

CHAPTER 4

Individual Drill with Weapons

Feed ‘em up and give ‘em hell. Teach ‘em where they are. Make ‘em so mad they’ll eat steel rather than get dressing from you. Make ‘em hard but don’t break ‘em.

Laurence Stallings: What Price Glory? 1926

CONTENTS

Section I - MANUAL--M14 SERIES RIFLE

Paragraph

4-1 General

4-2 Order Arms

4-3 Rest Position

4-4 Port Arms

4-5 Present Arms

4-6 Inspection Arms

4-7 Right Shoulder Arms

4-8 Left Shoulder Arms

4-9 Changing Positions

4-10 Fix and Unfix Bayonets

4-11 Carry Position

Section I

MANUAL OF ARMS--M14 SERIES RIFLE

4-1. General

- a. This section contains procedures for executing the manual of arms with the M14 series rifle in conjunction with individual and unit drill movements.
- b. At the *halt*, all movements are initiated from *order arms* or *sling arms*, which are the positions of *attention* with the rifle.
- c. All precision movements are executed in quick-time cadence.
- d. For drill purposes, the magazine is not carried in the rifle. When performing duty requiring the use of the magazine, the rifle is carried at sling arms.
- e. The command **Port, ARMS** or **Sling, ARMS** must be given prior to the command for *double time*.

f. *Facings*, alignments, and short-distance marching movements are executed from *order arms* or *sling arms*. When these movements are commanded while at *order arms*, it is necessary to automatically raise the rifle about 1 inch off the marching surface on the command of execution. When the movement has been completed, automatically return the rifle to *order arms*.

g. Facing movements are executed from *order arms* or *sling arms*. When a *facing* is necessary to establish the direction of march, the facing movement is executed before the command for the manual of arms. After a marching movement has been completed, **Order, ARMS** or **Sling, ARMS** is commanded prior to the command for the facing movement.

h. **Ready, Port, ARMS** must be commanded following inspection arms and before any other movements can be commanded.

i. *Port arms* is the key position assumed in most manual of arms movements from one position to another except *right shoulder arms* from *order arms* and *order arms* from *right shoulder arms*.

j. Manual of arms movements are a combination of the position of *attention* and the procedures for the prescribed movement. Most manual of arms movements are executed with the head, eyes, and body as in the position of *attention*.

NOTE: Paragraphs 4-2 through 4-11 refer to slings tight. However, all individual and unit drill movements may be executed with slings loose except when executing *fix* and *unfix bayonets*.

4-2. Order Arms

a. Assume order arms on the command **FALL IN** or from *parade rest* on the command of execution **ATTENTION**.

b. At *order arms*, maintain the position of *attention* with the rifle. Place the butt of the rifle on the marching surface, with the toe of the butt on line with the front of the right foot. Secure the rifle with the right hand in a "U" formed by the fingers (extended and joined) and thumb. Hold the rifle above where the barrel and upper stock meet, with the right thumb and forefinger pointed downward, and on line with the flat surface of the upper stock. Keep the right hand and arm behind the rifle so that the thumb is straight along the seam of the trouser leg (1, Figure 4-1).

4-3. Rest Position

The rifle rest positions are commanded and executed the same as individual drill with the following additions:

a. On the command of execution **REST** of **Parade, REST**, thrust the muzzle forward keeping the toe of the butt of the rifle on the marching surface and on line with the front of the right foot, and the right arm straight. (2, Figure 4-1)

b. Execute *stand at ease* in the same manner as *parade rest* with the rifle except turn the head and eyes toward the commander.

c. On the command **AT EASE** or **REST**, keep the butt of the rifle in place as in *parade rest*.

4-4. Port Arms

a. *Port arms* from *order arms* is a two-count movement. The command is **Port, ARMS**. On the command of execution **ARMS**, grasp the upper portion of the upper stock with the right hand and raise the rifle diagonally across the body, keeping the right elbow down (without strain). With the left hand, simultaneously grasp the stock, at the balance of the weapon, just forward of the magazine well, so that the rifle is about 4 inches from the waist. On the second count, regrasp the rifle at the small of the stock with

the right hand. Hold the rifle diagonally across the body, about 4 inches from the waist, the right forearm horizontal, and the elbows close to the sides (3, Figure 4-1).

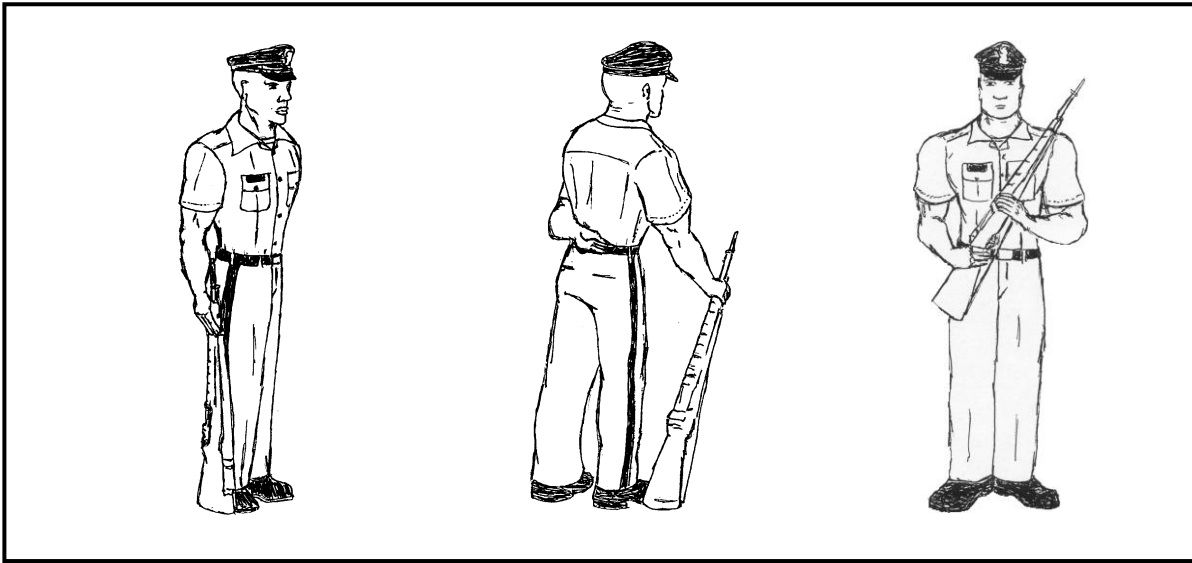


Figure 4-1. Order Arms, Parade rest, and Port Arms

b. *Order arms* from *port arms* is executed in three counts. The command is **Order, ARMS**. On the command of execution **ARMS**, move the right hand up and across the body to the right front of the upper stock, grasp the barrel (just above the bayonet stud) firmly without moving the rifle, and keep the right elbow down without strain. On the second count, move the left hand from the balance of the weapon and lower the rifle to the right side until it is about 1 inch from the marching surface. Guide the rifle to the side by placing the forefinger of the left hand at the flash suppressor, fingers and thumb extended and joined, palm to the rear. On the third count, move the left hand sharply to the left side, lower the rifle gently to the marching surface, and resume the position of order arms.

4-5. Present Arms

a. *Present arms* from *order arms*, *right shoulder arms*, or *left shoulder arms*, is a three-count movement. The command is **Present, ARMS**. On the command of execution **ARMS**, execute *port arms* in two counts. On the third count, twist the rifle with the right hand so that the magazine well is to the front, and move the rifle to a vertical position with the rifle about 4 inches in front of and centered on the body. Lower the rifle until the left forearm is horizontal; keep the elbows in at the sides (Figure 4-2).

b. *Order arms* from *present arms* is a four-count movement. The command is **Order, ARMS**. On the command of execution **ARMS**, return the rifle to *port arms*. Counts two, three, and four are the same as *order arms* from *port arms*.

c. *Port arms* is assumed en route to or from *present arms* when going to or from *right shoulder* or *left shoulder arms*. *Present arms* from or to *port arms* is a one-count movement.

d. *Rifle salute* while at *order arms* is a one-count movement. The command is **Rifle, SALUTE**. On the command of execution **SALUTE**, move the left arm across the body with the forearm and wrist straight, fingers and thumb extended and joined, and palm down. The first joint of the forefinger touches the rifle at a point below the bayonet stud. If not in ranks, the head and eyes turn toward the person or Color *saluted*.

e. *Order arms* from *rifle salute* (when executed from order arms) is a one-count movement. The command is **Order, ARMS**. On the command of execution **ARMS**, the left hand is moved smartly to the left side of the body as in the position of *attention*, and the head and eyes are turned to the front.

f. *Rifle salute* while at *right shoulder arms* is a one-count movement. The command is ***Rifle, SALUTE***. On the command of execution **SALUTE**, the left arm is moved across the chest and the first joint of the forefinger is touching to the rear of the receiver. The left elbow is held so that the left forearm is horizontal. Fingers, thumb, and wrist are held as described in d. The palm is down.

g. *Rifle salute* while at *left shoulder arms* is a one-count movement. The command is ***Rifle, SALUTE***. On the command of execution **SALUTE**, the right arm is moved across the chest and the first joint of the forefinger is touching to the rear of the receiver. The right elbow is held so that the right forearm is horizontal. Fingers, thumb, and wrist are as described in d. The palm is down.

h. The *rifle salute* from *right shoulder, left shoulder arms* may be used to render courtesy when an individual is *marching at right/left shoulder arms* and not a part of a larger formation. Upon acknowledgment of the *salute*, automatically return to the original position.

i. When rendering reports or courtesy to an individual from *order arms*, execute *present arms* and turn the head and eyes toward the individual addressed. *Order arms* is executed automatically upon acknowledgment of the *salute*.

j. When *double timing* (not in formation), come to *quick time* prior to rendering the courtesy.

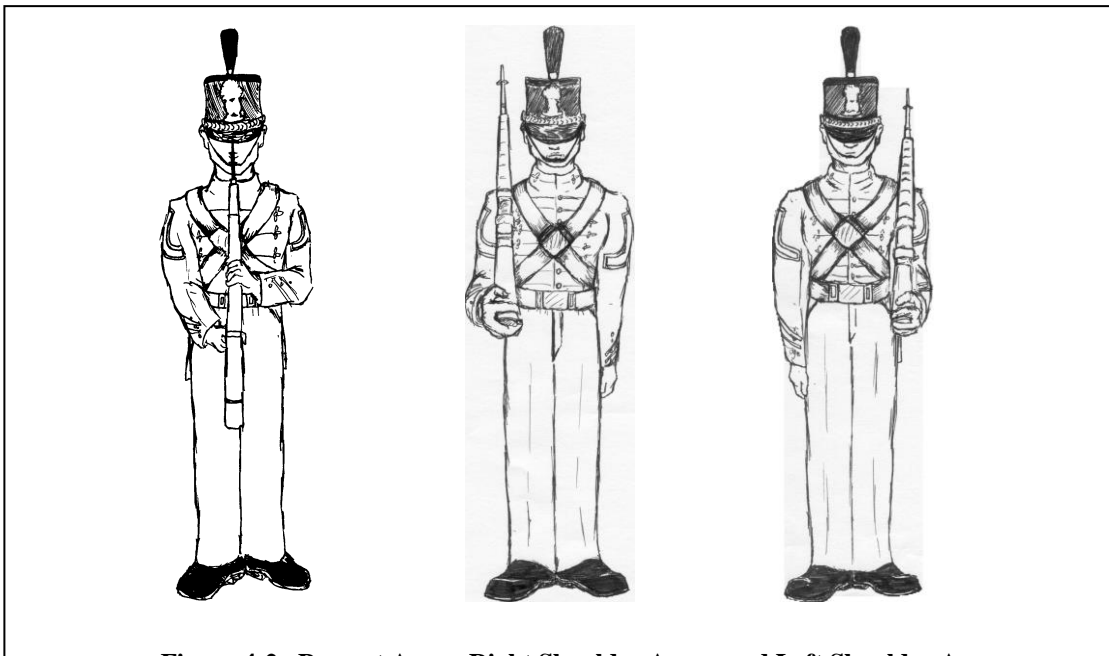


Figure 4-2. Present Arms, Right Shoulder Arms, and Left Shoulder Arms

4-6. Inspection Arms

a. Inspection arms from order arms is a five-count movement. The command is **Inspection, ARMS**. On the command of execution **ARMS**, execute port arms in two counts. On count three, release the small of the stock and move the right hand forward (fingers extended and joined, thumb on the opposite side of the receiver). Place the knife edge on the hand in contact with the operating rod handle. On count four, press the operating rod handle sharply to the rear and lock the bolt to the rear by pressing the bolt lock with the thumb. At the same time, lower the head and eyes to check the receiver. On count five, raise the head and eyes back to the front and regrasp the small of the stock with the right hand, assuming the inspection arms position.



Figure 4-3. Inspection Arms

NOTE: The method for inspecting the rifle by an inspecting officer is explained in Chapter 7.

b. **Ready, Port, ARMS** is the only command given from *inspection arms*. On the command **Ready**, relax the grip of the right hand and hook the top of the forefinger on the operating rod handle, pulling it to the rear. On the command **Port**, release the operating rod handle (allowing the bolt to go forward) and place the forefinger on the trigger. On the command of execution **ARMS**, pull the trigger and come to *port arms*.

4-7. Right Shoulder Arms

a. *Right shoulder arms* from *order arms* is a four-count movement. The command is **Right shoulder, ARMS**. On the command of execution **ARMS**, grasp the upper portion of the stock with the right hand and raise it diagonally across the body, keeping the right elbow down without strain. With the left hand, grasp the stock at the balance, ensuring that the weapon is about 4 inches from the waist. On the second count, move the right hand from the upper portion of the stock and grasp the heel of the butt between the first two fingers with the thumb and forefinger touching. On the third count (without moving the head), release the grasp of the left hand (without changing the grasp of the right hand), twist the rifle so that the sights are up, and place the weapon onto the right shoulder, moving the left hand to the small of the stock to guide the rifle to the shoulder. Keep the fingers and thumb (left hand) extended and joined with the palm turned toward the body. The first joint of the left forefinger touches the rear of the receiver. Keep the left elbow down, and keep the right forearm horizontal with the right upper arm against the side and on line with the back. On the fourth count, sharply move the left hand back to the left side as in the position of attention (Figure 4-2).

b. *Order arms* from *right shoulder arms* is a four-count movement. The command is **Order, ARMS**. On the command of execution **ARMS**, without moving the head and without changing the grasp of the right hand, press down quickly and firmly on the butt of the rifle with the right hand and twist the weapon (with the sights up), guiding it diagonally across the body and about 4 inches from the waist. Grasp the rifle with the left hand at the upper portion of the stock at the balance. On the second count, move the right hand up and across the body, approaching from the right front of the front sight assembly, and firmly grasp the upper portion of the stock without moving the rifle; keep the right elbow down without strain. The third and fourth counts are the same as from *port arms* to *order arms*.

4-8. Left Shoulder Arms

a. *Left shoulder arms* from *order arms* is a four-count movement. The command is **Left shoulder, ARMS**. On the command of execution **ARMS**, execute *port arms* in two counts. On the third count, release the grasp of the left hand and (without moving the head) place the rifle on the left shoulder with the right hand (with the sights up), keeping the right elbow down. At the same time, regrasp the rifle with the left hand with the heel of the butt between the first two fingers and with the thumb and forefinger touching. The left forearm is horizontal, and the left upper arm is against the side and on line with the back. On the fourth count, move the right hand to the right side as in the position of attention (Figure 4-2).

b. *Order arms* from *left shoulder arms* is a five-count movement. The command is **Order, ARMS**. On the command of execution **ARMS**, move the right hand up and across the body and grasp the small of the stock, keeping the right elbow down. On the second count (without moving the head), release the grasp of the left hand and with the right hand move the rifle diagonally across the body (sights up) about 4 inches from the waist. At the same time, regrasp the upper portion of the stock, at the balance, with the left hand, and resume *port arms*. Counts three, four, and five are the same as *order arms* from *port arms*.

4-9. Changing Positions

a. *Right shoulder arms* from *port arms* is a three-count movement. The command is **Right shoulder, ARMS**. On the command of execution **ARMS**, release the grasp of the right hand and regrasp the rifle with the heel of the butt between the first two fingers, with the thumb and forefinger touching. Counts two and three are the same as counts three and four from *order arms*. When *marching*, the command is given as the right foot strikes the marching surface.

b. *Port arms* from *right shoulder arms* is a two-count movement. The command is **Port, ARMS**. On the command of execution **ARMS**, execute count one of *order arms* from *right shoulder arms*. On the second count, release the grasp of the right hand and regrasp the rifle at the small of the stock and come to *port arms*. When *marching*, the command is given as the right foot strikes the marching surface.

c. *Left shoulder arms* from *port arms* is a two-count movement. The command is **Left Shoulder, ARMS**. On the command of execution **ARMS**, execute *left shoulder arms* in the same manner as counts three and four from *order arms*. When *marching*, the command is given as the left foot strikes the marching surface.

d. *Port arms* from *left shoulder arms* is a two-count movement. The command is **Port, ARMS**. On the command of execution **ARMS**, execute the first two counts of *order arms* from *left shoulder arms*. When *marching*, the command is given as the left foot strikes the marching surface.

e. *Left shoulder arms* from *right shoulder arms* is a four-count movement. The command is **Left shoulder, ARMS**. On the command of execution **ARMS**, execute the first count the same as executing *order arms*. On count two, remove the right hand from the butt of the rifle and regrasp the small of the stock (*port arms*). Counts three and four are the same movements as from *port arms*. When *marching*, the command is given as the left foot strikes the marching surface.

f. *Right shoulder arms* from *left shoulder arms* is a five-count movement. The command is **Right shoulder, ARMS**. On the command of execution **ARMS**, execute *port arms* in two counts. Counts three, four, and five are the same as from *port arms*. When *marching*, the command is given as the right foot strikes the marching surface.

g. *Present arms* from *right shoulder arms* or *left shoulder arms*, while in formation, is executed from the *halt* only. The command is **Present, ARMS**. On the command of execution **ARMS**, come to *port arms* from either shoulder and then execute *present arms* (in one count) from *port arms*.

h. To resume *right (left) shoulder arms* from *present arms*, the command is **Right (Left) shoulder, ARMS**. On the command of execution **ARMS**, execute *port arms* in one count and then execute the counts as prescribed from *port arms*.

NOTE: Experienced cadets should be capable of executing the *15-count manual of arms* in unison: from *order*, to *right shoulder*, to *left shoulder*, to *present* to *order arms*. The command is **Fifteen-count manual, ARMS**.

4-10. Fix and Unfix Bayonets

a. The command to *fix* or *unfix bayonets* is given from *order arms* only. The movement is executed in a military manner but not in cadence.

NOTE: The bayonet scabbard is worn on the left side with the tip of the scabbard on line with the trouser leg seam and the barrel ring to the front.

b. To *fix bayonets*, the command is **Fix, BAYONETS**. On the command of execution **BAYONETS**, grasp the rifle barrel with the right hand, raise the rifle slightly, and place the butt of the rifle between the feet, with the magazine well to the front. Grasp the rifle barrel with the left hand and move the muzzle to the left front. With the right hand, unsnap the scabbard securing strap and withdraw the bayonet. Keeping the eyes on the bayonet point, turn the point skyward and attach the bayonet to the rifle. To engage the bayonet stud on the rifle with the base of the bayonet, grasp the handle, apply downward pressure until a click is heard, and then apply limited upward pressure to ensure that the bayonet is seated securely. Resnap the scabbard securing strap with the right hand and then come to *order arms* (figure 4-4).

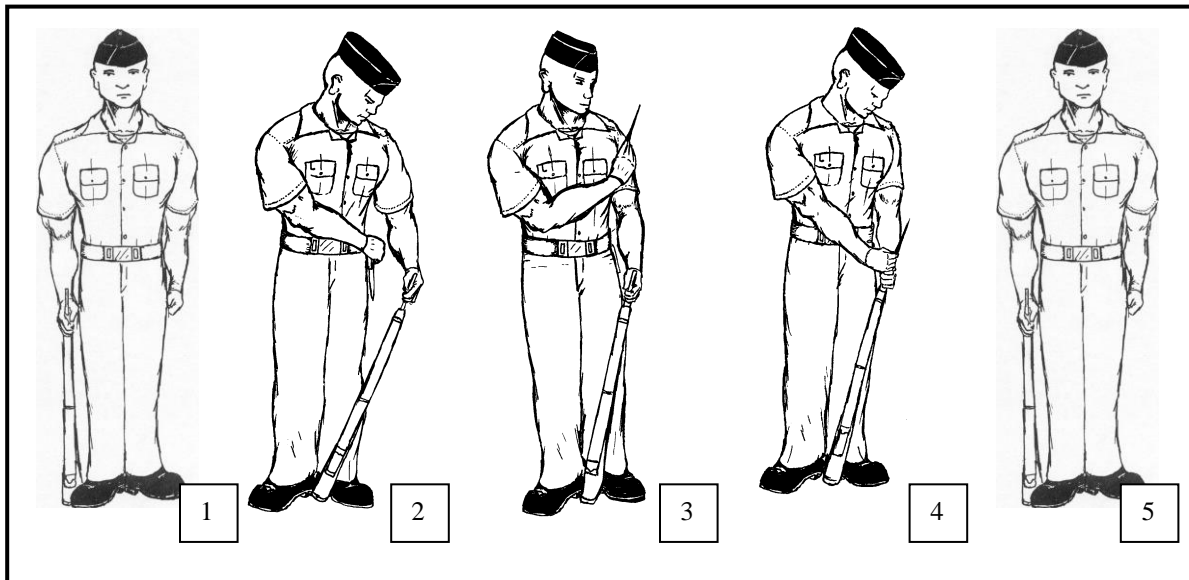


Figure 4-4. Fix Bayonets

c. To *unfix bayonet*, the command is **Unfix, BAYONETS**. On the command of execution **BAYONETS**, grasp the rifle barrel with the right hand at the handle of the bayonet and place the rifle butt between the feet with the magazine well to the front. Move the muzzle to the left with the left hand and secure it. Unsnap the scabbard securing strap with the right hand, and then release the bayonet from the rifle muzzle. Keeping the eyes on the bayonet point, return the bayonet to the scabbard and insert it with the barrel ring facing to the front. Resnap the scabbard securing strap and come to *order arms*. For safety, if the bayonet is difficult to remove from the rifle, stick the bayonet point into the marching surface, bend over, and depress the catch mechanism with the left hand while pulling upward on the rifle with the right hand.

Section II

SLING ARMS—M14 SERIES RIFLE

4-11. General

- a. This section contains the procedures for executing manual of arms movements while at *sling arms*.
- b. Remain at *sling arms* during all rest movements.
- c. All individual and unit drill movements can be executed at *sling arms* except *stack arms* and *fix* and *unfix bayonets*, which are executed from *order arms*.
- d. When in formation at *sling arms*, execute the *hand salute* on the command **Present, ARMS**.

e. Platoon sergeants carry their rifles at *sling arms* during all drills and ceremonies, and from this position they execute *present arms* only. They do not execute *unsling arms*. This also applies to squad leaders when squads drill as separate units.

f. When all members of a unit are carrying their rifles at sling arms, the platoon sergeants execute *present arms* only. They do not execute *unsling arms*.

4-12. Sling Arms

a. From *order arms* with the sling(s) loose, the command for *sling arms* is ***Sling*, ARMS**. On the command of execution **ARMS**, grasp the rifle barrel with the right hand and raise it vertically. Grasp the sling near the upper sling swivel with the left hand, and release the right hand. Place the right hand and arm between the sling and rifle and place the sling over the right shoulder. Regrasp the sling with the right hand so that the wrist is straight, the right forearm is horizontal, the elbow is tight against the side, and the rifle is vertical. Release the grasp of the left hand and move it sharply to the left side as in the position of *attention*.

b. To return the rifle to *order arms* with the sling tight, the command is ***Adjust*, SLINGS**. On command of execution **SLINGS**, remove the rifle from the shoulder. Then, grasp the rifle barrel with the right hand and raise it vertically. With the left hand, place the butt of the rifle on the right hip and cradle it in the crook of the right arm. Use both hands to tighten the sling. Grasp the rifle barrel with the right hand and guide the rifle to the *order arms* position (as previously described).

c. From *order arms* with sling(s) tight, the command is ***Sling*, ARMS**. On the command of execution **ARMS**, grasp the rifle barrel with the right hand and raise the rifle vertically. With the left hand, place the rifle butt on the right hip, cradle the rifle in the crook of the right arm, and use both hands to adjust the sling. Grasp the sling with the left hand near the upper sling swivel and execute sling arms (as previously described).

d. If an element is at *order arms* with the sling loose and the commander wants the sling to be tightened, he commands ***Adjust*, SLINGS**. On the command of execution **SLINGS**, tighten the sling and guide the rifle to *order arms* (as previously described).

NOTE: Unless otherwise specified, armed elements of a formation *fall in* at *order arms* with slings loose.

e. To return the rifle to *order arms* with the sling loose, the command is ***Unslung*, ARMS**. On the command of execution **ARMS**, reach across the body with the left hand and grasp the sling at the right shoulder. Release the right hand grasp of the sling and remove the rifle from the shoulder. Grasp the rifle barrel with the right hand, release the left hand grasp of the sling, and guide the rifle to the *order arms* position (as previously described).

4-13. Salute at Sling Arms

a. To *salute* while at *sling arms*, the command is ***Present*, ARMS**. On the command of execution **ARMS**, reach across the body with the left hand and grasp the sling just above the right hand. Release the right hand and execute the *hand salute*.

b. To terminate the *hand salute*, the command is ***Order*, ARMS**. On the command of execution **ARMS**, lower the right hand sharply to the side as in the position of *attention* and then regrasp the sling at the original position. After grasping the sling with the right hand, release the left hand and return it sharply to the left side as in the position of *attention*.

c. When rendering reports or courtesy to an individual, the same rules apply for the hand salute (as explained in individual drill).

NOTE: Individuals performing duty in congested areas, which would require frequent *salutes*, should carry the weapon at *sling arms*.

4-14. Port Arms from Sling Arms

a. The command for this movement is ***Port*, ARMS**. On the command of execution **ARMS**, reach across the body with the left hand and grasp the sling at the shoulder. Lift the weapon (by the sling), swing it to the front of the body, and grasp the small of the stock with the right hand. Release the sling (left hand) and regasp the weapon at the small of the stock. Ensure that the rifle is 4 inches from the belt and held diagonally across the body. Keep the elbows in at the sides and the right forearm horizontal.

b. To resume *sling arms*, the command is ***Sling*, ARMS**. On the command of execution **ARMS**, grasp the sling near the upper sling swivel with the left hand. Release the right hand and swing the rifle back onto the shoulder by placing the right arm between the sling and rifle, immediately resume the position of *sling arms*.