. Ensure face of bolt, bent and extractor are free from oil.
6. Check that the number on the bolt and receiver are the same and replace the bolt in the rifle.
7. Attach the rearsight to the rifle.

### **Check List Before Firing**

1. Check bedding screws are done up to the correct torque (4 Nm).
2. Check rear sight mounting screws are firmly tightened.
3. Check rearsight eyepiece is secure.
4. Check foresight tunnel, sight element and handstop are secure.
5. Set elevation to opening value and wind to zero.
6. Test trigger pressure - not less than 1.5kg.
7. Check all remaining equipment and make sure you have everything you need.

### **Cleaning After Firing**

1. Remove the bolt and clamp the rifle in vice or place the rifle on a suitable dry, grit-free surface.
2. Using a cleaning rod jag and patch, dipped in solvent push the patch right through the barrel and remove.
3. Place a 100mm x 50mm (4" x 2") patch on jag and dry the bore.
4. Scrub out the barrel using a bristle brush ( or phosphor bronze if it is particularly dirty / fouled) dipped in solvent. With stainless barrels DO NOT CHANGE DIRECTION within the bore.
5. Leave for about 5 minutes and then place a 100mm x 50mm (4" x 2") patch on jag and dry the bore. Continue with fresh patches until the patches come out of the bore clean.
6. Use chamber stick and a 100mm x 50mm (4" x 2") patch to clean chamber.
7. Place a 100mm x 50mm (4" x 2") patch on a jag and place some oil on the patch. Use this to oil the bore. Alternatively a mop can be used to oil the bore
8. Oil all exposed metal surfaces, taking care to avoid excessive oil where there is a possibility it may run into the bedding.