

Southeastern Conference Drill Manual



Pathfinders In Step With Christ

Self-control, Cooperation, Fairness, Good Sportsmanship, Regards for the Rights of others and Loyalty are traits that when put together define the character of a decent human being. When he/she learns to stand tall and straight physically and spiritually he/she thrives and then becomes

"THE PATHFINDER".

This SEC Drill Manual is directly derived from the TC 3-21.5 Drill and Ceremonies Manual, January 2012. *This publication supersedes FM 3-21.5 Drill and Ceremonies Manual, dated 7 July 2003.

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Standard Grooming Requirements

This Standard is for Conference Personnel, Master Guides, Staff, TLTs, Instructors, and **ALL PATHFINDERS.**

All auxiliary team members, Drill Team, Honor Guard/Color Guard, and Drum corps members are required to follow these directives, when in uniform and/or at ANY pathfinder sanctioned event.

Males

- All males must be well groomed
- Beard/mustache must be trimmed and neat or face must be clean shaven
- Hair must be combed and/or appropriately styled to a polished look. If haircut is required please do so to ensure proper wear of beret and/or head gear
- If braids are worn style must be done neatly and not cause distraction from purposeful activity
- Uniform must be appropriately cleaned and ironed if necessary

Females

- All Females must be well groomed
- The SEC does not mandate that ladies hair styles cannot touch uniform collar but hairstyles must accommodate proper wear of ALL head garment and head dress. (i.e. berets, etc.)
***All Female members of specialty teams, Drill, Drum, Honor and Color Guard, must adhere to the hairstyle appropriated by the specialist in charge of that auxiliary team. Uniformity is key and unwillingness to comply will result in possible dismissal from said team.*
- Makeup: Excessive makeup is not considered appropriate for wear in uniform. If makeup is worn it needs to be neutral. Lip color should be muted and not easily distinguished from natural lip color. If makeup is deemed inappropriate pathfinder will be asked to remove it by conference personnel.
- Uniform should not be affected by makeup. If makeup is noticed on uniform pathfinder will be asked to remove makeup and may be asked to sit out of event if a part of a competing auxiliary team.

Nail care: Male/Female Nails should be well groomed and clean with no colored polish. Clear polish is acceptable. If wearing acrylics, French manicure style is appropriate and nails should be groomed short for functionality.

Jewelry: The Southeastern Conference recognizes that not all Pathfinder members are members of Seventh day Adventist Church. The Pathfinder organization is focused on leading young people to Christ as well as guide adults to a strong relationship with God. This being said, All Pathfinders and staff members will be asked to not wear jewelry outside of a wedding band and watch while in uniform or while at any Pathfinder gathering (Exception: Medical ID Bracelet). Any Pathfinder willing to adhere to the Pathfinder legion of honor will be openly welcomed to join the Southeastern Conference.

Southeastern Conference requires all clubs to teach Basic Drill. To form and participate in a Drill Team all members must complete both level 1 and level 2 Drilling and Marching Honors.



Drilling & Marching

1. Explain five or more objectives of drill.
2. Define:
 - a. formation
 - b. line
 - c. rank
 - d. interval
 - e. column
 - f. file
 - g. distance
 - h. cover
 - i. flank
 - j. cadence
3. Explain the actions in each of the following groups:
 - a. At Ease, Stand At Ease, and Parade Rest.
 - b. Mark Time, Quick Time, and Double Time.
 - c. Hand Salute and Present Arms.
 - d. Right (Left) Flank, and Column Right (Left).
4. Properly execute the following basic movements:
 - a. Attention
 - b. Parade Rest
 - c. Stand At Ease
 - d. At Ease
 - e. Dress Right Dress
 - f. Prayer Attention
 - g. Present Arms
 - h. Order Arms
 - i. Right Face
 - j. Left Face
 - k. About Face
 - l. Fall Out
5. Properly execute the following movements:
 - a. Mark Time
 - b. Forward March
 - c. Right Flank
 - d. Left Flank
 - e. Column Right (with column of threes or fours)
 - f. Column Left
 - g. Rear March
 - h. Halt
6. Explain and demonstrate how to use, display, and care for the national flag, including how to properly fold it.

Drilling & Marching Advanced



1. Have a Drilling and Marching Honor.
2. With a unit guidon demonstrate the six basic positions:
 - a. Order Guidon
 - b. Carry Guidon
 - c. Salute at Order
 - d. Salute at Carry
 - e. Present Guidon
 - f. Raise Guidon
3. Demonstrate how and when to use the guidon's basic position during all drill commands.
4. Be a member of an active drill team that has performed at least twice in the past year in a special community, conference, or public activity.
5. Demonstrate ability to keep in step with the drill team and move as a part of it at all times.
6. As a member of a drill team do four fancy (precision) drill routines, at least one of which includes combination commands.
7. Command a drill team of at least four people, putting the team through basic maneuvers, starting directional commands on the proper foot, and distinguishing between preparatory commands and commands of execution.
8. Command an entire Pathfinder Club in at least ten basic drill movements.
9. With a unit (or a selected flag guard) formally raise and lower the national flag at a summer camp ceremony, a special Pathfinder meeting, Pathfinder Day program, camporee, or some similar program or ceremony. Also demonstrate posting the national and Pathfinder flags.

Skill Level 2

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NAD PATHFINDER DRILL MANUAL

(Currently still being used)

Adapted for Pathfinders



NAD Pathfinder Drill Manual



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DRILL AND MARCHING

Introduction

The Pathfinder Club is interested in seeing that each junior youth develops his individual initiative and personality, that he learns to stand tall and straight physically and spiritually. This individuality must not be suppressed, but it is also important that all learn to work together, play together, and live amiably together in the community.

Good sportsmanship, fairness, self-control, cooperation, regard for the rights of others, and loyalty may be taught through stories and sermons, but carefully selected group activities in a Pathfinder Club can greatly hasten the process. Pathfinders learn largely by doing, and while they appreciate discipline and order, they prefer these in terms of marching feet rather than an order to "sit still and be good." See page 18, *Suggestions to Drill Instructors*.

Simple drill and marching are necessary for orderliness and for getting the Pathfinders into position for various activities. Pathfinder drill is a game to be enjoyed and should be used regularly at club meetings. It should not be prolonged to the point where the youth tire of it.

The instructions given here are taken from the 1986 drill manual of the United States Army, yet modified so they fit the Pathfinder Club. No attempt is being made to make soldiers of the Pathfinders. There are merely the more familiar military courtesies and drills that the youth will enjoy.

The length of the steps in marching for adults is 30 inches and 15 inches. In this manual these figures have been shortened to 24 inches and 12 inches. Measurements are approximated and are based on the configuration of the average Pathfinder.

Capitalization

Preparatory commands and supplementary commands are printed in capitals while commands of execution are printed in capitals and bold. Combined commands and directives are also printed in capitals and bold, although they are sometimes used as supplementary commands.

Drill Instructor

The step-by-step method is the most effective one for instructing in drill.

The steps are as follows:

1. Give the name of the movement and its practical use.
2. Give the commands to be used for the movement and explore the preparatory command and the command of execution. Commands necessary to terminate a movement are also discussed at this time.
3. Explain the movement so the Pathfinders may understand its pertinent points.
4. Demonstrate the movement. If it has two or more counts, the demonstrators execute it by the numbers, one count or movement at a time.
5. Give practical work by the numbers or talk through the movement and follow this by having the movement executed at normal cadence. Instructors should supervise each movement closely and repeat it until precision becomes habitual.

Additional Techniques for Drill Instructors

A. **By the numbers.** To drill by the numbers the instructor commands BY THE NUMBERS. All subsequent commands are executed by the numbers until the command WITHOUT THE NUMBERS is given. The first count of the movement is executed on the command of execution. The second count is executed on the command, TWO or READY, TWO; etc.

B. **Mass commands.** When the instructor wants the Pathfinders to use mass commands, he commands AT YOUR COPMMAND. He gives a preparatory command describing the movement he wants performed; for example, FACE THE CLUB TO THE RIGHT. His command of execution is COMMAND. When he says COMMAND, all Pathfinders in the club in unison give the command RIGHT, wait one count, then give the command FACE and simultaneously execute the movement. The drill is conducted as follows:

1. Instructor: CALL THE CLUB TO ATTENTION, COMAND.
Mass: PATHFINDERS, ATTENTION
2. Instructor: HAVE THE CLUB STAND AT PARADE REST, COMMAND.
Mass: PARADE, REST.
3. Instructor: HALT THE CLUB, COMMAND.
Mass: PATHFINDERS, HALT.

If the Pathfinders are being drilled in a single unit instead of a club, the term “unit” would be used instead of “club.”

When the instructor desires to end mass commands, he commands AT MY COMAND.

C. For stationary movements of two or more counts the instructor directs IN CADENCE. The Pathfinders simultaneously execute the first count of the movement on the command of execution and sound off with ONE; as they execute the second count they sound off with TWO. To halt execution of movements in cadence the instructor directs WITHOUT CADENCE. Normal drill methods are resumed.

General Rules for Drill

- A. Drill periods should be frequent and of short duration. Smartness and precision should be expected in the execution of every detail.
- B. The explanation of a movement that may be executed toward either flank is given in this manual for only one flank. This is indicated by the use of the words “left” or “right” in parentheses. To execute the movement toward the other flank substitute the word “left” for “right” and “right” for “left.”
- C. Units are numbered from front to rear when in column and from right to left when in lines.
- D. Except at the beginning of training. The Pathfinder leader does not count cadence. When the Pathfinders get out of step, correct them or halt the club and move them off in step.

Commands

The directions given Pathfinders during drill are called “commands.” There are two parts to a command:

1. The preparatory command states the movement to be carried out and mentally prepares the Pathfinder for its execution. In the command FORWARD, MARCH, the preparatory command is FORWARD.

2. The command of execution tells when the movement is to be carried out, kind FORWARD, MARCH, the command of execution is MARCH.

In certain commands the preparatory command and the command of execution are combined, for example" FALL OUT, AT EASE, and REST.

Generally, when giving commands to his Pathfinders, the Pathfinder leader faces them. When his unit or club is a part of a larger drill group, or is in ceremonies, the Pathfinder leader does not face his unit or club, but turns his head toward his unit or club. He does not face about.

For a change in direction, the preparatory command and the command of execution are given so as to end as the foot corresponding to the direction of the turn strikes the ground.

The Pathfinder leader gives AS YOU WERE to revoke a preparatory command that he has given. If an improperly given command is not revoked, the Pathfinders execute the movement in the best manner possible.

The tone of the command should be animated, distinct, and of loudness proportioned to the number of Pathfinders for whom it is intended. Cadence in commands means a uniform and rhythmic flow of words. For everyone to be able to understand the preparatory command and know when to expect the command of execution, it is necessary that the interval between commands be generally of uniform length. For the unit or club in march, except when supplementary commands need to be given, the best interval of time is that which allows one step to be taken between the preparatory command and the command of execution. The same interval is best for commands given at the halt. Longer commands, such as RIGHT FLANK, MARCH, must be started so that the preparatory command will end on the proper foot and leave a full count between the preparatory command and the command of execution. Use a rising inflection with the preparatory command. Give the command of execution in a sharper tone and slightly higher pitch.

Directives

A directive causes action to be taken by those under the command of the one giving the directive. For example, PREPARE TO RAISE THE FLAG. The subordinate leader(s) may give necessary commands.

DRILL FOR INDIVIDUAL

General

This chapter contains most of the individual positions and stationary movements required in drill. These positions and the correct execution of the movement sin every detail should be learned before proceeding to unit drill. Absolute precision is required in drills.

All movements are initiated from the position of attention except for some rest movements which can be commanded from each other.

Definitions

- A. Cadence is the uniform rhythm in which a movement is executed, or the number of steps or counts per minute at which the movement is executed.
- B. Double time is the cadence of 180 counts or steps per minute.
- C. Element is an individual, unit, club, division, or larger designation forming a part of the next larger group.
- D. Step is the prescribed distance measured from heel to heel of the marching Pathfinder
- E. Quick time is the cadence of 120 counts or steps per minute.

Position of Attention

- A. Assume the position of attention on the command, FALL IN, or PATHFINDERS, ATTENTION. On the preparatory command, immediately assume the position of parade rest when at the position of at ease, stand at ease, or rest.
- B. Standing, with your right foot in place, bring your left heel smartly to the right heel so that the heels are on the same line with toes pointing out equally, forming an angle of 45 degrees. Keep your legs straight without locking your knees. Hold your body erect, with your hips level, chest lifted and arched, and shoulders square and even.
- C. Let your arms hang straight, without stiffness, along your sides with the back of the hands outward; curl your fingers so that the tips of the thumbs are alongside and touching the first joint of your forefingers. Keep your thumbs straight and along the seams of your trousers or skirt, with all fingertips touching the legs.
- D. Keep your head erect and hold it squarely to the front, with your chin drawn in so that the axis of your head and neck is vertical. Look straight to the front.
- E. Rest the weight of your body equally on the heels and balls of your feet. Remain silent except when replying to a question or when directed otherwise.

Prayer Attention

This movement is unique to the Pathfinder Clubs as at most Pathfinder ceremonies there is prayer. The movement is done only from parade rest and is the same as parade rest, except that the head is bowed for prayer.

- A. First the command PARADE, REST is given.
- B. Because of the reverence of prayer, the Pathfinders are commanded, PRAYER ATTENTION. (NOTE: This is a combined command; therefore, there is no command of execution.)

1. Male Members. At the command PRAYER ATTENTION, each male member moves only his right hand to remove his head gear, holds it in his right hand behind his back, and otherwise resumes the position of parade rest with his head bowed.
 2. Female Members. At the command PRAYER ATTENTION, each female member remains at the position of parade rest and bows her head.
- C. At the conclusion of prayer:
1. Male Members. At the conclusion of prayer, each male member (without any orders) replaces his head gear using both hands and resumes parade rest.
 2. Female Members. At the conclusion of prayer, each female member resumes parade rest.

Rests at the Halt

1. The following rests are executed at the halt: parade rest, stand at ease, at ease, and rest.
2. At the command REST of PARADE, REST (given at attention only), move your left foot smartly 8 inches to the left of your right foot. Keep your legs straight without locking the knees so that the weight of your body rests equally on the heels and the balls of your feet. Simultaneously, place your hands at the small of the back, centered on the belt. Keep the fingers of both hands extended and joined, interlocking your thumbs so that the palm of your right hand is outward. Hold your head and eyes as at the position of attention. Remain silent and do not move. The commands for stand at ease, at ease, or rest and the directive for prayer attention may be given from this position.
3. NOTE.—on the preparatory command for attention, immediately assume parade rest when at the position of at ease, stand at ease, or rest.
4. At the command REST of PARADE, REST (given at attention only), move your left foot smartly 8 inches to the left of your right foot. Keep your legs straight without locking the knees so that the weight of your body rests equally on the heels and the balls of your feet. Simultaneously, place your hands at the small of the back, centered on the belt. Keep the fingers of both hands extended and joined, interlocking your thumbs so that the palm of your right hand is outward. Hold your head and eyes as at the position of attention. Remain silent and do not move. The commands for stand at ease, at ease, or rest and the directive for prayer attention may be given from this position.
5. NOTE.—On the preparatory command for attention, immediately assume parade rest when at the position of at ease, stand at ease, or rest.
6. At the command EASE, of STAND AT, EASE (given from the position of attention), execute parade rest as described above, but turn your head and eyes directly toward the commander. At ease or rest may be commanded from this position.
7. At the command AT EASE, keep your right foot in place. You may move, but remain silent and standing. Rest may be commanded from this position.
8. At the command REST, keep your right foot in place. You may talk and move. Remain standing. AT EASE may be commanded from this position.

Facings at the Halt

Facings at the halt are commanded only from the position of attention and executed in the cadence of quick time.

- A. **Face to the flank.** The command is RIGHT (LEFT), FACE. This is a 2-count movement. At the command FACE, slightly raise your left heel and right toe and turn 90 degrees to the right on your heel, assisted by a slight pressure on the ball of your left foot, in one count. Keep your left

leg straight without stiffness. On the second count, place your left foot smartly beside your right foot, resuming the position of attention. Hold your arms as at attention when executing this movement.

B. Face to the rear. The command is ABOUT, FACE. This is a 2-count movement. On the command FACE, move the toe of your right foot to a position touching the ground approximately one-half the length of your foot to the rear and slightly to the left of your left heel. Rest most of your weight on the heel of the left foot and allow your right knees to bend naturally. On the second count, turn to the right 180 degrees on your left heel and the ball of your right foot, resuming the position of attention. Hold your arms as at attention when executing this movement.

Present Arms

A. Present arms is a one-count movement given only at the position of attention. The command is PRESENT, ARMS. On the command of execution, ARMS, raise the right hand until the tip of the forefinger touches the forehead just above the right corner of the right eye (When wearing headdress having brim, bill or visor, touch protruding edge of headdress above right eye.) The outer edge of the hand is barely canted downward so that neither the palm nor the back of the hand is visible from the front. The upper arm is horizontal with the elbow inclined slightly forward and the hand and wrist straight.

B. Order arms from present arms is a one-count movement. The command is ORDER, ARMS. On the command of execution, ARMS, return your hand smartly to your side, resuming the position of attention.

NOTE.—the hand salute is executed like present arms but without command. When reporting or when rendering courtesy, turn the head and eyes toward the person addressed as you salute. Upon acknowledgement, terminate the salute like order arms but without command.

Steps and Marching, General

- A. These steps should be learned thoroughly before preceding to unit drill. A step (not pace) is the distance between heels when marching.
- B. All marching movements executed from the halt are initiated from the position of attention.
- C. Except for route step and at ease, march, all marching movements are executed while marching at attention. Marching at attention is the combination of the position of attention and the procedures for the prescribed step, executed simultaneously.
- D. When executed from the halt, all steps except right step begin with the left foot.
- E. For short-distance marching movements the commander may designate the number of steps forward, backward, or sideward by giving the appropriate commands; e.g. ONE STEP TO THE RIGHT, (LEFT) MARCH; or, TWO STEPS BACKWARD (FORWARD) MARCH. On the command of execution, MARCH, step off with the appropriate foot, and halt automatically after completing the number of steps designated.
- F. All marching movements are executed in a cadence of quick time (120 steps per minute), except when the 24-inch step is executed in the cadence of 180 steps per minute on the command DOUBLE TIME, MARCH.
- G. For movements involving a turn while marching, both the preparatory command and the command of execution are completed on the foot in the direction of the turn. For groups no larger than a unit or club, the commands are given so there is one step between the end of the

preparatory command and the command of execution. For groups larger than a club, time is allowed for supplementary commands.

H. When instructing in marching, it is often helpful to have the Pathfinders count cadence. The instructor should count cadence as little as possible. The command COUNT CADENCE, COUNT is given as the left foot strikes the ground while marching at quick time. The Pathfinders take one more step and then count aloud for eight steps: ONE, TWO, THREE, FOUR, ONE, TWO, THREE, FOUR. The count should be vigorous and snappy. To count cadence while double timing the procedures are basically the same, except the Pathfinders count only each time the left foot strikes the ground. When further along in training the Pathfinders should be halted when necessary and marched forward again to get proper cadence. The Pathfinders should develop a sense of rhythm rather than depend upon counting cadence.

24-Inch Step (Quick Time)

A. Being at the halt, march with a 24-inch step in the cadence of quick time, the command is FORWARD, MARCH. At the command FORWARD, shift the weight of your body to your right leg without noticeable movement. At the command MARCH, step off smartly with your left foot and march straight forward with 24-inch steps, keeping your head and eyes fixed to the front. Swing your arms easily in their natural arcs 9 inches straight to the front and 6 inches to the rear of the seams of your trousers or skirt. Do not allow your arms to bend at the elbow; keep your fingers curled as in the position of attention, and just clearing your trousers or skirt when swinging.

B. To halt from quick time, the command is PATHFINDERS, HALT, given as either foot strikes the ground. This movement is executed on two counts. On the command of execution, HALT, take one more step and then bring your trailing foot alongside your leading foot, resuming the position of attention.

12-Inch Step (Half-Step)

A. To march forward with a 12-inch step from the halt, the command is HALF STEP, MARCH. On the preparatory command HALF STEP, shift your weight to the right leg without noticeable movement. On the command of execution, MARCH, step forward 12 inches with your left foot and continue marching with 12-inch steps. Allow your arms to swing as with a 24-inch step.

B. To alter the march to a 12-inch step while marching with a 24-inch step in quick time, the command is HALF STEP, MARCH. This command may be given as either foot strikes the ground. On the command of execution MARCH, take one more 24-inch step and then begin marching with a 12-inch step. Allow your arms to swing as with a 24-inch step.

C. To resume marching with a 24-inch step, the command FORWARD, MARCH, is given as either foot strikes the ground. On the command of execution MARCH, take one more 12-inch step and then begin marching with a 24-inch step.

D. The halt while marching at the half step is executed in two counts, basically the same as the halt from the 24-inch step.

E. While marching at the half step, MARK TIME, MARCH; FORWARD, MARCH; EXTEND, MARCH; and HALT are the only commands that may be given. The element may be marched for short distances from a close interval line formation. To obtain correct distance while marching with less than correct distance, the command is EXTEND, MARCH. The leading Pathfinder take one more 12-inch step then 24-inch steps. Other begins 24-inch steps when at correct distance.

Marching in Place

- A. To march in place at quick time, the command MARK TIME, **MARCH** is given as either foot strikes the ground while marching at quick time or half step. (Not given when at half nor at double time.)
- B. When marching at quick time or half step and the command MARK TIME, **MARCH** is given, take one more step after the command of execution, plant the trailing foot along-side your stationary foot and march in place. Raise each foot alternately, approximately 2 inches off the ground, executing the movement in quick time. Allow your arms to swing naturally. Adjust your alignment while marching.
- C. The command FORWARD, **MARCH** is given to resume marching with the 24-inch step. Take one more step in place and the step off with a full step. This command is given as either foot strikes the ground.
- D. The halt from mark time is executed similarly to the halt from quick time.

12-Inch Step (Right/Left)

- A. The command RIGHT (LEFT) STEP, **MARCH** is given only from the halt.
- B. On the command, **MARCH**, slightly bend your right knee and raise your right leg only high enough to allow freedom of movement. Place your right foot 12 inches to the right of the left foot, and then move the left foot, keeping your left leg straight, to a position along-side the right foot as in the position of attention. Continue this movement in the cadence of quick time, keeping your arms by your sides.
- C. To halt from the right (left) step, the preparatory command is given when the heels are together, and the command of execution (**HALT**) when the heels are together the next time. The halt from the right (left) step is executed in two counts. On the command **HALT**, take one more step with your right foot and place your left foot alongside the right, resuming the position of attention.

To March Backward With a 12-Inch Step

- A. The command BACKWARD, **MARCH** is given from the halt, and for short distances only.
- B. At the command **MARCH**, take 12-inch steps backward beginning with your left foot, in the cadence of quick time only, allowing your arms to swing naturally.
- C. The halt from backward march is executed in two counts, similar to the halt from quick time, and may be given as either foot strikes the ground.

To Change Step

- A. The command CHANGE STEP, **MARCH** is given as the right foot strikes the ground while marching at quick time.
- B. At the command of execution take one more step with your left foot, then in one count place your right toe near the heel of your left foot and step off again with your left foot.
- C. This movement is executed automatically when a Pathfinder finds himself out of step with other members of the formation.

24-Inch Step (Double Time)

The command DOUBLE TIME, **MARCH** is given from a halt, or as either foot strikes the ground while marching at quick time.

When the preparatory command for double time is given from a halt, shift the weight of your body to your right leg without noticeable movement. At the command **MARCH**, raise your forearms to a horizontal position, with your fingers and thumbs closed, knuckles out, and simultaneously step off with your left foot. Continue to march with 24-inch steps at the cadence of double time. Let your arms swing naturally, straight to the front and rear, but keep your forearms horizontal.

When marching at quick time, and the command DOUBLE TIME, **MARCH** is given, take one more quick-time step and step off with your trailing foot in double time as instructed in B above.

To resume quick time from double time, the command is QUICK TIME, **MARCH**, given as either foot strikes the ground. At the command of execution take two more double-time steps, then resume quick time, lowering your arms to your sides.

To halt from marching at double time, at the command of execution, **HALT**, take two more double time steps, (lower your hands to the side) and one 24-inch step at quick time, bringing your trailing foot alongside your leading foot, resuming the position of attention.

NOTE.—Halt, quick time, column half right (left), and column right (left) are the only movements which can be executed while double timing.

Rest Movements (24-Inch Step)

At Ease, March. The command AT EASE, **MARCH**, is given as either foot strikes the ground. On the command of execution, **MARCH**, you are no longer required to retain cadence; however, silence and approximate interval and distance are maintained. QUICK TIME, **MARCH**, or ROUTE STEP, **MARCH**, are the only commands that can be given while marching **at ease**.
Route Step, March. Route step is executed exactly the same as AT EASE, **MARCH**, except that you may talk.

NOTE.—To change the direction of march while marching at **route step** or **at ease, march** the commander informally directs the lead element to turn in the desired direction. Before precision movements may be executed, the Pathfinder must resume marching in cadence. The Pathfinders automatically resume marching at attention on the command QUICK TIME, **MARCH**, as the commander reestablished the cadence by counting for eight steps.

DRILL FOR THE UNIT

General

- A. After learning all the movements and positions of drill for the individual, then drill for the unit should be taught. In unit drill you learn to do all the individual movements with other Pathfinders.
- B. Individual members of the unit are numbered from right to left when in line, and from front to rear in column

Definitions

- A. Formation is the arrangement of the elements of a Pathfinder drill formation in any prescribed manner.
- B. Line is a formation in which the elements are side by side or abreast of each other. In a club line the Pathfinders in each unit are abreast of each other with the units one behind the other.
- C. Rank is a line that is only one element in depth.
- D. Interval is the lateral space between elements. Normal interval between Pathfinders is measured from right to left by the Pathfinder on the right holding his left arm and hand shoulder high, fully extended, palm down, with the tip of his middle finger touched by the right shoulder of the Pathfinder on his left. Close interval between Pathfinders is measured from right to left by the Pathfinder on the right placing the heel of his left hand on his left hip even with the top of the belt line, fingers and thumb joined and extended downward, and his elbow in line with his body and touched by the arm of the Pathfinder on his left.
- E. Column is a formation in which the elements of the formations are one behind the other. In a club column, the Pathfinders in each unit are one behind the other, with the units abreast of each other.
- F. File is a column that has a front of only one element.
- G. Distance is the space between elements when the elements are one behind the other. Distance between Pathfinders is an arm's length to the front plus 6 inches, or approximately 30 inches, measured from the chest of one Pathfinder to the back of the Pathfinder immediately to his front.
- H. Cover is aligning yourself directly behind the Pathfinder to your immediate front while maintaining correct distance.
- I. Flank is the right or left side of any formation as sensed by an element within that formation.

To Form the Unit

- A. The unit counselor stands at attention and commands **FALL IN**.
- B. The unit captain positions himself so that the unit, when formed, will be three steps in front of and centered on the unit counselor. The unit captain immediately raises his left arm laterally at shoulder level, fingers extended and joined, palm down, with head and eyes to the front. The number two Pathfinder takes his position immediately to the left of the unit captain and on line, his right shoulder touching the captain's fingertips; he turns his head and eyes to the right for alignment and raises his left arm. As soon as proper interval has been obtained, the captain drops his left arm quietly to his side. The number two Pathfinder turns his head and eyes to the front when he is aligned, drops his arm as soon as proper interval has been obtained and

stands at attention. Other members of the unit form in a similar manner. The left flank Pathfinder does not raise his arm.

C. To form at close interval the command is AT CLOSE INTERVAL, **FALL IN**. The formation is completed like normal interval except that close interval is obtained as described in the section *To Align the Unit*, Definition D, on page 15.

D. When the guidon bearer drills with the unit, the unit forms similarly except that the guidon is to the right of the captain at prescribed interval.

To Dismiss the Unit

A. The unit is dismissed only from a line formation with the Pathfinders at attention. The commands are PRESENT, **ARMS**; ORDER, **ARMS**; DISMISSED.

B. At the command DISMISSED, each Pathfinder should execute about face, take one step in the new direction, and then leave the line.

Resting the Unit

A. The Pathfinders in the unit execute the same rest position in formation in the same manner as prescribed for individuals.

B. When the situation warrants a greater degree of relaxation than the rest positions, the unit counsellor may command **FALL OUT**. At this command each Pathfinder executes an aboutface, takes one step in the new direction and leaves his position in formation but remains in the immediate area.

To Change Interval While in Line

NOTE.—To ensure that each Pathfinder understands the number of steps to take, the unit counsellor should have the unit count off before giving any commands that cause a unit to change interval. Pathfinders do not raise their arms when changing interval.

A. To obtain close interval from normal interval, the command is CLOSE INTERVAL, **MARCH**. On the command of execution, **MARCH**, the unit captain stands fast. All Pathfinders to the left of the unit captain execute right step march and take one step less than their number (number five Pathfinder takes four steps) and halt.

B. To obtain normal interval from close interval, the command is NORMAL INTERVAL, **MARCH**. On the command of execution, **MARCH**, the unit captain stands fast. All Pathfinders to the left of the unit captain execute left step march and take one step less than their number (number four Pathfinder take three steps) and halt.

NOTE.—The guidon bearer, if present, executes one left step in close interval march and one right step in normal interval march.

To Align the Unit

NOTE.—The unit counselor should command the unit to the appropriate interval prior to giving the command for alignment.

A. To align the unit in line at normal interval, the commands are DRESS RIGHT, **DRESS**; READY, **FRONT**. At the command **DRESS**, each Pathfinder except the right flank Pathfinder turns his head and eyes to the right and aligns himself on the right flank Pathfinder. Each

Pathfinder except the left flank Pathfinder extends his left arm, and each Pathfinder positions himself by short right or left steps until his right shoulder touches the fingertips of the Pathfinder on his right.

B. If the unit counselor desires exact alignment, he marches by the most direct route to a position on line with the unit, one step from the right flank Pathfinder, halts on line and faces down the line. From this position he verifies the alignment of the unit, ordering Pathfinders to move forward or backward as necessary, calling them by name or number. The unit counselor remains at attention, taking short steps to the right or left as necessary to see down the unit. He does not use his arms or twist his body. Having aligned the unit, he returns by the most direct route to his position at the center of the unit, halts, faces the unit and commands **READY, FRONT.**

C. To align the unit at close interval the commands are **AT CLOSE INTERVAL, DRESS RIGHT, DRESS; READY, FRONT.** The movement is executed as described in A and B above, except that close interval is obtained as described in Definition D on page 15.

D. To align the unit in column the command is **COVER.** At this command, each Pathfinder (except the leading Pathfinder) raises his left arm horizontally to the front, fingers extended and joined, palms down, and obtains an arm's length plus approximately 5 inches (from the fingertips) from the back of the Pathfinder to his front. At the same time, each Pathfinder aligns himself directly behind the Pathfinder to his front. To resume the position of attention, the command **RECOVER** is given. On this command each Pathfinder lowers his arm smartly back to his side.

To Change the Direction of March

A. From the halt, the command to place the unit in motion and simultaneously change the direction of march is 45 degrees or 90 degrees is **COLUMN HALF RIGHT (LEFT), MARCH,** or **COLUMN RIGHT (LEFT), MARCH.** On the command of execution, **MARCH**, lead Pathfinder faces to the half right or right in marching by pivoting on the ball of his right foot (45 degrees or 90 degrees) and stepping off in the indicated direction with his left foot, continuing to march in the new direction. All other Pathfinders march forward and pivot to the new direction on the ball of the lead foot and step off in the new direction with the trailing foot. As the Pathfinders approach the turning point, they shorten or lengthen their pivot steps as necessary so as to turn at the approximate same point as the lead Pathfinder.

B. To change the direction of march 45 degrees or 90 degrees when marching, the preparatory command **COLUMN HALF RIGHT (LEFT)** or **COLUMN RIGHT (LEFT)** is given as the foot in the desired direction strikes the ground, and the command of execution, **MARCH**, is given the next time the foot in the desired direction strikes the ground. On the command of execution, **MARCH**, the lead Pathfinder takes one additional step, turns in the command direction as the pivot foot strikes the ground, and continues to march in the new direction. Other Pathfinders continue to march forward and execute the pivot as inscribed from the halt.

C. To march in the opposite direction, the command is **REAR, MARCH,** (not given from a halt). The preparatory command, **REAR**, is given as the right foot strikes the ground. On the command of execution given when the right foot next strikes the ground, all Pathfinders take one more step with the left foot, pivot on the balls of both feet, turning 180 degrees to the right, and step off in the new direction. Do not allow the arms outward while turning.

- D. To avoid an obstacle in the path of march, the unit counselor commands **INCLINE AROUND LEFT (RIGHT)**. The lead Pathfinder inclines around the obstacle and re-establishes the original direction. All other Pathfinders follow the lead Pathfinder.
- E. When it is desired to move a unit to the flank for a short distance while marching at quick time, the commands are **RIGHT (LFT) FLANK, MARCH**. The preparatory command and the command of execution end when the foot in the indicated direction of march strikes the ground. The interval between the preparatory command and the command of execution is one step. At the command **MARCH**, each Pathfinder takes one more step, turns in the indicated direction of march on the ball of his leading foot, and steps off on the new direction with his trailing foot. This movement is not executed from a halt. As the Pathfinders begin to march in the new direction, they glance out of the corner of the eye and dress to the right.

To Count Off in Line or Column

- A. Counting off is executed only from right to left inline and from front to rear in column. The command is **COUNT, OFF**. The guidon bearer, if present, does not take part in the counting.
- B. When in line, at the command of execution, all Pathfinders except the one on the right flank turn their heads and eyes to the right, and the right flank Pathfinder counts off **ONE**. After the Pathfinder on the right counts off his number, the Pathfinder to his left counts off the next higher number, at the same time turning his head and eyes to the front. The numbers are counted in the cadence of quick time from Pathfinder to Pathfinder. All movements are made in a precise manner.
- C. When in column, at the command of execution, each Pathfinder in succession (starting with the leading Pathfinder) turns his head to the right and counts off his number sharply over his right shoulder. He then turns his head back to the front. The last Pathfinder in column keeps his head and eyes to the front.

DRILL FOR THE CLUB

General

- A. Following unit drill, your unit is merged with other units for further movements.
- B. The units of a club are numbered from front to rear when in line, and from left to right when the club is in column.
- C. When forming in line for club drill the unit counselors fall in at normal interval on the left flank of their unit unless another position is designated by the club director.

Unit Drill Applicable to Club Drill

The following movements are executed as in club drill, with the exceptions and additions noted.

- A. The club changes interval while in line and counts off in the same manner as the unit, with the unit captains as bases for these movements. When there are two or more ranks, the Pathfinder in rear of the first rank cover the corresponding Pathfinders to their front in executing these movements.
- B. The club executes flank movements in a manner similar to that described for the unit, except when the club is at close interval between files. In this case it must first be extended to normal interval.
- C. The unit captain of the first unit serves as the guide when the club is in line formation. The unit captain of the right flank unit serves as the guide when in column formation.
- D. The club forms in line (one unit behind another) with the unit captains on the right of their units. In line, the club director's post is six steps to the front of and centered on the club. The club should march in line for short distances only. Normally it should march in column when the club is drilling as a separate formation, in column, the club director is six steps to the left and centered on the left flank of the club. When the club is an element in a larger formation, and marching in column, the club director is at normal distance in front of and centered on the unit captains.
- E. When the club drills with guidons in each unit, the guidon bearer takes his place to the right of the unit captain when in line, and in front of the unit captain when in column. When drilling with guidons, the club in line, and the position of present guidon is called for, the guidon bearer in the second and succeeding ranks present guidons slightly to the right of the one in front.

To Align the Club

- A. The club in line is aligned similarly to the unit except that the front unit is the only one to obtain exact interval. In other units the Pathfinders raise their left arms and turn their heads but cover the corresponding Pathfinders to the front. If the club director desires exact alignment he marches to the right flank of the first unit as in unit drill, and aligns the first unit. Having aligned the first unit he faces to the left in marching, taking two (three if at open ranks) short steps to the next unit, halts, executes right face and aligns that unit. After aligning the last unit, the club director faces to the right in marching, returns by the most direct route to his position at the center of the club, halts parallel to the formation, faces to the left, and commands **READY, FRONT.**
- B. To align the club in column, the command is **COVER**. On this command, the unit captain on the right flank stands fast and serves as base. All unit captains (except the unit captain on the left flank) raise their left arms laterally and verify the interval. The Pathfinder in the right flank raises their left arms horizontally to the front and cover the Pathfinder to the front at the

correct distance. All other Pathfinders raise their left arms horizontally to the front and cover the Pathfinder to their front, and at the same time glance out of the corner of their eyes and align themselves on the right file. To resume the position of attention, the command is **RECOVER**. On this command each Pathfinder lowers his arm smartly to his side.

NOTE.—when the club covers as part of a column formation involving several clubs, only the first club obtains the exact interval. Unit Captains in the second and following clubs raise their left arms laterally and obtain approximate interval, but in fact cover the units to their front. Guidon bearers, if present, look quickly over their right shoulder to be certain they have correct interval and distance, and resume the position of attention.

Eyes Right At Reviews and Parades

- A. At the halt, all Pathfinders, on the command **EYES RIGHT**, turn head and eyes to the right 45 degrees. Their heads and eyes follow the reviewing official until they are looking directly to the front. Only the club director renders the hand salute.
- B. When marching, the club director, without turning his body, commands **EYES, RIGHT; READY, FRONT**. He gives the command **RIGHT** when he is six steps from the front of the reviewing official or reviewing stand, and **FRONT** when the last rank of the club has cleared the reviewing official or reviewing stand by six steps. When the command **RIGHT** is given, each Pathfinder except the right file, turns head and eyes to the right at an angle of 45 degrees while marching until the command **FRONT** is given. At the command **FRONT**, heads and eyes again face front. The commands **EYES** and **RIGHT** are given on the right foot. **READY** and **FRONT** are given on the left foot.
- C. At the command **EYES, RIGHT**, the club director turns his head and eyes right and renders present arms. The guidon bearers execute present guidon and the Pathfinder flag is dipped to a 45 degree angle. The national flag is never dipped.
- D. The club director ends the salute at the command **FRONT**. The guidons are returned to the carry.
- E. All flags are carried nearly vertically, with the staff grasped with the right hand even with the mouth and the left hand near the base of the staff (the left hand securing ferrule in sling socket if sling is used). In strong wind, when using sling, staff may be grasped with left hand just below right hand.

To Open and Close Ranks

- A. When in line at any of the prescribed intervals the club opens ranks for personal inspection or other purposes at the command **OPEN RANKS, MARCH**. At the command **MARCH**, the front rank takes two steps forward, the second rank takes one step, and the third rank stands fast. If there are more than three ranks, the fourth rank takes two steps backward, the fifth rank takes four steps backward, the sixth rank takes six steps backward, etc.

NOTE.—after taking the prescribed steps, the Pathfinders do not raise their arms. If the club director desires exact alignment, he commands **DRESS RIGHT (AT CLOSE INTERVAL DRESS RIGHT)**, **DRESS** and aligns the club.

- B. To close open ranks the command is **CLOSE RANKS, MARCH**. At the command **MARCH**, the front rank takes four steps backward, the second rank takes two steps backward, the fifth rank stands fast, and the fourth rank takes one step forward, etc.

To Change Interval While in Column

- A. When in column at normal interval, at a halt or in march at quick time, to obtain close interval between files the command is CLOSE INTERVAL, **MARCH**.
- B. At the halt, on the command **MARCH**, the right flank of the unit stands fast. The other units obtain close interval by taking 1, 2, and 3, etc., right steps respectively, and cover their unit captains.
- C. To change interval in column when marching, the preparatory command, CLOSE INTERVAL, is given as the right foot strikes the ground and the command of execution, **MARCH**, is given the next time the right foot strikes the ground. On the command of execution, the base unit (right file) takes one more 24-inch step, then assumes the half step. All other Pathfinders take one more step, simultaneously execute a column half right, and march until close interval is obtained. They execute a column half left and assume the half step when abreast of the corresponding Pathfinder of the base unit. On the command FORWARD, **MARCH**, all Pathfinders resume marching with a 24-inch step.
- D. To obtain close interval between files, when the club is marching in column at close interval, the command is NORMAL INTERVAL, **MARCH**, is given on the left foot. This movement is executed like close interval, but in the opposite direction (column half left and then column half right).

To Change the Direction of a Column

- A. To change the direction 90 degrees, the command is COLUMN RIGHT (LEFT), **MARCH**. On the command of execution **MARCH**, the base unit (right or left file) executes the movement as in unit drill except that the unit leader takes one 24-inch step then takes up the half step. The unit leader continues marching with the half step until the other unit leaders come abreast. The other unit leaders, while maintaining correct (offset) interval, execute a 45 degree pivot and continue marching in an arch. As they come abreast of the base unit leader, they take up the half step. When all unit leaders are abreast, they step off with a 24-inch step without command. All other club members march forward on the command of execution and execute the column movement at approximately the same location as their unit leaders and in the same manner.
- B. To change the direction 45 degrees, the command is COLUMN HALF RIGHT (LEFT), **MARCH**. On the command of execution, **MARCH**, the club executes the movement in the same manner as the 90 degree turn except the first Pathfinder in the base unit as well as the first Pathfinder in the other units executes a column half right (left).

NOTE.—when executing a column movement at double time, elements adjust the length of their steps so that interval and distance are maintained through and beyond the pivot point.

- C. The club marches in the opposite direction (REAR, **MARCH**) in the same manner as the unit.
- D. The club inclines in the same manner as the unit. The unit nearest the direction of turn serves as the base.

To Form a File and Re-form

A. The club forms a single file from the left (right), or as designated when in column and at the halt only. The commands are: FILE FROM THE LEFT (RIGHT), **MARCH**; or FILE IN SEQUENCE 3-2-4-1 (etc.), **MARCH**.

NOTE.—Guidon bearers, if present, should be removed from the formation before beginning this movement.

B. On the preparatory command, the unit captain of the designated lead unit gives the supplementary command, FORWARD. The other unit captains command **STAND FAST**. On the command of execution, **MARCH**, the lead unit marches forward. The unit captain next to the lead unit (or as designated) looks over the shoulder nearest the moving element and commands COLUMN HALF LEFT (RIGHT) when the third from the last Pathfinder in the moving element is on line with him, and then gives the command of execution, **MARCH**, as the right foot of the last Pathfinder of the moving element strikes the ground when online with him. On his command of execution, the unit captain executes the column half left (right), and then inclines to the right (left) without command and follows the last Pathfinder of the preceding unit at correct distance. Other Pathfinders of the unit march forward and execute the same movements as the unit captain. The remaining units form a file in the same manner as the unit immediately behind the lead element.

C. The club may form a file and execute a column movement simultaneously from a column formation. The command for this movement is FILE FROM THE LEFT (RIGHT) COLUMN LEFT (RIGHT), **MARCH**. On the preparatory command, the unit captain of the designated lead unit gives the command COLUMN LEFT (RIGHT). The other captains command **STAND FAST**. On the club director's command of execution, **MARCH**, the lead unit executes a column movement in the designated direction. The other unit captains command COLUMN LEFT (RIGHT), **MARCH** as the right foot of the last Pathfinder in the moving unit in front of their unit strikes the ground at the pivot (column left), or as the right foot of the last Pathfinder in the moving unit in front of their unit strikes the ground after the pivot (column right).

D. The club re-forms in the original column formation from the halt only. The command is COLUMN OF FOURS (THREES, etc.) TOP THE RIGHT (LEFT), **MARCH**. On the preparatory command the unit captain of the base (lead) unit commands, **STAND FAST**. All other unit captains command COLUMN HALF RIGHT (LEFT). On the club director's command of execution, **MARCH**, the base unit stands fast; all other units execute a column half right (left) simultaneously. As each of the moving unit captains reaches a point that will ensure correct interval from the element to their left (right), they automatically incline to the left (right) and then command MARK TIME, **MARCH** and UNIT, **HALT**, so that their unit will be abreast of the base unit when halted.

E. To re-form the club in its original column formation, when the file was formed on the command IN SEQUENCE _____, **MARCH**, the commands FALL OUT and FALL IN followed by RIGHT, FACE, must be given.

NOTE.--A club having sufficient units may form in two or more divisions under the command of designated division leaders. Such divisions would drill as provided for a club.

Suggestions for Drill Instructors

The drill prescribed in this manual is designated for general use. Some of the explanation is of a general nature and gives you enough latitude for adaptation to any group. Base your interpretation on these general provisions. Use this manual as a guide to a common-sense solution of minor points which are not covered specifically. Much discussion over trifles or the failure to make appropriate adaptation indicates a failure to grasp the spirit of the manual. Make any necessary adaptations simple. Do not complicate the drill. Stress precision in the execution of the drill, in marching in step, and correct alignment.

MANUAL OF THE GUIDON

General

- A. The guidon is a unit identification flag. It is carried at ceremonies and otherwise when prescribed by the club director.
- B. The guidon bearer is selected by the unit counselor and receives special instruction in his duties.
- C. To face with the guidon, raise the ferrule 1 inch off the ground by bending your right arm slightly, but keep the staff in a vertical position throughout the movement. After executing the movement, automatically lower the ferrule to the ground.
- D. Execute facing movements, marching movements, present arms and rest movements with the unit.
- E. When marching at route step or at ease, you may hold the guidon in either hand at the carry position.
- F. Execute PARADE, REST by doing these things. On the preparatory command PARADE, let your right hand slide up the staff until the forearm is horizontal and grasp the staff. On the command of execution, REST, thrust the staff straight forward until your arm is fully extended, at the same time place your left hand behind your back as individual drill.
- G. Execute AT EASE similarly to parade rest, except that you may slightly relax your right arm.
- H. When given REST, hold the guidon in either hand.
- I. When not in formation, salute with the guidon at order or carry positions by moving your left arm across your body and with your forearm and wrist straight, fingers and thumb extended and joined, palm down, touch the staff with the first joint of your forefinger, turning your head and eyes toward the person or flag saluted. Touch the staff just below the right shoulder.

Order Guidon

At order guidon keep the ferrule on the ground and touching the outside of your right shoe, opposite the ball of your right foot. Hold the staff in your right hand in the V formed by your fingers extended and joined, and your thumb. Keep your right hand and arm behind the staff with your arm bent naturally. Rest the staff against the hollow of your shoulder. The remainder of the position of order guidon is the same as the position of attention. Execute order guidon automatically on halting.

Raised Guidon

On the preparatory command PRESENT of PRESENT ARMS and EYES of EYES RIGHT, raise the guidon vertically by grasping the staff with your right hand. Raise the guidon with the right hand while simultaneously moving the left hand across the body to guide the guidon (with palm to the rear). Keep raising the guidon until the right hand is on line with the right shoulder. Keep the right elbow into the side. Hold the guidon in this position until the command of execution is given.

Carry Guidon

- A. On the preparatory command for marching movements, execute carry guidon by grasping the staff with the right hand and raising it vertically six inches off the marching surface. At the same time, reach across the body (forearm horizontal) and grasp the staff with the left hand. Hold the staff in position with the left hand while sliding the right hand down six inches, regrasping the staff. On the command of execution MARCH, return the left hand smartly to the left side and simultaneously step off.
- B. To return to order guidon, follow the procedure as in A above on the command of execution, but let the staff slide through your right hand until the ferrule touches the ground.
- C. At double time hold the guidon diagonally across your body. Grasp the staff with your right hand at the position used at the carry, with your right forearm horizontal and your elbow near your body. Grasp the staff in your left hand opposite the junction of your neck and the left shoulder, keeping your left elbow near your body.

Present Guidon

- A. On the preparatory commands for present arms and eyes right, execute raised guidon. On the command of execution, lower the guidon to the front with the right hand, keeping the left hand in the same position as raised guidon until the guidon is in the horizontal position resting under the arm pit. As soon as the staff is horizontal, return your left hand smartly to your left side.
- B. During ceremonies, execute eyes right as you present the guidon on the command of execution, RIGHT. Return the head and eyes to the front as you raise the guidon on the command READY of READY, FRONT.
- C. On the command ORDER, or ORDER, ARMS, or READY, FRONT, regrasp the staff with your left hand at its original position and execute raised guidon. On the command of execution, ARMS, or FRONT, lower the guidon back to the carry or order position.

SUGGESTED PATHFINDER CLUB FLAG CEREMONY AT FIXED POLE

- A. The Pathfinder units being in line before the flagpole, the director designates the unit or individuals that are to raise (lower) the flag. (Counselor may be forewarned and practice with his unit.) The director then directs PREPARE TO RAISE (LOWER) THE FLAG. Usually following the directive the director commands PARADE, REST to the club.
- B. The counselor in charge of the unit designated as flag detail by the director calls his unit to attention, brings them forward one step, then marches them into position at the flag-pole. It is suggested that the unit be marched around the perimeter of the flag square and then to the pole rather than by the shortest route.
- C. The counselor then directs the captain of the unit RECEIVE THE FLAG, and designates two other Pathfinders to proceed to the flagpole to help at the lanyard.

D. The captain then marches to a place two steps in front of the director (or the one with the flat), **salutes**, and steps forward to receive the flag. Upon receiving the flag he puts it, apex downward, under his left forearm, grasping it by his left hand, steps back, salutes, executes an about face, and proceeds to the flagpole by the most direct route.

E. When the captain and his helpers have the flag ready to raise, the counselor notifies the director. The director then calls the Pathfinder to attention and commands PRESENT, **ARMS**. The captain and his helpers then quickly raise the flag to the peak of the pole (If there is a bugler present, he plays "TO the Color" at the command PRESENT, **ARMS**.) When the flag reaches the peak of the pole (or at the conclusion of "TO the Color") the director commands ORDER, **ARMS**. The Pathfinder engaged in raising (lowering) the flag secure the lanyard without command. They do not salute.

F. The counselor then marches his unit back to their place in the line.

G. If the director so desires, the pledge of allegiance may be repeated after the flag has reached the peak of the pole and before the command ORDER, **ARMS** is given.

H. In lowering the flag the procedure of delivering the flag to the director (or one designated by him) is reversed. One member of the unit should be designated to secure the lanyard to the pole while the captain and his helpers fold the flag.

I. The flag should be lowered slowly. (If present, the bugler plays "Retreat" while the Pathfinders stand at parade rest, and then "To the Color" at the command PRESENT, **ARMS**.)

NOTE.—all commands may be given by the director instead of the counselor, if desired; or the captain of the unit, if he is trained, may give certain of the marching orders to get the unit in position.

COLORS REVERSE

To face a four-man color guard to the rear, the command is COLORS REVERSE, **MARCH**. At the command **MARCH**, each Pathfinder simultaneously executes the following movements:

A. Number 1 takes two steps forward, faces to the left in marching, takes one full step and three half steps, faces to the left in marching, and take two steps in the new direction.

B. Number 2 faces to the left in marching and faces to the left while marking time.

C. Number 3 takes one step forward, faces to the right in marching, takes two half steps, faces to the right in marching, and takes one step in the new direction.

D. Number 4 takes one step forward, faces to the right in marching, takes one full step and three half steps, faces to the right in marching, and takes on step forward, in the new direction.



This Portion of the manual is strictly for those who would like to continue to find ways to challenge their Pathfinder Clubs in more technical drilling arrangements. Included in this section is a glossary that will explain words and meanings that may not be easily understood without a drill specialist present.



PART ONE

DRILL

"Gentlemen: you have now reached the last point. If anyone of you doesn't mean business let him say so now. An hour from now will be too late to back out. Once in, you've got to see it through. You've got to perform without flinching whatever duty is assigned you, regardless of the difficulty or the danger attending it. If it is garrison duty, you must attend to it. If it is meeting fever, you must be willing. If it is the closest kind of fighting, anxious for it. You must know how to ride, how to shoot, how to live in the open. Absolute obedience to every command is your first lesson. No matter what comes you mustn't squeal. Think it over - all of you. If any man wishes to withdraw he will be gladly excused, for others are ready to take his place."

Theodore Roosevelt, Remarks to Recruits, 1898

Chapter 1

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of drill is to enable a commander or noncommissioned officer to move his unit from one place to another in an orderly manner; to aid in disciplinary training by instilling habits of precision and response to the leader's orders; and to provide for the development of all Soldiers in the practice of commanding troops.

1-1. HISTORY

Military history reveals that armies throughout the world participated in some form of drill. The primary value of drill, historically, is to prepare troops for battle. For the most part, the drill procedures practiced are identical to the tactical maneuvers employed on the battlefield. Drill enables commanders to quickly move their forces from one point to another, mass their forces into a battle formation that affords maximum firepower, and maneuver those forces as the situation develops.

a. In 1775, when this country was striving for independence and existence, the nation's leaders were confronted with the problem of not only establishing a government but also of organizing an army that was already engaged in war. From the "shot heard around the world," on 19 April 1775, until Valley Forge in 1778, Revolutionary forces were little more than a group of civilians fighting Indian-style against well-trained, highly disciplined British Redcoats. For three years, General George Washington's troops had endured many hardships—lack of funds, rations, clothing, and equipment. In addition, they had suffered loss after loss to the superior British forces. These hardships and losses mostly stemmed from the lack of a military atmosphere in country. Thus, an army was created with little or no organization, control, discipline, or teamwork.

b. Recognizing the crisis, General Washington, through Benjamin Franklin, the American Ambassador to France, enlisted the aid of a Prussian officer, Baron Friedrich von

Steuben. Upon his arrival at Valley Forge on 23 February 1778, von Steuben, a former staff officer with Frederick the Great, met an army of several thousand half-starved, wretched men in rags. He commented that a European army could not be kept together in such a state. To correct the conditions that prevailed, he set to work immediately and wrote drill movements and regulations at night and taught them the following day to a model company of 120 men selected from the line.

c. Discipline became a part of military life for these selected individuals as they learned to respond to command without hesitation. This new discipline instilled in the individual a sense of alertness, urgency, and attention to detail. Confidence in himself and his weapon grew as each man perfected the fifteen 1-second movements required to load and fire his musket. As the Americans mastered the art of drill, they began to work as a team and to develop a sense of pride in themselves and in their unit.

d. Watching this model company drill, observers were amazed to see how quickly and orderly the troops could be massed and maneuvered into different battle formations. Officers observed that organization, chain of command, and control were improved as each man had a specific place and task within the formation. Later, the members of the model company were distributed throughout the Army to teach drill. Through drill, they improved the overall effectiveness and efficiency of the Army.

e. To ensure continuity and uniformity, von Steuben, by then a major general and the Army Inspector General, wrote the first Army field manual in 1779, *The Regulations for the Order and Discipline of the Troops of the United States*, commonly referred to as the Blue Book. The drill procedures initiated at Valley Forge were not changed for 85 years, until the American Civil War, and many of the drill terms and procedures are still in effect today.

f. Drill commands are about the same as at the time of the War of 1812, except that then the officers and noncommissioned officers began them by saying, “Take care to face to the right, right, face.” Also, during the American revolutionary period, troops marched at a cadence of 76 steps a minute instead of the current cadence of 120 steps. Then units performed precise movement on the battlefield, and the army that could perform them best was often able to get behind the enemy, or on his flank, and thus beat him. Speed spoiled the winning exactness. Also, firearms did not shoot far or accurately in 1776, so troop formations could take more time to approach the enemy.

g. As armament and weaponry improved, drill had to adapt to new tactical concepts. Although the procedures taught in drill today are not normally employed on the battlefield, the objectives accomplished by drill—professionalism, teamwork, confidence, pride, alertness, attention to detail, esprit de corps, and discipline—are just as important to the modern Army as they were to the Continental Army.

1-2. MILITARY MUSIC

The earliest surviving pictorial, sculptured, and written records show musical or quasimusical instruments employed in connection with military activity for signaling during encampments, parades, and combat. Because the sounds were produced in the open air, the instruments tended to be brass and percussion types. Oriental, Egyptian, Greek, Roman, and American Indian chronicles and pictorial remains show trumpets and drums of many varieties allied to Soldiers and battles.

- a. **Bugle Calls.** Bugle calls are used in U.S. military service as the result of the Continental Army's contact with the Soldiers and armies from Europe during the revolutionary period. After the American Revolution, many of the French (and English) bugle calls and drum beats were adopted by the United States Army.
- b. **Attention.** This is taken from the British "Alarm," at which call the troops turned out under arms.
- c. **Adjutant's Call.** The adjutant's call indicates that the adjutant is about to form the guard, battalion, or regiment.
- d. **To the Color.** The old cavalry call, "To the Standard," in use from about 1835, was replaced by the present call of "To the Color."
- e. **National Anthem.** Our national anthem officially became "The Star Spangled Banner" by law on 3 March 1931, in Title 36, United States Code 170.
- f. **Sound Off.** The band, in place, plays "Sound Off" (three chords). It then moves forward and, changing direction while playing a stirring march, troops the line and marches past the Soldiers in formation, then returns to its post. Upon halting, the band again plays three chords.
- g. **Retreat.** Retreat is the ceremony that pays honors to the national flag when it is lowered in the evening.
- h. **Official Army Song.** The official Army song, "The Army Goes Rolling Along," was formally dedicated by the Secretary of the Army on Veterans Day, 11 November 1956, and officially announced on 12 December 1957 (AR 220-90). In addition to standing while "The Star Spangled Banner" is played, Army personnel stand at attention whenever the official song is played. Although there is no Department of the Army directive in this regard, commanders, other officers, and other personnel can encourage the tribute to the Army by standing at attention when the band plays "The Army Goes Rolling Along."

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Chapter 2

DRILL INSTRUCTIONS

"Troops who march in an irregular and disorderly manner are always in great danger of being defeated."

Vegetius: De Re Militari: A.D. 378

Section I. INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS

The progress made by individuals and units in precise and unified action in drill is determined by the following:

- The methods of instruction and the thoroughness of the instructor.
- The organization of Soldiers into units of the most effective instructional size.

The three methods of instruction used to teach drill to Soldiers are: step-by-step, talk-through, and by-the-numbers. The character of the particular movement being taught will indicate the most effective method to use. As a rule, marching movements are taught using the step-by-step method. Movements that require numerous or simultaneous actions by an individual or unit are best taught using the talk-through method. Movements that have two or more counts are taught using the by-the-numbers method.

To ensure that a Soldier develops satisfactory proficiency during the time allotted, and to ensure a complete and consistent presentation by the drill instructor, each movement (regardless of the method used) should be presented using three teaching stages: explanation, demonstration, and practice.

2-1. EXPLANATION

In the explanation stage, the instructor must:

- Give the name of the movement.
- Give the practical use for the movement.
- Give the command(s) for the movement and explain its elements: the preparatory command and the command of execution. He must also discuss the command(s) necessary to terminate the movement. (Supplementary commands are discussed where appropriate in the explanations.)

This is how an instructor teaches a marching movement using the first teaching stage.

"Platoon, ATTENTION. AT EASE. The next movement (position), which I will name, explain, and have demonstrated, and which you will conduct practical work on, is the *30-Inch Step From the Halt*. This movement is used to march an element from point A to point B in a uniform manner. The command to execute this movement is **Forward, MARCH**. This is a two-part command: **Forward** is the preparatory command, and **MARCH** is the command of execution. The command to terminate this movement is **HALT**. **HALT** is also a two-part command when preceded by a preparatory command such as **Squad** or **Platoon**. I will use **Demonstrator** as the preparatory command and **HALT** as the command of execution. When given, these commands are as follows: **Forward, MARCH; Demonstrator, HALT.**"

2-2. DEMONSTRATION

In the demonstration stage, the instructor may use the step-by-step, talk-through, or by-the-numbers methods of instruction.

NOTE: The instructor may demonstrate the movement himself, modifying his position when necessary to maintain eye-to-eye contact with personnel being instructed.

a. **Step-by-Step Method of Instruction.** In the step-by-step method of instruction, the explanation and demonstration are combined, and the movements are taught one step at a time.

NOTE: The letters **P**, **I**, **C**, or **A** have been added to the end of certain paragraphs to help the reader understand the five-step process used in all marching movements known as the **PICAA** effect. Put simply, the **Preparatory** command, the **Command** of execution and the **Action** step—executing the movement—are all given or executed when the same foot strikes the marching surface. The **Intermediate** step and **Additional** step are executed with the other foot.

(1) The instructor explains that on the command of execution, the demonstrator takes only one step and then stops in position until the command **Ready, STEP** (for the next step) is given. While the demonstrator is stopped in position, the instructor makes on-the-spot corrections and explains the actions to be taken on the next step. The instructor then has the demonstrator execute the movement at normal cadence.

(2) This is how an instructor teaches the demonstration stage when using the step-by-step method of instruction:

- “**Demonstrator, POST.** I will use the step-by-step method of instruction. On the preparatory command **Forward** of **Forward, MARCH**, without noticeable movement, shift the weight of the body onto the right foot. **Forward.**”
- “On the command of execution **MARCH** of **Forward, MARCH**, step forward 30 inches with the left foot. The head, eyes, and body remain as in the *Position of Attention*. The arms swing in natural motion, without exaggeration and without bending the elbows, about 9 inches straight to the front and 6 inches straight to the rear of the trouser seams. The fingers and thumbs are curled as in the *Position of Attention*, just barely clearing the trousers. **MARCH.**”

“On the command of execution **STEP** of **Ready, STEP**, execute a 30-inch step with the trail foot. Once again, ensure that the head, eyes, and body remain as in the *Position of Attention*, and that the arms swing naturally, without exaggeration and without bending the elbows, about 9 inches straight

to the front and 6 inches straight to the rear of the trouser seams. The fingers and thumbs are curled, as in the *Position of Attention*, barely clearing the trousers. **Ready, STEP.** Notice that there are two steps explained: one from the *Halt* and one while marching.”

- “The command to terminate this movement is **HALT**. The preparatory command **Demonstrator** of **Demonstrator, HALT**, may be given as either foot strikes the marching surface. However, the command of execution **HALT** of **Demonstrator, HALT**, must be given the next time that same foot strikes the marching surface. The *Halt* is executed in two counts.”
- “On the command of execution **STEP** of **Ready, STEP**, execute a 30-inch step with the trail foot. When that foot strikes the marching surface, the demonstrator will receive the **preparatory** command **Demonstrator** of **Demonstrator, HALT. Ready, STEP. Demonstrator.**” (P—step 1 of the PICAA process)
- “On the command of execution **STEP** of **Ready, STEP**, execute a 30-inch step with the trail foot. This is the **intermediate** (or thinking) step required between the preparatory command and the command of execution. **Ready, STEP.**” (I—step 2 of the PICAA process)
- “On the command of execution **STEP** of **Ready, STEP**, execute a 30-inch step with the trail foot. When the foot strikes the marching surface, the demonstrator will receive the **command of execution** **HALT** of **Demonstrator, HALT. Ready, STEP. HALT.** The *Halt* is executed in two counts.” (C—step 3 of the PICAA process)
- “On the command of execution **STEP** of **Ready, STEP**, execute a 30-inch step with the trail foot, this being the **additional** step required after the command of execution. **Ready, STEP.**” (A—step 4 of the PICAA process)
- “On the command of execution **STEP** of **Ready, STEP**, bring the trail foot alongside the lead foot, reassuming the *Position of Attention*, thus terminating this movement. (**Ready, STEP. RE-FORM.**) At normal cadence, this movement would look as follows: **Forward, MARCH. Demonstrator, HALT. AT EASE.**” (A—step 5 of the PICAA process)
- “Platoon, what are your questions pertaining to this movement when executed at normal cadence or when using the step-by-step method of instruction? (Clarify all questions.)”
- “**Demonstrator, ATTENTION.** You will now become my assistant instructor. **FALL OUT.**”

NOTE: Notice that when marching, there are five steps in the step-by-step method of instruction: 1 - Preparatory command step; 2 - Intermediate step; 3 - Command of execution step; 4 - Additional step; and 5 – Action step.

b. **Talk-Through Method of Instruction.** Demonstrations are combined. Each movement is orally described. In this method the explanation and action by the individual is executed as:

(1) The instructor simply tells the demonstrator how and what he wants him to do. The demonstrator executes the movement as the instructor describes it. Then the instructor has the demonstrator execute the movement at normal cadence.

(2) This is how an instructor teaches the demonstration stage when using the talk-through method of instruction:

- “**Demonstrator, POST.** I will use the talk-through method of instruction. On the command of execution **ATTENTION** or **FALL IN**, sharply bring the heels together and on line, with the toes forming a 45-degree angle. Rest the weight of the body equally on the heels and balls of both feet. The legs are straight without locking the knees; the body is erect; hips level; chest, lifted and arched; and shoulders, square and even. Keep the head erect and face straight to the front with the chin drawn in so that the alignment of the head and neck is vertical. The arms hang straight without stiffness. The fingers are curled so that the tips of the thumbs are alongside and touching the first joint of the forefingers. Keep the thumbs straight along the seams of the trousers with the first joint of the fingers touching the trouser legs. Remain silent and do not move unless otherwise directed.”
- “**AT EASE.** This position, executed at normal cadence, is as follows: Demonstrator, **ATTENTION. AT EASE. FALL IN. AT EASE.**”
- “Platoon, what are your questions pertaining to the *Position of Attention* when executed at normal cadence or when executed using the talk-through method of instruction?” (Clarify all questions.)
- “**Demonstrator, ATTENTION.** You will be my assistant instructor, **FALL OUT.**”

NOTE: When teaching squad, platoon, or company drills, this method should be modified so that individuals are talked into position rather than through the position.

c. **By-the-Numbers Method of Instruction.** **By-The-Numbers** is the command used to begin instructing one count at a time. **Without-The-Numbers** is the command used to terminate single-count instruction and return to normal cadence. The explanation and demonstration are combined. Movements are explained and demonstrated one count at a time.

(1) The instructor has the demonstrator execute the movement **by the numbers** (one count at a time). The instructor then has the demonstrator execute the movement at normal cadence.

(2) This is how an instructor teaches the demonstration stage using the by-the-numbers method of instruction:

- “**Demonstrator, POST.** I will use the by-the-numbers method of instruction. *Port Arms* from *Order Arms* is a two-count movement. On the command of execution **ARMS** of Port, **ARMS**, this being count one, grasp the barrel of the rifle with the right hand and raise the rifle diagonally across the body, ensuring that the right elbow remains down without strain. Simultaneously, grasp the rifle with the left hand at the handguard just forward of the slip ring, keeping the rifle about 4 inches from the belt. By-the-numbers, Port, **ARMS.**”
- “On count two, release the grasp of the rifle with the right hand and regrasp the rifle at the small of the stock. Keep the rifle held diagonally across the body, about 4 inches from the belt, elbows drawn in at the sides, and ensure the right forearm is horizontal, thus assuming the position of *Port Arms*. Ready, **TWO.**”
- “*Order Arms* from *Port Arms* is a three-count movement. On the command of execution **ARMS** of **Order, ARMS**, this being count one, release the grasp of the rifle with the right hand and move the right hand up and across the body, approaching the front sight assembly from the right front, and firmly grasp the barrel without moving the rifle. Ensure the right elbow remains down without strain. **Order, ARMS.**”
- “On count two, release the grasp of the rifle with the left hand, and with the right hand lower the rifle to the right side until it is about 1 inch off the marching surface. At the same time, guide the rifle into place with the left hand at the flash suppressor, fingers and thumb extended and joined, palm facing the rear. **Ready, TWO.**”
- “On count three, sharply move the left hand to the left side as in the *Position of Attention* and, at the same time, gently lower the rifle to the marching surface with the right hand, assuming the position of *Order Arms*. **Ready, THREE.**”
- “At normal cadence, these commands (movements) are as follows: **Without-the-numbers, Port, ARMS. Order, ARMS. AT EASE**”
- “Platoon, what are your questions pertaining to *Port Arms* from *Order Arms* and *Order Arms* from *Port Arms* when executed at normal cadence or when executed by-the-numbers?” (Clarify all questions.)

- “**Demonstrator, ATTENTION.** You will be my assistant instructor. **FALL OUT.**” (Notice that there is no **Ready, ONE** command.)

2-3. PRACTICE

The practice stage is executed in the same manner as the demonstration stage except that the instructor uses the proper designator for the size of his element. However, the instructor does not have his element execute the movement at normal cadence until his element has shown a satisfactory degree of proficiency executing the movement using the selected method of instruction.

Section II. INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNIQUES

Basic drill instruction includes line and U-formations, stationary and moving cadence counts, and dedicated instruction to units and individuals.

2-4. FORMATIONS

Instruction and practical work, in all phases of drill, can best be presented by using the U-formation or line formation. As a rule, stationary movements are taught using the U-formation; marching movements, to include squad, platoon, and company drills, are best taught from the line formation. Soldiers should be taught in the smallest formation possible to ensure individual attention; however, squad drill, whenever possible, should be taught to squad-size units, platoon drill to platoon-size units, and company drill to company-size units.

- a. The U-formation is formed by the instructor commanding **Count, OFF**.

(1) On the command of execution “**OFF**” of **Count, OFF**, all personnel, except the right flank personnel, turn their head and eyes to the right and the right flank personnel count off with “**ONE**.” After the right flank Soldiers have counted their number, the Soldiers to their left count off with the next higher number and simultaneously turn their head and eyes to the front. All other members of the formation count off in the same manner until the entire formation has counted off. The instructor then commands **First and second squads, FALL OUT.**

(2) On the command of execution “**FALL OUT**,” the first squad faces to the right, and the second squad faces to the left. After the squads have faced, the instructor commands **U-formation, FALL IN.**

(3) On the command of execution “**FALL IN**,” the following actions happen simultaneously:

- The first squad executes a *Column Left* and takes one more step than the highest number counted when the formation counted off; halts, and faces to the left without command.
- The second squad marches forward until the lead man clears the last vacated position of the first squad and then executes a *Column Right*, taking three more steps than the highest number counted when the formation counted off; halts, and faces to the right without command.
- The third squad stands fast, and the fourth squad executes one *15-Inch Step to the Left*. The instructor ensures that the first and second squads are one step in

front of and one step outside the flanks of the third squad before commanding **AT EASE** beginning the instruction.

(4) To re-form the platoon in a line formation, the commands are: **FALL OUT (pause); FALL IN**. The members of the platoon execute in the reverse manner as prescribed above, taking the same number of steps.

b. When instructing using the line formation at normal interval, it is recommended that the first rank kneels (right knee), second rank executes one *15-Inch Step to the Left* and kneels (left knee), third rank stands fast, and the fourth rank takes one *15-Inch Step to the Left*. The instructor adjusts any additional ranks as necessary to ensure they are uncovered. This formation can quickly be formed by commanding **Instructional Formation, MARCH**. To re-form the unit into a line formation, the command is **FALL IN**. The members of the platoon execute in the reverse manner as prescribed above.

c. The instructor may find using the extended rectangular formation more suitable for use.

(1) To form the extended rectangular formation, the instructor commands **Extend to the left, MARCH**. All right flank Soldiers stand fast and extend their arms at shoulder level, elbows locked, fingers and thumbs extended and joined, palms facing down. All other Soldiers turn to the left and double-time forward. After taking a sufficient number of steps, the Soldiers stop and face to the front and extend their arms in the same manner as the right flank Soldiers, ensuring that there is about 12 inches between all Soldiers. Dress is to the right and cover is to the front. The remainder of the body is in the position of attention.

(2) The instructor then commands **Arms downward, MOVE**. The Soldiers lower their arms sharply to the sides as in the position of attention.

(3) The instructor then commands **Left, Face**. All Soldiers execute a left face.

(4) The instructor then commands **Extend to the left, MARCH**. All Soldiers execute as previously described.

(5) The instructor then commands **Arms downward, MOVE**. All Soldiers execute as previously described.

(6) The instructor then commands **Right, FACE**. All Soldiers execute a right face.

(7) The instructor then commands **From front to rear, COUNT OFF**. (**COUNT OFF** is the entire command of execution). Each member of the first rank turns their head and eyes to the right and counts off with “**ONE**,” then faces back to the front. The remaining ranks execute in the same manner as the first rank counting off in the same manner as the first rank until the entire formation has counted off. The members of the last (rear) rank do not turn their head and eyes.

(8) The instructor then commands **Even numbers to the left, UNCOVER**. All even numbered Soldiers jump squarely in the center of the interval, resuming the position of attention. The formation is now prepared for instruction.

(9) To return the formation to the original configuration, the instructor commands **Assemble to the right, MARCH**. All Soldiers double-time to their original position in formation.

d. The instructor may find the circular formation more suitable for training.

(1) The instructor positions himself in front of the lead Soldier in the lead squad and commands **Circle formation, FOLLOW ME**. The instructor double-times in a circle large

enough for the formation and moves to the center of the circle. The members of the lead squad follow at an arms length plus 6 inches (approximately 40 inches total). The squad leaders of the following squads begin double-timing at the correct distance from the last Soldier in the preceding squad without command. After the entire formation is in a circle, the instructor comes to the position of attention and commands ***Quick time, MARCH.*** The Soldiers begin marching normally. The instructor then gives directives to individual Soldiers and corrects the distance between them until each member is at approximately double arm interval.

(2) The instructor then commands the formation to *Halt* using the appropriate preparatory command.

(3) The instructor then commands ***Left, FACE.*** All personnel face toward the instructor. The formation is now ready for instruction.

(4) To return the formation to its original configuration, the instructor commands the formation to attention and commands ***FALL OUT,*** and then ***FALL IN.*** On the command ***FALL IN,*** all Soldiers return to their original position in formation.

NOTE: When conditions do not warrant this formation, Soldiers may be directed to remain standing and to uncover. To assemble the unit, the command ***FALL IN*** is given.

2-5. INSTRUCTORS

When acting as instructors or assistant instructors, officers and noncommissioned officers go wherever they are needed. They correct mistakes and ensure steadiness and proper performance in ranks. When an individual shows that he is unable to execute the proper movements or assume the proper position, the instructor may physically assist the Soldier.

2-6. CADENCE COUNTING

To enable Soldiers to learn or maintain cadence and develop rhythm, the instructor should have them count cadence while marching.

a. To count cadence while marching at quick time, the instructor gives the preparatory command, ***Count Cadence,*** as the left foot strikes the marching surface, and the command of execution, ***COUNT,*** the next time the left foot strikes the marching surface. The Soldier begins to count the next time the left foot strikes the marching surface and counts as each foot strikes the marching surface—***ONE, TWO, THREE, FOUR; ONE, TWO, THREE, FOUR.*** To count cadence while double-timing, the procedures are basically the same, except the Soldier only counts each time the left foot strikes the marching surface. To maintain cadence when marching, Soldiers will be allowed to sing, or a drummer's beat may provide cadence.

b. For stationary movements of two or more counts, the instructor commands ***In Cadence, Right, FACE.*** The Soldier simultaneously executes the first count of the movement on the command of execution and sounds off, ***ONE;*** as he executes the second count he sounds off, ***TWO.***

NOTE: To halt execution of movements in cadence, the instructor commands ***Without Cadence***, and resumes normal drill methods. For example, ***Without Cadence, MARCH*** when marching at ***Count Cadence*** or ***Without Cadence, Left, FACE*** for stationary movements.

c. As Soldiers begin to master the art of drill, instructors try to create a spirit of competition among individuals and between units. Although repetition is necessary when teaching drill, instructors use competitive drill exercises to ensure that drill does not become boring or monotonous.

d. Mass commands are used to develop confidence and promote enthusiasm. They are effective in developing a command voice when instructing a leadership course. Procedures for using mass commands are discussed in Chapter 3.

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Chapter 3

COMMANDS AND THE COMMAND VOICE

"The spirit of discipline, as distinct from its outward and visible guises, is the result of association with martial traditions and their living embodiment."

B. H. Liddell Hart, Thoughts on War, 1944

Section I. COMMANDS

A drill command is an oral order of a commander or leader. The precision with which a movement is executed is affected by the manner in which the command is given.

3-1. RULES

The following rules for giving commands apply to the commander when the unit drills as a separate unit and not as part of a larger formation.

- a. When at the *Halt*, the commander faces the troops when giving commands. On commands that set the unit in motion (marching from one point to another), the commander moves simultaneously with the unit to maintain correct position within the formation. (See Chapter 4, paragraphs 4-5c and 4-14, for more information on facing in marching.)
- b. When marching, the commander turns his head in the direction of the troops to give commands.
- c. Exceptions to these rules occur during ceremonies, which are discussed in Chapter 10.
- d. When elements drill as part of a larger unit, the rules for supplementary commands apply (paragraph 3-4).
- e. The commander gives the command **AS YOU WERE** to revoke a preparatory command that he has given. The command **AS YOU WERE** must be given before the command of execution. The commander cannot cancel the command of execution with **AS YOU WERE**. If an improper command is not revoked, the personnel execute the movement in the best manner possible.

3-2. TWO-PART COMMANDS

Most drill commands have two parts: the preparatory command and the command of execution. Neither part is a command by itself, but the parts are termed commands to simplify instruction. The commands **Ready**, **Port**, **ARMS**, and **Ready**, **Aim**, **FIRE**, are considered to be two-part commands even though they contain two preparatory commands.

- a. The preparatory command states the movement to be carried out and mentally prepares the Soldier for its execution. In the command **Forward**, **MARCH**, the preparatory command is **Forward**.
- b. The command of execution tells when the movement is to be carried out. In **Forward**, **MARCH**, the command of execution is **MARCH**.

c. To change direction of a unit when marching, the preparatory command and command of execution for each movement are given so they begin and end on the foot in the direction of the turn: **Right Flank, MARCH** is given as the right foot strikes the marching surface, and **Left Flank, MARCH** as the left foot strikes the marching surface. The interval between the preparatory command and the command of execution is **always** one step or count. The preparatory command and command of execution are **always** given when the same foot strikes the marching surface.

3-3. COMBINED COMMANDS

In some commands, the preparatory command and the command of execution are combined; for example, **FALL IN, AT EASE**, and **REST**. These commands are given without inflection and at a uniformly high pitch and loudness comparable to that for a normal command of execution.

3-4. SUPPLEMENTARY COMMANDS

Supplementary commands are oral orders given by a subordinate leader that reinforce and complement a commander's order. They ensure proper understanding and execution of a movement. They extend to the lowest subordinate leader exercising control over an element affected by the command as a separate element within the same formation.

a. A supplementary command may be a preparatory command, a portion of a preparatory command, or a two-part command. It is normally given between the preparatory command and the command of execution. However, when a command requires an element of a unit to execute a movement different from other elements within the same formation, or the same movement at a different time, subordinate leaders give their supplementary commands at the time prescribed by the procedures covering that particular movement.

EXAMPLE:

The platoon is in column formation, and the platoon leader commands **Column of Twos From the Left** (pause), **MARCH**. The first and second squad leaders command **Forward**; the third and fourth squad leaders command **STAND FAST**. On the command of execution **MARCH**, the first and second squads march forward. At the appropriate time, the squad leader (third squad) nearest the moving element commands **Column Half Left, MARCH** (for both remaining squads). As the third and fourth squad leaders reach the line of march, they automatically execute a **Column Half Right** and obtain normal distance behind the first and second squads.

b. A subordinate leader gives all supplementary commands over his right shoulder except when his command is based on the actions of an element on his left or when the subelement is to execute a *Column Left (Half Left)* or *Left Flank*. Giving commands over the left shoulder occurs when changing configuration or a formation, such as forming a file or a column of fours and re-forming. (See Chapter 7, paragraph 7-14, for more information on forming a file and re-forming.)

EXAMPLE:

The platoon is in column formation and is going to form a file to the left. The left flank squad leader will give the supplementary command ***Column, LEFT*** over the left shoulder, since the movement will be to the left. The other squad leaders will give the supplementary command ***STAND FAST*** over the left shoulder as their movement will be to the left and is based on an element to the left.

NOTE: When in formation at present arms and the preparatory command ***Order of Order, ARMS*** is given, subordinate leaders terminate their salute before giving their supplementary command.

- c. Supplementary commands are not given by a subordinate leader for the combined commands **FALL IN, AT EASE, REST** or for mass drill when his element forms as part of a massed formation. However, supplementary commands are given when forming a mass or when forming a column from a mass. (See Chapter 4, note following paragraph 4-3d.)
- d. Except for commands while in mass formation, platoon leaders give supplementary commands following all preparatory commands of the commander. When the preparatory command is ***Company***, the platoon leaders immediately come to *Attention* and command ***Platoon***. The company commander allows for all supplementary commands before giving the command of execution.
- e. When no direction is given, the response is understood to be ***Forward***; when no rate of march is given, the response is ***Quick Time***. Normally, when a direction or rate of march is included in the preparatory command, only the direction or rate of march is given as a supplementary command.

3-5. DIRECTIVES

Directives are oral orders given by the commander that direct or cause a subordinate leader to take action.

- a. The commander gives directives rather than commands when it is more appropriate for subordinate elements to execute a movement or perform a task as independent elements of the same formation.
- b. Directives are given in sentence form and are normally prefaced by the terms **HAVE YOUR UNITS** or **BRING YOUR UNITS**.

EXAMPLE:

Have your units open ranks and stack arms; bring your units to present arms.

- c. **TAKE CHARGE OF YOUR UNITS** is the only directive on which a commander relinquishes his command and on which salutes are exchanged.

Section II. THE COMMAND VOICE

A correctly delivered command will be understood by everyone in the unit. Correct commands have a tone, cadence, and snap that demand willing, correct, and immediate response.

3-6. VOICE CONTROL

The loudness of a command is adjusted to the number of Soldiers in the unit. Normally, the commander is to the front and center of the unit and speaks facing the unit so that his voice reaches everyone.

- a. The voice must have carrying power, but excessive exertion is unnecessary and harmful. A typical result of trying too hard is the almost unconscious tightening of the neck muscles to force sound out. This produces strain, hoarseness, sore throat, and worst of all, indistinct and jumbled sounds instead of clear commands. Ease is achieved through good posture, proper breathing, correct adjustment of throat and mouth muscles, and confidence.
- b. The best posture for giving commands is the position of *Attention*. Soldiers in formation notice the posture of their leader. If his posture is unmilitary (relaxed, slouched, stiff, or uneasy), the subordinates will imitate it.
- c. The most important muscle used in breathing is the diaphragm—the large muscle that separates the chest cavity from the abdominal cavity. The diaphragm automatically controls normal breathing and is used to control the breath in giving commands.
- d. The throat, mouth, and nose act as amplifiers and help to give fullness (resonance) and projection to the voice.

3-7. DISTINCTIVENESS

Distinctiveness depends on the correct use of the tongue, lips, and teeth, which form the separate sounds of a word and group the sounds into syllables. Distinct commands are effective; indistinct commands cause confusion. All commands can be pronounced correctly without loss of effect. Emphasize correct enunciation (distinctiveness). To enunciate clearly, make full use of the lips, tongue, and lower jaw.

To develop the ability to give clear, distinct commands, practice giving commands slowly and carefully, prolonging the syllables. Then, gradually increase the rate of delivery to develop proper cadence, still enunciating each syllable distinctly.

3-8. INFLECTION

Inflection is the rise and fall in pitch and the tone changes of the voice.

- a. The preparatory command is the command that indicates movement. Pronounce each preparatory command with a rising inflection. The most desirable pitch, when beginning a preparatory command, is near the level of the natural speaking voice. A common fault with beginners is to start the preparatory command in a pitch so high that, after employing a rising inflection for the preparatory command, it is impossible to give the command of execution with clarity or without strain. A good rule to remember is to begin a command near the natural pitch of the voice (Figure 3-1).

- b. The command of execution is the command that indicates when a movement is to be executed. Give it in a sharper tone and in a slightly higher pitch than the last syllable of the preparatory command. It must be given with plenty of snap. The best way to develop a command voice is to practice.
- c. In combined commands, such as **FALL IN** and **FALL OUT**, the preparatory command and command of execution are combined. Give these commands without inflection and with the uniform high pitch and loudness of a normal command of execution.

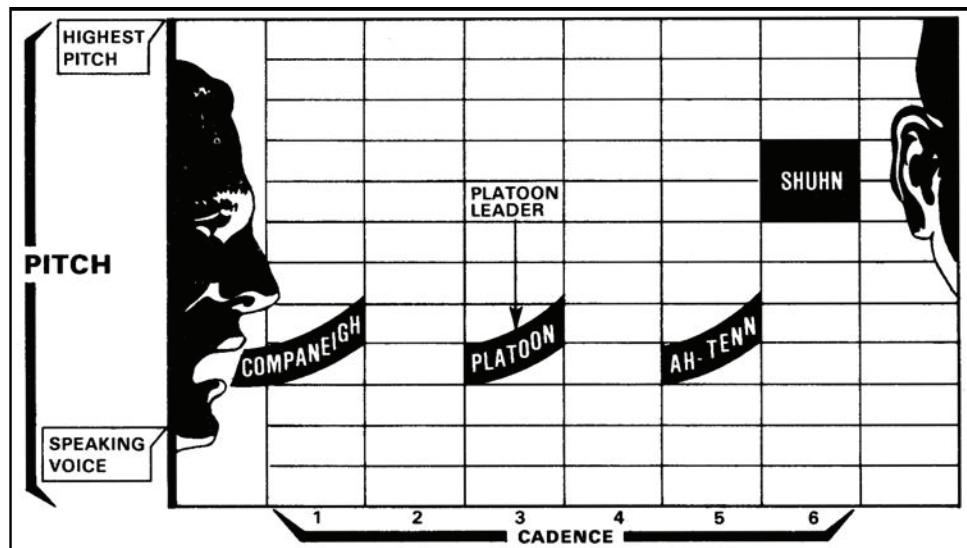


Figure 3-1. Diagram of a command

3-9. CADENCE

Cadence, in commands, means a uniform and rhythmic flow of words. The interval between commands is uniform in length for any given troop unit. This is necessary so that everyone in the unit will be able to understand the preparatory command and will know when to expect the command of execution.

- a. For the squad or platoon in *March*, except when supplementary commands need to be given, the interval of time is that which allows one step (or count) between the preparatory command and the command of execution. The same interval is used for commands given at the *Halt*. Longer commands, such as **Right flank**, **MARCH**, must be started so that the preparatory command will end on the proper foot, and leave a full count between the preparatory command and command of execution.

- b. When supplementary commands are necessary, the commander should allow for one count between the preparatory command and the subordinate leader's supplementary command, and an additional count after the subordinate command but before the command of execution.

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Chapter 4

INDIVIDUAL DRILL

"Maintain discipline and caution above all things, and be on the alert to obey the word of command. It is both the noblest and the safest thing for a great army to be visibly animated by one spirit."

Archidamus of Sparta: To the Lacaedaenwnian expeditionary force departing for Athens, 431 B.C.

NOTE: The explanation of a movement that may be executed toward either flank is given in this chapter for only one flank. To execute the movement toward the opposite flank, substitute left for right or right for left in the explanation.

Section I. STATIONARY MOVEMENTS

This section contains most of the individual positions and stationary movements required in drill. These positions and the correct execution of the movement, in every detail, should be learned before proceeding to other drill movements.

Movements are initiated from the position of attention. However, some rest movements may be executed from other rest positions.

4-1. POSITION OF ATTENTION

Two commands can be used to put personnel at the *Position of Attention*:

- **FALL IN** is used to assemble a formation or return it to its original configuration.
- The two-part command for *Attention* is used for Soldiers at a rest position. Assume the *Position of Attention* on the command **FALL IN** or the command **Squad (Platoon), ATTENTION**.
 - a. To assume this position, bring the heels together sharply on line, with the toes pointing out equally, forming a 45-degree angle. Rest the weight of the body evenly on the heels and balls of both feet. Keep the legs straight without locking the knees. Hold the body erect with the hips level, chest lifted and arched, and the shoulders square.
 - b. Keep the head erect and face straight to the front with the chin drawn in so that alignment of the head and neck is vertical.
 - c. Let the arms hang straight without stiffness. Curl the fingers so that the tips of the thumbs are alongside and touching the first joint of the forefingers. Keep the thumbs straight along the seams of the trouser leg with the first joint of the fingers touching the trousers (Figure 4-1, page 4-2).
 - d. Remain silent and do not move unless otherwise directed.

NOTE: This position is assumed by enlisted Soldiers when addressing officers, or when officers are addressing officers of superior rank.



Figure 4-1. Position of Attention

4-2. REST POSITIONS AT THE HALT

Any of the positions of rest may be commanded and executed from the *Position of Attention*.

a. **Parade Rest.** *Parade Rest* is commanded only from the *Position of Attention*. The command for this movement is ***Parade, REST***.

(1) On the command of execution **REST**, move the left foot about 10 inches to the left of the right foot. Keep the legs straight without locking the knees, resting the weight of the body equally on the heels and balls of the feet.

(2) Simultaneously, place the hands at the small of the back and centered on the belt. Keep the fingers of both hands extended and joined, interlocking the thumbs so that the palm of the right hand is outward (Figure 4-2).

(3) Keep the head and eyes as in the *Position of Attention*. Remain silent and do not move unless otherwise directed. *Stand at Ease*, *At Ease*, and *Rest* may be executed from this position.

NOTE: Enlisted Soldiers assume this position when addressing all noncommissioned officers or when noncommissioned officers address noncommissioned officers of superior rank.

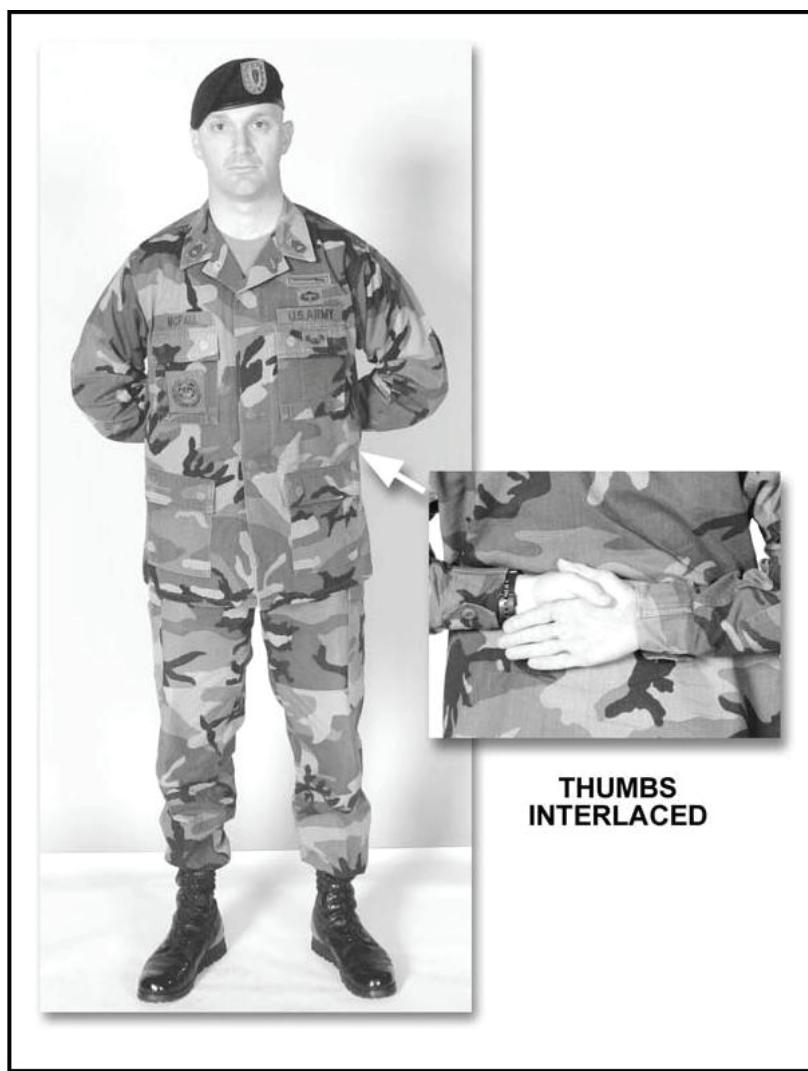


Figure 4-2. Parade Rest

b. **Stand At Ease.** The command for this movement is *Stand at, EASE*. On the command of execution **EASE**, execute *Parade Rest*, but turn the head and eyes directly toward the person in charge of the formation. *At Ease* or *Rest* may be executed from this position.

c. **At Ease.** The command for this movement is **AT EASE**. On the command **AT EASE**, the Soldier may move; however, he must remain standing and silent with his right foot in place. The Soldier may relax his arms with the thumbs interlaced. *Rest* may be executed from this position.

d. **Rest.** The command for this movement is **REST**. On the command **REST**, the Soldier may move, talk, smoke, or drink unless otherwise directed. He must remain standing with his right foot in place. **AT EASE** must be executed from this position to allow Soldiers to secure canteens, other equipment, and so forth.

NOTE: On the preparatory command for *Attention*, immediately assume *Parade Rest* when at the position of *Stand at Ease*, *At Ease*, or *Rest*. If, for some reason, a subordinate element is already at attention, the members of the element remain so and do not execute parade rest on the preparatory command, nor does the subordinate leader give a supplementary command.

4-3. FACING AT THE HALT

Five facing movements can be executed from the *Position of Attention*: **Left (Right), FACE**, **Half Left (Half Right), FACE**, and **About, FACE**.

NOTE: **Half Left (Half Right), FACE** should only be used in situations when a 90-degree facing movement would not face an element in the desired direction (for example, for a stationary element to face the direction of the flag to render honors [reveille or retreat]).

a. *Facing to the Flank* is a two-count movement. The command is **Left (Right), FACE**.

(1) On the command of execution **FACE**, slightly raise the right heel and left toe, and turn 90 degrees to the left on the left heel, assisted by a slight pressure on the ball of the right foot. Keep the left leg straight without stiffness and allow the right leg to bend naturally.

(2) On count two, place the right foot beside the left foot, resuming the *Position of Attention*. Arms remain at the sides, as in the *Position of Attention*, throughout this movement (Figure 4-3).



Figure 4-3. Left Face

b. *Facing to the Rear* is a two-count movement. The command is **About, FACE**.

(1) On the command of execution **FACE**, move the toe of the right foot to a point touching the marching surface about half the length of the foot to the rear and slightly to the left of the left heel. Rest most of the weight of the body on the heel of the left foot and allow the right knee to bend naturally.

(2) On count two, turn to the right 180 degrees on the left heel and ball of the right foot, resuming the *Position of Attention*. Arms remain at the sides, as in the *Position of Attention*, throughout this movement (Figure 4-4, page 4-6).



Figure 4-4. About Face

NOTE: Throughout these movements, the remainder of the body remains as in the *Position of Attention*.

4-4. HAND SALUTE

The *Hand Salute* is a one-count movement. The command is **Present, ARMS**. The *Hand Salute* may be executed while marching. When marching, only the Soldier in charge of the formation salutes and acknowledges salutes. When double-timing, an individual Soldier must come to *Quick Time* before saluting.

- a. When wearing headgear with a visor (with or without glasses), on the command of execution **ARMS**, raise the right hand sharply, fingers and thumb extended and joined, palm facing down, and place the tip of the right forefinger on the rim of the visor slightly to the right of the right eye. The outer edge of the hand is barely canted downward so that neither the back of the hand nor the palm is clearly visible from the front. The hand and

wrist are straight, the elbow inclined slightly forward, and the upper arm horizontal (1, Figure 4-5).

- b. When wearing headgear without a visor (or uncovered) and not wearing glasses, execute the *Hand Salute* in the same manner as previously described, except touch the tip of the right forefinger to the forehead near and slightly to the right of the right eyebrow (2, Figure 4-5).
- c. When wearing headgear without a visor (or uncovered) and wearing glasses, execute the *Hand Salute* in the same manner as previously described, except touch the tip of the right forefinger to that point on the glasses where the temple piece of the frame meets the right edge of the right brow (3, Figure 4-5).

d. *Order Arms* from the *Hand Salute* is a one-count movement. The command is ***Order, ARMS.*** On the command of execution **ARMS**, return the hand sharply to the side, resuming the *Position of Attention*.

e. When reporting or rendering courtesy to an individual, turn the head and eyes toward the person addressed and simultaneously salute. In this situation, the actions are executed without command. The *Salute* is initiated by the subordinate at the appropriate time (six paces) and terminated upon acknowledgment. (See Appendix A for more information on saluting.)

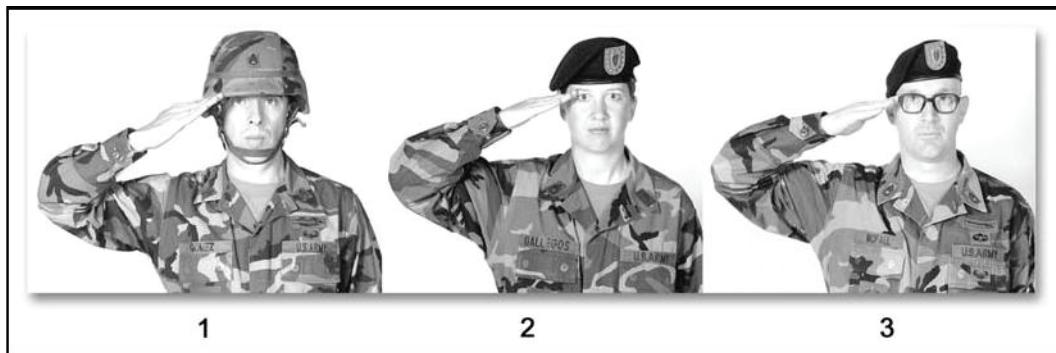


Figure 4-5. Hand Salute

Section II. STEPS AND MARCHING

This section contains all of the steps in marching of the individual Soldier. These steps should be learned thoroughly before proceeding to unit drill.

4-5. BASIC MARCHING INFORMATION

This basic marching information pertains to all marching movements.

- a. All marching movements executed from the *Halt* are initiated from the *Position of Attention*.
- b. Except for *Route Step March* and *At Ease March*, all marching movements are executed while marching at *Attention*. Marching at *Attention* is the combination of the *Position of Attention* and the procedures for the prescribed step executed simultaneously.
- c. When executed from the *Halt*, all steps except *Right Step* begin with the left foot. (See Chapter 3, paragraph 3-1a and paragraph 4-15a.)

d. For short-distance marching movements, the commander may designate the number of steps forward, backward, or sideward by giving the appropriate command: ***One step to the right (left), MARCH***; or, ***Two steps backward (forward), MARCH***. On the command of execution **MARCH**, step off with the appropriate foot, and halt automatically after completing the number of steps designated. Unless otherwise specified, when directed to execute steps forward, the steps will be 30-inch steps.

e. All marching movements are executed in the cadence of *Quick Time* (120 steps per minute), except the 30-inch step, which may be executed in the cadence of 180 steps per minute on the command ***Double Time, MARCH***.

f. A step is the prescribed distance from one heel to the other heel of a marching Soldier.

g. All 15-inch steps are executed for a short distance only.

4-6. THE 30-INCH STEP

To march with a 30-inch step from the *Halt*, the command is ***Forward, MARCH***.

a. On the preparatory command ***Forward***, shift the weight of the body to the right foot without noticeable movement. On the command of execution **MARCH**, step forward 30 inches with the left foot and continue marching with 30-inch steps, keeping the head and eyes fixed to the front. The arms swing in a natural motion, without exaggeration and without bending at the elbows, approximately 9 inches straight to the front and 6 inches straight to the rear of the trouser seams. Keep the fingers curled as in the *Position of Attention* so that the fingers just clear the trousers.

b. To Halt while marching, the command ***Squad (Platoon), HALT*** is given. The preparatory command ***Squad (Platoon)*** is given as either foot strikes the marching surface as long as the command of execution **HALT** is given the next time that **same foot** strikes the marching surface. The *Halt* is executed in two counts. After **HALT** is commanded, execute the additional step required after the command of execution and then bring the trail foot alongside the lead foot, assuming the *Position of Attention* and terminating the movement.

4-7. CHANGE STEP

This movement is executed automatically whenever a Soldier finds himself out of step with all other members of the formation. It is only executed while marching forward with a 30-inch step. To change step, the command ***Change Step, MARCH*** is given as the right foot strikes the marching surface. On the command of execution **MARCH**, take one more step with the left foot, then in one count place the right toe near the heel of the left foot and step off again with the left foot. The arms swing naturally. This movement is executed automatically whenever a Soldier finds himself out of step with all other members of the formation.

4-8. MARCHING TO THE REAR

This movement is used to change the direction of a marching element 180 degrees in a uniform manner. It is only executed while marching forward with a 30-inch step. To *March to the Rear*, the command ***Rear, MARCH*** is given as the right foot strikes the marching surface. On the command of execution **MARCH**, take one more step with the

left foot, pivot 180 degrees to the right on the balls of both feet, and step off in the new direction taking a 30-inch step with the trail foot. Do not allow the arms to swing outward while turning.

4-9. REST MOVEMENT, 30-INCH STEP

Rest movements with the 30-inch step include *At Ease March* and *Route Step March*.

a. **At Ease March.** The command *At Ease, MARCH* is given as either foot strikes the marching surface. On the command of execution **MARCH**, the Soldier is no longer required to retain cadence; however, silence and the approximate interval and distance are maintained. **Quick Time, MARCH** and **Route Step, MARCH** are the only commands that can be given while marching at ease.

b. **Route Step March.** *Route Step March* is executed exactly the same as *At Ease March* except that the Soldier may drink from his canteen and talk.

NOTE: To change the direction of march while marching at *Route Step* or *At Ease March*, the commander informally directs the lead element to turn in the desired direction. Before precision movements may be executed, the unit must resume marching in cadence. The troops automatically resume marching at *Attention* on the command **Quick Time, MARCH**, as the commander reestablishes the cadence by counting for eight steps. If necessary, Soldiers individually execute change step to get back in step with the unit.

4-10. THE 15-INCH STEP, FORWARD/HALF STEP

Use the following procedures to execute the 15-inch step, forward/half step.

a. To march with a 15-inch step from the *Halt*, the command is **Half step, MARCH**. On the preparatory command **Half step**, shift the weight of the body to the right foot without noticeable movement. On the command of execution **MARCH**, step forward 15 inches with the left foot and continue marching with 15-inch steps. The arms swing as in marching with a 30-inch step.

b. To alter the march to a 15-inch step while marching with a 30-inch step, the command is **Half step, MARCH**. This command may be given as either foot strikes the marching surface. On the command of execution **MARCH**, take one more 30-inch step and then begin marching with a 15-inch step. The arms swing as in marching with a 30-inch step.

c. To resume marching with a 30-inch step, the command **Forward, MARCH** is given as either foot strikes the marching surface. On the command of execution **MARCH**, take one more 15-inch step and then begin marching with a 30-inch step.

d. The *Halt* while marching at the *Half Step* is executed in two counts, the same as the *Halt* from the 30-inch step.

e. While marching at the *Half Step*, the only commands that may be given are: **Mark Time, MARCH; Forward, MARCH; Normal Interval, MARCH; and HALT**.

4-11. MARCHING IN PLACE

To march in place, use the following procedures.

- a. To march in place, the command **Mark Time**, **MARCH** is given as either foot strikes the marching surface and only while marching with a 30-inch or 15-inch step forward. On the command of execution **MARCH**, take one more step, bring the trailing foot alongside the leading foot, and begin to march in place. Raise each foot (alternately) 2 inches off the marching surface; the arms swing naturally, as in marching with a 30-inch step forward.

NOTE: While marking time in formation, the Soldier adjusts position to ensure proper alignment and cover. The proper distance between Soldiers while marching is one arm's length plus 6 inches (approximately 40 inches).

- b. To resume marching with a 30-inch step, the command **Forward**, **MARCH** is given as either foot strikes the marching surface. On the command of execution **MARCH**, take one more step in place and then step off with a 30-inch step.

- c. The *Halt* from *Mark Time* is executed in two counts, the same as the *Halt* from the 30-inch step.

4-12. THE 15-INCH STEP, RIGHT/LEFT

To march with a *15-Inch Step Right (Left)*, use the following procedures:

- a. To march with a *15-Inch Step Right (Left)*, the command is **Right (Left) Step**, **MARCH**. The command is given only while at the *halt*. On the preparatory command of **Right (Left) Step**, shift the weight of the body without noticeable movement onto the left (right) foot. On the command of execution **MARCH**, bend the right knee slightly and raise the right foot only high enough to allow freedom of movement. Place the right foot 15 inches to the right of the left foot, and then move the left foot (keeping the left leg straight) alongside the right foot as in the *Position of Attention*. Continue this movement, keeping the arms at the sides as in the *Position of Attention*.

- b. To *Halt* when executing *Right* or *Left Step*, the command is **Squad (Platoon), HALT**. This movement is executed in two counts. The preparatory command is given when the heels are together; the command of execution **HALT** is given the next time the heels are together. On the command of execution **HALT**, take one more step with the lead foot and then place the trailing foot alongside the lead foot, resuming the *Position of Attention*.

4-13. THE 15-INCH STEP, BACKWARD

To march backward using the 15-inch step, use the following procedures:

- a. To march with a *15-Inch Step Backward*, the command is **Backward**, **MARCH**. The command is given only while at the *halt*. On the preparatory command **Backward**, shift the weight of the body without noticeable movement onto the right foot. On the command of execution **MARCH**, take a 15-inch step backward with the left foot and continue marching backward with 15-inch steps. The arms swing naturally.

- b. The *Halt* from *Backward March* is executed in two counts, the same as the *Halt* from the 30-inch step.

4-14. THE 30-INCH STEP, DOUBLE TIME

To *Double-Time* using the 30-inch step, use the following procedures:

- a. To march in the cadence of 180 steps per minute with a 30-inch step, the command is ***Double Time, MARCH***. It may be commanded while at the *Halt* or while marching at *Quick Time* with a 30-inch step.
- b. When at the *Halt* and the preparatory command ***Double Time*** is given, shift the weight of the body to the right foot without noticeable movement. On the command of execution **MARCH**, raise the forearms to a horizontal position, with the fingers and thumbs closed, knuckles out, and simultaneously step off with the left foot. Continue to march with 30-inch steps at the cadence of ***Double Time***. The arms swing naturally to the front and rear with the forearms kept horizontal. (When armed, Soldiers will come to *Port Arms* on receiving the preparatory command of ***Double Time***.) Guides, when at *Sling Arms*, will *Double-Time* with their weapons at *Sling Arms* upon receiving the directive **GUIDE ON LINE**.
- c. When marching with a 30-inch step in the cadence of *Quick Time*, the command ***Double Time, MARCH*** is given as either foot strikes the marching surface. On the command of execution **MARCH**, take one more 30-inch step at *Quick Time*, and step off with the trailing foot, double-timing as previously described.
- d. To resume marching with a 30-inch step at *Quick Time*, the command ***Quick time, MARCH*** is given as either foot strikes the marching surface. On the command of execution **MARCH**, take two more 30-inch steps at *Double Time*, lower the arms to the sides, and resume marching with a 30-inch step at *Quick Time*.

NOTE: *Quick Time*, *Column Half Left (Right)*, and *Column Left (Right)* are the only movements that can be executed while double-timing. Armed troops must be at *Port Arms* before the command ***Double Time, MARCH*** is given.

4-15. FACING IN MARCHING

Facings in Marching from the *Halt* are important parts of the following movements: alignments, column movements, inspecting Soldiers in ranks, and changing from *Normal Interval* to *Double Interval* or *Double Interval* to *Normal Interval*.

- a. For instructional purposes only, the command ***Face to the Right (Left) in Marching, MARCH*** may be used to teach the individual to execute the movement properly. On the preparatory command ***Face to the Right (Left) in Marching***, shift the weight of the body without noticeable movement onto the right foot. On the command of execution **MARCH**, pivot to the right (left) on the ball of the right foot (90 degrees) and step off in the indicated direction with the left foot. Execute the pivot and step in one count, and continue marching in the new direction. (See paragraph 4-5c and Chapter 3, paragraph 3-1a.)
- b. *Facing to the Half-Right (Half-Left) in Marching* from the *Halt* is executed in the same manner as *Facing to the Right (Left) in Marching* from a *Halt*, except the facing movement is made at a 45-degree angle to the right (left).
- c. The *Halt* from *Facing in Marching* is executed in two counts, the same as the *Halt* from the 30-inch step.

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Chapter 6

SQUAD DRILL

“The [Soldiers] must learn to keep their ranks, to obey words of command, and signals by drum and trumpet, and to observe good order, whether they halt, advance, retreat, are upon a march, or engaged with an enemy.”

Niccolo Machiavelli: Arte della Guerra, 1520

Section I. FORMATIONS AND MOVEMENTS

This section describes the formations and movements of a squad. Individual drill movements and the manual of arms are executed as previously prescribed while performing as a squad member.

6-1. BASIC INFORMATION

The squad has two prescribed formations—line and column. However, the squad may be formed into a column of twos from a column formation. When the squad is in line, squad members are numbered from right to left; when in column, from front to rear. The squad normally marches in column, but for short distances it may march in line.

When the squad drills as a separate unit, the squad leader carries his weapon at *Sling Arms*. When the squad is in a line formation, the squad leader assumes a post three steps in front of and centered on the squad; when in a column or a column of twos, three steps to the left and centered on the squad. When the squad drills as part of a larger unit, the squad leader occupies the number one (base) position of the squad. He carries his weapon in the same manner as prescribed for other riflemen in the squad.

6-2. FORMING THE SQUAD

The squad normally forms in a line formation; however, it may re-form in column when each member can identify his exact position (equipment grounded) in the formation (Figure 6-1, page 6-2).

a. To form at normal interval, the squad leader comes to the *Position of Attention* and commands **FALL IN**. On the command **FALL IN**, the following actions occur simultaneously:

- (1) Each member double-times to his position in the formation.
- (2) The right flank man positions himself so that when the squad is formed it is three steps in front of and centered on the squad leader.
- (3) The right flank man comes to the *Position of Attention* and raises his left arm laterally at shoulder level, elbow locked, fingers and thumb extended and joined, and palm facing down. He ensures that the left arm is in line with the body.
- (4) The man to the immediate left of the right flank man comes to the *Position of Attention*, turns his head and eyes to the right, and raises his left arm in the same manner as the right flank man. He obtains proper alignment by taking short steps forward or backward until he is on line with the right flank man. He then obtains exact interval by taking short steps left or right until his shoulder touches the extended fingertips of the

right flank man. As soon as the man to the left has obtained *Normal Interval*, each man individually lowers his arm to his side, sharply turns his head and eyes to the front, and assumes the *Position of Attention*.

(5) The right flank man then sharply returns to the *Position of Attention*.

(6) All other members of the squad form in the same manner except that the left flank man does not raise his left arm.

NOTE: The right flank man raises his arm and looks straight to the front unless the squad is to align on an element to its right. If he is to align on an element to the right he turns his head and eyes to the right and aligns himself with that element.

b. To form at *Close Interval*, the formation is completed in the manner prescribed for *Normal Interval*, except that the command is **At Close Interval, FALL IN**. Squad members obtain *Close Interval* by placing the heel of the left hand on the left hip even with the waist, fingers and thumb joined and extended downward, and with the elbow in line with the body and touching the arm of the man to the left.

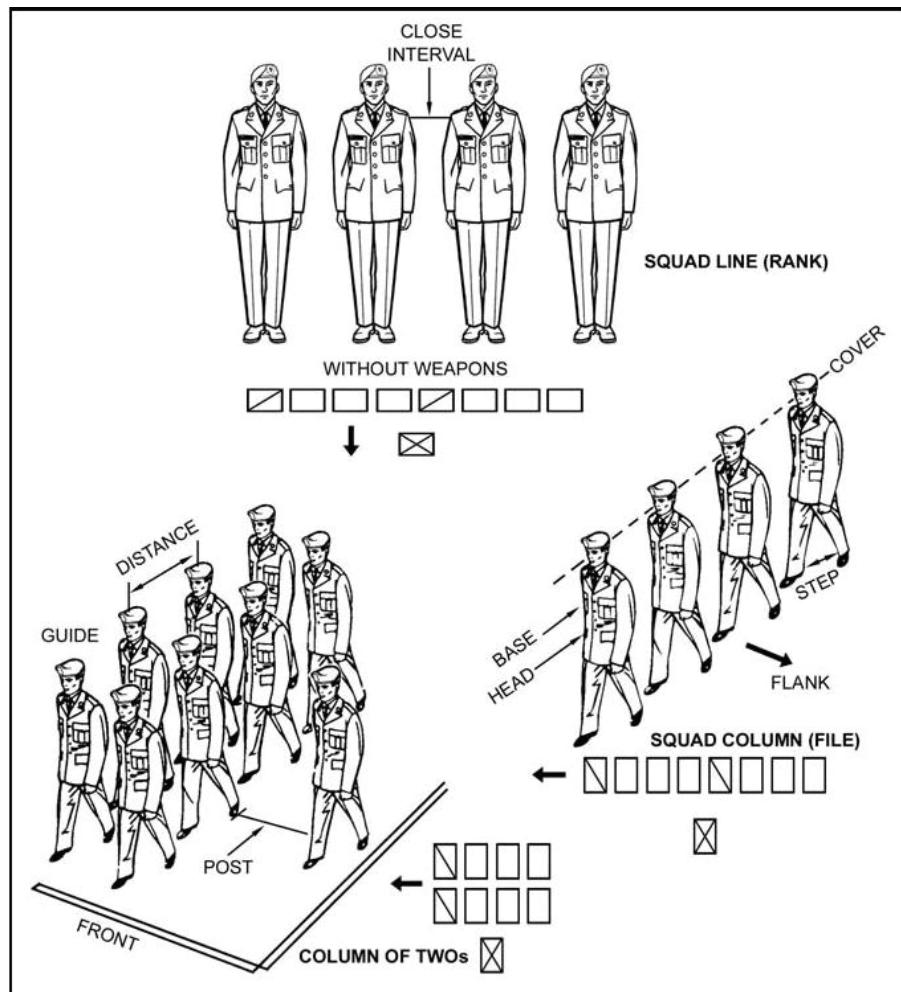


Figure 6-1. Squad formation

c. To form in column, the squad leader faces the proposed flank of the column and commands ***In Column, FALL IN***. On the command of execution **FALL IN**, squad members double-time to their original positions (grounded equipment) in formation and cover on the man to their front.

NOTE: The correct distance between Soldiers in column formation is approximately 36 inches. This distance is one arm's length plus 6 inches

d. When armed, squad members fall in at *Order Arms* or *Sling Arms*. For safety, the commands ***Inspection, ARMS; Ready, Port, ARMS;*** and ***Order (Sling), ARMS*** are commanded at the initial formation of the day or when the last command is **DISMISSED** (Figure 6-1).

6-3. COUNTING OFF

The squad may count off in line or column formation. The command is ***Count, OFF***.

a. When the squad is in a line formation, the counting is executed from right to left. On the command of execution **OFF**, each member, except the right flank man, turns his head and eyes to the right, and the right flank man counts off “**ONE**.” After the man on the right counts off his number, the man to his left counts off with the next higher number and simultaneously turns his head and eyes to the front. All the other members execute count off in the same manner until the entire squad has counted off.

b. When the squad is in column formation, the counting is executed from front to rear. On the command of execution **OFF**, the Soldier at the head of the column turns his head and eyes to the right and counts over his shoulder, “**ONE**.” After counting off his number, he immediately comes to the *Position of Attention*. All other members count their numbers in sequence in the same manner as the number one man; the last man in the file does not turn his head and eyes to the right.

6-4. CHANGING INTERVAL WHILE IN LINE

To change interval while in line, use the following procedures:

NOTE: To ensure that each member understands the number of steps to take, the squad leader should command ***Count, OFF*** before giving any commands that cause the squad to change interval. Members do not raise their arms when changing interval.

a. To obtain *Close Interval* from *Normal Interval*, the command is ***Close Interval, MARCH***. On the command of execution **MARCH**, the right flank man (number one man) stands fast. All men to the left of the number one man execute *Right Step March*, take one step less than their number (for example, number five man takes four steps), and *Halt*.

NOTE: The squad leader takes the correct number of steps to maintain his position of three steps in front of and centered on the squad.

b. To obtain *Normal Interval* from *Close Interval*, the command is ***Normal Interval, MARCH***. On the command of execution **MARCH**, the right flank man stands fast. All men to the left of number one man execute *Left Step March*, take one step less than their number (for example, number nine man takes eight steps), and *Halt*.

c. To obtain *Double Interval* from *Normal Interval*, the command is ***Double Interval, MARCH***. On the command of execution **MARCH**, the right flank man stands fast. All men to the left of number one man face to the left as in marching, take one 30-inch step less than their number (for example, number seven man takes six steps), *Halt*, and execute *Right Face*.

d. To obtain *Normal Interval* from *Double Interval*, the command is ***Normal Interval, MARCH***. On the command of execution **MARCH**, the right flank man stands fast. All men to the left of the number one man face to the right as in marching, take one 30-inch step less than their number (for example, number three man takes two steps), *Halt*, and execute *Left Face*.

6-5. ALIGNING THE SQUAD

To align the squad, use the following procedures:

NOTE: The squad leader commands the squad to the appropriate interval before giving the command for alignment.

a. To align the squad at *Normal Interval*, the commands are ***Dress Right, DRESS and Ready, FRONT***. These commands are given only when armed Soldiers are at *Order Arms* or *Sling Arms*. On the command of execution **DRESS**, the right flank man stands fast. Each member, except the right flank man, turns his head and eyes to the right and aligns himself with the man on his right. Each member, except the left flank man, extends his left arm laterally at shoulder level, elbow locked, fingers and thumb extended and joined, palm facing down. He ensures his left arm is in line with his body and positions himself by short steps right or left until his right shoulder touches the fingertips of the man on his right. On the command of execution **FRONT**, each member returns sharply to the *Position of Attention* (Figure 6-2).



Figure 6-2. Alignment (Normal Interval)

NOTE: If the squad leader wants exact alignment, on the command of execution DRESS, he faces to the Half Left in marching and marches by the most direct route to a position on line with the squad, halts one step from the right flank man, and faces down the line. From his position, he verifies the alignment of the squad, directing the men to move forward or backward, as necessary, calling them by name or number: **"Private Jones, forward 2 inches"; "Number eight, backward 4 inches."** The squad leader remains at attention, taking short steps to the right or left as necessary to see down the squad. Having aligned the squad, he centers himself on the right flank man by taking short steps left or right. He then faces to the *Half Right* in marching, returns to his position (center of the squad), halts perpendicular to the formation, faces to the left, and commands **Ready, FRONT**. These procedures also apply when aligning the squad at close or *Double Interval*.

b. To align the squad at *Close Interval*, the commands are **At Close Interval, Dress Right, DRESS** and **Ready, FRONT**. The movement is executed in the same manner prescribed for alignment at *Normal Interval* except that the squad members obtain *Close Interval* (Figure 6-3, page 6-6).



Figure 6-3. Alignment (Close Interval)

c. To align the squad at *Double Interval*, the commands are **At Double Interval, Dress Right, DRESS** and **Ready, FRONT**. These commands are given only when the troops are unarmed or at *Sling Arms*. On the command of execution **DRESS**, each member (except the right flank man) turns his head and eyes to the right and aligns himself on the man on his right. At the same time, each member (except the right and left flank men) extends both arms and positions himself by short steps right or left until his fingertips are touching the fingertips of the members on his right and left. (The right flank man raises his left arm; the left flank man raises his right arm.)

d. To align the squad in column, the commands are **COVER** and **RECOVER**. On the command **COVER**, each member (except the number one man) raises his left arm to a horizontal position, elbow locked, fingers and thumb extended and joined, palm facing down, and obtains an arm's length plus about 6 inches (from the fingertips) to the back of the man to his front. At the same time, each man aligns himself directly behind the man to his front. To resume the *Position of Attention*, the command **RECOVER** is given. On this command, each member sharply returns to the *Position of Attention*.

6-6. MARCHING THE SQUAD

To march the squad, use the following procedures:

- a. For short distances only, the squad may be marched forward while in a line formation.
- b. When marching long distances, the squad is marched in column.
- c. To form a column formation from a line formation, the command is **Right, FACE**.
- d. When a column formation is originated from a line formation at *Close Interval*, the squad may be marched for short distances at the *Half Step* with less than correct

distance. To obtain correct distance while marching with less than correct distance, the command is ***Extend, MARCH***. On the command of execution **MARCH**, the number one man takes one more 15- inch step and then steps off with a 30-inch step. Each squad member begins marching with a 30-inch step at the approximate point where the number one man stepped off, or as soon as correct distance has been obtained.

NOTE: See Chapter 4 for more information on marching movements.

6-7. CHANGING THE DIRECTION OF A COLUMN

To change the direction of a column, use the following procedures:

- a. From the *Halt*, the command to start the squad in motion and simultaneously change the direction of march 90 or 45 degrees is ***Column Right (Left), MARCH*** or ***Column Half Right (Left), MARCH***. On the command of execution **MARCH**, the lead man faces to the right (left) as in marching by pivoting to the right (left) on the ball of the right foot and steps off in the indicated direction taking a 30-inch step with the left foot and continues to march. The number two man adjusts his step by lengthening or shortening as necessary to reach the approximate pivot point of the lead man. When he reaches the approximate pivot point of the lead man, he pivots to the right (left) on the ball of the lead foot taking a 30-inch step with the trail foot in the new direction. All other members step off with the left foot and continue to march forward taking 30-inch steps and execute in the same manner as the number two man in approximately the same place until the entire squad has executed the column movement.
- b. To change the direction of march 90 or 45 degrees when marching, the preparatory command ***Column Right (Left)*** or ***Column Half Right (Half Left)*** is given as the foot (in the desired direction) strikes the marching surface. The command of execution **MARCH** is given the next time the foot in the desired direction strikes the marching surface. On the command of execution **MARCH**, the lead man takes one additional step, pivots in the commanded direction as the pivot foot strikes the marching surface, and continues to march in the new direction. Other members continue to march forward and execute the pivot as prescribed from the *Halt*.
- c. To avoid an obstacle in the line of march, the squad leader directs, **INCLINE LEFT (RIGHT)**. The lead man inclines left (right) around the obstacle and resumes the original direction. All other members follow the lead man.

6-8. MARCHING TO THE FLANK

The squad may be marched to the flank (for short distances only) when marching in column. The command for this movement is ***Right (Left) Flank, MARCH***. The preparatory command is given as the foot in the desired direction strikes the marching surface, and the command of execution is given the next time the foot in the desired direction strikes the marching surface. On the command of execution **MARCH**, all members take one more step, pivot 90 degrees in the commanded direction on the ball of the lead foot, and step off in the new direction with the trailing foot. As the members begin to march in the new direction, they glance out of the corner of the right eye and dress to the right.

6-9. FORMING A COLUMN OF TWOS AND RE-FORMING

To form a column of twos and re-form, use the following procedures:

a. Forming a column of twos from a file is executed only from the *Halt*. The command is ***Column of Twos to the Right (Left)***, **MARCH**. On the preparatory command, the lead team leader commands **STAND FAST**. The trailing team leader commands **Column Half Right (Left)**. On the command of execution **MARCH**, the trailing team leader executes a **Column Half Right (Left)**, inclines to the left or right when the correct interval is obtained, and commands **Mark time**, **MARCH** and **Team, HALT** to *Halt* abreast of the lead team leader.

b. Forming a file from a column of twos is executed only from the *Halt*. The command is ***File from the Left (Right)***, **MARCH**. On the preparatory command, the lead team leader commands **FORWARD**. The trailing team leader commands **STAND FAST**. On the command of execution **MARCH**, the lead team marches forward. The trailing team leader commands **Column Half Left (Right)** when the second man from the rear of the lead team is abreast. He gives the command **MARCH** when the last man of the lead team is abreast of him and his right foot strikes the marching surface. He then inclines right or left to follow the lead team at the correct distance.

NOTE: Commands are given over the team leader's right shoulder if the direction of movement is to the right or if the team is following an element to its right. Commands are given over the left shoulder if the direction of movement is to the left or if the team is following an element to its left.

6-10. DISMISSING THE SQUAD

The squad is dismissed with the members at *Attention*. With armed troops, the commands are **Inspection, ARMS; Ready, Port, ARMS; Order (Sling), ARMS**; and **DISMISSED**. With unarmed troops, the command is **DISMISSED**.

NOTE: Unless otherwise stated (by the person in charge in his instructions before the command **DISMISSED**), the command **DISMISSED** terminates only the formation, not the duty day (JP 1-02).

Section II. STACK AND TAKE ARMS (M16-SERIES RIFLE)

The squad members execute *Stack Arms* from their positions in line formation (at *Normal Interval*) from *Order Arms*. When in line formation, the squad leader commands **Count, OFF** and then designates the stack men by numbers (2-5-8).

- NOTES:**
1. M4-series carbines are not compatible with the M16-series rifles when stacking arms. The two types of weapons must be stacked separately or grounded in a manner that will not damage the sights. (See Appendix D for a detailed explanation of stack arms and take arms for the M4-series carbine.)
 2. When the squad is part of a larger unit, stack arms may be executed in a column formation (when the formation consists of three or more files and

the squads are at normal interval). Second or third squad is designated as the stack squad.

6-11. PREPARE SLINGS

After the stack men are designated, the squad leader commands ***Prepare, SLINGS.*** On the command of execution **SLINGS**, each stack man (or stack squad) grasps the barrel of his rifle with the right hand and raises the rifle vertically. With his left hand, he places the rifle butt on his right hip and cradles the rifle in the crook of his right arm. Using both hands, he adjusts the sling keeper so that a 2-inch loop is formed from the sling keeper to the upper sling swivel. As soon as the loop is prepared, he returns to *Order Arms*.

6-12. STACK ARMS

When all stack men have returned to *Order Arms*, the squad leader commands ***Stack, ARMS.***

a. On the command of execution **ARMS**, each stack man grasps the barrel of his rifle with his right hand and places the rifle directly in front of and centered on his body with the sights to the rear. The rifle butt is placed on the marching surface so that the heel of the rifle butt is on line with the toes of his footgear. The stack man bends slightly forward at the waist and grasps his rifle with his left hand at the upper portion of the handguard (keeping the rifle vertical at all times). The first two fingers of the left hand hold the inner part of the loop against the rifle. The stack man reaches across the front of the rifle with his right hand, grasps the outer part of the loop, and holds it open for insertion of other rifles.

b. On the command of execution **ARMS**, the men to the right and left of the stack man perform the following movements simultaneously:

(1) The man on the stack man's right grasps the barrel of his rifle with his right hand and raises and centers his rifle with the magazine well facing to the front, wrist held shoulder high, elbow locked. With his left hand, he then grasps the handguard (midway), releases his right hand, and regrasps the rifle at the small of the stock. He lowers both arms, with elbows locked (holding the rifle in a horizontal position with the muzzle to the left and the magazine well to the front).

(2) The man on the stack man's left grasps the barrel of the rifle with his right hand and raises and centers his rifle with magazine well facing to the front, wrist held shoulder high, elbow locked. Using his left hand, he then grasps the rifle at the small of the stock, releases the right hand, and regrasps the handguard midway. He then lowers both arms, with elbows locked holding the rifle in a horizontal position with the muzzle to the right and magazine well to the front.

c. As soon as the stack man has placed his rifle in position, both men move the foot nearest the stack man half way (*Half Right* or *Half Left*) toward the stack man. The man on the stack man's left inserts the muzzle of his rifle into the loop to a point about halfway between the flash suppressor and the front sight assembly. He holds his rifle in this position until the man on the stack man's right inserts the muzzle of his rifle in a similar manner and above the other rifle muzzle.

d. Without moving the feet, both riflemen swing the butt of their rifles out and then down to the marching surface, making the stack tight with the rifle butts on line and about

2 feet from the base line. When the stack has been completed, all three men resume the *Position of Attention*.

e. Additional rifles are passed to the nearest stack on the right (right or left if stacked in column). The men with additional rifles grasp the rifle barrel with the right hand and raise the rifle vertically with the magazine well to the front, wrist held shoulder high, elbow locked, and right arm extended to the right front. Throughout the pass, the rifle is held vertical with the magazine well to the front.

(1) The man to the left of the stack man then grasps the rifle midway at the handguard with his left hand. The man passing the additional rifle then releases the rifle and sharply returns to the *Position of Attention*. The man to the left of the stack man then moves the rifle to the right until it is centered on his body, and he grasps the rifle barrel with his right hand, wrist held shoulder high and elbow locked. He then releases the left hand and sharply returns his left hand to the left side as in the *Position of Attention*. He then moves the rifle to his right front.

(2) The stack man receives the rifle and centers it in the same manner as previously described. The man to the left of the stack man sharply returns to the *Position of Attention* after he releases the rifle. Once the stack man has centered the rifle and grasped the barrel with the right hand, he bends forward at the waist and places the rifle in the stack so that it is secure (without damaging the front sight assembly). If there are two additional rifles, the second rifle is passed in the same manner as the first.

NOTE: See Appendix B for a figure showing *Stack Arms* using the M4-series carbine.

6-13. TAKE ARMS

To *Take Arms*, the command is ***Take, ARMS***. On the command of execution **ARMS**, the men return the additional rifles in the same manner as the rifles were received. The stack man secures the stack and holds the loop in the same manner as for stacking rifles. The men on the left and right step toward the stack man in the same manner as when stacking arms. Each man reaches down and regrasps his rifle (one hand at the small of the stock and one hand midway of the handguard) and brings it to the horizontal position. The man on the right frees his rifle first and resumes *Order Arms*. The man on the left frees his rifle and resumes *Order Arms*. The stack man cradles his rifle and adjusts the sling and sling keeper to its original position and then resumes *Order Arms*.

Chapter 7

PLATOON DRILL

"If in training Soldiers commands are habitually enforced, the army will be well-disciplined; if not, its discipline will be bad."

Sun Tsu, On the Art of War, trans. 1910

Section I. FORMATIONS

The platoon has two prescribed formations—line and column (Figure 7-1, page 7-2). However, the platoon may be formed into a file or a column of twos from a column formation. When in a line formation, the elements (squads) of a platoon are numbered from front to rear; in a column formation, from left to right. (Appendix G contains an explanation of the symbols used in figures.)

7-1. BASIC INFORMATION

For the most part, platoon drill merely provides the procedures for executing drill movements in conjunction with other squads formed in the same formation. Individual drill movements and the manual of arms are executed as previously described while performing as a squad member during the conduct of platoon drill. For continuity purposes in this chapter, “platoon sergeant” may also denote “platoon leader” when the platoon sergeant is executing drill from his post.

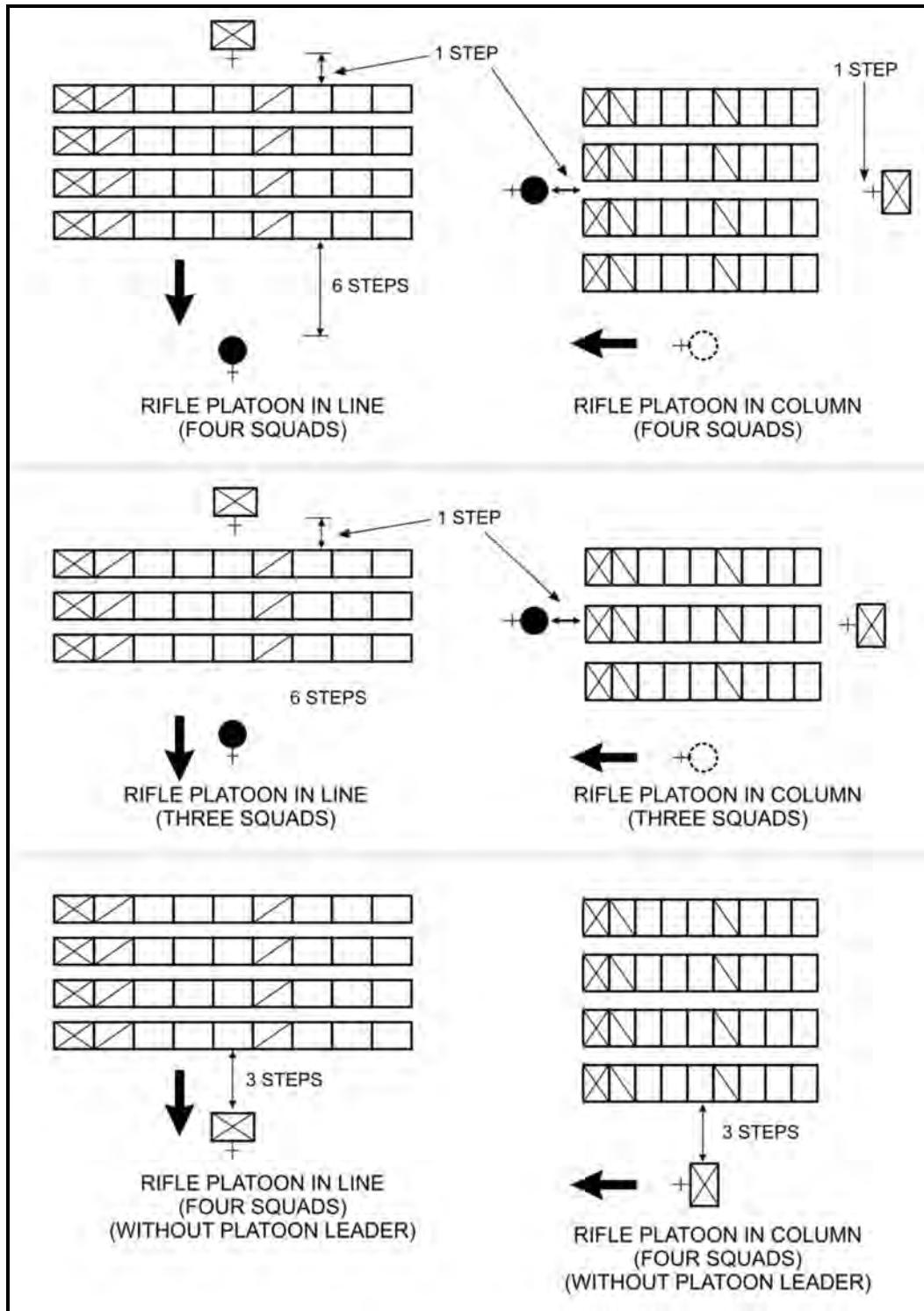


Figure 7-1. Platoon formations

- During all drill and ceremonies, the platoon leader and platoon sergeant carry their rifles at *Sling Arms*. When the platoon drills as part of a larger unit, the platoon leader and

platoon sergeant remain at *Sling Arms* during all manual of arms movements except when executing the *Hand Salute* while at *Sling Arms*.

b. When the platoon drills as a separate unit or as part of a larger unit in a line formation, without officers present, the post for the platoon sergeant is three steps in front of and centered on the platoon. When in column formation, the post for the platoon sergeant is three steps to left flank of and centered on the platoon.

c. The post for the platoon sergeant with the platoon leader present is one step to the rear and centered on the platoon in line or column formation.

d. When assuming his post in column from a line formation with the platoon leader present, the platoon sergeant faces to the left in marching (on the command of execution **FACE**) and marches in the most direct route to his post. He then halts and faces to the right. When assuming his post in line from a column formation, he faces to the right in marching (on the command of execution **FACE**) and marches in the most direct route to his post, halts centered on the platoon, and faces to the left.

NOTE: When the files (columns) are uneven, the platoon sergeant normally directs the men in longer files to move to another file to balance the formation; or he may fill the vacancy himself as the last man in the right file.

e. When control of the formation is being exchanged between the platoon sergeant and the platoon leader, the platoon sergeant will **always** travel around the **right flank** (squad leader) of the formation when marching from post to post. The platoon leader will **always** travel around the **left flank** of the formation when marching post to post.

f. On the command ***Open Ranks, MARCH; Backward, MARCH; Right (Left) Step, MARCH; Forward, MARCH*** and on commands that cause the platoon to change interval in line, he moves at the same time (with the appropriate step) so as to maintain proper position.

g. The leader of the first squad serves as the base when the platoon is a line formation. The leader of the fourth squad serves as the base when the platoon is in a column formation.

h. If for some reason the platoon is authorized a guidon or phase banner (in training units for example), the bearer's post is one step in front of and two 15-inch steps to the right of and facing the person forming the platoon. When the formation is faced to the right for a marching movement, he executes in the same manner as explained in Appendix H, except that his post is three steps in front of and centered on the squad leaders. If the platoon leader is present and at his post, the bearer's post is one step to the rear and two 15-inch steps to the left of the platoon leader.

i. When the platoon drills as a separate unit, in a line formation, the post for the platoon leader is six steps in front of and centered on the platoon; when in a column formation, the platoon leader is six steps to the left flank and centered on the platoon. When marching as part of a larger formation, his post is one step in front of and centered on the squad leaders.

j. When the platoon leader commands ***Open Ranks, MARCH; Backward, MARCH; Right (Left) Step, MARCH; Forward, MARCH*** or causes the platoon to change interval,

he moves at the same time (with the appropriate step) so as to maintain proper position.

(1) When assuming his post in column from a line formation, the platoon leader faces to the right in marching (on the command of execution **FACE**) and marches in the most direct route to his post, halts, and faces to the left.

(2) When assuming his post in line from a column formation, the platoon leader faces to the left in marching (on the command of execution **FACE**) and marches in the most direct route to his post, halts perpendicular to the formation, and faces to the right.

7-2. FORMING THE PLATOON

The platoon normally forms in a line formation; however, it may re-form in a column when each man can identify his exact position (equipment grounded) in the formation.

a. The platoon forms basically the same as a squad. The platoon sergeant assumes the *Position of Attention* and commands **FALL IN (At Close Interval, FALL IN or In Column, FALL IN)**. On the command **FALL IN (At Close Interval, FALL IN)**, the squad leader and the first squad (when formed) is three steps in front of and centered on the platoon sergeant. Other squad leaders cover on the first squad leader at the correct distance, which is obtained by estimation. The members of the first squad fall in on their squad leader as prescribed for squad drill. Members of the other squads fall in on their squad leader, assume the *Position of Attention*, and turn their heads and eyes to the right. They obtain correct distance by taking short steps forward or backward and align themselves on the man to their right. They then sharply turn their heads and eyes to the front as in the *Position of Attention* and obtain proper interval by taking short steps left and right to cover on the man to their front. Members of all squads, other than the first squad, will not raise their left arms unless the man to their immediate left has no one to his front in the formation on which to cover.

b. When armed, members fall in at *Order Arms* or *Sling Arms*. For safety, the commands **Inspection, ARMS; Ready, Port, ARMS; Order (Sling), ARMS** are given at the initial formation of the day and just before the last command, **DISMISSED**.

c. When a report is appropriate, the platoon sergeant commands **REPORT**. The squad leaders, in succession from front to rear, turn their heads and eyes toward the platoon sergeant and salute (holding the *Salute* until returned) and report. The squad leaders do not state the unit. For example:

Situation 1. When all squad members are in formation, the report is "**All present.**"

Situation 2. When squad members are absent, the Soldiers and reasons for absence are reported:

Pvt. Smith - CQ runner.

Pvt. Jones - sick call.

Pvt. Williams - AWOL.

d. The platoon sergeant turns his head and eyes toward the reporting squad leader, receives the report, and returns the salute. After receiving the report from the squad leaders, the platoon sergeant faces about and awaits the arrival of the platoon leader or a directive from the first sergeant to **REPORT**. When the platoon leader has halted at his post, the platoon sergeant salutes and reports, "**Sir, All present**"; or "**Sir, All accounted for**";

or "*Sir, (so many) men absent.*" The platoon leader returns the *Salute*. After the *Salute* has been returned, the platoon sergeant faces to the right in marching, inclines around the squad leaders, halts at his post, and faces to the right. If reporting to the first sergeant, the platoon sergeant turns his head and eyes toward the first sergeant, salutes, and reports.

e. If the platoon leader is not present for the formation, and the commander is in charge of the formation, the platoon sergeant steps forward three steps (after receiving the squad leader's report) and, on the command **POST**, assumes the duties of the platoon leader.

f. When appropriate, the platoon may be formed by the platoon leader rather than by the platoon sergeant. The procedures are the same as previously described except that the first squad forms six steps in front of and centered on the platoon leader, and the platoon sergeant forms at his post to the rear of the platoon. For continuity purposes in this chapter, "platoon sergeant" may also denote "platoon leader" when the platoon leader is executing drill from his post.

7-3. BREAKING RANKS

When the situation requires one or more individuals to leave the formation or to receive specific instructions from the platoon sergeant, the platoon sergeant directs: "*Private Doe (pause), front and center*"; or, "*The following personnel front and center—Private Doe (pause), Private Smith*." When the individual's name is called, he assumes the position of *attention* and replies, "*Here, Sergeant (Sir)*." He then takes one (15-inch) step backward, halts, faces to the right (left) in marching, and exits the formation by marching to the nearest flank. *The Soldier does not look left or right*. Once the individual has cleared the formation, he begins to double-time and halts two steps in front of and centered on the platoon sergeant.

NOTE: When a group of individuals are called from the formation, the group forms centered on the platoon sergeant. The platoon sergeant should direct (point) the first man into position so that the rank will be centered when the last man has joined the group.

7-4. COUNTING OFF

The platoon counts off in the same manner as the squad. When in a line formation, the squads count in unison from right to left; each squad leader sounds off, "**ONE.**" When in a column formation, the men abreast of each other count in unison from front to rear; each squad leader sounds off, "**ONE.**"

7-5. CHANGING INTERVAL

The platoon changes interval in a line formation in the same manner as the squad.

a. To change interval when the platoon is in a column at the *Halt*, the right file stands fast and serves as the base. All other members (abreast of each other) execute the movement as previously described. To obtain *Close Interval* from *Normal Interval*, the third squad takes one right step, the second squad takes two right steps, and the first squad takes three

right steps. To obtain *Normal Interval*, the procedures are the same except that the squads execute the same number of left steps.

b. To change interval when the platoon is marching in a column, the preparatory command ***Close Interval*** is given as the right foot strikes the marching surface, and the command of execution **MARCH** is given the next time the right foot strikes the marching surface. On the command of execution **MARCH**, the base squad (right file) takes one more 30-inch step and then executes the *Half Step*. All other men take one more step, simultaneously execute a *Column Half Right*, and march until *Close Interval* is obtained. They execute a *Column Half Left* and assume the *Half Step* when abreast of the corresponding man of the base squad. On the command **Forward**, **MARCH**, all men resume marching with a 30-inch step. The commands **Mark Time**, **MARCH** and **Platoon**, **HALT** may also be given.

c. To resume marching at *Normal Interval*, the preparatory command ***Normal Interval*** is given as the left foot strikes the marching surface, and the command of execution **MARCH** is given the next time the left foot strikes the marching surface. On the command of execution **MARCH**, the platoon members obtain *Normal Interval* in the same manner prescribed for *Close Interval* except that they each execute *Column Half Left* and then *Column Half Right*.

d. To obtain *Double Interval* from *Normal Interval*, the procedures are the same as from *Close Interval* to *Normal Interval*.

e. To obtain *Normal Interval* from *Double Interval* (closing the formation in column from *Open Ranks*), the procedures are the same as obtaining *Close Interval* from *Normal Interval*.

7-6. ALIGNING THE PLATOON

The platoon is aligned similar to the squad.

a. On the command of execution **DRESS**, the first squad leader stands fast and serves as the base. Other squad leaders obtain correct distance by estimation. The members of the first squad execute in the same manner as in squad drill to obtain exact interval. All other squads execute as the first squad, except that each squad member raises the left arm only for uniformity, actually covering (glancing out the corner of the left eye) on the man to the front.

b. If the platoon sergeant wants exact alignment, he faces to the *Half Left* (*Half Right*) in marching and marches (on the command of execution **DRESS**) by the most direct route to a position on line with the first squad, halts one step from the squad leader or left flank man, and faces down the line. From this position, he verifies the alignment of the first squad, directing the men to move forward or backward, as necessary, calling them by name or number: "**Private Jones, forward 2 inches; Number eight, backward 4 inches.**" The platoon sergeant remains at *Attention*, taking short steps to the right or left as necessary, to see down the squad.

(1) Having aligned the first squad, the platoon sergeant, after centering himself on the first squad, faces to the left (right) in marching, taking two (three if at open ranks) short steps to the next squad, halts, faces down the line, and aligns the squad in the same manner.

(2) After the last squad is aligned, the platoon sergeant centers himself on the squad leader by taking short steps left or right, faces to the right (left) in marching, returns to his position (centered on the platoon), halts perpendicular to the formation, faces to the left (right), and commands **Ready, FRONT.**

NOTE: When the platoon dresses as part of a larger formation, all squad leaders turn their heads and eyes to their right and align themselves on the unit to their right. The platoon sergeant aligns the platoon from the left flank rather than from the right flank when his platoon is not formed as the right flank platoon.

c. To align the platoon in column, the commands are **COVER** and **RECOVER**. On the command **COVER**, the fourth squad leader stands fast and serves as base. The squad leaders with the exception of the left flank squad leader, raise their arms laterally and turn their heads and eyes to the right. The members of the fourth squad raise their left arms horizontally (as in squad drill) to the front and cover the man to their front at correct distance (one arm's length plus 6 inches). Squad members of the third, second, and first squads raise their left arms horizontally to the front (for uniformity only), cover on the man to their front, and, at the same time, glance out of the corner of their right eyes aligning on the man to their right. To resume the *Position of Attention*, the command is **RECOVER**. On this command, each man sharply returns to the *Position of Attention*.

NOTE: When the platoon is aligned in column as part of a larger unit but is not the lead platoon, the squad leaders do not raise their arms or turn their heads and eyes but cover on the squad to their front. The platoon sergeant must wait until the platoon to his front has been given the command **RECOVER** before giving the command **COVER**. If the platoon leader is at his post, he must wait until the platoon leader of the platoon to his front has commanded **RECOVER** before he faces about and gives the command **COVER**.

7-7. OPENING AND CLOSING RANKS

To open or close ranks, use the following procedures:

a. **Open Ranks, MARCH** is executed from a line formation while at the halt. It may be executed while at any of the prescribed intervals. The command for this movement is **Open Ranks, MARCH**. On the command of execution **MARCH**, the front rank takes two steps forward, the second rank takes one step forward, the third rank stands fast, and the fourth rank takes two steps backward. If additional ranks are present, the fifth rank takes four steps backward, and the sixth rank takes six steps backward.

NOTE: After taking the prescribed steps, the men do not raise their arms. If the platoon sergeant wants exact interval or alignment, he commands **At Close Interval (At Double Interval), Dress Right, DRESS**. If the platoon is to align on an element to the right, the squad leaders turn their head and eyes to the right and align themselves with that element.

b. To *Close Ranks*, the command is ***Close Ranks, MARCH***. On the command of execution **MARCH**, the first rank takes four steps backward, the second rank takes two steps backward, the third rank stands fast, and the fourth rank takes one step forward. On the command of execution **MARCH**, the platoon leader and platoon sergeant take the appropriate number of steps to maintain their posts.

7-8. RESTING THE PLATOON

The platoon rests in the same manner prescribed for the squad.

7-9. DISMISSING THE PLATOON

The procedures for dismissing the platoon are basically the same as prescribed for the squad.

a. If the platoon sergeant so desires, the squads may be released to the control of the squad leaders. The platoon sergeant commands **TAKE CHARGE OF YOUR SQUADS**, and *Salutes* are exchanged. The platoon sergeant is no longer part of the formation.

NOTE: Without leaving their positions, the squad leaders turn their heads and eyes over the left shoulder and command **FALL OUT**. The squad leaders move to a position in the immediate area, and command **FALL IN**. Then, they carry out the previous instructions and or give any instructions for actions before the next duty formation.

b. At times the platoon sergeant may want to turn the formation over to a subordinate; for example, to have the subordinate march the platoon to a different location.

(1) The platoon sergeant calls on an individual and the individual breaks rank (paragraph 7-3). The designated Soldier posts two steps from and facing the platoon sergeant. The platoon sergeant passes on any additional instructions and *Salutes* are exchanged. After exchanging *Salutes*, the platoon sergeant moves to a position where he can observe, or he may resume his post at the rear of the formation.

(2) The subordinate steps forward two steps, and assumes the post of the platoon sergeant. The platoon sergeant is no longer part of the formation; however, he may march along side of, or behind, the formation to make any corrections or to give further guidance, if necessary.

c. If the platoon leader is at his post, he commands **PLATOON SERGEANT**. The platoon sergeant faces to the left in marching and inclines around the squad leaders' left flank, halts three steps in front of and centered on the platoon, and faces to the right. The platoon leader then commands **TAKE CHARGE OF THE PLATOON**, and *Salutes* are exchanged. The platoon leader is no longer part of the formation. The platoon sergeant remains at his post, faces about, and carries out the platoon leader's instructions.

Section II. MOVEMENTS

The platoon marches in the same manner prescribed for the squad. When the platoon is marching in a line, the first squad leader serves as the guide, and when the platoon is

marching in a column, the fourth squad leader serves as the guide. When marching in line, each member of each squad (glancing out of the corner of his right eye) maintains alignment on the man to his right. When marching in column, each member of the first, second, and third squads maintains alignment on the man to his right.

7-10. EYES RIGHT

The platoon renders courtesy during ceremonies or when marching past the Colors by executing *Eyes Right*. The commands for this movement are ***Eyes***, **RIGHT** and ***Ready***, **FRONT**.

a. At the *Halt*, all men (on the command of execution, **RIGHT**), while keeping their shoulders parallel to the front, turn their heads and eyes to the right at a 45-degree angle. They focus on and follow the person passing to the front until they are again looking forward, at which time their heads and eyes remain fixed to the front. Only the platoon leader renders the *Hand Salute*.

b. When marching, the preparatory command ***Eyes*** is given as the right foot strikes the marching surface and the command of execution **RIGHT** is given the next time the right foot strikes the marching surface. On the command of execution **RIGHT**, all men, except the right file, turn their heads and eyes to the right and align themselves on the right file while continuing to march. Men in the right file do not turn their heads and eyes but continue looking straight to the front and maintain correct distance. Only the platoon leader salutes. To terminate the courtesy, the preparatory command ***Ready*** is given as the left foot strikes the marching surface, and the command of execution **FRONT** is given the next time the left foot strikes the marching surface. On the command of execution, the men turn their heads and eyes sharply to the front and the platoon leader terminates the *Hand Salute*.

7-11. CHANGING THE DIRECTION OF A COLUMN

The platoon changes the direction of marching basically the same as the squad.

a. During a column movement, the base element is the squad on the flank in the direction of the turn.

b. To change the direction 90 degrees, the command is ***Column Right (Left)***, **MARCH**. On the command of execution **MARCH**, the base squad executes the movement as in squad drill except that the squad leader takes one 30-inch step and then takes up the *Half Step*. The squad leader continues marching with the *Half Step* until the other squad leaders come abreast. The other squad leaders, while maintaining correct (offset) interval, execute a 45-degree pivot and continue marching in an arc. As they come on line (abreast) with the base squad leader, they take up the *Half Step*. When all squad leaders are abreast, they step off with a 30-inch step without command. All other platoon members march forward on the command of execution and execute the column movement at approximately the same location as their squad leaders and in the same manner.

NOTE: When the platoon sergeant is marching his platoon as a separate unit or when the company is marching without officers in charge, the platoon sergeant stays centered on his platoon. When the platoon leader and platoon sergeant are

marching at their post in column as part of a larger formation, they execute a *Column Half Right (Left)* rather than a 90-degree column movement. After executing the *Column Half Right (Left)*, they continue marching in an arc, incline as necessary, and resume their correct positions. After sensing that the squad leaders are abreast of each other, the platoon leader resumes the 30-inch step. At times, the platoon leader may find it necessary to shorten or lengthen his step in order to maintain correct distance from the unit to his front.

- c. To change the direction 45 degrees, the command is ***Column Half Right (Left), MARCH***. On the command of execution **MARCH**, the platoon executes the movement in the same manner as a 90-degree turn except that the base squad leader, as well as the other squad leaders, execute a *Column Half Right (Left)*.

NOTE: When executing a column movement at *Double Time*, elements adjust the length of their steps so that interval and distance are maintained through and beyond the pivot point.

- d. The platoon marches in the opposite direction (**Rear, MARCH**) in the same manner as the squad.

e. The platoon inclines in the same manner as the squad. The squad nearest the direction of the turn serves as the base. To avoid an obstacle in the path of the march, the platoon leader directs **INCLINE AROUND LEFT (RIGHT)**.

- f. When space is limited and the platoon sergeant wants to march his unit in the opposite direction (reverse), with the squad leaders at the head of their squads, he commands **Counter Column, MARCH**. On the command of execution **MARCH** (at the *Halt*), the first squad marches forward three steps, executes a *Column Right*, marches across the front of the platoon, and executes another *Column Right* just beyond the fourth squad. The second squad steps forward one step, executes a *Column Right*, marches forward, and executes another *Column Right* between the third and fourth squads. The third squad executes two short *Column Lefts* from the *Halt* and marches between the remainder of the third squad and the second squad. The fourth squad marches forward two steps, executes a *Column Left*, marches across the front of the platoon, and executes another *Column Left* between the first and second squads (Figure 7-2).

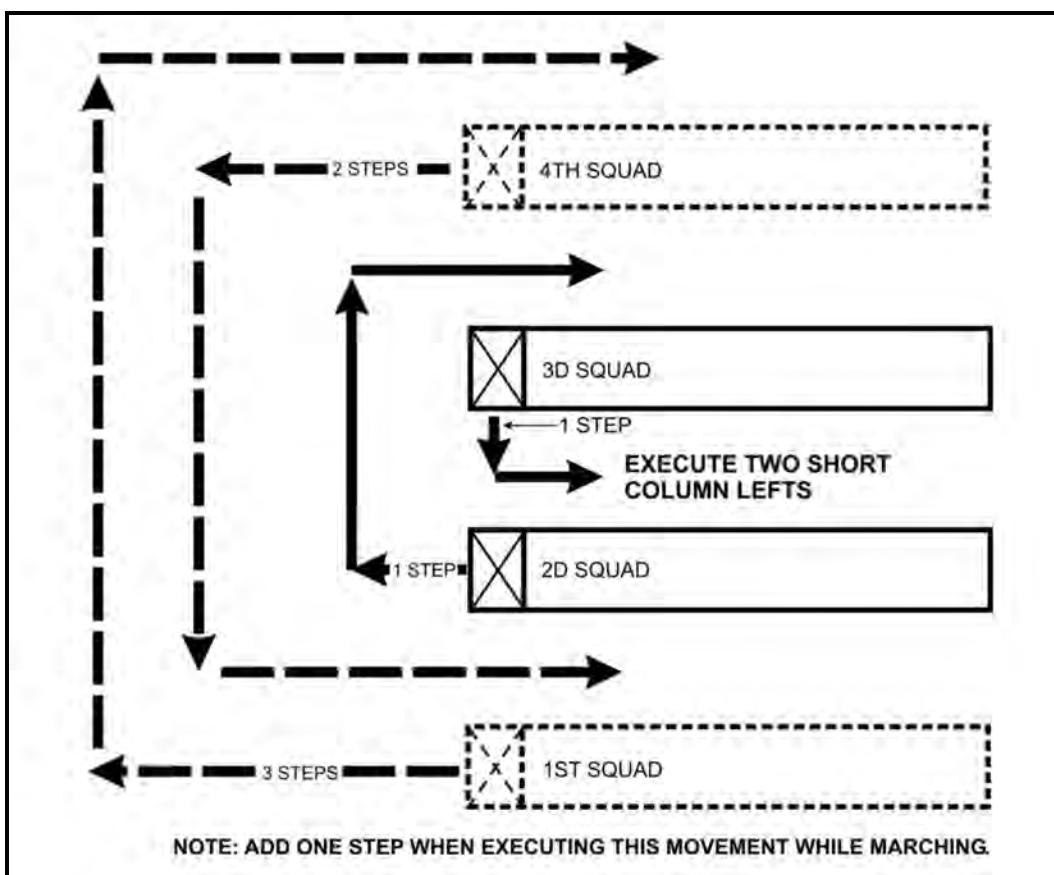


Figure 7-2. Counter-Column March at the Halt

g. As the third squad leader marches past the last man in the third squad, he and his squad begin to march at the *Half Step*. After marching past the last man in each file, all other squads incline to the right and left as necessary, obtain *Normal Interval* on the third squad, and begin to march with the *Half Step*. When all squads are abreast of each other, they begin marching with a 30-inch step without command.

h. During the movement, *without the platoon leader present*, the platoon sergeant marches alongside the first squad. *With the platoon leader present*, the platoon sergeant marches one step to the rear and centered between the second and third squads (Figure 7-1, page 7-2) and the platoon leader marches alongside the first squad.

i. When marching, the preparatory command **Counter-Column** is given as the left foot strikes the marching surface and the command of execution **MARCH** is given the next time the left foot strikes the marching surface. On the command of execution **MARCH**, the platoon executes the movement basically the same as from the *Halt*, except that the squad takes one additional step to ensure that the pivot foot is in the correct position to execute the movement.

NOTES: 1. When there are only three squads in the column, the first squad takes two steps before executing.

2. When the platoon leader and platoon sergeant are marching at their posts as part of a larger formation, the platoon leader takes three steps forward and executes a column right, marches across the front of the platoon, executes another column right (just beyond fourth squad), marches to his post in the most direct manner, takes up the *Half Step*, and then steps off with a 30-inch step when the squad leaders come on line. The platoon sergeant inclines to the right, follows the third squad until the movement is completed, and then resumes his post.

7-12. MARCHING TO THE FLANKS

The platoon marches to the flank in the same manner as the squad.

7-13. FORMING A FILE AND RE-FORMING

The platoon forms a single file, from the right, left, or as designated, only when in column and at the *Halt*. The commands are ***File from the left (right)***, **MARCH** or ***File in sequence three-two-four-one***, **MARCH**.

NOTE: If the squad's direction of travel is to the left, or the squad is immediately following an element on the left, then ***all*** supplementary commands will be given over the left shoulder. If the squad's direction of travel is forward or to the right, or is immediately following a squad on the right, ***all*** supplementary commands will be given over the right shoulder. The squad leaders give the appropriate command so that they are following the last Soldier in the preceding squad at the correct distance.

a. On the preparatory command, the squad leader of the designated squad gives the supplementary command ***Forward***. The other squad leaders command **STAND FAST**. On the command of execution **MARCH** (given by the platoon sergeant), the lead squad marches forward. The squad leader next to the lead element (or as designated) looks over the shoulder nearest the moving element and commands ***Column Half Left (Right)*** when the second from the last man is abreast of him and his right foot strikes the marching surface. The *squad leader* gives the command of execution **MARCH** as the right foot of the last man strikes the marching surface when abreast of him. On the command of execution, the squad leader executes the ***Column Half Left (Right)***, then inclines without command to the right (left), and follows the last man of the preceding squad at correct distance. Other members of the squad march forward and execute the same movements as the squad leader. The remaining squads form the file in the same manner as the squad immediately behind the lead element.

b. The platoon may form a file and execute a column movement simultaneously from a column formation. The command for this movement is ***File from the left (right)***, ***Column Left (Right)***, **MARCH**. Following the platoon sergeant's preparatory command, the squad leader of the lead element commands ***Column Left (Right)***, instead of ***Forward***. The other squad leaders command **STAND FAST**. On the platoon leader's command of execution **MARCH**, the lead squad executes the ***Column Left (Right)***. The other squad leaders command ***Column Left (Right)*** at the appropriate time.

- NOTES:**
1. At this point the platoon is executing platoon drill. The platoon sergeant will not release control of the squads to the squad leaders. The platoon sergeant will rest personnel on an as needed basis; for example, when filing into a building.
 2. The squad leaders give the command of execution **MARCH** as the right foot of the last man strikes the marching surface at the pivot (*Column Left*), or the first time the last man's right foot strikes the marching surface after the pivot (*Column Right*).
 - c. The platoon re-forms to the original column formation only from the *Halt*. The command is ***Column of fours to the right (left)*, MARCH**.

NOTE: To re-form the platoon to its original column formation when the file was formed on the command ***In sequence***, **MARCH**, the commands **FALL OUT** and **FALL IN** must be given.

(1) On the preparatory command, the squad leader of the base squad commands **STAND FAST**. All other squad leaders command ***Column Half Right (Left)***. On the platoon sergeant's command of execution **MARCH**, the base squad stands fast; all other squads execute the ***Column Half Right (Left)*** simultaneously.

(2) As each of the moving squad leaders reach a point (line) that ensures correct interval on the element to their left (right), they automatically incline to the left (right) and command **Mark Time**, **MARCH** and **Squad, HALT** so that their squad is abreast of the base (other) squad when halted.

7-14. FORMING A COLUMN OF TWOS AND RE-FORMING

The platoon forms a column of twos from the right or left when in a column of fours at the *Halt*. The command is ***Column of twos from the left (right)*, MARCH**.

a. On the preparatory command, the squad leaders of the two lead squads command **Forward**. The other squad leaders command **STAND FAST**.

(1) On the platoon sergeant's command of execution **MARCH**, the two lead squads march forward. The squad leader (second or third) next to the lead element gives the command to start both of the remaining squads in motion. Looking over the shoulder nearest the moving elements, the squad leader gives the preparatory command ***Column Half Left (Right)*** (when the second from the last man is abreast of him) and then gives the command of execution **MARCH** as the right foot of the last man strikes the marching surface abreast of him.

(2) On the platoon sergeant's command of execution, both squad leaders execute the ***Column Half Left (Right)***, incline to the right (left) without command, and follow the last men of the preceding squads at correct distance (do not close the space if the files of the two leading squads are not even). Other members of the remaining squads march forward and execute the same movements as their squad leaders.

b. The platoon may form a column of twos and execute a column movement simultaneously from a column formation. The command for this movement is ***Column of twos from the left (right)*, *Column left (right)*, MARCH**.

(1) The squad leaders of the lead squads command **Column Left (Right)** instead of **Forward**. The squad leader of the second (third) squad gives the command **Column Left (Right)**; however, he executes **Column Half Left (Right)**. The remaining two squad leaders command **STAND FAST**.

(2) On the platoon sergeant's command of execution **MARCH**, the lead squads execute the **Column Left (Right)**. The squad leader (second or third) next to the lead elements gives the command to start both squads in motion. Looking over the shoulder nearest the moving elements, the squad leader gives the preparatory command **Column Left (Right)** when the second from the last man is abreast of him. Then he gives the command of execution **MARCH** as the right foot of the last man strikes the marching surface at the pivot (**Column Left**) or the first time the last man's right foot strikes the marching surface after the pivot (**Column Right**). Although the command is **Column Left (Right)**, the outside squads (fourth or first) execute **Column Half Left (Right)**.

c. The platoon re-forms to the original column formation only from the **Halt**. The command is **Column of fours to the right (left), MARCH**.

(1) When re-forming into a column of fours *without the platoon leader present*, the platoon sergeant remains at his post centered on the platoon. When re-forming into a column of fours *with the platoon leader present*, the platoon leader faces as in marching and resumes his original position in the column. The platoon sergeant follows the rear element and resumes his post in the formation when the element has halted.

(2) On the preparatory command, the squad leaders of the base squads command **STAND FAST**. The trailing squad leaders command **Column Half Right (Left)**. On the platoon sergeant's command of execution **MARCH**, the base squads stand fast. The trailing squad leaders execute slightly more than the **Column Half Right (Left)** simultaneously. As the trailing squad leaders reach a point (line) that will ensure correct interval on the element to their left (right), they automatically incline to the left (right). The squad leader nearest the stationary squads (second or third) commands **Mark Time, MARCH and Squads, HALT**.

Section III. INSPECTIONS

Inspections at platoon level are typically conducted by the platoon sergeant. If the platoon leader wants to inspect, he conducts the inspection from his post. For continuity purposes, this section will address the platoon sergeant's actions only.

7-15. BASIC INFORMATION

Consider the following when conducting inspections.

a. The platoon has one prescribed formation for inspecting personnel and equipment in ranks—the line formation. When inspecting crew-served weapons and vehicles, the personnel are normally positioned to the rear of the formation with the operator (gunner) standing by his vehicle (weapon).

b. The platoon leader or platoon sergeant may conduct an in-quarters (barracks) inspection to include personal appearance, individual weapons, field equipment, displays, maintenance, and sanitary conditions. The platoon leader or platoon sergeant will follow local guidelines.

c. When field equipment is to be inspected, it should be displayed as shown in Chapter 8, Figure 8-5 (as a guide). Additional equipment not shown or different models of the equipment should be arranged in a uniform manner established by the local commander. The squad leaders may carry and use materials to record deficiencies if the local chain of command authorizes it.

7-16. IN-RANKS INSPECTION

To conduct in-ranks inspections, use the following procedures:

a. With the platoon in line formation, the platoon sergeant commands ***Count, OFF***. On the command of execution **OFF**, all personnel with the exception of the right flank personnel turn their head and eyes to the right and the right flank personnel count off with “**ONE**.” After the right flank Soldiers have counted their number, the Soldiers to their left count off with the next higher number and simultaneously turn their head and eyes to the front. All other members of the formation count off in the same manner until the entire formation has counted off.

b. After the platoon has counted off, the platoon sergeant commands ***Open Ranks, MARCH***. On the command of execution **MARCH**, the front rank takes two steps forward, the second rank takes one step forward, the third rank stands fast, and the fourth rank takes two steps backward. If additional ranks are present, the fifth rank takes four steps backward, and the sixth rank takes six steps backward.

NOTE: After taking the prescribed number of steps, the men do not raise their arms. If the platoon leader wants exact interval or alignment, he commands ***At Close Interval (At Double Interval), Dress Right, DRESS***. (See paragraph 7-6 for more information on aligning the platoon.)

c. At this point, the platoon is ready to be inspected. Typically, the squads are inspected by the squad leaders; however they may be inspected by the platoon sergeant or platoon leader. (See paragraphs 7-17 and 7-18.)

7-17. SQUAD LEADERS’ INSPECTION

If the platoon sergeant wants the squad leaders to inspect their squads, he will direct **INSPECT YOUR SQUADS**. *Salutes* are not exchanged.

a. The squad leader marches forward and to the left, inclines as necessary until he is at a point 15 inches in front of and centered on the first man.

NOTE: If the members of the platoon are armed, the squad leaders will sling their weapons diagonally across the back with the muzzle down and to the right. This movement will be executed without command and prior to the squad leader stepping off. (For more information on how to inspect personnel with weapons and how to manipulate the weapon, see paragraph 7-17, c-f.)

b. The squad leader remains at a modified *Position of Attention* moving his head and eyes only. After inspecting at the center position, he takes a short step forward and to the

left and inspects, returns to the center and steps forward and to the right and inspects, and returns to the center position.

c. Having inspected the first man, the squad leader faces to the right as in marching and takes one (two if at normal interval) step, halts, and faces the next man at the appropriate distance. The squad leader conducts the inspection for the rest of the Soldiers in the squad.

d. After inspecting the last Soldier in the squad, the squad leader faces to the right as in marching and marches around behind the squad, inclining as necessary. While the squad leader marches back to his post, he inspects the squad from the rear.

e. After resuming his post, the squad leader turns his head and eyes over his left shoulder and commands his squad to assume *At Ease*.

f. The platoon sergeant remains at his post (inspects the guidon bearer if appropriate). After the last squad has been inspected and is at *At Ease*, the platoon sergeant commands the platoon to *Attention*.

g. After commanding the platoon to *Attention*, the platoon sergeant commands ***Close Ranks, MARCH***. On the command of execution **MARCH**, the first rank takes four steps backward, the second rank takes two steps backward, the third rank stands fast, and the fourth rank takes one step forward. On the command of execution **MARCH**, the platoon leader and platoon sergeant take the appropriate number of steps to maintain their posts.

h. If the platoon is being inspected as part of a larger formation and control of the platoon has not been turned over to the platoon sergeant, he faces about, executes *At Ease*, and awaits further instructions from the first sergeant.

7-18. PLATOON SERGEANT'S/PLATOON LEADER'S INSPECTION

If the platoon sergeant is not going to inspect the entire platoon, he directs the squad leaders of the appropriate squads to inspect their squads. All others will be inspected by the platoon sergeant. When armed, the platoon sergeant slings his weapon in the same manner as the squad leaders.

a. The platoon sergeant faces to the *Half Left* as in marching and marches by the most direct route to a point 15 inches in front of and centered on the first squad leader (or the squad leader of the squad to be inspected). As soon as the platoon sergeant halts in front of the squad leader, he commands the other squads to *At Ease* and inspects the squad leader.

b. The platoon sergeant remains at a modified *Position of Attention* moving his head and eyes only. After inspecting at the center position, he takes a short step forward and to the left and inspects, returns to the center and steps forward and to the right and inspects, and returns to the center position.

c. Having inspected the squad leader, the platoon sergeant faces to the right as in marching and takes one (two if at normal interval) steps, halts, and faces the next man at the appropriate distance. After the platoon sergeant steps off, the squad leader takes a half step forward and faces about. When moving from man to man, the squad leader and platoon sergeant move simultaneously.

d. Having inspected the last Soldier in the squad, the platoon sergeant faces to the right as in marching and marches around behind the squad, inclining as necessary, and inspects the squad from the rear.

e. As the platoon sergeant begins to inspect the first squad from the rear, he commands the next squad to *Attention*. The squad leader returns to his post. After the platoon sergeant arrives in front of the next squad leader, he commands the first squad to *At Ease* over the right shoulder.

f. The platoon sergeant and squad leader execute in the same manner as in inspecting the first squad until the entire platoon has been inspected. After inspecting the rear of the last squad, the platoon sergeant marches by the most direct route to his post, halts, faces to the left and commands the platoon to *Attention*.

g. After commanding the platoon to *Attention*, the platoon sergeant commands ***Close Ranks, MARCH***. On the command of execution **MARCH**, the first rank takes four steps backward, the second rank takes two steps backward, the third rank stands fast, and the fourth rank takes one step forward. On the command of execution **MARCH**, the platoon leader and platoon sergeant take the appropriate number of steps to maintain their posts.

h. If the platoon is being inspected as part of a larger formation and control of the platoon has been not been turned over to the platoon sergeant, he faces about, executes *At Ease*, and awaits further instructions from the first sergeant.

7-19. IN-QUARTERS (STAND BY) INSPECTION

When the platoon sergeant wants to conduct an in-quarters inspection, he uses the following procedures:

a. The squad members are positioned on line with their equipment or as near it as possible. The squad leader positions himself in the path of the inspector at a point near his area of responsibility. At the approach of the inspector, the squad leader commands, ***Squad, ATTENTION***, and reports, "***Sergeant, the platoon is prepared for inspection.***"

NOTE: When the situation dictates, the squad leader may report to the inspector outside of the quarters. A designated individual commands the members to **ATTENTION** as the inspector enters the area.

b. The squad leader then guides the inspector along a route dictated by the physical arrangement of the personnel and equipment. Upon entering the area, the highest ranking Soldier present commands **AT EASE**. As the inspector approaches each individual or his equipment, the individual automatically assumes the *Position of Attention*. When the inspector has moved to the next man, the last man inspected resumes the position of *At Ease*. As the inspector begins to exit the area after completing the inspection, **CARRY ON** is commanded.

NOTE: When inspecting Soldiers' rooms, *Attention* is not commanded. The individuals automatically assume the *Position of Attention* as the inspector enters the room. The inspector then commands **AT EASE**. As the inspector approaches each Soldier, the Soldier assumes the *Position of Attention* and resumes *At Ease* after he has been inspected.

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Chapter 8

COMPANY DRILL

"The fundamentals of drill are established daily ... If these maneuvers are all accurately observed and practiced every day then the army will remain virtually undefeatable and always awe inspiring..."

*Frederick the Great: "History of My Own Times,"
translated to English in 1789*

Section I. PROCEDURES AND PERSONNEL

The procedures used and personnel required to conduct company drill are described in this section. (Appendix G contains an explanation of the symbols used in figures.)

8-1. BASIC INFORMATION

This paragraph discusses basic information that applies to conducting company drill.

- a. Individual drill movements, manual of arms, and squad and platoon drills are executed as previously described while conducting company drill.
- b. For the most part, company drill provides the procedures for executing platoon drill in conjunction with other platoons in the same formation.
- c. For drill purposes, a company consists of a company headquarters and two or more platoons. The company headquarters personnel are attached to the platoons to equalize platoon strength without interfering with the permanent squad organization; however, the commander may form the headquarters personnel into a separate platoon at either flank of the company. When headquarters personnel form as a separate element, the senior sergeant serves as the platoon sergeant, and the company executive officer serves as the platoon leader.
- d. When in a line or a mass formation, the right platoon serves as the base; when in a column formation, the lead platoon serves as the base.
- e. The company may be formed by the commander and the platoon leaders or the first sergeant and the platoon sergeants. If the commander is not scheduled to receive or inspect the company, the first sergeant and platoon sergeants remain at their posts and execute company drill from their posts. For continuity purposes, the term "first sergeant" may be used to denote "commander," just as "platoon sergeant" may be used to denote "platoon leader" when the first sergeant and platoon sergeants are conducting company drill from their posts.
- f. When the first sergeant directs that the company open or close ranks, align, stack or take arms, extend march, close on the leading platoon, or prepare for inspection, the movements are executed on the command of the platoon sergeants and not on the directives of the first sergeant. The platoon sergeants command the movement in sequence beginning with the base platoon.
- g. During all drills and ceremonies, the first sergeant and executive officer carry their weapons at *Sling Arms*. They remain at *Sling Arms* during all manual of arms movements except when they execute the *Hand Salute* while at *Sling Arms*.

h. The members of a company break ranks in the same manner as in platoon drill except that the individuals called from the formation form on the first sergeant rather than on the platoon sergeant.

i. The company marches, rests, and executes *Eyes Right* in the same manner as the platoon.

j. The company has four prescribed formations: company in line with platoons in line; company in column with platoons in column; company in column with platoons in line (used primarily for ceremonies); and company mass formation. However, the company may be formed into a column of twos in the same manner as the platoon.

8-2. POSTS FOR KEY PERSONNEL

Key personnel assume their posts as follows:

a. **Company Commander.** The company commander's post is normally 12 steps in front of the front rank of troops and centered on the company. The only exceptions to this rule are when the company forms as part of a larger unit in a column formation (with the company and platoons in column) or when the company is formed in a mass formation. In these situations, the company commander's post is 6 steps in front of and centered on the front rank of troops and 12 steps behind the last rank of troops of the element to his front.

b. **Guidon Bearer.** The guidon bearer's post is two 15-inch steps to the rear and two 15-inch steps to the left of the company commander (Figure 8-1). (The manual of the guidon is discussed in further detail in Appendix H.)

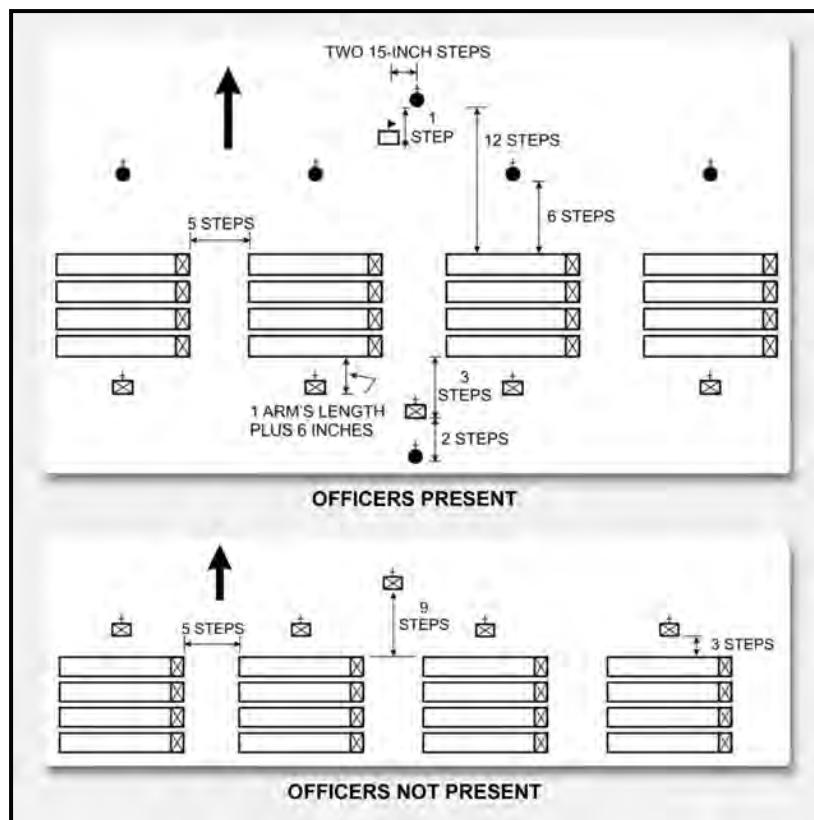


Figure 8-1. Company in line with platoons in line

NOTE: The company commander should inconspicuously direct the guidon bearer to remain in position and move with the commander when the company is to be faced to the right and marched for only a short distance.

c. **Executive Officer.** When the company is in a line formation, the executive officer's post is two steps to the rear of the first sergeant; in a column or a mass formation, he is three steps to the rear of the last rank and off center (one 15-inch step to the right) of the company.

d. **Platoon Leaders.** When the company is in line formation with the platoons in line, the post for the platoon leader is six steps in front of and centered on his platoon. When the company is in column formation with the platoons in column or the company is in column with the platoons in line, the post for the platoon leader is one step in front of and centered on the platoon. When the company is in mass formation, the post for the platoon leaders is one step in front of and evenly spaced across the company front. If the commander is not present, the platoon leaders are not part of the formation.

e. **First Sergeant.** When the company is in a line formation, the first sergeant's post is three steps to the rear of the last rank and centered on the company; in a column or a mass formation, he is three steps to the rear of the last rank and off center (one 15-inch step to the left) of the company (Figure 8-2, page 8-4).

(1) When the company is in mass formation, *without the commander present*, the post for the first sergeant is five steps in front of and centered on the formation. When the company is in line formation with the platoons in line *without the commander present*, the post for the first sergeant is nine steps in front of and centered on the company. When the company is in column formation with the platoons in column *without the commander present*, the post for the first sergeant is nine steps to the left flank of and centered on the company.

(2) When marching the company in mass formation with the commander at his post, the first sergeant remains at his post to provide cadence and control.

f. **Platoon Sergeant.** When the company is in any of the four formations and the officers are present, the platoon sergeant's post is one step to the rear and centered on his platoon.

(1) When the company is in mass formation, the post for the platoon sergeants is one step to the rear of the company and evenly spaced across the frontage. When the company is in mass formation, *without the officers present*, the post for the platoon sergeants is one step in front of and evenly spaced across the front.

(2) When the company is in line formation with the platoons in line *without the officers present*, the post for the platoon sergeant is three steps in front of and centered on his platoon. When the company is in column formation with the platoons in column *without the officers present*, the post for the platoon sergeant is three steps to the left flank of and centered on his platoon.

(3) When marching the company *without the officers present*, and the company is in column formation with the platoons in column, the platoon sergeants remain at their posts and provide for cadence and control of their platoons.

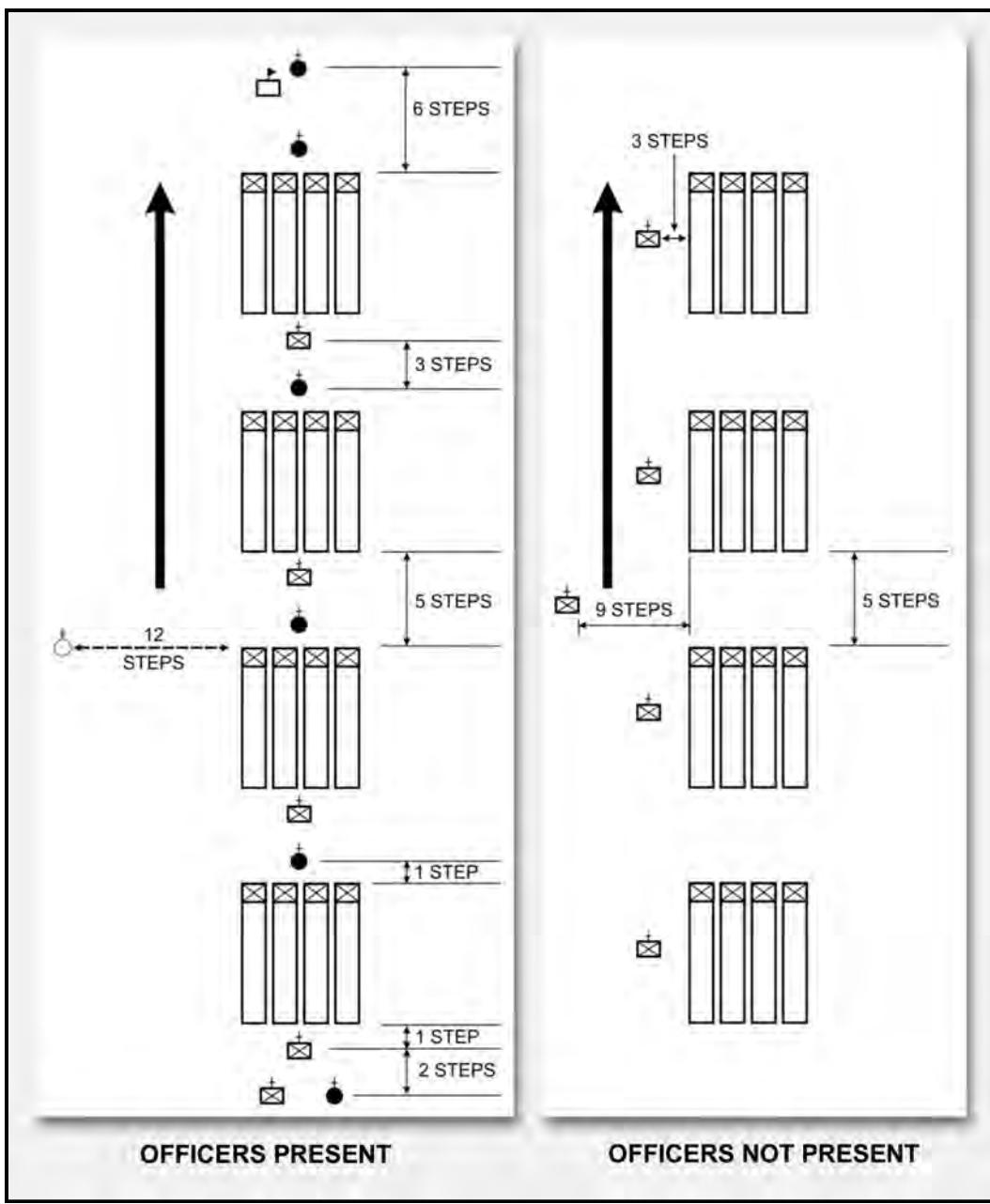


Figure 8-2. Company in column with platoons in column

NOTE: The executive officer inconspicuously gives the necessary commands (*March, Column Half Left, Halt, and Facings*) for himself and the first sergeant when changing from one post to another. Once in motion, they incline as necessary and march to their new posts. When the company changes from a line formation to column formation, the first sergeant and executive officer face with the company but do not march forward. They remain in position until the last platoon has passed. If the company marches forward (column formation) for a short distance only, or if it closes on the base platoon (line formation) at

close interval, the first sergeant and executive officer march forward or face to the right in marching and resume their posts. When the company changes from a column (platoons in column) to a line formation, they face to the right in marching and assume their posts in line. When the company forms a company in column with platoons in line, as the unit is faced, they face to the right in marching and assume their posts to the rear of the last platoon. When the company is formed in mass, they face to the right in marching and assume their posts at the center of the company immediately after halting with the last platoon (Figure 8-3). The off-center position explained for the first sergeant and executive officer should place them at normal interval from each other while covering a file to their front. If either one is not present during a formation, the one present changes posts without command and assumes the post at the center of the company rather than off center (Figure 8-4, page 8-6).

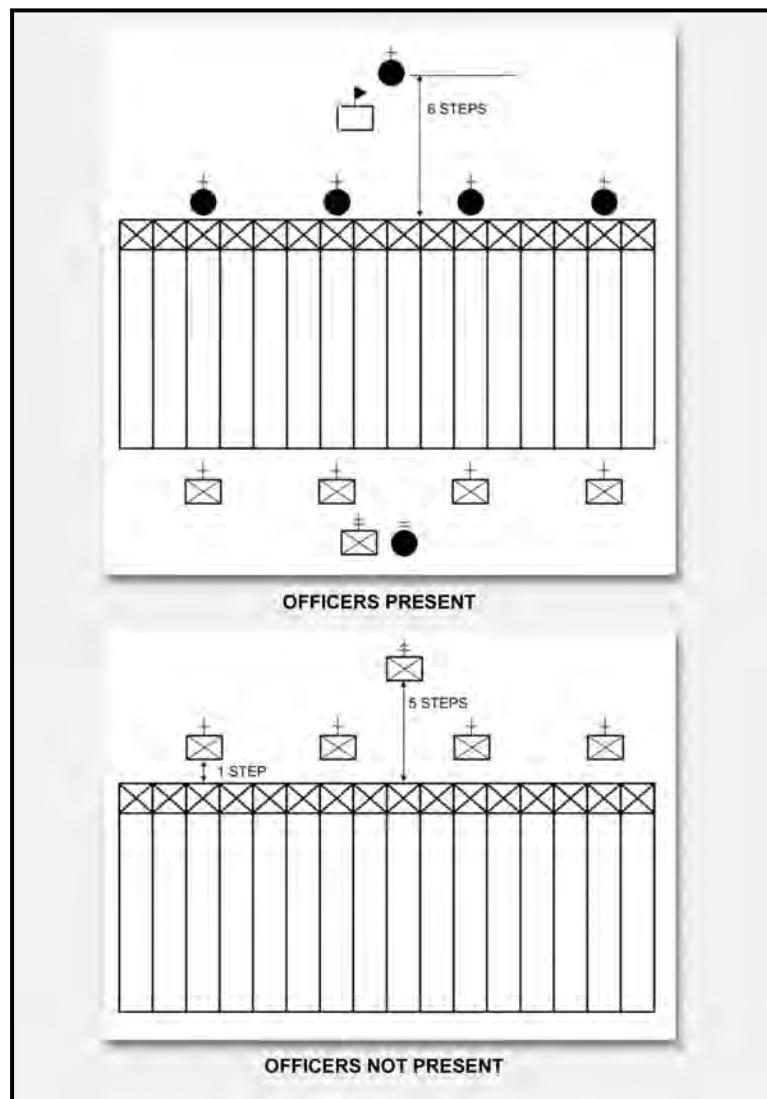


Figure 8-3. Company in mass

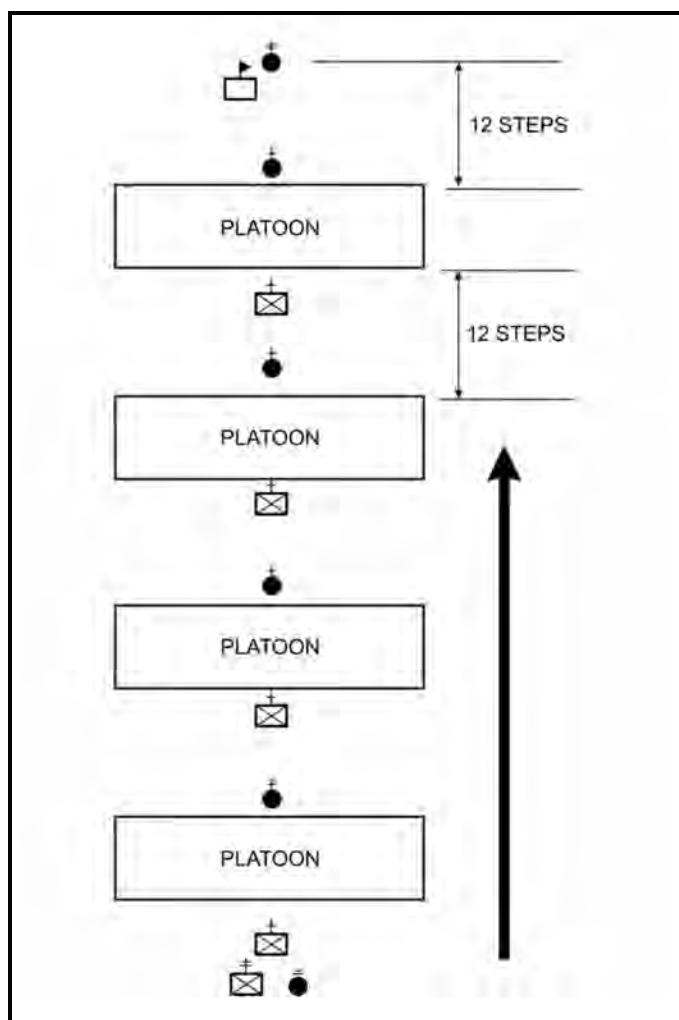


Figure 8-4. Company in column with platoons in line

g. **Additional Officers.** Other officers assigned or attached, who have no prescribed position within the formation, form evenly to the right and left of the executive officer in a line formation; they fall out and form in one or two ranks at correct distance to the rear of the first sergeant and executive officer when the company forms in column (Figure 8-4).

Section II. FORMATIONS AND MOVEMENTS

This section discusses the formations and movements used in conducting a company drill.

8-3. BASIC INFORMATION

This paragraph discusses basic information that applies to the formations and movements used in conducting a company drill.

a. The company normally forms in a line formation; however, it may re-form in column when each man can identify his exact position (equipment grounded) in the formation.

b. The company forms basically the same as the platoon. On the command **FALL IN; (At Close Interval), FALL IN**, the platoons form in line, centered on and facing the person forming the unit, with five-step intervals between platoons.

NOTE: To have the company assemble in a company mass formation the command is **Mass Formation, FALL IN**. Before giving the commands the person forming the unit announces the interval and the number of personnel in the front and designates the base man. In this situation, the first sergeant and platoon sergeants travel around the right flank of the formation when moving from post to post. The commander and platoon leaders travel around the left flank of the formation when moving from post to post.

c. When armed, members fall in at *Order (Sling) Arms*. For safety, the person forming the unit commands **Inspection, ARMS; Ready, Port, ARMS; Order (Sling), ARMS** at the initial formation of the day, or when the last command is **DISMISSED**.

d. The company may be formed by the first sergeant and platoon sergeants or by the company commander and platoon leaders. When possible, the platoons assemble near the formation site before the arrival of the first sergeant or company commander. If the company is formed by the noncommissioned officers, the platoon leaders normally observe the procedures from a position to the rear of their platoons.

(1) When the company is formed by the noncommissioned officers, the following procedures apply.

(a) The first sergeant posts himself nine steps in front of (center) and facing the line where the front rank of each platoon is to form. He then commands **FALL IN; (At Close Interval), FALL IN**.

(b) On the command of execution, the platoons form in the same manner prescribed in platoon drill. Each platoon sergeant faces his platoon while the platoons are forming and directs his platoon to adjust (if necessary) and align on the platoon to its right at the correct interval (as described in paragraph 8-5). Once the platoon is formed, the platoon sergeants face about.

NOTE: If the command **At Close Interval, FALL IN** is given, the members of the platoon form at close interval; however, the five-step interval between platoons is maintained.

(c) When all of the platoon sergeants are facing to the front, the first sergeant commands (if appropriate) **Inspection, ARMS; Ready, Port, ARMS; Order (Sling), ARMS**. He then directs (if appropriate) **RECEIVE THE REPORT**. The platoon sergeants face about and command **REPORT**. The squad leaders report as previously described in Chapter 7. Having received the report, the platoon sergeants face about. When all platoon sergeants are facing to the front, the first sergeant commands **REPORT**. The platoon sergeants turn their head and eyes toward the first sergeant, salute

and report (as previously described in Chapter 7) in succession from right to left. The first sergeant turns his head and eyes toward the reporting platoon sergeant and returns each *Salute* individually. Having received the report from the platoon sergeants, the first sergeant faces about and awaits the arrival of the company commander if the commander is scheduled to receive the company.

NOTE: If the commander is not scheduled to receive or inspect the company, the first sergeant and platoon sergeants remain at their posts and execute company drill from their posts. For continuity purposes, the term commander may also be used to denote the first sergeant, just as platoon leader may be used to denote the platoon sergeant when the commander and platoon leaders are conducting company drill from their posts.

(d) When the company commander has halted at his post, the first sergeant salutes and reports, "*Sir, all present,*" or "*Sir, all accounted for,*" or "*Sir, (so many) men absent.*" The company commander returns the *Salute* and commands **POST**. The first sergeant faces about and marches to his post three steps to the rear and at the center of the company, halts, and faces about. The guidon bearer steps forward three steps. The platoon sergeants face to the right in marching and assume their posts to the rear of their platoons (if the platoon leader is not present, they step forward three steps). The platoon leaders march around the left flank of their platoons and assume their posts by inclining facing to the front. The company executive officer assumes his post two steps to the rear of the first sergeant.

(2) When the company is formed by the company commander, the procedures are the same as forming with the noncommissioned officers except that the platoon leaders form their platoons and the first sergeant, platoon sergeants, and guidon bearer fall in at their posts (Figure 8-1, page 8-2). The command **POST** is not necessary. If a platoon sergeant is to fill the post of platoon leader, he takes a position six steps in front of and centered on the platoon.

8-4. CHANGING INTERVAL

The company changes interval in the same manner as prescribed for the platoon.

a. When the first sergeant wants the company to obtain close interval in a line formation while maintaining a five-step interval, he directs **CLOSE ON THE BASE PLATOON AT CLOSE INTERVAL**. The platoon sergeants face about and command **Count, OFF**. After the platoons have counted off, the platoon sergeants command **Close Interval, MARCH**. The second, third, and fourth platoon sergeants command **Right, FACE** and in succession command **Half Step, MARCH**. They halt at the five-step interval and face the platoon to the left. If the directive **CLOSE ON THE THIRD PLATOON AT CLOSE INTERVAL** is given, the platoon sergeants on the right of the designated platoon have their platoons obtain close interval, face their platoons to the left, march (*Half Step*) forward until the five-step interval is obtained, and then halt and face their platoons to the right.

NOTE: When the company is at close interval (line formation), the first sergeant may march the company (in column with less than correct distance) at the Half Step for short distances. If he wants to march with a 30-inch step while marching with less than correct distance, he commands ***Extend, MARCH***. The first platoon sergeant commands ***Extend, MARCH***. The other platoon sergeants command **CONTINUE TO MARCH**. As the first platoon begins to march with a 30-inch step, the second platoon sergeant commands ***Extend, MARCH***. The remaining platoons execute the directive in the same manner as the second platoon.

b. When the first sergeant wants the company to obtain normal interval from close interval in a line formation while maintaining a five-step interval, he directs **EXTEND ON THE BASE PLATOON AT NORMAL INTERVAL**. The platoon sergeants face about and march (*Half Step*) their platoons to a position that ensures the five-step interval between platoons after they have obtained normal interval. After halting and facing the platoons to the left, the platoon sergeants command **Count, OFF**. The platoon sergeants then command **Normal Interval, MARCH**. If necessary, the platoon sergeant can verify interval as described in the note of paragraph 8-6.

8-5. CHANGING DISTANCE

To increase the distance between elements of a company (or larger unit) while marching in column to normal distance, use the following procedures.

NOTE: This movement is only executed from the half step when a company or larger size element is marching in column at less than normal distance.

a. To increase the distance between elements of a company (or larger unit) while marching in column at the half step to normal distance, the command is ***Extend, MARCH***. On the preparatory command ***Extend*** of ***Extend, MARCH***, the platoon sergeant echoes the preparatory command and all subsequent platoon sergeants issue the supplementary command **CONTINUE TO MARCH**. On the command of execution **MARCH** of ***Extend, MARCH***, the front rank of the lead element takes one more 15-inch step, then steps off with a 30-inch step. All other ranks continue to march with a 15-inch step until the rank to their front has stepped off with a 30-inch step and has obtained normal distance (40 inches).

b. Subsequent platoon sergeants issue the command ***Extend, MARCH*** after the entire element to their front has obtained normal distance and has begun marching forward with a 30-inch step.

NOTE: From the *Halt*, the first sergeant directs **HAVE YOUR PLATOONS EXTEND MARCH**. The lead platoon sergeant gives the command ***Extend, MARCH***. All subsequent platoon sergeants give the command ***Half Step, MARCH***. On the command of execution **MARCH** of ***Extend, MARCH***, the front rank steps off with a 30-inch step. All other ranks step off with a 15-inch step and execute the movement in the same manner as previously described.

8-6. ALIGNING THE COMPANY

To align the company, use the following procedures:

- a. To align the company in a line formation, the first sergeant directs **HAVE YOUR PLATOONS DRESS RIGHT.**

(1) On the directive, all platoon sergeants face about. The right flank platoon sergeant commands **Dress Right, DRESS** and aligns his platoon as described in platoon drill. When the alignment of the first rank of the right platoon has been verified (the platoon sergeant has stepped off to align the second rank), the platoon sergeant to the left commands **Dress Right, DRESS**. He then faces to the half right in marching, moves to a position on line with and one step to the left of the left flank man of the first rank, and faces (*Left Face*) down the line.

(2) After aligning the first rank, the platoon sergeant centers himself on the first rank, faces to the right in marching, takes two short steps, halts, executes *Left Face*, and aligns the second rank. The third and fourth ranks are aligned in the same manner as the second rank.

(3) After aligning the fourth rank, the platoon sergeant faces to the left in marching; returns to his position, center of the platoon; halts perpendicular to the formation; faces to the right; commands **Ready, FRONT**; and faces about. All platoon sergeants to the left of the second platoon take the same actions as the second platoon sergeant.

NOTE: If necessary, the platoon sergeants to the left of the base platoon command **VERIFY INTERVAL** before commanding **Dress Right, DRESS**. On the command **VERIFY INTERVAL**, the base (squad leader of the first squad) faces to the right in marching and moves to the left flank member (first squad) of the platoon to the right, halts, faces about, steps forward five steps, halts, faces to the right, and aligns himself on the element to his right.

- b. To align the company in column, the first sergeant directs **HAVE YOUR PLATOONS COVER**. On this directive, the first platoon sergeant faces about and commands **COVER**. The other platoon sergeants command **STAND FAST**. The first platoon covers as in platoon drill. The other platoons then execute the movement in succession as soon as the platoon to their front has completed the movement.

8-7. OPENING AND CLOSING RANKS

To open and close ranks, use the following procedures:

- a. To *Open Ranks*, the first sergeant directs **HAVE YOUR PLATOONS OPEN RANKS AND DRESS RIGHT**. On the directive, all platoon sergeants face about. The right flank platoon sergeant commands **Open Ranks, MARCH**. When the platoon has completed the movement, he then commands **Dress Right, DRESS** and aligns the platoon the same as in platoon drill. When the first rank of the right platoon has been aligned, the platoon sergeant to the left commands **Open Ranks, MARCH** and then commands **Dress Right, DRESS**. Then he aligns his platoon in the same manner described in paragraphs 7-6 and 8-5. All platoon sergeants to the left of the second platoon take the same actions as the second platoon sergeant.

NOTE: When clearing grounded equipment, the company may march in column (right face) from open ranks (*Double Interval*) for short distances. Having cleared the equipment, the first sergeant commands **Normal Interval, MARCH**. When returning to the equipment while marching at normal interval, the command **Double Interval, MARCH** is given. If the company is marching in reverse order, the commands **FALL OUT** and **FALL IN** should be given.

b. To *Close Ranks*, the first sergeant directs **HAVE YOUR PLATOONS CLOSE RANKS**. On the directive, all platoon sergeants face about and in sequence from right to left command **Close Ranks, MARCH**. The platoons execute the movement the same as in platoon drill. After the platoons have completed the movement, the platoon sergeants face about.

8-8. CHANGING THE DIRECTION OF MARCH OF A COLUMN

To change the direction of march of a column, use the following procedures.

a. The company changes the direction of march basically the same as the squad and platoon. The commands are **Column Right (Left), Column Half Right (Left), MARCH**.

b. The base element during a column movement is the lead platoon and the squad on the flank, in the direction of turn.

c. When at the *Halt*, the leading platoon sergeant repeats the first sergeant's preparatory command. Succeeding platoon sergeants give the supplementary command **Forward**. On the command of execution **MARCH**, the leading platoon executes the movement as described in platoon drill; succeeding platoons execute the movement on their platoon sergeant's command at approximately the same location.

d. While marching, the movement is executed as described from the *Halt* except that the succeeding platoon sergeants give the supplementary command **Continue to march** rather than **Forward**.

e. The company executes *Rear March* and inclines in the same manner as the platoon.

f. When executing *Counter-Column March* from the *Halt*, the leading platoon sergeant repeats the preparatory command. Succeeding platoon sergeants give the supplementary command **Forward**.

(1) On the command of execution **MARCH**, the leading platoon executes the movement as described in platoon drill, and marches through the other platoons. Succeeding platoons execute the movement on the platoon sergeant's command at approximately the same location.

(2) When the movement is executed while marching, the command of execution is given as the left foot strikes the marching surface. The movement is executed basically the same as from the *Halt* except that the succeeding platoon sergeants give the supplementary command *Continue to March* rather than *Forward*.

(3) The guidon bearer faces to the left in marching from the *Halt* or executes a *Column Left* in marching, marches by the most direct route outside of the formation, and repositions himself in front of the lead platoon as it clears the rear of the company.

(4) If the first sergeant gives the command from his post in a separate unit, he moves in the most convenient manner to his new position at the left flank of the unit. If he gives the command while at the head of the company, he moves in the same direction as the guidon bearer.

8-9. CLOSING THE DISTANCE BETWEEN PLATOONS

This movement is only executed when the company is in column with the platoons in column and has been faced to the right for marching with the first sergeant and platoon sergeants at their posts.

- a. The first sergeant directs **CLOSE ON THE LEADING PLATOON**. The leading platoon sergeant commands **STAND FAST**. The leading platoon sergeant then faces to the left as in marching and marches, inclining as necessary, to the trail of the company.
- b. The succeeding platoon's platoon sergeant marches his platoon forward and commands **Mark Time, MARCH**. He ensures that he gives the command of execution **MARCH** when the squad leaders are three steps from the last Soldier in the leading platoon so that the Soldiers of the succeeding platoon begin marching in place at the correct distance.
- c. While *Marking Time* in formation, the Soldiers adjust position to ensure proper alignment and cover. The proper distance between Soldiers while marching is one arm's length plus 6 inches (approximately 36 inches). If necessary, the squad leaders take the appropriate number of steps to close any gaps should the trail of the leading platoon be uneven. The rest of the formation adjusts as necessary.
- d. After sensing that the members of the platoon have obtained proper alignment and cover, the platoon sergeant commands **Platoon, HALT**. After commanding the platoon to *Halt*, the platoon sergeant faces to the left as in marching and marches, inclining as necessary, to the trail of the company.
- e. The remaining platoons execute in the same manner as the succeeding platoon in order from front to rear. The platoon sergeants wait until the platoon sergeant to their front gives the command **Mark Time, MARCH**, before giving the command **Forward, MARCH**.
- f. The platoon sergeants form at the trail of the company one step to the rear and evenly spaced. The platoon sergeants are now part of the formation. If the first sergeant wants exact cover and alignment, he commands **COVER**. The first sergeant remains at his post and marches the company.

8-10. CORRECTING THE DISTANCE BETWEEN PLATOONS

To obtain correct distance (five steps) when the company is marching in column or is in column at the *Halt*, the first sergeant directs **CORRECT ON LEADING PLATOON**.

- a. When at the *Halt*, on the directive **CORRECT ON LEADING PLATOON**, the platoon sergeant of the leading platoon commands (over the right shoulder) **STAND FAST**. The succeeding platoon sergeants command (over the right shoulder) **Forward, MARCH** and then command **Mark Time, MARCH** and **Platoon, HALT** when correct distance is obtained.
- b. While marching, on the directive **CORRECT ON LEADING PLATOON**, the platoon sergeant of the leading platoon commands (over the right shoulder) **Half Step**,

MARCH. The succeeding platoon sergeants command (over the right shoulder) **CONTINUE TO MARCH**, and then command **Half Step, MARCH** as soon as the correct distance is obtained.

c. The first sergeant commands **Forward, MARCH; (HALT)** as soon as all platoons have obtained the correct distance and are marching at the half step.

8-11. FORMING A COLUMN OF TWOS AND RE-FORMING

The company forms a column of twos basically the same as the platoon. The first sergeant must allow sufficient time for the platoon sergeants, and the squad leaders of the lead platoon, to give their supplementary commands before giving the command of execution.

a. The command for this movement is **Column of twos from the right (left), MARCH**. The leading platoon sergeant repeats the preparatory command. Other platoon sergeants give the supplementary command **Stand Fast**. On the first sergeant's command of execution **MARCH**, the leading platoon executes the movement as in platoon drill. Other platoons execute the movement on their platoon sergeant's command. Succeeding platoon sergeants give their commands so as to follow with the prescribed five-step distance between platoons.

b. Re-forming into a column of fours is executed only at the *Halt*. The command for this movement is **Column of fours to the left (right), MARCH**. On the first sergeant's command of execution, all platoons execute the movement simultaneously as described in platoon drill. As soon as the platoons are re-formed, the platoon sergeants automatically march the platoons forward and obtain the five-step distance between platoons.

8-12. FORMING A COMPANY MASS

The company may form in mass from a company in column (platoons in column) when halted or while marching. The company must be at **Close Interval (Close Interval, MARCH)** before the command **Company Mass Left, MARCH** is given.

a. On the preparatory command **Company Mass Left**, given at the *Halt*, the leading platoon sergeant commands **Stand Fast**. The platoon sergeants of the succeeding platoons command **Column Half Left**. On the command of execution **MARCH**, the leading platoon *stands fast*. The other platoons execute the **Column Half Left** and then execute a **Column Half Right** on the command of the platoon sergeants to a point (line) that ensures the platoons will be at **Close Interval** alongside the platoon to their right when halted. As the platoons come abreast of the base platoon, the platoon sergeants command **Mark Time, MARCH**. While the platoon is marking time, the members adjust their positions to ensure alignment on the man to their right. The platoon sergeants allow their platoons to *Mark Time* for about eight counts and then command **Platoon, HALT**.

b. On the preparatory command **Company Mass Left** while marching, given as the left foot strikes the marching surface, the leading platoon sergeant gives the supplementary command **Mark Time**. The succeeding platoon sergeants command **Column Half Left**. On the command of execution **MARCH**, the leading platoon begins to march in place. After marking time for about eight counts, the lead platoon sergeant commands **Platoon, HALT**. The other platoons form in the same manner as from the *Halt*.

- NOTES:**
1. If the commander is in charge of the formation, on the command of execution **MARCH**, the first sergeant and guidon bearer halt and immediately face to the right (left) in marching and reposition themselves centered on the company.
 2. If the platoon sergeants are marching at their posts on the left flank of their platoons, they must wait until the platoon sergeants to their front have commanded **HALT** and have moved to the front of the company before moving into position.

8-13. ALIGNING A COMPANY IN MASS

To align a company in mass, use the following procedures:

- a. As soon as the company has formed in mass, the first sergeant gives the command **Order, ARMS** (if appropriate) and then commands **At Close Interval, Dress Right, DRESS**.
- b. On the command of execution **DRESS**, the platoon sergeant of the right platoon marches by the most direct route to the right flank and verifies the alignment of as many ranks as necessary to ensure proper alignment in the same manner as aligning the platoon. When he has finished the verification, the platoon sergeant returns to a position one step in front of and centered on the third squad, halts, and faces to the right. When the platoon sergeant has returned to his position, the first sergeant commands **Ready, FRONT**. Platoon sergeants align themselves to the right. The first sergeant directs the platoon sergeants to move left or right to ensure the platoon sergeants are evenly spaced across the front.

8-14. CHANGING THE DIRECTION OF MARCH OF A MASS FORMATION

The company changes the direction of march in mass basically the same as a platoon column movement. This movement is normally executed with the commander at his post. For clarity purposes, the term "commander" is used.

- a. When executed from the *Halt*, the commander has the unit execute *Right Shoulder Arms* (if appropriate), then faces in the desired direction of march, turns his head toward the formation, and commands **Right (Left) Turn, MARCH**.

(1) On the command of execution **MARCH**, the platoon leaders face to the half right (left) in marching and continue to march in an arc until parallel to the new direction of march. Then they begin marching with the *Half Step*, dressing on the right (left) flank platoon leader until the command **Forward, MARCH** is given.

(2) The right (left) guide (the base squad leader in the direction of turn) faces to the right (left) in marching, takes one 30-inch step in the indicated direction, and then takes up the *Half Step*. All other squad leaders (front rank) face to the half right (left) in marching and continue to march in an arc until they come on line with the guide.

(3) At this time, they begin marching with the *Half Step* and dress (glancing out of the corner of the eye) in the direction of the turn until the command **Forward, MARCH** is given. On that command, the dress is automatically to the right. All other members march forward and execute the movement in the same manner as their squad leaders.

- b. When executed while marching, the movement is the same as from the *Halt* except that the company commander faces about (marching backward) to give the

command ***Right (Left) Turn, MARCH***. He then faces about and completes the turning movement himself. After the company has completed the turn, he faces about, commands ***Forward, MARCH***, and again faces about.

8-15. FORMING A COLUMN FROM A COMPANY MASS

This movement is normally executed with the commander at his post. For clarity purposes, the term “commander” is used. To form a company in column from a company mass at the *Halt*, the command is ***Column of Platoons, Right Platoon, Column Right (Column Half Right), MARCH***. The right platoon leader gives the supplementary command of ***Forward (Column Right or Column Half Right)***, and the other platoon leaders command ***Stand Fast***.

- a. On the command of execution **MARCH**, the right platoon marches in the direction indicated. All other platoons follow (in sequence) in column, executing ***Column Half Right*** and ***Column Half Left*** on the commands of the platoon leaders.
- b. To execute the movement when marching, the company commander commands ***Port, ARMS*** (unless at *Sling Arms*), and then commands ***Column of Platoons, Right Platoon, Double Time, MARCH***. On the preparatory command, the right platoon leader gives the supplementary command ***Double Time***, and the other platoon leader gives the supplementary command ***Continue to March***. On the command of execution **MARCH**, the right platoon marches in *Double Time*. Other platoon leaders (in sequence) command ***Column Half Right, Double Time, MARCH*** and ***Column Half Left, MARCH*** to bring the succeeding platoons in column with the leading platoon.
- c. The platoon leader and the platoon sergeant reposition themselves after the supplementary command but before the command of execution.

8-16. FORMING A COMPANY IN COLUMN WITH PLATOONS IN LINE AND RE-FORMING

This movement is normally executed with the commander at his post. For clarity purposes, the term “commander” is used. To form a company in column with platoons in line from a column formation at the *Halt*, the command is ***Column of platoons in line, MARCH***. The platoon leader of the leading platoon gives the supplementary command ***Stand Fast***. The second platoon leader gives the supplementary command ***Column Right***. All other platoon leaders give the supplementary command ***Forward***.

- a. On the command of execution **MARCH**, the leading platoon *Stands Fast*, and the second platoon executes a ***Column Right***, marches 12 steps past the right file of the first platoon, and executes a ***Column Left***. As they come on line with the base platoon, the platoon leader commands ***Mark Time, MARCH***. After the platoon has marched in place for eight counts, the platoon leader commands ***Platoon, HALT***. The succeeding platoons execute a ***Column Right*** at approximately the same location as the platoon to their front and execute a ***Column Left*** and then halt in the same manner as the second platoon. When the platoons have halted in position, the company commander commands ***Left, FACE***. On that command, the platoon leaders and platoon sergeants face in marching and assume their posts.
- b. When executed while marching, the movements are basically the same as from the *Halt* except that the commander gives the command of execution as the right foot strikes

the marching surface. The leading platoon leader commands ***Mark Time***. On the preparatory command, the second platoon leader commands ***Column Right***, and the succeeding platoon leaders command ***Continue to March***. On the command of execution **MARCH**, the leading platoon executes *Mark Time* and marches in place (approximately eight counts) until the platoon leader commands ***Platoon, HALT***. The other platoons execute the movement in the same manner as from the *Halt*.

c. To re-form in column with platoons in column, the company commander commands ***Right, Face; Column of Platoons, Left Platoon, MARCH***. On the command ***Right, Face***, the platoon leaders and platoon sergeants face in marching and resume their posts in column. On the preparatory command ***Column of Platoons, Left Platoon***, the left platoon leader commands ***Forward, (Column Left [Half Left])***. All other platoon leaders command ***Column Half Left***. On the command of execution **MARCH**, the left platoon executes the movement. The other platoon leaders give the appropriate commands so as to follow the lead platoon at correct distance.

NOTE: If necessary, the platoons following the second platoon automatically adjust the length of their step to ensure correct distance from the platoon to their front.

8-17. DISMISSING THE COMPANY

The company is dismissed while at *Attention*. It is usually dismissed by the first sergeant.

a. The first sergeant commands **TAKE CHARGE OF YOUR PLATOONS**. The platoon sergeants salute. The first sergeant returns all *Salutes* with one *Salute*. After *Salutes* are exchanged, the first sergeant and guidon bearer leave the formation. The platoon sergeants then dismiss their platoons as in platoon drill.

b. When the company is dismissed by the company commander, he commands **TAKE CHARGE OF YOUR PLATOONS**. The platoon leaders salute. The company commander returns all *Salutes* with one *Salute*. After the *Salutes* are exchanged, the company commander, guidon bearer, first sergeant, and executive officer leave the formation.

(1) The platoon leader(s) faces about and commands **PLATOON SERGEANT**. The platoon sergeant faces to the right in marching and marches (inclines) around the squad leader(s), halts three steps in front of and centered on the platoon leader, and faces to the right. Each platoon leader then directs **TAKE CHARGE OF THE PLATOON**. *Salutes* are exchanged. The platoon leaders leave the formation.

(2) The platoon sergeants step forward three steps, face about, and dismiss the platoons as in platoon drill.

Section III. INSPECTIONS

This section discusses the procedures used to conduct inspections for a company drill.

8-18. BASIC INFORMATION

The following basic information applies to conducting inspections for a company drill.

a. The company has one prescribed formation for inspecting personnel and equipment in ranks—company in line with platoons in line. When inspecting crew-served weapons and vehicles, the personnel are normally positioned to the rear of the formation with the operator (gunner) standing by his vehicle (weapon).

NOTES: 1. If the commander is not scheduled to receive or inspect the company, the first sergeant and platoon sergeants remain at their posts and execute company drill from their posts. For continuity purposes, the term “first sergeant” may also be used to denote the commander, just as “platoon sergeant” may be used to denote the platoon leader when they are executing drill from their posts. If the commander is inspecting, he and the platoon leaders execute the same as described below.

2. Manual of arms movements for Soldiers armed with the M249, shotgun, or pistol are outlined in Appendix E.

b. The first sergeant may conduct an in-quarters (barracks) inspection to include personal appearance, individual weapons, field equipment, displays, maintenance, and sanitary conditions.

c. When field equipment is to be inspected, it should be displayed as shown in Figure 8-5, page 8-18, (as a guide). Additional equipment not shown, or different models of the equipment, should be arranged in a uniform manner established by the local commander.

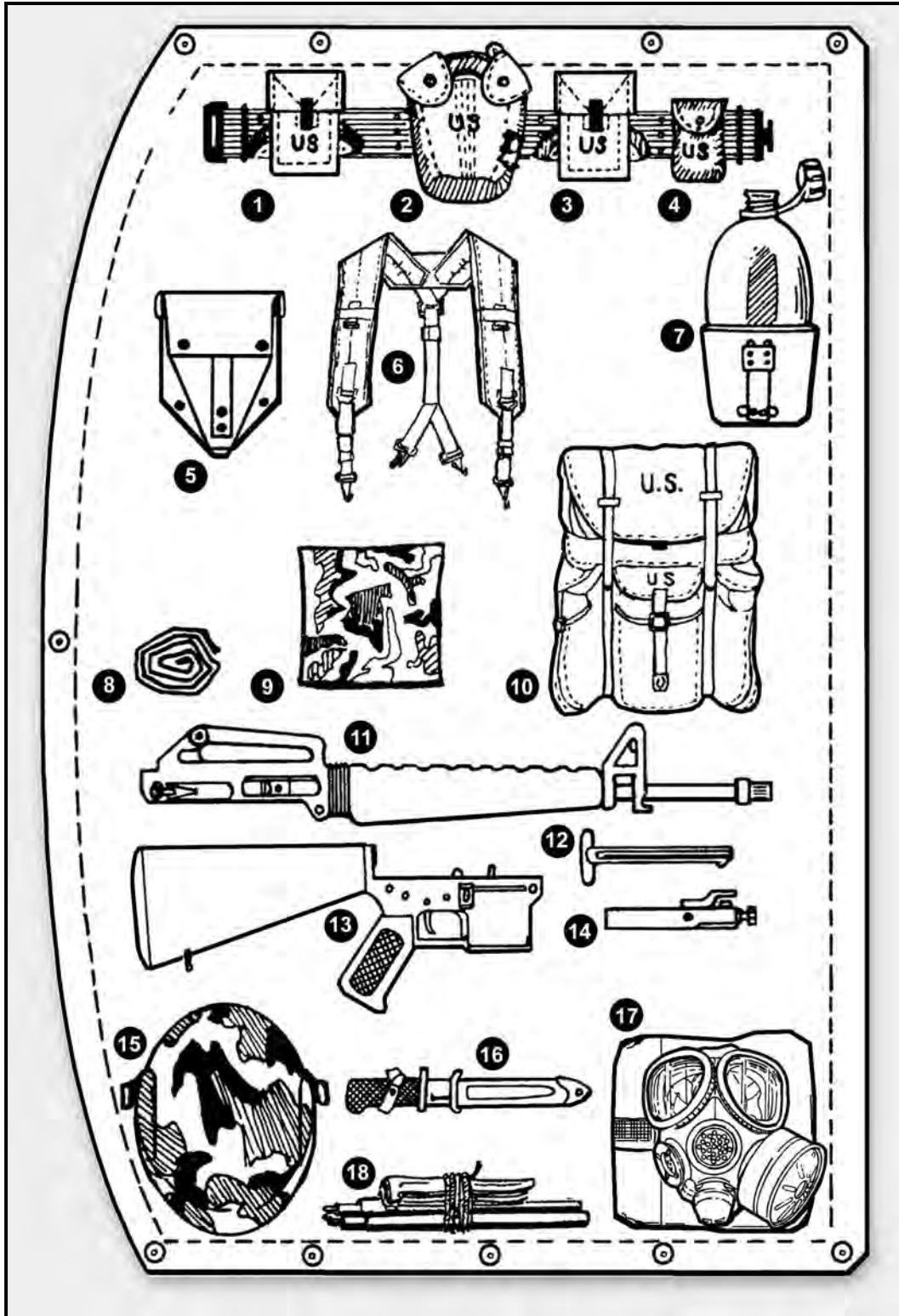


Figure 8-5. Equipment display (guide)

- | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. PISTOL BELT | 10. RUCK SACK |
| 2. AMMUNITION POUCH | 11. UPPER RECEIVER |
| 3. CANTEEN COVER | 12. CHARGING HANDLE |
| 4. AMMUNITION POUCH | 13. LOWER RECEIVER |
| 5. ENTRENCHING TOOL AND CARRIER | 14. BOLT CARRIER GROUP |
| 6. FIELD SUSPENDERS | 15. HELMET |
| 7. CANTEEN | 16. BAYONET AND SCABBARD |
| 8. SLING | 17. PROTECTIVE MASK |
| 9. PONCHO | 18. TENT STAKES, POLES, AND ROPE |

Figure 8-5. Equipment display (guide) (continued)

8-19. IN-RANKS INSPECTION (LINE FORMATIONS)

Use the following procedures to conduct an in-ranks inspection (line formation).

a. With the company in line formation, the first sergeant directs **PREPARE FOR INSPECTION**. On that directive, the platoon sergeants face about, open ranks, and align the company as in paragraphs 8-5 and 8-6. When all platoon sergeants are facing the front, the first sergeant commands **AT EASE**.

NOTE: During the inspection, the guidon bearer, officers, and noncommissioned officers not in ranks assume the position of attention as the inspecting officer approaches their positions and resume the at ease position after they have been inspected (they do not execute *Inspection Arms*). The company commander may direct the first sergeant and executive officer to accompany him during the inspection. When so directed, the executive officer and first sergeant take a position at normal interval (close interval if the company is at close interval) to the left of the company commander.

b. The first sergeant begins the inspection by stepping forward and inspecting the guidon bearer. He then faces to the half left in marching and proceeds to the right of the line. As he approaches the right flank platoon, the platoon sergeant commands (over his right shoulder) **Platoon, ATTENTION**. When the first sergeant has halted directly in front of him, he reports, “**First Sergeant, the platoon is prepared for inspection.**” (If the commander is inspecting, *Salutes* are exchanged.) The first sergeant inspects the platoon sergeant. The first sergeant then directs the platoon sergeant to lead him through the inspection, faces to the half left in marching, and halts directly in front of the squad leader of the first squad. As the first sergeant faces to the half left in marching, the platoon sergeant faces to the right in marching, inclines, and halts directly in front of the second man in the first squad and on line with and at *Normal Interval (Close Interval)* to the right of the first sergeant. The other platoon sergeants execute the same actions as the first sergeant approaches their platoons.

NOTE: As soon as the platoon sergeant and first sergeant have halted in front of the first two men, the platoon sergeant commands **Second, Third, and Fourth**

Squads, AT EASE. When moving from man to man during the inspection, the first sergeant and platoon sergeant (executive officer and first sergeant if the commander is inspecting) simultaneously face to the right in marching, take two short steps (one step if the company is at close interval), halt, and face to the left. After the first sergeant has inspected the last man in the front rank, the platoon sergeant hesitates momentarily and allows the first sergeant to precede him as he inspects the front rank from the rear. As the first sergeant begins to inspect the rear of each rank, the platoon sergeant commands the next squad to *Attention*. As they begin to inspect the next rank, the platoon sergeant commands the last rank inspected to stand *At Ease*. Normally, when inspecting the rear of each rank, the first sergeant conducts a walking inspection. As the first sergeant inspects the rear of the last man in each rank, he turns and halts directly in front of the squad leader of the next rank. The platoon sergeant turns and halts directly in front of the second man. If the commander is inspecting, the executive officer and first sergeant march past (behind) the company commander and assume their positions to his left.

- c. As the first sergeant halts and is directly in front of and facing the individual being inspected, the individual executes *Inspection Arms*. If the first sergeant wants to inspect the individual's weapon, he inspects the weapon first, then the individual's uniform and appearance. As soon as the first sergeant grasps the weapon, the individual releases the weapon and resumes the *Position of Attention*. When the first sergeant has finished inspecting the weapon, he returns it in the same manner as it was received. The individual receives the weapon by grasping the center of the handguard just forward of the slip ring with the left hand and the small of the stock with the right hand. He then executes *Ready, Port Arms; Order Arms*.

NOTE: In the event the first sergeant does not want to inspect the weapon, the individual remains at *Inspection Arms* until the first sergeant has halted in front of and is facing the next man. The individual then executes *Ready, Port Arms*, and *Order Arms*. As the first sergeant moves to the rear of the rank being inspected, each man, as the first sergeant approaches, unfastens the snap of his scabbard, grasps the point of the scabbard with the left hand, and moves the point slightly forward. The scabbard is held in position until the bayonet has been replaced or, if the bayonet is not inspected, until the first sergeant has moved to the next man. At that time, the securing straps are fastened and the *Position of Attention* is resumed.

- d. The correct method of manipulating a rifle for inspection is as follows:
 - (1) When receiving the rifle from the inspected individual, reach forward and grasp the rifle at the upper portion of the handguard with the right hand. Lower the rifle diagonally to the left, twist the rifle slightly, insert the tip of the little finger of the left hand into the ejection port (do not twist the rifle but insert the thumb into the receiver of the M14-series rifle), and look into the barrel. The finger reflects sufficient light for the inspection of the barrel.

(2) Grasp the small of the stock with the left hand and raise the rifle to a horizontal position (sights up) with the muzzle to the right. The rifle is centered on the body with the forearms horizontal and the palms up. Move the rifle horizontally to the left and inspect the upper portion of the rifle beginning with the flash suppressor. Move the rifle slowly to the right inspecting the butt. Return the rifle to the center of the body.

(3) Keeping the rifle horizontal, rotate it 180 degrees (sights toward the body) so that the sights point toward the marching surface. Move the rifle horizontally to the left and inspect the muzzle. Move the rifle slowly to the right and inspect the butt. When moving the rifle across the body, twist the rifle as necessary and inspect the movable parts on the sides of the receiver. Having completed the inspection of the lower parts of the rifle, return it to the center of the body.

(4) Keeping the rifle horizontal, rotate the rifle 180 degrees (sights away from the body) so that the sights are up. Release the left hand and return the rifle in the same manner as received.

(5) When inspecting a weapon other than a rifle, the inspector receives the weapon with his right hand and inspects it in the most convenient manner. Having completed the inspection, the weapon is returned with the right hand in the same manner as received.

e. When the first sergeant has completed the inspection of the platoon, the platoon sergeant commands the platoon to *Attention* and overtakes the first sergeant en route back to the front of the platoon. The platoon sergeant halts at his post facing to the front (*Salutes* are exchanged if the commander is inspecting). The first sergeant (or commander with or without the inspecting party) faces to the right in marching and moves to the next platoon. As soon as the first sergeant has cleared the first platoon, the platoon sergeant faces about, commands **Close Ranks, MARCH and AT EASE**, and then faces about and executes *At Ease*. When the first sergeant has completed the inspection of the last platoon (exchanged *Salutes* with the platoon sergeant), he returns to his post at the center of the company and commands the company to *Attention*. He then dismisses the company, as previously described.

f. When the company is inspected by an officer of a higher command, on the approach of the inspecting officer, the company commander commands **Company, ATTENTION**. He then faces about, salutes, and reports, "*Sir, the company is prepared for inspection.*" The inspection is conducted as previously described except that the company commander takes a position immediately to the left of the inspecting officer. The inspection is terminated by the company commander in the same manner prescribed for a platoon sergeant.

8-20. IN-QUARTERS INSPECTION (STAND BY)

When the first sergeant wants to conduct an in-quarters inspection, the members are positioned on line with their equipment (or as near it as possible).

a. The platoon sergeant positions himself in the path of the inspecting officer at a point near his area of responsibility. At the approach of the inspecting officer, the platoon sergeant commands **Platoon, ATTENTION**, salutes, and reports, "*Sir, the platoon is prepared for inspection.*"

NOTE: When the situation dictates, the platoon sergeant may report to the inspecting officer outside of the quarters. A designated individual commands the members to *Attention* as the inspector enters the quarters (bay).

b. The platoon sergeant then guides the inspector along a route dictated by the physical arrangement of the personnel and equipment. Upon entering the area, the highest ranking Soldier present commands **AT EASE**. As the inspector approaches each individual or his equipment, the individual automatically assumes the *Position of Attention*. When the inspector has moved to the next man, the last man inspected resumes the position of *At Ease*. As the inspector begins to exit the area after completing the inspection, **CARRY ON** is commanded.

NOTE: When inspecting Soldiers' rooms, *Attention* is not commanded. The individuals automatically assume the *Position of Attention* as the inspector enters the room. The inspector then commands **AT EASE**. As the inspector approaches each Soldier, the Soldier assumes the *Position of Attention* and resumes *At Ease* after he has been inspected.

Chapter 9

BATTALION AND BRIGADE DRILL

“The exterior splendor, the regularity of movements, the adroitness and at the same time firmness of the mass—all this gives the individual Soldier the safe and calming conviction that nothing can withstand his particular regiment or battalion.”

Colmar von der Goltz, 1843-1916 Rossback und Jena

For the most part, battalion and brigade drill merely provides the procedures for executing company or battalion drill in conjunction with other companies or battalions in the same formation.

For drill purposes, a battalion or brigade consists of a headquarters (staff), Colors, and two or more companies or battalions. The right flank unit serves as base when in a line formation; the leading element is the base when in column.

NOTE: Executive officers, first sergeants, and platoon sergeants form the same as in-company drill for all formations, unless otherwise specified.

9-1. BATTALION FORMATIONS

The battalion has two basic formations—a line and a column. Separate elements may be arranged in several variations within either formation: the battalion may be formed in line with the companies in line with platoons in line, or battalion in line with companies in column with platoons in line (Figure 9-1, page 9-2). From those formations, the battalion may be positioned in a battalion in column with companies in column, or companies in mass, or companies in column with platoons in line (Figure 9-2, page 9-3).

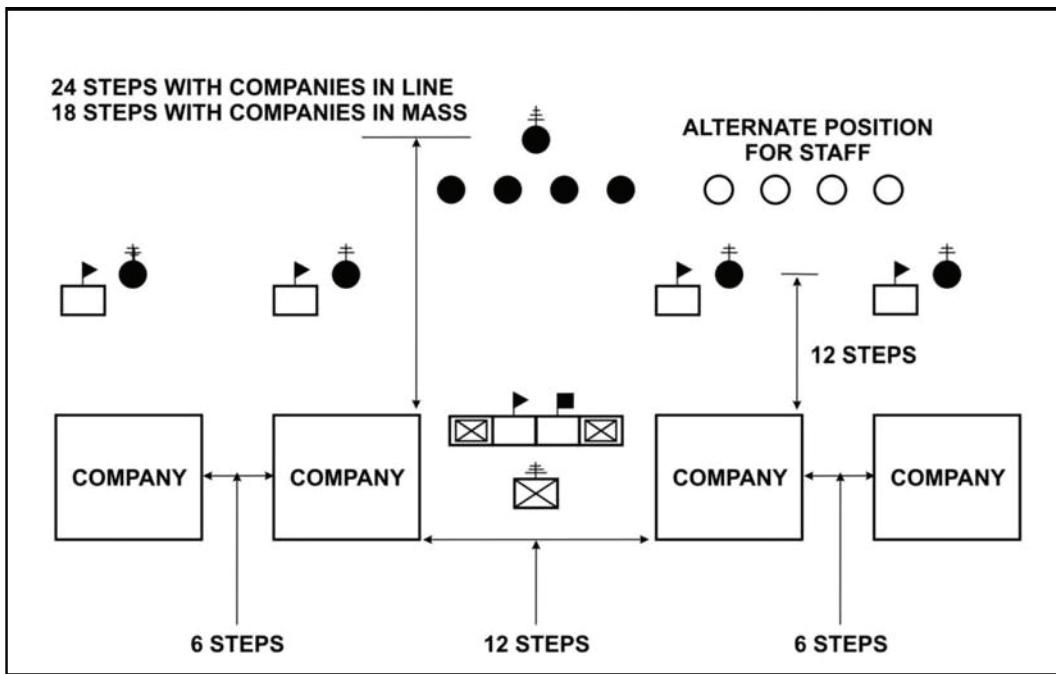


Figure 9-1. Battalion in line with companies in line or mass

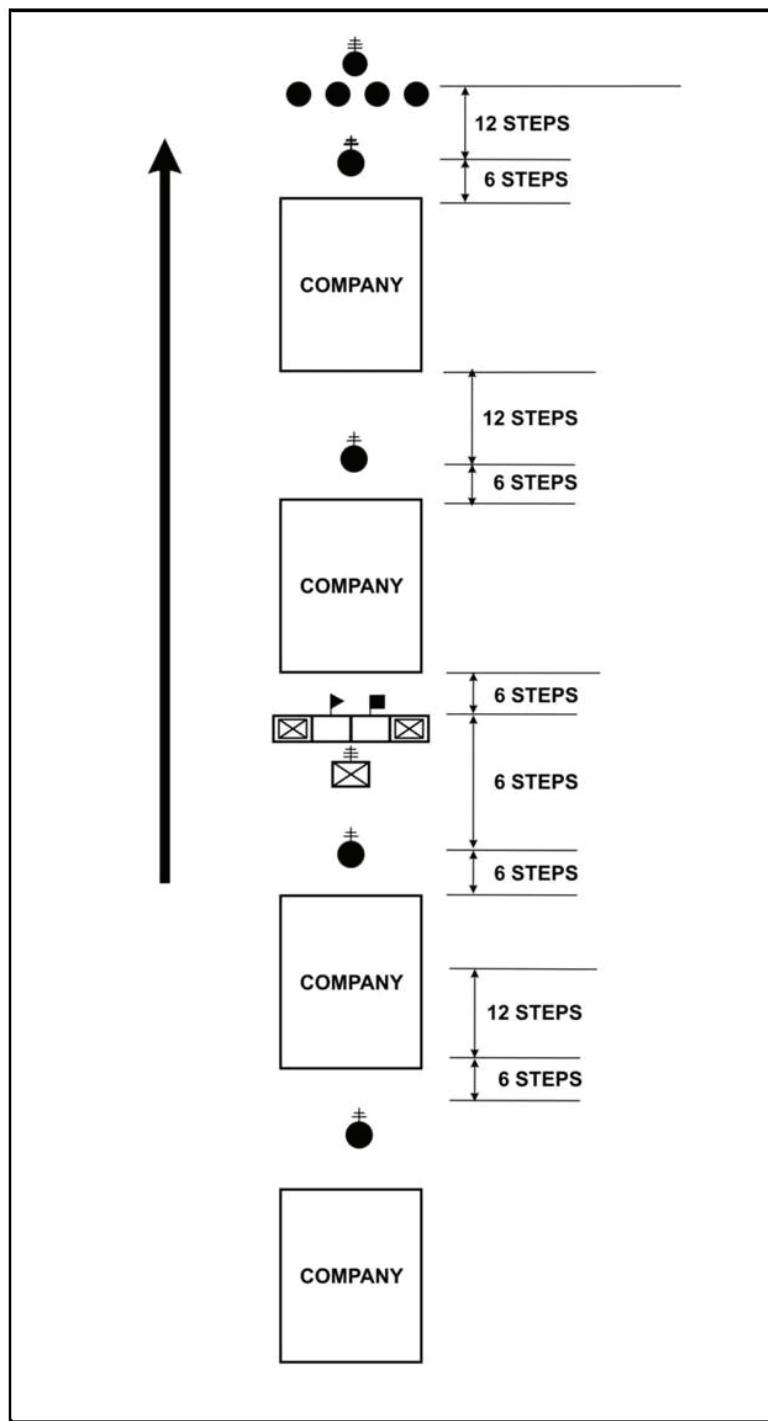


Figure 9-2. Battalion in column with companies in column or mass

- a. **Forming the Battalion.** To facilitate the forming of a larger unit, the commander normally alerts the component units as to the desired formation, time, place, route, uniform, and the sequence in which the units will form. Unless the right guide's position

at the formation site has been previously marked, the guides report to the site and receive instructions before the arrival of the troops.

(1) The commissioned staff forms in one rank, at normal interval and centered on the commander. Staff members are normally arranged in their numerical order from right to left. When enlisted staff personnel form as part of the officer staff, they form two steps to the rear of their respective staff officer. The command sergeant major forms one step to the rear and centered on the Colors.

(2) When the battalion participates as a separate element of a larger formation, or when space is limited, it is normally formed in a mass formation in the same manner as forming a company mass (Figure 9-3).

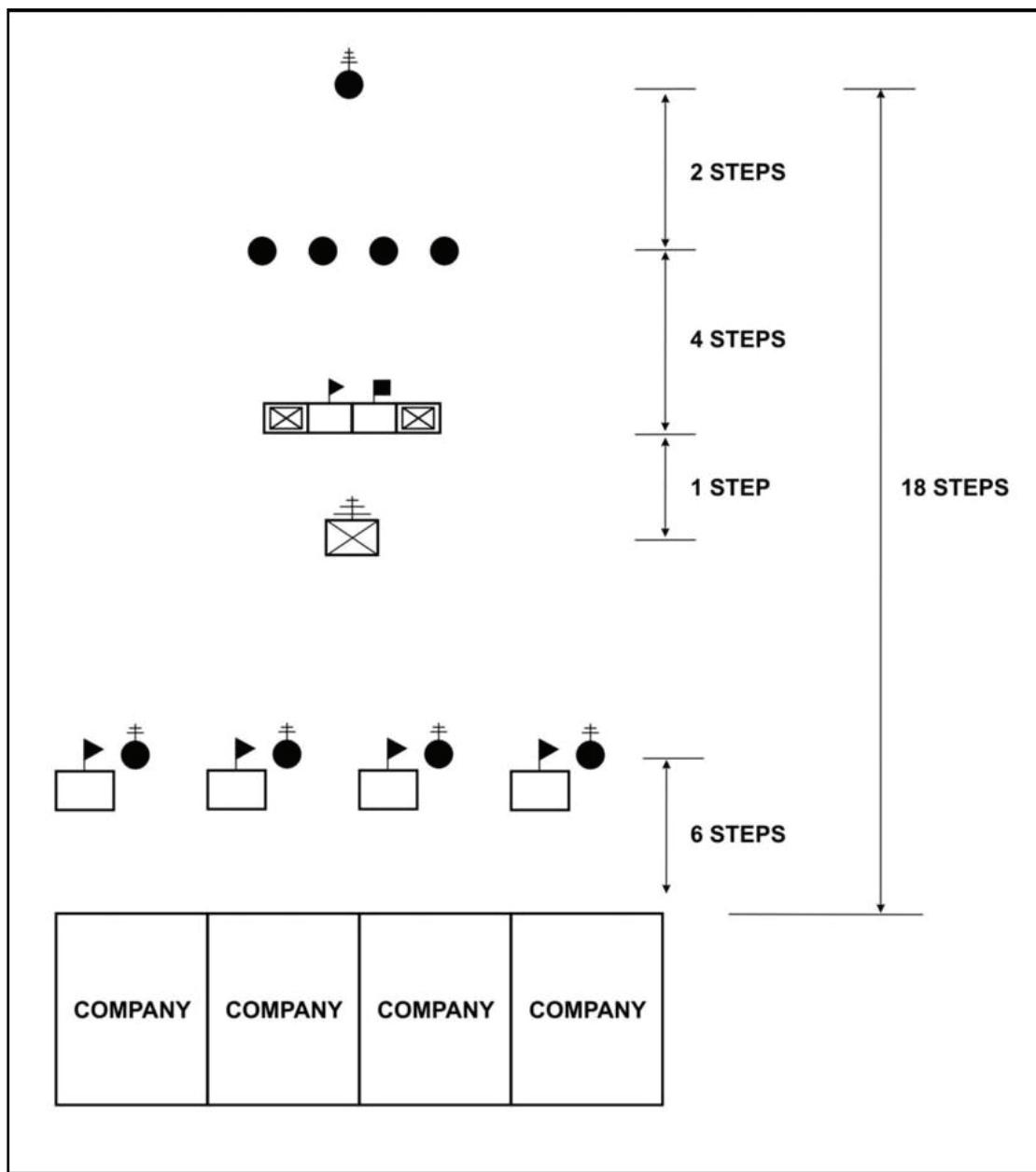


Figure 9-3. Battalion in mass formation

(3) The adjutant is responsible for the formation of troops. He takes a position at the right flank of the line on which the units are to form and faces down the line. He remains facing down the line until all units are formed and then marches to his post midway between the line of troops and the proposed position of the commander. As the commander and his staff approach, the adjutant commands (directs) the units to **ATTENTION**, faces the commander, salutes, and reports, "*Sir, the battalion is formed.*"

NOTE: If guides are used, the adjutant takes his post as soon as the guides have been aligned.

(4) The commander returns the *Salute* and commands **POST**. The adjutant marches forward, passes to the commander's right, and takes his post as the right flank staff officer. The commander then commands or directs such actions as he desires.

(5) Normally, the Colors are positioned at the center of the battalion when formed in line or column, and four steps to the rear of the staff when formed in mass.

b. **Dismissing the Battalion.** To dismiss the battalion, the commander commands **TAKE CHARGE OF YOUR UNITS**. The company commanders and battalion commander exchange *Salutes*. The battalion commander returns all *Salutes* with one *Salute*. He then dismisses his staff.

NOTE: In a battalion mass formation, the platoon leaders form as the first rank of troops. The right flank platoon leader serves as the guide.

c. **Inspecting the Battalion.** When the battalion is to be inspected, the adjutant forms the battalion in line with companies in line and platoons in line.

(1) The adjutant forms the troops, reports, and takes his position with the staff (as previously described). When the adjutant has joined the staff, the battalion commander directs **PREPARE FOR INSPECTION**. Unit commanders face about and give the same directive. The platoon leaders prepare their platoons for inspection in the same manner as in company drill. When all of the platoons in each company have completed opening ranks and have dressed right, the company commander faces the battalion commander. When all company commanders are again facing him, the battalion commander commands **AT EASE**.

NOTE: Because of the time involved in inspecting a battalion, the commander normally directs his staff to inspect the companies while he inspects the Colors and makes a general inspection of the battalion. The Color guards do not execute *Inspection Arms*.

(2) As the battalion commander (or his designated staff officer) approaches the company, the company commander faces about, salutes, and reports, "*Sir, _____ Company is prepared for inspection.*" The inspecting officer then proceeds to the first platoon to be inspected. The company commander takes a position to the left of the inspecting officer. The platoons are inspected in the same manner as explained in company drill. In the event a platoon has already been inspected by a staff officer, or is

waiting to be inspected by a staff officer, and the battalion commander approaches, the battalion commander is invited to inspect the platoon.

(3) When the inspection has been completed and the battalion commander is en route back to his post, the company commanders bring their units to **ATTENTION** and **CLOSE RANKS** and **AT EASE**. When the battalion commander has returned to the front of the formation and all staff officers have completed their inspection, the battalion commander commands **Battalion, ATTENTION** and dismisses the battalion (as previously described).

(4) If the battalion is being inspected by a higher commander and his staff, the battalion commander reports to the inspecting officer in the same manner as the company commanders. The battalion commander's staff takes a position to the left of the higher inspecting staff and escorts them to the unit. The battalion commander escorts the higher commander.

9-2. BRIGADE FORMATIONS

The brigade, like the battalion, has two basic formations – a line and a column. The battalions may be arranged in several variations within either formation: the brigade may be formed with battalions in mass, or battalions in line with companies in mass. From those formations, the brigade may be positioned in column with battalions in mass, companies in mass, or battalions in column with companies in column. The formation selected is normally dictated by the space available and the desires of the commander (Figure 9-4).

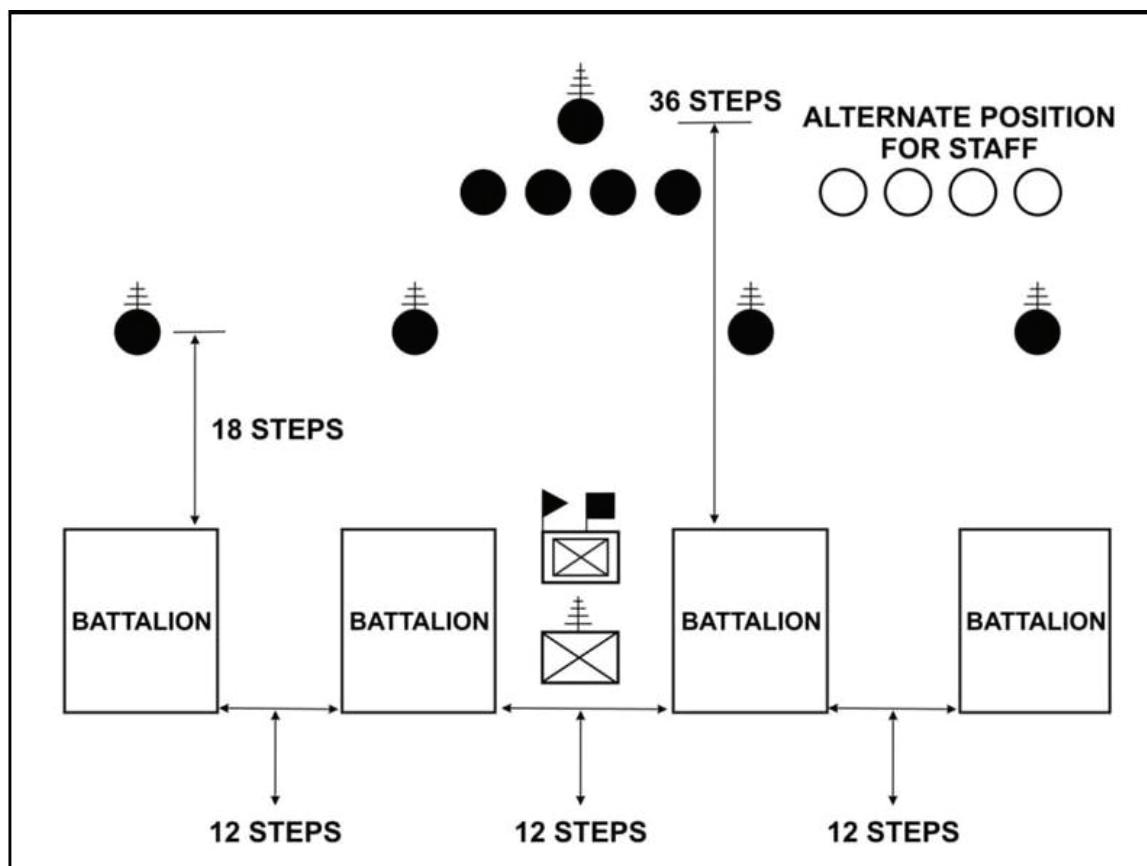


Figure 9-4. Brigade in line with battalions in mass

- a. The brigade is formed and dismissed in the same manner as the battalion.
- b. Normally, the brigade Color is positioned at the center of the brigade. Subordinate Color-bearing organizations position their Colors to the center of their formation when in a line or column formation, or four steps to the rear of their staff when in a mass formation (Figure 9-5).

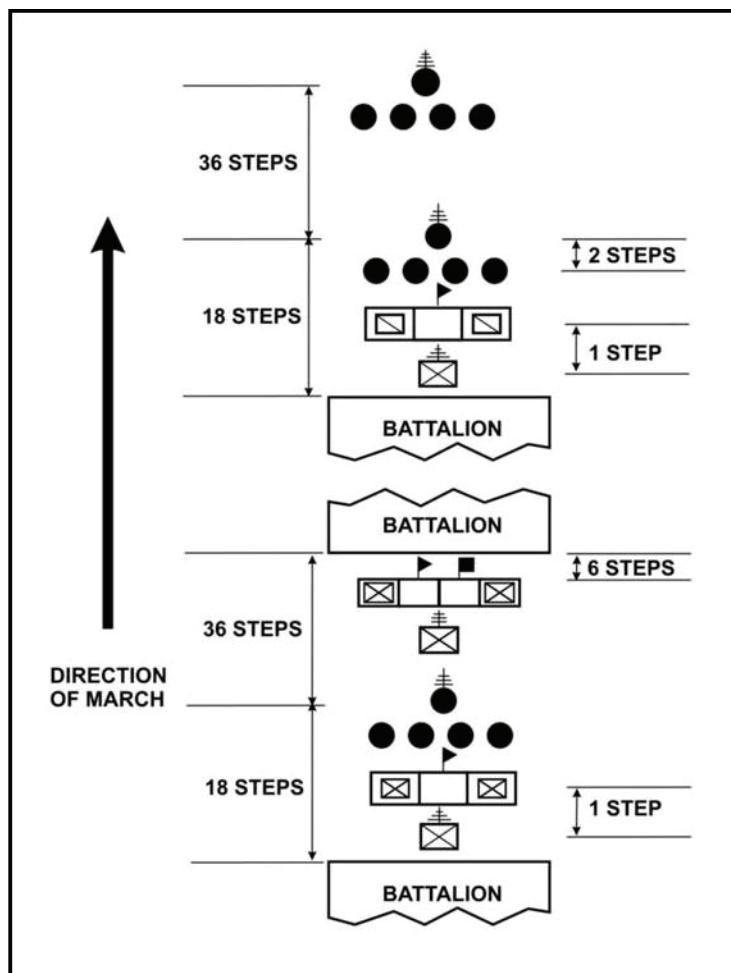


Figure 9-5. Brigade in column

GLOSSARY

Acronyms and Abbreviations

AR	Army Regulation
ARNG	Army National Guard
AWOL	absent without leave
CAC	Casualty Assistance Center
CAO	casualty assistance officer
CD	compact disk
COT	commander of troops
CQ	charge of quarters
DOD	Department of Defense
FM	field manual
MOI	memorandum of instruction
NCO	noncommissioned officer
NCOIC	noncommissioned officer in charge
NOK	next of kin (graphics only)
OIC	officer in charge
OSD	Office of the Secretary of Defense; over, short, and damaged report
POC	point of contact
Pvt	private
RC	Reserve Component
RSC	Regional Support Command
SOP	standing operating procedures
STARC	state area command
U.S.	United States
USAR	U.S. Army Reserve

Definitions

alignment	The arrangement of several elements on the same line
base	The element on which a movement is planned or regulated

cadence	The uniform rhythm in which a movement is executed, or the number of steps or counts per minute at which a movement is executed. Drill movements are normally executed at the cadence of quick time or double time. Quick time is the cadence of 120 counts or steps per minute; double time is the cadence of 180 counts or steps per minute.
ceremonies	Formations and movements in which a number of troops execute movements in unison and with precision just as in drill; however, their primary value is to render honors, preserve tradition, and stimulate esprit de corps.
commander	Person in charge.
cordon	A line of Soldiers to honor a dignitary upon entering or exiting from a given place or vehicle.
cover	Aligning oneself directly behind the man to one's immediate front while maintaining correct distance.
depth	The space from front to rear of a formation, including the front and rear element.
directive	An oral order given by a commander to direct or cause a subordinate leader or lead element to take action.
distance	The space between elements when the elements are one behind the other. Between units, it varies with the size of the formation; between individuals, it is an arm's length to the front plus 6 inches, or about 36 inches, measured from the chest of one man to the back of the man immediately to his front.
drill	Certain movements by which a unit (or individuals) is moved in a uniform manner from one formation to another, or from one place to another. Movements are executed in unison and with precision.
element	An individual, squad, section, platoon, company, or larger unit forming as part of the next higher unit.
file	A column that has a front of one element.
flank	The right or left side of any formation as observed by an element within that formation.
formation	The arrangement of elements of a unit in a prescribed manner:
<i>line</i>	A formation in which the elements are side by side or abreast of each other. In a platoon line, the members of each squad are abreast of each other with the squads one behind the other.
<i>column</i>	A formation in which the elements are one behind the other. In a platoon column, the members of each squad are one behind the other, with the squads abreast of each other. To change a line formation to a column formation, the command is <i>Right, FACE</i> . To change a column formation to a line formation, the command is <i>Left, FACE</i> .

front	The space from side to side of a formation, including the right and left elements.
guide	The person responsible for maintaining the prescribed direction and rate of march.
head	The leading element of a column.
interval	
<i>close</i>	The lateral space between Soldiers, measured from right to left by the Soldier on the right placing the heel of his left hand on his hip, even with the top of the belt line, fingers and thumb joined and extended downward, with his elbow in line with the body and touching the arm of the Soldier to his left.
<i>double</i>	The lateral space between Soldiers, measured from right to left by raising both arms shoulder high with the fingers extended and joined (palms down) so that fingertips are touching the fingertips of the Soldiers to the right and to the left.
<i>normal</i>	The lateral space between Soldiers, measured from right to left by the Soldier on the right holding his left arm shoulder high, fingers and thumb extended and joined, with the tip of his middle finger touching the right shoulder of the Soldier to his left.
PICAA	Five-step process used in all marching movements: P-preparatory command, I-intermediate step, C-command of execution, A-action step, and A-additional step.
post	The correct place for an officer or noncommissioned officer to stand in a prescribed formation.
rank	A line that is one element in depth.
re-form	A command to restore the previous element or formation (used only during drill instructions).
step	The prescribed distance measured from one heel to the other heel of a marching Soldier.

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NONE.

DOCUMENTS NEEDED

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NONE.

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TC 3-21.5 (FM 3-21.5)
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This section is made up of and adapted manual written by Cadet Andrew Villagran

Drill and Ceremonies for Dummies

It includes a written drill and ceremonies test and answer key and a practical drill and ceremonies test and answer key.

This is suggested material and should only be used if needed.



DRILL AND CEREMONIES FOR DUMMIES

COMPILED, ABRIDGED, AND EDITED BY CADET ANDREW VILLAGRAN

WHAT IS THIS MANUAL?

During Winter semester of 2009, I, Cadet Andrew Villagran, served as a training officer in our detachment's Field Training Preparation program. To prepare for that role, I read the entire Drill and Ceremonies manual, AFMAN 36-2203. As I read from that manual, the more and more I disliked it. It was long (119 pages), the organization of the manual was difficult to follow, the wording was inconsistent throughout, and many of the directions were made specifically for active duty members, not ROTC cadets.

I wanted my field training preparation cadets to read the manual, but I didn't think many would in its current state. Therefore, I sat down for a few days and created Drill and Ceremonies for Dummies. I cut out all the parts that did not pertain to ROTC, I changed all the active duty terms to words that we in ROTC are familiar with (for example, I changed every instance of first sergeant to deputy squadron commander, and every instance of flight sergeant to flight commander), I reordered the sections of the manual into an order that I felt made more sense, I standardized the image sizes and formats, and last but not least, I condensed everything that you need to know about drill and ceremonies from 119 pages to 25 pages.

At the end of the manual is a 102 question test, testing your knowledge of the contents of this manual, along with the answers. In addition, I made a series of 13 exercises that you can test your ability to effectively march a flight or a squadron in small areas.

I left each section with its original numbers. For example, 1.5.10 **Dress** in the next section. This is so that you can find it quickly in the real Drill and Ceremonies manual if you don't believe what you're reading and want to confirm that it is in fact correct. Good luck!

TERMS

You will often hear, "Dress, cover, interval, distance!" when marching. Here's what they mean:

1.5.10. **Dress.** Alignment of elements side by side while maintaining proper interval.

1.5.22. **Interval.** The space between individuals placed side by side. A normal interval is an arms length. A close interval is 4 inches.

1.5.6. **Cover.** Individuals aligning themselves directly behind the person to their immediate front while maintaining proper distance.

1.5.8. **Distance.** The space from front to rear between units. The distance between individuals in formation is 40 inches as measured from their chests to the backs of individuals directly in front of them.

1.5.4. **Cadence.** The uniform step and rhythm in marching; that is, the number of steps marched per minute.

1.5.28. **Pace.** A step of 24 inches. This is the length of a full step in quick time.

1.5.34. **Slow Time.** The rate of marching at 60 steps per minute (used in funeral ceremonies).

1.5.26. **Mark Time.** Marching in place at a rate of 100 to 120 steps per minute.

1.5.30. **Quick Time.** The rate of marching at 100 to 120 steps (12 or 24 inches in length) per minute.

1.5.9. **Double Time.** The rate of marching at 180 steps (30 inches in length) per minute.

1.5.18. **Guide.** The airman designated to regulate the direction and rate of march. (Also called a guidon bearer).

TYPES OF COMMANDS

2.1.1. A drill command is an oral order. Most drill commands have two parts, the preparatory command and the command of execution. In this manual, the first letter of preparatory command is capitalized and printed in boldface (**Squadron**), and the command of execution is printed in all caps and boldface (**ATTENTION**).

2.1.1.1. The preparatory command explains what the movement will be. The only exception is when calling a unit to attention or halting a unit's march. In those cases, the preparatory command is the units designation. For example, in the commands **Flight, ATTENTION** and **Flight, HALT**, the word **Flight** (the unit's designation) is the preparatory command.

2.1.1.2. The command of execution follows the preparatory command. The command of execution explains when the movement will be carried out. In **Forward, MARCH**, the command of execution is **MARCH**.

2.1.1.3. In certain commands, the preparatory command and the command of execution are combined, for example: **FALL IN, AT EASE, and REST.** These commands are given at a uniformly high pitch and a louder volume than that of a normal command of execution.

2.1.2. Supplementary commands are given when one unit of the element must execute a movement different from the other units or must execute the same movement at a different time. Two examples are **CONTINUE THE MARCH** and **STAND FAST**.

2.1.3. Informational commands have no preparatory command or command of execution, and they are not supplementary. Two examples are **PREPARE FOR INSPECTION** and **DISMISS THE SQUADRON**.

GENERAL RULES FOR COMMANDS

2.2.1. When giving commands, the leader is at the position of attention. Good military bearing is necessary for good leadership. While marching, the leader must be in step with the formation at all times.

2.2.2. The commander faces the troops when giving commands except when the element is part of a larger drill element or when the commander is relaying commands in a ceremony. (Usually turning the head in the direction of the flight/squadron is sufficient).

2.2.7. The preparatory command and the command of execution are given as the heel of the foot strikes the ground. Give commands for executing movements to the right when the right foot strikes the ground, and give commands for executing movements to the left when the left foot strikes the ground.

2.4.2. In commands containing two or more words, place the point of emphasis on the last word. For example, in **Right Flank**, give the command **Flank** as the right foot hits the ground.

2.2.5. Use the command **AS YOU WERE** to revoke a preparatory command. If you called the wrong command by accident, but did not catch it until after the command of execution has been given and the movement has begun, simply give other appropriate commands to bring the element to the desired position. If a command is improperly given, the individuals execute the movement to the best of their ability (interesting...).

2.2.6. When giving commands, flight commanders may add the letter of their flight to the command, such as **A Flight, HALT** or **B Flight, Forward, MARCH**.

GENERAL RULES FOR MARCHING

4.9.1. The normal formation for marching is a column of at least two, but no more than four, elements abreast. The element leaders march at the head of their elements. (For convenience, we always march in 3 elements, both at Det 855 and at field training).

3.9.1. When executed from a halt, all steps and marchings begin with the left foot, except right step and close march.

4.9.2. The flight marches in line only for minor changes of position.

CADENCE

2.4.1. Cadence is the measure or beat of movement. Commanders must match the rhythm of their commands with the cadence of their unit. In some instances, you should lengthen the interval enough to permit proper understanding of the movement to be executed and allow for supplementary commands when necessary. Measure the interval exactly in the beat of the drill cadence.

2.4.3. For a squadron or larger unit, the interval between the squadron or group commanders preparatory command and the command of execution should be long enough to allow the marching elements to take three steps between commands.

COUNTING CADENCE

Because unit members are marching at the position of attention, counting cadence helps keep them in step.

2.5.1. Cadence is given in sets of two as follows: **HUT, TOOP, THREEP, FOURP; HUT, TOOP, THREEP, FOURP.**

If marching as a flight, a member of the flight will call cadence as stated above, then will take 8 steps without calling cadence, then will call cadence again, repeated indefinitely. This is sometimes referred to as “8 on, 8 off.”

If marching as a squadron, a member of one flight will call cadence in the manner described above: **HUT, TOOP, THREEP, FOURP; HUT, TOOP, THREEP, FOURP.** At that point, a member of the second flight will call out cadence the same. They will continue alternating in this manner indefinitely. In other words, cadence is always being called.

COMMAND VOICE

2.3. Voice Characteristics. The way a command is given affects the way the movement is executed. A correctly delivered command is loud and distinct enough for everyone in the element to hear. It is given in a tone, cadence, and snap that demand a willing, correct, and immediate response. A voice with the right qualities of loudness, projection, distinctness, inflection, and snap (**Little People Die In Space**) enables a commander to obtain effective results, as shown below.

2.3.1. Loudness. This is the volume used in giving a command. It should be adjusted to the distance and number of individuals in the formation. Speak loudly enough for all to hear, but do not strain the vocal cords.

2.3.2. Projection. This is the ability of your voice to reach whatever distance is desired without undue strain. To project the command, focus your voice on the person farthest away. Counting in a full, firm voice and giving commands at a uniform cadence while prolonging the syllables are good exercises. Erect posture, proper breathing, a relaxed throat, and an open mouth help project the voice.

2.3.3. Distinctness. This depends on the correct use of the tongue, lips, and teeth to form the separate sounds of a word and to group those sounds to force words. Distinct commands are effective; indistinct commands cause confusion. Emphasize clear enunciation.

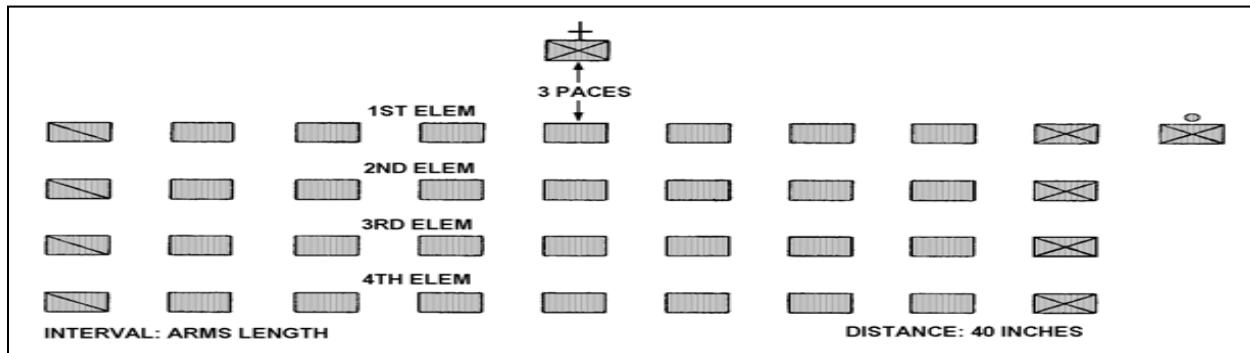
2.3.4. Inflection. This is the change in pitch of the voice. Pronounce the preparatory command—the command that announces the movement—with a rising inflection near or at the end of its completion, usually the last syllable. When beginning a preparatory command, the most desirable pitch of voice is near the level of the natural speaking voice. A common fault is to start the preparatory command so high that, after employing a rising inflection, the passage to a higher pitch for the command of execution is impossible without undue strain. A properly delivered command of execution has no inflection. However, it should be given at a higher pitch than the preparatory command.

2.3.5. Snap. This is that extra quality in a command that demands immediate response. It expresses confidence and decisiveness. It indicates complete control of yourself and the situation. To achieve this quality, you must have a knowledge of commands and the ability to voice them effectively. Give the command of execution at the precise instant the heel of the

proper foot strikes the ground while marching. Achieve snap in giving commands by standing erect, breathing without effort, and speaking clearly.

FALL IN, AT CLOSE INTERVAL FALL IN, FALL OUT, DISMISSED

4.3.1. A flight forms in at least two, but no more than four, elements in line formation (as shown in the following figure) (Again, ROTC has standardized 3 elements when in formation. I have removed all references to the fourth column in this section with the exception of the picture). The command is **FALL IN**.



4.3.1.1. On this command, the guide takes a position facing the flight commander and to the flight commander's left so the first element will fall in centered on and three paces from the flight commander. Once halted at the position of attention, the guide performs an automatic dress right dress. When the guide feels the presence of the first element leader on his or her fingertips, the guide executes an automatic ready front. Once positioned, the guide does not move.

4.3.1.2. The first element leader falls in directly to the left of the guide and, once halted, executes an automatic dress right dress. The second and third element leaders fall in behind the first element leader, execute an automatic dress right dress, visually establish a 40-inch distance, and align themselves directly behind the individual in front of them. The remaining airmen fall into any open position to the left of the element leaders and execute an automatic dress right dress to establish dress and cover.

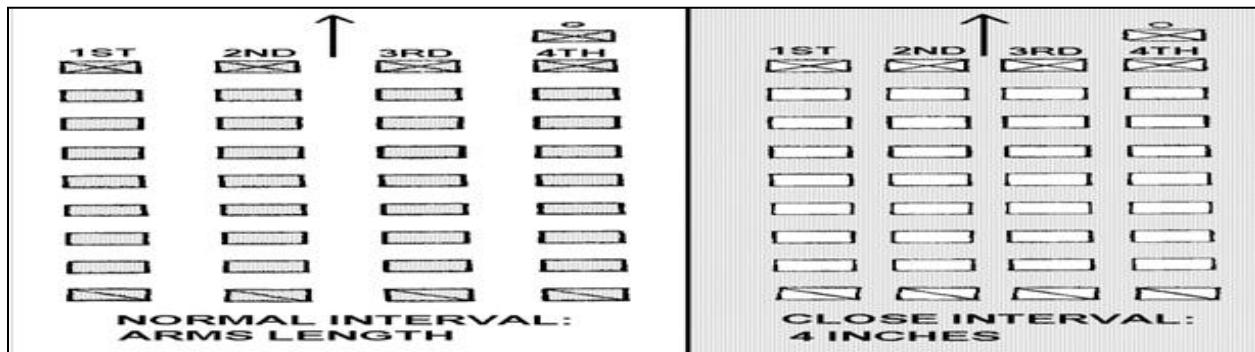
4.3.1.3. To establish interval, the leading individual in each file obtains exact shoulder-to-fingertip contact with the individual to his or her immediate right (see following figure). As soon as dress, cover, interval, and distance are established, each airman executes an automatic ready front on an individual basis and remains at the position of attention.



4.3.1.4. The left flank of the formation will be squared off with extra airmen filling in from the third to the first element. For example, if there is one extra airman, he or she will be positioned in the third element; if there are two extra airmen, one will be positioned in the second element and one will be positioned in the third element; and so forth. The deputy flight commander will occupy the last position in the third element.

4.3.2. Once it is formed, the flight will be squared off prior to sizing. To size the flight, the flight commander faces the flight to the right (from line to column formation) and has taller personnel (except the guide, element leaders, and deputy flight commander) move to the front of the flight according to height. The flight commander then faces the flight to the right (from column to inverted line formation) and again has taller personnel (except the deputy flight commander) move to the front of the flight according to height. The flight commander faces the flight back to the left (column formation) and continues this procedure until all members are properly sized.

4.3.3. Each member of the flight has a number except the guide. Numbering of individual members of a flight is from right to left (when in line formation) and from front to rear (when in column formation). The element leader is always number one (see following figure).



4.3.4. To form at close interval, the command is **At Close Interval, FALL IN**. On the command **FALL IN**, the movement is executed as prescribed in paragraph 4.3.3 above except close interval is observed (see following figure). The only commands that may be given while the flight is in this formation are **At Close Interval, Dress Right, DRESS; Ready, FRONT; AT EASE; ATTENTION; FALL OUT; and DISMISSED** (This is a mistake in the Drill and Ceremonies Manual. You can call almost all of the commands at close interval than can be called from normal interval). Reference section 4.4.2.1 (the section on Cover) – it says that Cover can be called from close interval. Also in section 4.11.2 and 4.11.3 (the sections on column left/right, it says that those commands can be called from close interval also).



3.3.1.4. **Fall Out.** The command is **FALL OUT**. On the command **FALL OUT**, individuals may relax in a standing position or break ranks. They must remain in the immediate area, and no specific method of dispersal is required (i.e. you don't have to take a step back and about face or anything). Moderate speech is permitted.

4.3.5. On the command **DISMISSED**, airmen break ranks and leave the area.

LEFT/RIGHT FACE, HALF LEFT/RIGHT FACE, ABOUT FACE

3.4. Facings Movements. Execute facing movements from a halt, at the position of attention, and in the cadence of quick time. Perform facing movements in two counts.

3.4.1. **Right (Left) Face.** The commands are **Right (Left), FACE**. On the command **FACE**, raise the right (left) toe and left (right) heel slightly and pivot 90 degrees to the right (left) on the ball of the left (right) foot and the heel of the right (left) foot, assisted by slight pressure on the ball of the left (right) foot. Keep legs straight, but not stiff. The upper portion of the body remains at attention. This completes count one of the movement. Next, bring the left (right) foot smartly forward, ensuring heels are together and on line. Feet should now be forming a 45-degree angle, which means the position of attention has been resumed. This completes count two of the movement.

3.4.3. **Half Right (Left) Face.** When instructions are given for 45-degree movements, the command **Half Right (Left), FACE** may be used. The procedures described in paragraph 3.4.1 are used except each person executes the movement by facing 45 degrees to the right or left.

3.4.2. **About Face.** The command is **About, FACE**. On the command **FACE**, lift the right foot from the hip just enough to clear the ground. Without bending the knees, place the ball of the right foot approximately half a shoe length behind and slightly to the left of the heel. Distribute the weight of the body on the ball of the right foot and the heel of the left foot. Keep both legs straight, but not stiff. The position of the foot has not changed. This completes count one of the movement. Keeping the upper portion of the body at the position of attention, pivot 180 degrees to the right on the ball of the right foot and heel of the left foot, with a twisting motion from the hips. Suspend arm swing during the movement, and remain as though at attention. On completion of the pivot, heels should be together and on line and feet should form a 45-degree angle. The entire body is now at the position of attention. This completes count two of the movement.

PRESENT ARMS, ORDER ARMS, HAND SALUTE

3.5. Hand Salute. This is used for training purposes only. The command is **Hand, SALUTE**, and it is performed in two counts. On the command **SALUTE**, the individual raises the right hand smartly in the most direct manner while at the same time extending and joining the fingers. Keep the palm flat and facing the body. Place the thumb along the forefingers, keeping the palm flat and forming a straight line between the fingertips and elbows. Tilt the palm slightly toward the face. Hold the upper arm horizontal, slightly forward of the body and parallel to the ground. Ensure the tip of the middle finger touches the right front corner of the headdress. If wearing a nonbilled hat, ensure the middle finger touches the outside corner of the right eyebrow or the front corner of glasses. The rest of the body will remain at the position of attention. This is count one of the movement. To complete count two of the movement, bring the arm smoothly and

smartly downward, retracing the path used to raise the arm. Cup the hand as it passes the waist, and return to the position of attention.

3.7. Present Arms and Order Arms. The commands are **Present, ARMS** and **Order ARMS**. On the command **Present, ARMS**, the airman executes the first count of hand salute. Count two of hand salute is performed when given the command **Order, ARMS**.

FRONT AND CENTER, RETURN TO RANKS

4.7.1. In line formation, when calling individuals out of ranks, the command is **(Rank and Last Name), (pause) FRONT AND CENTER**. Upon hearing his or her name, the individual assumes the position of attention. On the command **FRONT AND CENTER**, the individual takes one step backward (with coordinated arm swing), faces to the left or right, proceeds to the closest flank, and then proceeds to the front of the formation by the most direct route. Next, he or she halts one pace in front of and facing the person in command, salutes, and reports as directed.

4.7.2. To direct the individuals return, the command is **RETURN TO RANKS**. The individual salutes, faces about, and returns by the same route to the same position in the ranks.

FORWARD MARCH, FLIGHT HALT

3.10.1. To march forward in quick time from a halt, the command is **Forward, MARCH**. On the command **MARCH**, the airman smartly steps off straight ahead with the left foot, taking a 24-inch step (measured from heel to heel), and places the heel on the ground first. When stepping off and while marching, the airman will use coordinated arm swing; that is, right arm forward with the left leg and left arm forward with the right leg. The hands will be cupped with the thumbs pointed down, and the arms will hang straight, but not stiff, and will swing naturally. The swing of the arms will measure **6 inches to the front** (measured from the rear of the hand to the front of the thigh) and **3 inches to the rear** (measured from the front of the hand to the back of the thigh). If applicable, proper dress, cover, interval, and distance will be maintained; and cadence will be adhered to. Count cadence as follows: counts one and three are given as the heel of the left foot strikes the ground, and counts two and four are given as the heel of the right foot strikes the ground.

3.10.2. To halt from quick time, the command is **Flight, HALT**, given as either foot strikes the ground. On the command **HALT**, the airman will take one more 24-inch step. Next, the trailing foot will be brought smartly alongside the front foot. The heels will be together, on line, and form a 45-degree angle. Coordinated arm swing will cease as the weight of the body shifts to the leading foot when halting.

MARK TIME MARCH, QUICK TIME MARCH, DOUBLE TIME MARCH

3.12.1. The command is **Mark Time, MARCH**. When marching, the command **MARCH** is given as either foot strikes the ground. The airman takes one more 24-inch step. He or she then brings the trailing foot to a position so both heels are on line. The cadence is continued by alternately raising and lowering each foot. The balls of the feet are raised **4 inches above the ground**. Normal arm swing is maintained.

3.12.2. At a halt, on the command **MARCH**, the airman raises and lowers first the left foot and then the right. Mark time is executed in quick time only. The halt executed from mark time is similar to the halt from quick time.

3.12.3. To resume marching, the command **Forward, MARCH** is given as the heel of the left foot strikes the ground. The airman takes one more step in place and then steps off in a full 24-inch step with the left foot.

3.11.1. To march in double time from a halt or when marching in quick time, the command is **Double Time, MARCH**.

3.11.2. When halted and on the command **MARCH**, the airman begins with the left foot, raises the forearms to a horizontal position along the waistline, cups the hands with the knuckles out, and begins an easy run of 180 steps per minute with 30-inch steps, measured from heel to heel. Coordinated motion of the arms are maintained throughout (see following figure).



3.11.3. When marching in quick time and on the command **MARCH** (given as either foot strikes the ground), the airman takes one more step in quick time and then steps off in double time.

3.11.4. To resume quick time from double time, the command is **Quick Time, MARCH**, with four steps between commands. On the command **MARCH** (given as either foot strikes the ground), the airman advances two more steps in double time, resumes quick time, lowers the arms to the sides, and resumes coordinated armswing.

3.11.5. To halt from double time, the command **Flight, HALT** is given as either foot strikes the ground, with four steps between commands. The airman will take two more steps in double time and halt in two counts at quick time, lowering the arms to the sides.

3.11.6. The only commands that can be given while in double time are **Incline To The Right (Left); Quick Time, MARCH; and Flight, HALT**.

AT EASE MARCH, ROUTE STEP MARCH

3.19. Marching Other Than at Attention. The commands below may be given as the heel of either foot strikes the ground as long as both the preparatory command and command of

execution are given on the same foot and only from quick time. The only command that can be given when marching at other than attention is **Incline to the Right (Left)**. Otherwise, the flight must be called to attention before other commands may be given.

3.19.1. Route Step March. The command is **Route Step, MARCH**. On the command **MARCH**, the airman takes one more 24-inch step and assumes route step. Neither silence nor cadence is required, and movement is permitted as long as dress, cover, interval, and distance are maintained.

3.19.2. At Ease March. The command is **At Ease, MARCH**. On the command **MARCH**, the airman takes one more 24-inch step and assumes at ease. Cadence is not given, and movement is permitted as long as silence, dress, cover, interval, and distance are maintained.

COLUMN RIGHT/LEFT MARCH

If you don't know how to do these two commands, just ask someone. The explanation in the D&C manual is way too verbose to post here.

COLUMN HALF RIGHT/LEFT MARCH

4.12.1. To change the direction of a column by 45 degrees, the command is **Column Half Right (Left), MARCH**. On the command **MARCH**, the leading airman of the right (left) flank advances one full 24-inch step, pivots 45 degrees to the right (left) on the ball of the left (right) foot, and advances another full 24-inch step, maintaining coordinated armswing. The airman then takes up the half step and continues in a half step until each member in his or her rank is abreast of each other. Then all members of that rank resume a full 24-inch step. In the meantime, the remaining individuals of the leading rank pivot 45 degrees to the right (left), with coordinated armswing and without changing the interval, and continue marching in full 24-inch steps until they are abreast of the base file. At this point, they conform to the step of the individual in the right (left) flank and establish the proper interval. The remaining airmen in each file march to the approximate pivot point established by the element leader and perform the movement in the same manner. They then dress to their right and cover directly behind the person in front of them.

4.12.2. The flight commander and guide pivot 45 degrees in the direction of the movement. Then they pivot 45 degrees back to their original positions in front of the column.

4.12.3. When column half right (left) is executed from a halt, the procedures are the same as described in paragraphs 4.12.1 and 4.12.2 above except, on the command of execution, the element leaders begin the movement by executing a face in marching to the indicated direction.

4.12.4. To execute a slight change of direction, the command **INCLINE TO THE RIGHT (LEFT)** is given. The guide or guiding element moves in the indicated direction, and the rest of the element follows. There is no pivot in this movement.

RIGHT/LEFT FLANK MARCH

3.17. Flanking Movement. The command is **Right (Left) Flank, MARCH**, given as the heel of the right (left) foot strikes the ground. On the command **MARCH**, the airman takes one more 24-inch step (this implies that you must already be marching), pivots 90 degrees to the right (left)

on the ball of the left (right) foot, keeping the upper portion of the body at the position of attention. Then step off with the right (left) foot in the new direction of march with a full 24-inch step and coordinated arm swing. Arm swing is suspended to the sides as the weight of the body comes forward on the pivot foot. The pivot and step off are executed in one count. This movement is used for a quick movement to the right or left for short distances only. Throughout the movement, maintain proper dress, cover, interval, and distance.

3.18. Face in Marching. The command is **Right (Left) Flank, MARCH**. On the command **MARCH**, the airman executes a 90-degree pivot on the ball of the right (left) foot and, at the same time, steps off with the left (right) foot in the new direction with coordinated arm swing. The pivot and step are executed in one count, and proper dress, cover, interval, and distance are maintained. (**This is how you call a left or right flank from the position of attention – you pivot like you’re doing a Right or Left Face and step off at the same time.**)

RIGHT/LEFT STEP MARCH

3.14.1. The command is **Right (Left) Step, MARCH**, given only from a halt and for moving short distances. On the command **MARCH**, the airman raises the right (left) leg from the hip just high enough to clear the ground. The leg will be kept straight, but not stiff, throughout the movement. The individual places the right (left) foot 12 inches, as measured from the inside of the heels, to the right (left) of the left (right) foot. Transfer the weight of the body to the right (left) foot, then bring the left (right) foot (without scraping the ground) smartly to a position alongside the right (left) foot as in the position of attention. This movement is continued in quick time; the upper portion of the body remains at attention and arms remain at the sides throughout.

3.14.2. Cadence may be counted during this movement. Counts one and three are given as the right (left) foot strikes the ground. Counts two and four are given as the heels come together.

3.14.3. To halt from the right (left) step, the preparatory command and command of execution are given as the heels come together. The halt from the right (left) step is executed in two counts. On the command **HALT**, one more step is taken with the right (left) foot and the left (right) foot is placed smartly alongside the right (left) foot as in the position of attention.

HALF STEP MARCH, CHANGE STEP MARCH, TO THE REAR MARCH

3.13.1. The command **Half Step, MARCH** is given as either foot strikes the ground. On the command **MARCH**, the airman takes one more 24-inch step followed by a 12-inch step (measured from heel to heel) in quick time, setting the heel down first without scraping the ground. The airman maintains coordinated arm swing and continues the half step until marched forward or halted.

3.13.2. To resume a full 24-inch step, the command **Forward, MARCH** is given as the heel of the left foot strikes the ground. On the command **MARCH**, the airman takes one more 12-inch step with the right foot and then steps out with a full 24-inch step with the left foot.

3.13.3. The halt executed from half step is similar to the halt executed from a 24-inch step. The half step is not executed from the halt nor are changes of direction made from the half step. It is executed only in quick time, and normal arm swing is maintained.

3.15. Change Step. The command is **Change Step, MARCH**. On the command **MARCH**, given as the right foot strikes the ground, the airman takes one more 24-inch step with the left foot. Then in one count, place the ball of the right foot alongside the heel of the left foot, suspend

arm swing, and shift the weight of the body to the right foot. Step off with the left foot in a 24-inch step, resuming coordinated arm swing. The upper portion of the body remains at the position of attention throughout.

3.16. To the Rear March. The command is **To the Rear, MARCH**, given as the heel of the right foot strikes the ground. On the command **MARCH**, the airman takes a 12-inch step with the left foot, placing it in front of and in line with the right foot and distributes the weight of the body on the balls of both feet. Then pivot on the balls of both feet, turning 180 degrees to the right, and take a 12-inch step with the left foot in the new direction, with coordinated armswing, before taking a full 24-inch step with the right foot. While pivoting, do not force the body up or lean forward. The pivot takes a full count, and the arm swing is suspended to the sides as the weight of the body comes forward while executing the pivot, as if at the position of attention.



DRESS RIGHT/LEFT DRESS, READY FRONT

4.4.1. Dress Right (Left) Dress (Line/Inverted Line Formation, at either Normal or Close Interval):

4.4.1.1. **Normal Interval.** The commands are **Dress Right, DRESS** and **Ready, FRONT**. On the command **DRESS**, everyone except the last airman in each element raises and extends the left arm laterally from the shoulder with snap so the arm is parallel with the ground. As the arm is raised, uncup the hand at approximately waist level, keeping the palm down. Extend and join the fingers and place the thumb along the forefinger. At the same time as the left arm is raised, each individual (except the guide and second and third element leaders) turns head and eyes 45 degrees to the right with snap. The leading individual of each file establishes normal interval (by taking small choppy steps and aligning with the base file) and establishes exact shoulder-to-fingertip contact with the individual to the immediate right. The second and third element leaders align themselves directly behind the person in front of them (using small choppy steps) and visually establish a 40-inch distance. As the remaining members align themselves behind the individual in front of or to the right of them, their shoulders may or may not touch the fingertips of the individual to their right. If the arm is too long, place the extended hand behind the shoulder of the individual to the left. If the arm is too short, leave it extended toward the individual to the left and parallel to the ground. Once dress, cover, interval, and distance have been established, the command **Ready, FRONT** will be given. On this command, airmen whose arms are up will lower their arms with snap to their sides (without slapping their

sides) and recup their hands when their arm is at approximately waist level. As the arm is lowered, airmen whose heads are turned will return their heads to the front with snap. The body is now back to the position of attention.

AT CLOSE INTERVAL DRESS RIGHT/LEFT DRESS

4.4.1.2. **Close Interval.** The command is **At Close Interval, Dress Right, DRESS.** On this command, all airmen except the last one in each element will raise their left hand so the heel of the hand rests on the left hip, fingers are extended and joined, thumb is along the forefinger, fingertips point toward the ground, and the elbow in line with the body (See figure on page 6 of this document). At the same time the left hand is raised, all airmen except the guide and second and third element leaders will turn their head and eyes 45 degrees to the right. First element airmen establish the interval by ensuring their upper right arm touches the extended elbow of the individual to their right. The same procedures used to establish dress, cover, interval, and distance for normal interval will be used for close interval. **At Close Interval, Dress Right (Left), DRESS** is **not** given to a flight at normal interval, and **Dress Right (Left), DRESS** is **not** given to a flight at close interval.

4.4.1.3. **Dress Left Dress.** When giving the command **Dress Left, DRESS** or **At Close Interval, Dress Left, DRESS,** use the procedures for dress right dress except the flight **must** be in inverted line formation, the right arm/hand raised, and the head turned left.

COVER

4.4.2.1. **Column Formation.** To align the flight in column, the command is **COVER.** On this command, everyone except the guide adjusts by taking small choppy steps if needed and establishes dress, cover, interval, and distance. The leading individual of each file (excluding the base file) obtains the proper interval, normal or close. The base file (meaning the elements leaders) establishes and maintains a 40-inch distance (remember, distance is the space from the back of one cadet to the chest of the cadet behind him/her). All others align themselves beside the individual to their right and behind the individual in front of them.

4.4.2.2. **Inverted Column Formation.** The same command and procedures used to reestablish dress, cover, interval, and distance while in column formation are used in inverted column. The exception to this is that the leading individual of the base element does not move and everyone else establishes dress, cover, interval, and distance based on this individual. (That's right, you can call cover from inverted line formation).

(Note that the D&C manual says nothing about the command –At close interval, COVER.” All it says is **COVER** for both normal and close intervals).

EYES RIGHT/LEFT, READY FRONT

3.8. Eyes Right (Left) and Ready Front. The commands are **Eyes, RIGHT (LEFT) and Ready, FRONT.** These commands may be given at a halt or while marching. The preparatory command and command of execution are given on the right (left) foot while marching. On the command **RIGHT (LEFT)**, all persons, except those on the right (left) flank, turn their heads and eyes smartly 45 degrees to the right (left) (see following figure). To return their heads and eyes to the front, the command **Ready, FRONT** is given as the left (right) foot strikes the ground. On the command **FRONT**, heads and eyes are turned smartly to the front.



OPEN/CLOSE RANKS MARCH, COUNT OFF

For Open/Close Ranks March and open ranks inspections, see the PowerPoint presentation made by Cadets Scott and Gombio, or pages 91-92 of the FTM, or pages 37-39 of the drill and ceremonies manual.

4.8. Count Off. For drill purposes, count off is executed only from right to left in line and from front to rear in column or mass (we never go over Mass formation in this abridged manual. It's a squadron formation thing, it's confusing, and you will never use it). Flight commanders and guides do not count off in line, column, or mass.

4.8.1. **In Line.** The command is **Count, OFF.** On the command **OFF**, all airmen, except the guide and element leaders, turn their head and eyes 45 degrees to the right, and the element leaders call out **ONE** in a normal tone of voice. After the element leaders call out **ONE**, airmen in the next file turn their heads and eyes in unison to the front and call out **TWO**. This procedure continues in quick time until all files, full or partial, are numbered. All movements are made in a precise manner with snap. (Although you can call **Count, OFF** from line formation, I know of no practical time to do so).

4.8.2. **In Column.** The command is **Count, OFF.** On the command **OFF**, the element leaders turn their heads 45 degrees to the right and in unison call out **ONE** over their right shoulder in a normal tone of voice. Once the number is sounded, the element leaders turn their heads back to the front. Once the heads of the individuals of the previous rank are turned back to the front, individuals in the next rank turn their heads 45 degrees to the right and call out the subsequent number. This procedure continues in quick time until all ranks (full or partial) have been numbered. Except when calling out their number, individuals remain at the position of attention.

CLOSE MARCH, EXTEND MARCH (HALTED OR MARCHING)

(All references to having 4 elements have been removed)

4.10. Close or Extend March. To obtain close interval between files when in column at normal interval at a halt or while marching at quick time, the command is **Close, MARCH.** To obtain normal interval from close interval, the command is **Extend, MARCH.**

4.10.1. Close March (Halted). On the command **MARCH**, the third element stands fast. The remaining elements take the required number of right steps, all at the same time, and halt together. The second element takes two steps and the first element takes four steps.

4.10.2. Close March (Marching). On the command **MARCH**, which is given on the right foot, the third element takes up the half step (beginning with the left foot) following the command of execution. The second element obtains close interval by pivoting 45 degrees to the right on the ball of the left foot, taking one 24-inch step (with coordinated armswing) toward the third element, and then pivoting 45 degrees back to the left on the ball of the right foot. The first element takes three steps between pivots. The original direction of march is resumed; the half step is taken up once close interval is obtained; and dress, cover, interval, and distance are reestablished. On the command **Forward, MARCH**, all elements resume a 24-inch step.

4.10.3. Extend March (Halted). Reverse the procedures used to obtain close interval to obtain normal interval.

4.10.4. Extend March (Marching). The same procedures and steps used to obtain close interval are used except the command is given on the left foot and the pivots are made on the right foot.

COUNTER MARCH

(All references to having 4 elements have been removed)

4.16. Counter March. This is not a precise movement, but it is used to permit flexibility in the movement of units where space is limited. The command is **Counter, MARCH**.

4.16.1. Marching. On the command **MARCH** (given on the left foot), execute the following:

4.16.1.2. The first element leader takes two 24-inch steps forward and executes a 90-degree pivot to the right with suspended armswing. He or she continues to march and executes another 90-degree pivot to the right (with suspended armswing) after passing the second and third elements. Each succeeding member marches to the pivot points established by the person in front of him or her and performs the same procedures as the first element leader. (all references in this paragraph were changed from the “second” element to the “first” element).

4.16.1.3. The second element leader takes one 24-inch step forward and then executes two 90-degree pivots to the left (with suspended armswing during the pivots). Each succeeding member marches to the approximate pivot points established by the person in front of him or her and performs the same procedures as the second element leader. (all references in this paragraph were changed from the “third” element to the “second” element).

4.16.1.4. The third element leader takes three 24-inch steps forward and executes a 90-degree pivot to the left with suspended armswing. The element leader then marches across the front of the flight and executes another 90-degree pivot to the left after passing the first and second elements, suspending armswing during the pivot. Each succeeding member marches to the approximate pivot points established by the person in front of him or her and performs the same procedures as the third element leader. (all references in this paragraph were changed from the “fourth” element to the “third” element).

4.16.1.5. The guide performs this movement in approximately the same manner as the third element leader, staying in front of the fourth element leader in the most practical manner. (all references in this paragraph were changed from the “fourth” element to the “third” element).

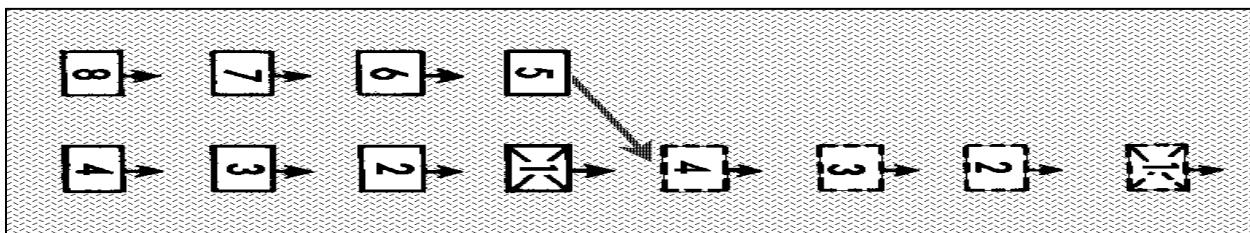
4.16.2. **Halted.** This movement is performed in the same manner as if marching, but with the following exceptions: prior to executing the movement, the first element leader takes three paces forward, the second element leader takes two paces forward, and the third element leader takes four paces forward.

COLUMN OF FILES FROM THE LEFT/RIGHT, STAND FAST

4.13. Forming a Single File or Multiple Files. These are not precise movements, but they are practiced in drill so, when necessary, the movements can be executed smoothly and without delay. These movements are executed only from the halt.

4.13.1. Column of Files. To form a single file when in a column of two or more elements, the command is **Column of Files From the Right (Left), Forward, MARCH.** On the preparatory command, the guide takes a position in front of the file that will move first. The element leader of the right (left) element turns his or her head 45 degrees to the right (left) and commands **Forward.** At the same time, the remaining element leaders turn their heads 45 degrees to the right (left) and command **STAND FAST.** Their heads are kept to the right (left) until they step off. On the command **MARCH,** the extreme right (left) element steps off. The element leader of each remaining element commands **Forward, MARCH** as the last airman in each element passes, ensuring the leaders element is in step with the preceding element. All elements then incline to the right (left), following the leading elements in successive order (see following figure).

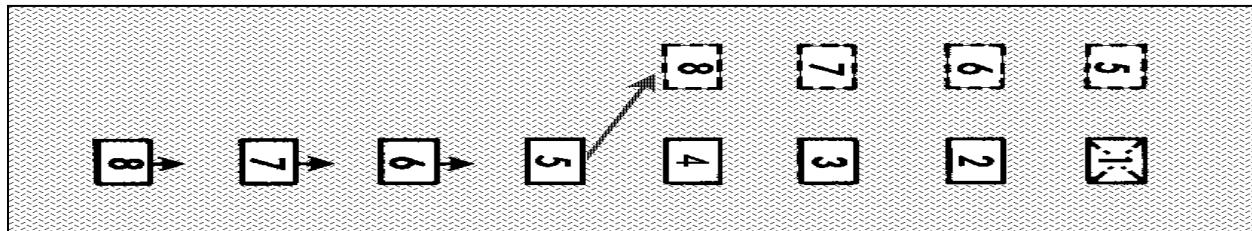
4.13.2. Column of Files, Column Right (Left). In conjunction with forming single files, column movements may be executed at the same time. The command is **Column of Files From the Right (Left), Column Right (Left), MARCH.** On the preparatory command, the guide executing a face in marching takes a position in front of the file that will move first. The element leader of the right (left) element commands **Column Right (Left).** The remaining element leaders command **STAND FAST.** On the command **MARCH,** the element leader and guide execute a face in marching to the right (left), and the element leader continues marching in the new direction with 24-inch steps. The guide marches to a position ahead of the element leader, then pivots 45 degrees to a position 40 inches in front of the element leader. The remaining individuals in the base file march forward on the command of execution, pivot in approximately the same location as their element leader, and maintain a 40-inch distance. The element leaders of the remaining elements command **Column Right (Left), MARCH,** at which time all airmen perform the movement in the same manner as the base element. The element leaders follow the leading elements in successive order. The commands **Column of Files From the Left, Column Right, MARCH** and **Column of Files From the Right, Column Left, MARCH** are not given.



COLUMN OF THREES TO THE LEFT/RIGHT

Although the D&C only mentions **Column of Twos (Fours) From a Single File**, calling **Column of Threes** is the only command that will ever be applicable in ROTC since we always march with three elements.

4.13.3. Column of Twos (Fours) From a Single File (Multiple Elements). To form a column of two or more files when in a single file of more than one element, the command is **Column of Twos (Fours) to the Left (Right), MARCH**. On the preparatory command, the leading element leader turns his or her head 45 degrees to the right (left) and commands **STAND FAST**. At the same time, the remaining element leaders turn their heads 45 degrees to the right (left) and command **Column Half Left (Right)**. On the command **MARCH**, the leading element stands fast, and the element leader returns his or her head back to the front. The remaining element leaders turn their heads back to the front and step off, executing a column left (right) simultaneously, and incline and form to the left (right) of the leading element. The remaining members of each element march to the approximate pivot point established by the element leaders and perform the movement in the same manner as the element leaders. Each element is halted by its element leader turning his or her head 45 degrees to the left (right) and commanding the element to halt so his or her element is abreast of, and even with, the leading element (see following figure).



SQUADRON MARCHING

2.2.3. When a command requires a unit to execute a movement different from other units (or the same movement at a different time), the subordinate commander gives a supplementary command over the right shoulder. Supplementary commands are given between the element commander's preparatory command and command of execution. When the squadron commander's preparatory command is **Squadron**, the flight commander's preparatory command is **Flight**.

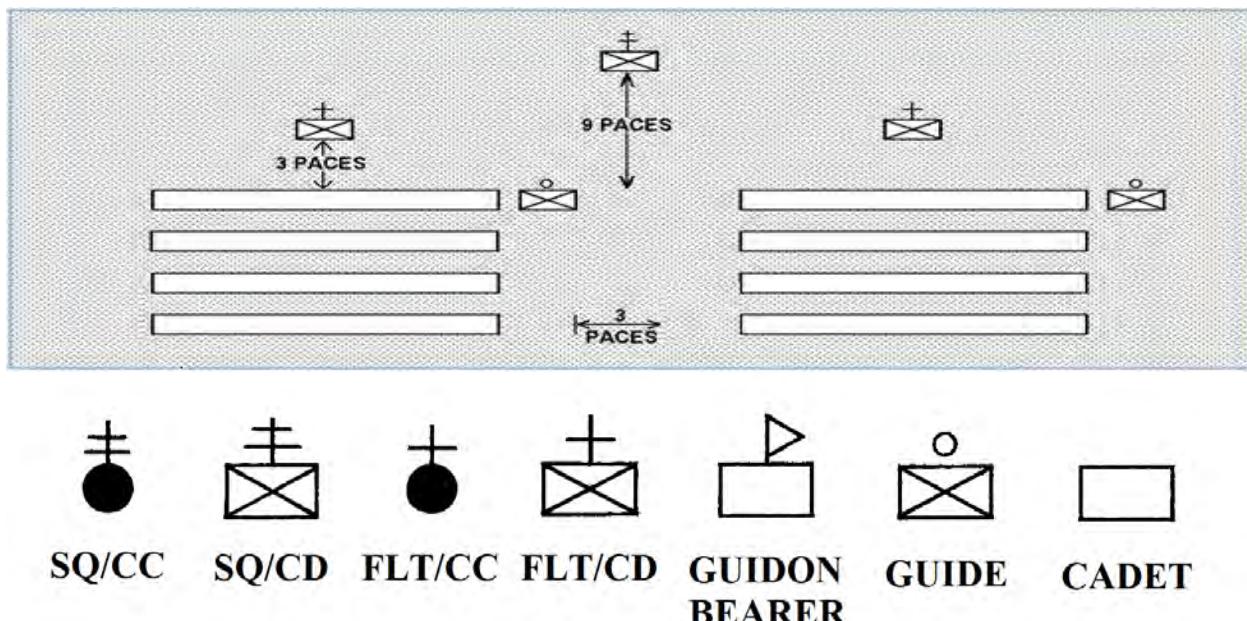
2.2.4. When flights of a squadron are to execute a movement in order, such as a column movement, the flight commander of A Flight repeats the squadron commander's preparatory command. The commanders of the other flights give a supplementary command, such as **CONTINUE THE MARCH**. When the squadron commander gives the command of execution, A Flight executes the movement; and, at the command of the appropriate flight commander, each of the following flights executes the movement at approximately the same location and in the same manner as A Flight.

FORMING A SQUADRON IN LINE FORMATION, 1-4 PACES FORWARD MARCH, 1-4 STEPS BACKWARD MARCH, REPORT

(All references to first sergeants have been replaced with deputy squadron commander, and all references to flight sergeants have been replaced with flight commander)

5.3. Forming the Squadron in Line:

5.3.1. The squadron is formed in line with flights in line by the deputy squadron commander, who takes an initial post nine paces in front of the point where the center of the squadron is to be, faces that point, and commands **FALL IN**. On the command **FALL IN**, the squadron forms in two or more flights with normal interval between individuals (**unless close interval is directed**) and a three-pace interval between flights. The following figure indicates key positions:



5.3.2. While positioning units in an area, the command is _____ Paces Forward, MARCH or _____ Steps Backward, MARCH. (In backward march, the airman takes 12-inch steps backward (starting with the left foot) and maintains normal armswing.) These commands are used for short distances only of **four paces (steps) or less**. (Notice that one command uses the word “Paces” and the other uses “Steps.” Weird...)

5.3.3. Each deputy flight commander takes a post three paces in front of and centered on the flight. The flights then form as prescribed under the supervision of the deputy flight commanders. (You'll probably just have the flight commander fall in the flight at camp, but technically, this is how it's supposed to be done)

5.3.4. The deputy flight commanders then command **REPORT**. Remaining in position, the element leaders in succession from front to rear of each flight salute and report _____ Element, all present or _____ Element, (number) person(s) absent. The deputy flight commanders then face about. (You probably won't be assigned an element at camp, so the flight commander just needs to know somehow if his/her whole flight is accountable. In my flight, we assigned everyone a number, then whenever our cadet flight commander called **Count, OFF** (our

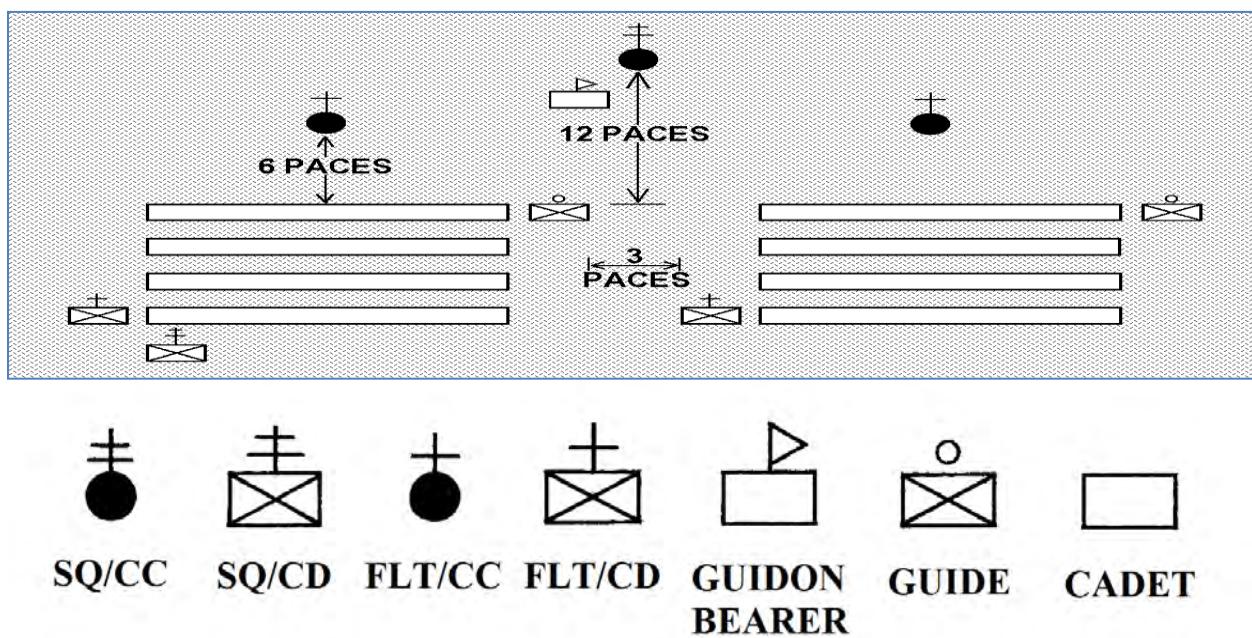
modified command) cadet 1 would shout **-1!**, cadet 2 would shout **-2!**, etc. If all numbers were said, then we knew everyone was present)

5.3.5. The deputy squadron commander then calls **REPORT**, and the deputy flight commanders, beginning with the right flight, successively salute and report **_____ Flight, all present or accounted for or _____ Flight, (number) persons absent**. After all flights have reported, the deputy squadron commander commands **POST**. The deputy flight commanders face about and move by the most direct route to their positions in the ranks. The squadron commander takes a position 12 paces in front of, centered on, and facing the squadron to receive the report of the deputy squadron commander. The guidon bearer of the squadron assumes a position with the commander. The deputy squadron commander faces the squadron commander, salutes, and reports **Sir (Ma'am), all present or accounted for or (number) persons absent**. Without a command, the deputy squadron commander faces about and moves by the most direct route to the appropriate position within his/her flight.

(If the deputy flight commander falls in the flight, the D&C does not say where the flight commander is supposed to be standing. He/she could probably just stand next to the deputy flight commander, and then at the command of **POST**, move in a direct route to his position to the front of and centered on the flight).

5.3.6. Flight commanders immediately take their posts after the deputy squadron commander has reported, as shown in the following figure: (This must be a mistake – flight commanders can't take their position until the deputy has actually *moved* out of his/her spot at the front of the flight)

(To begin marching, the squadron commander calls, **Right, FACE**, followed by **Flight Commanders, POST. Forward, MARCH**).



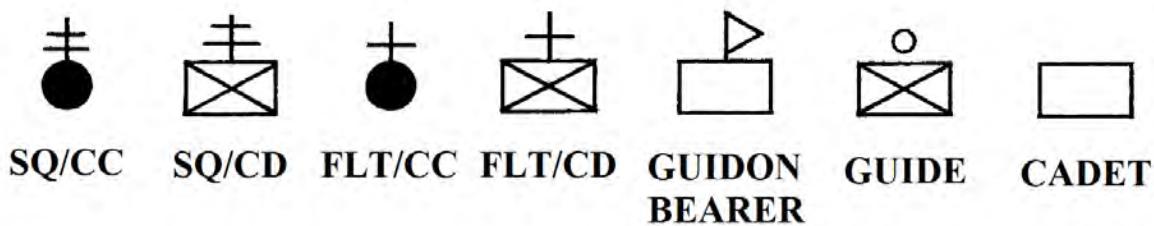
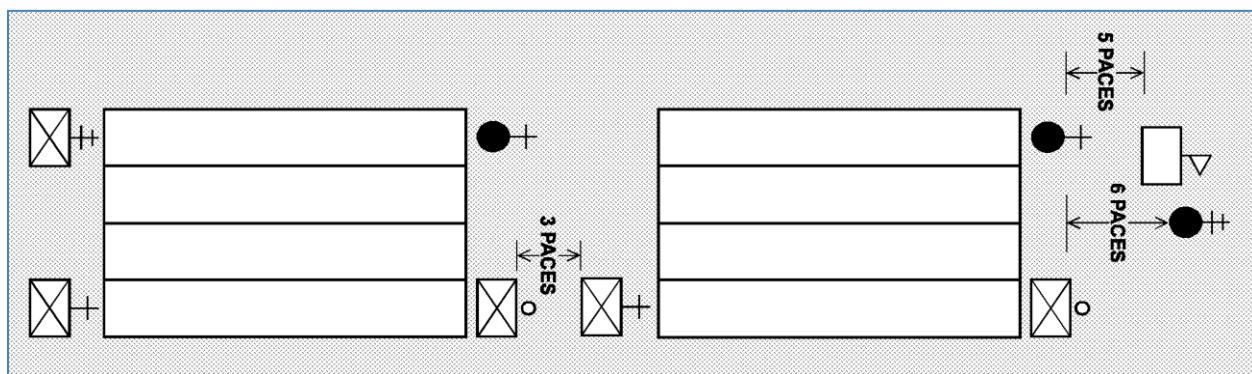
5.3.7. In forming the squadron, any individual required to make a report salutes while reporting and holds the salute until it is returned. The individual receiving the report does not return the salute until the report is completed.

NOTE: The instructions given above are in the drill and ceremonies manual, however, the way we did it at field training last year and the way we taught it to you during FTP was as follows: Squadron commander calls, "Squadron, FALL IN," followed by the two flight commanders calling, "Flight, FALL IN." Flight commanders about face and report accountability to the squadron commander and salute. Squadron commander calls a right face followed by, "Flight commanders, POST; Deputy Squadron Commander, POST" at which point the FLT/CC's and the SQ/CD move to their designated positions.

However, if you do it the way the D&C manual says to do it, you'll probably be the only one who knows how to do it and that'll give you the opportunity to teach it to your squadron, and you'll probably impress your leaders and peers. However, use judgment, don't be a prick.

MARCHING A SQUADRON

5.6. The Squadron in Column. The squadron moves from one place to another in column of flights as shown in the following figure. The guidon bearer is one pace to the rear and two paces to the left of the squadron commander. **To view and control the squadron, the squadron commander may take a position on the flank** (this is how you will normally march at field training, with the squadron commander on the flank, i.e. in the top and center part of the picture below, *not* at the front of the column). When this occurs, the guidon bearer is at the head of the column, not to the rear and two paces of the left of the squadron commander.



5.2.1. In squadron drill the individuals in the unit are to execute a movement together, the flight commanders repeat the preparatory commands of the squadron commander for facings, steps, and marchings except when the preparatory command of the squadron commander is **Squadron**. In this case, the flight commanders give the preparatory command **Flight**. When flights of the squadron are to execute a movement in successive order, such as a column movement while marching, the commander of Flight A repeats the squadron commander's preparatory command, and the commanders of the other flights give a supplementary command, such as **CONTINUE THE MARCH**. The flight commanders of the other flights repeat the squadron commander's

preparatory command and command of execution so their flights execute the movement in approximately the same location as the first flight.

5.2.2. If the squadron in column is at the halt when the squadron commander commands **Column Right**, the leading flight commander will supplement the command with **COLUMN RIGHT**. At the same time, the remaining flight commanders command **Forward**. When the squadron commander commands **MARCH**, the leading flight executes column right, and the remaining flights march forward and execute the column movement on the command of their appropriate flight commanders. Each flight executes the movement at approximately the same location and in the manner as the first flight.

5.2.4. When the squadron is in column and it is desired to obtain the correct distance between flights, the command is **CLOSE ON LEADING FLIGHT**. On this command, the leading flight commander commands the flight to take up the half step. As soon as the correct distance has been obtained, each succeeding flight takes up the half step at its commanders command. When all flights have obtained the correct distance, the squadron commander gives **Forward, MARCH**, and all flights step off with a 30-inch step.

5.2.5. When commands are given in which one flight is to stand fast or continue to march while other flights do not, the appropriate flight commander commands **STAND FAST** or **CONTINUE THE MARCH**.

5.2.6. In giving commands, flight commanders may include the letter of their flights; for example, **A Flight, HALT** or **B Flight, Forward, MARCH**. Flight commanders do not repeat the squadron commanders combined commands.

COLUMN OF FLIGHTS

5.9.1. From a halt, the command is **Column of Flights, Right Flight, Forward, MARCH**. On the preparatory command, the right flight commander commands **Forward**, and the other flight commanders command **STAND FAST**. On the command **MARCH**, the right flight marches forward. Each of the remaining flights follows in column in its normal formation, executing column half right and column half left upon the commands of its commander.

5.9.2. While marching, the squadron commander gives the same commands as in the previous movement except double time is given instead of forward, and commanders of flights other than the right flight command **CONTINUE THE MARCH**. On the command **MARCH**, the right flight marches out in double time. At the appropriate time, other flight commanders give **Double Time, MARCH** and **INCLINE TO THE RIGHT (LEFT)** to bring their flights into the column and align them behind the preceding flight. (I have no idea why two flights, side by side in column formation, would ever be marching forward).

Although it's never said, go ahead and call Column Right or Left March instead of just Forward March, just like in Column of Files.

DISMISSING THE SQUADRON

5.11. Dismissing the Squadron. The squadron is in line at attention. The squadron commander directs the deputy squadron commander to dismiss the squadron. The command is **Deputy Squadron Commander, (pause) DISMISS THE SQUADRON**. On this command, the deputy

squadron commander takes the most direct route to a position three paces from the squadron commander, who is nine paces in front of and centered on the squadron. The deputy squadron commander halts and salutes. The squadron commander returns the salute and commands **DISMISS THE SQUADRON**. The deputy squadron commander salutes and the squadron commander returns the salute and falls out. At the same time, flight commanders and the guidon bearer fall out. The deputy squadron commander executes an about face, and the deputy flight commanders take their posts three paces in front of and centered on their flights. The deputy squadron commander then orders the deputy flight commanders to dismiss their flights by giving the command **DISMISS YOUR FLIGHTS**. The deputy squadron commander then falls out. The deputy flight commanders face about and command **DISMISSED**. Individuals break ranks and leave the formation.

This is how we did it at camp: From line formation the squadron commander calls, Flight Commanders, POST. Deputy Squadron Commander, POST. Then he/she instructs the flight commanders to dismiss their squadrons and carry out the orders of the day. They exchange salutes, and then the flight commanders about face and use column of files to get into the dorms/officer training school/wherever.

ROAD GUARD PROCEDURES

See page 57 of the FTM. Here's what the FTM leaves out:

Four cadets will be assigned road guard vests, probably on the first or second day. They will know that they are the road guards because they have the vests; in other words, you won't have to assign new road guards every time you need to cross the road.

On the command **-Road guards, POST**, 2 road guards will post 6 paces to the front of the flight, and 2 road guards will post 6 paces to the rear of the flight. You may call this command at any time, but is best to only call **-Road guards, POST** when you are 6 paces from the road. If you call it earlier, the road guards need their own commands -- so, for example, if you were calling a column left, you would say **-Column left, MARCH**, quickly followed by a **-Road guards, incline left**. That gets really old really fast, so if you have to call complicated moves, just have the road guards return to the flight and call the commands like normal. The command is **-Road guards, secure your gear and post the rear of the flight**, at which time, they do not return to their original spots, but instead fall in at the rear of the flight. This is one of those rare times when cadets can fall into the flight when it's not in line formation.

After calling **-Road guards, OUT**, say and point, **-One here, one here**. Although it's not in the FTM, just say that until you're told not to.

If at a 3 way intersection, have the four cadets post to the front and rear of the flight as usual, except this time, when you call, **-Road guards, OUT**, say and point **-One here, one here, one here**, thus calling out three road guards. Since only one is left, only 1 cadet will get tapped out. Then when you say **-Road guards, IN**, the 3 road guards will return to 6 paces to the front and rear of the flight.

The correct order of commands is as follows: **-Road guards, POST**, **-Road guards, OUT, one here, one here (one here)**, **-Road Guards, IN**, and **-Road guards, secure your gear and post the rear of the flight**.

DINING FACILITY PROCEDURES

See pages 62-67 of the FTM.

RULES FOR THE GUIDE

4.2.1. The guide sets the direction and cadence of the march. The guide of the leading flight of a squadron marching in column sets the direction and cadence of march for the squadron. (This means that when you're in squadron formation, there is a guide for both flights, but also one at the head of the squadron)

4.2.2. When a flight in line is commanded to face to the right, the guide executes right face with the flight. The guide then performs a face in marching to the right, marches to a position in front of the right file, halts, and executes a left face.

4.2.3. When a flight marching in column is commanded to flank to the left or right or march to the rear, the guide executes the movement. The relative position of the guide does not change within the flight except when the flight is halted in line in such a manner that the guide is not abreast of the front rank. The guide then moves to a position abreast of the front rank.

4.2.4. Unless otherwise announced, the position of the guide within a flight, in line or in column, marching or halted, is right. When it is desired to change the base for a movement, the new position of the guide is assigned preceding the preparatory command for the movement. The dress is always to the base element. (I don't know of any instances when you'll have to give the guide a command to move him/her to a new position).

4.2.5. When the flight is in column and it is desired to position the guide to the left, the command **GUIDE LEFT** is given. On this command, the guide and flight commander exchange positions by passing right shoulder to right shoulder. To return the guide to the normal position, **GUIDE RIGHT** is given. The guide and flight commander return to their normal positions by again passing right shoulder to right shoulder. The movement can be made either at a halt or while marching. (I know of no time when making this call is necessary)

4.2.6. Normally, the flight is marched with the element leaders and the guide at the head of the column. (Hmm.... I'm not sure why they even put this sentence in this manual. Where else would the element leaders be?).

HOW TO HOLD THE GUIDON

5.13. Order Guidon. Order guidon is the position of attention. The guidon bearer holds the guidon in a vertical position and keeps the ferrule (the bottom tip) on the ground beside the right shoe. The guidon bearer holds the staff in the right hand in the "V" formed by the thumb and by the fingers extended and joined. The right hand and arm are kept behind the staff with the arm bent naturally and the staff resting against the hollow of the shoulder.

5.14. Carry Guidon. Carry guidon is the position in which the ferrule is approximately 6 inches from the ground.

5.14.1. Facings, alignments, and formal marchings require carry guidon. The guidon bearer keeps the staff in a vertical position throughout the movements and brings it to carry guidon on the preparatory command for the movement.

5.14.2. When marching at route step or at ease, the guidon bearer may hold the guidon in either hand at the carry position.

5.14.3. Parade rest is executed by sliding the hand up the staff and inclining the staff of the guidon forward at arms length with the hand at waist level.

5.14.4. At double time, the guidon bearer holds the guidon diagonally across the body. The guidon bearer grasps the staff with the right hand at the position used at the carry, with the right forearm horizontal and the elbow near the body. The staff is grasped with the left hand opposite the left shoulder.

5.14.5. When executing *column movements* and turns, the guidon bearer executes the movement on the command of execution and then moves at 45-degree angles to a position in front of the base file. (In other words, pivot when you're supposed to, but then autopilot until you're in front of the third element leader like you're supposed to be)

5.14.6. When the squadron is in column with the squadron commander on the flank, the guidon bearers position is five paces in front of and centered on the front rank of the leading flight.

DRILL AND CEREMONIES MYTHS AND DET-ISMS

Nowhere in the drill and ceremonies manual does it say...

-to take a step back and about face on the command of **DISMISSED**. However, it does say that on the command **FRONT AND CENTER**, the individual takes one step backward (with coordinated arm swing), faces to the left or right, proceeds to the closest flank, and then proceeds to the front of the formation by the most direct route.

-that if you're at close interval and the command **COVER** is given, then you need to return to normal interval, nor does it say that the command **At Close Interval, COVER** is necessary, or even exists for that matter. It simply states that when the command **COVER** is given, the leading individual of each file (excluding the base file) obtains the proper interval, normal or close.

-that on the command of **COVER** you only have 3 seconds to move.

-that when you are double timing, and want to incline to the left or the right, that you need to say, Incline to the Left 90 degrees, or Incline to the Right 45 degrees, etc. All it says is **INCLINE TO THE LEFT** or **INCLINE TO THE RIGHT**. So I'm not sure if inclining 45 degrees or any other degree is actually legal, but almost all cadets say it anyways.

-that when you are giving the guidon to another cadet that the cadet is supposed to grasp the guidon with both hands, say "truce," shake the guidon, and then you let go and he/she has it. You just give it to him/her.

THE INCLINE TO THE LEFT/RIGHT CONTROVERSY IN QUICK TIME

In the past, some cadets have cited the following as the command to call when you want to generically incline to the side of a sidewalk or path:

4.12.4. To execute a slight change of direction, the command **INCLINE TO THE RIGHT (LEFT)** is given. The guide or guiding element moves in the indicated direction, and the rest of the element follows. There is no pivot in this movement.

At first glance, it *seems* legit. However, the problem with them doing this is this: 4.12 is **Column Half Left/Right March**. That makes 4.12.4 a *subsection* of **Column Half Left/Right March**. That leads me to believe that **INCLINE TO THE RIGHT/LEFT** can only be called after calling a Column Half Left/Right. But seeing as the unit is in column formation after calling a Column Half Left/Right, I see no reason why you shouldn't be able to call this command at *any* time when in column formation.

So make a decision on which side of the controversy you side with and be ready to defend your stance if questioned.

At my encampment, my CTA told my flight to say, “Guide, incline to the right/left side of the sidewalk/troop walk/road/path/whatever you were marching on.” I think that’s a basic standard that many detachments have adopted.

DRILL AND CEREMONIES TEST

BY CADET ANDREW VILLAGRAN

1. This word means the alignment of cadets side by side:
2. What is the length of a normal *interval*?
3. What is the length of a close *interval*?
4. This word means the alignment of a cadet behind another:
5. What is the *distance* from one cadet to another?
6. What is a pace?
7. What is the length of a full step in quick time?
8. What is the length of a full step in mark time?
9. How high above the ground does one raise the ball of each foot in mark time?
10. What is the length of a full step in double time?
11. T/F Cadets should march approximately 2 steps per second in mark time and quick time.
12. T/F Cadets should march 4 steps per second in double time:
13. In the command Forward, MARCH, the command of execution is:
14. Name three commands that have the preparatory command and the command of execution combined:
15. Name two commands that are given when one unit of the element must execute a movement different from the other units or must execute the same movement at a different time:
16. T/F When giving commands, flight commanders may add the name of their flight to the command, such as Alpha Flight, HALT:
17. T/F You will sometimes march in column formation with 2 or 4 elements at field training:
18. T/F Cadence is called in the following manner: HUP, TOOP, THREEP, FOURP; HUP, TOOP, THREEP, FOURP:

- 19. T/F When in squadron formation, the cadets calling cadence in both flights will alternate calling cadence so that cadence is always being called:**
- 20. What does the acronym Little People Die In Space stand for?**
- 21. On the command of FALL IN, how many paces away from the flight commander should the flight fall in?**
- 22. T/F On the command of FALL IN, the guide performs an automatic dress right dress until he/she feels the presence of the first element leader on his/her fingertips, at which point the guide executes an automatic ready front:**
- 23. T/F On the command of FALL IN, cadets are to fall into any open position to the left of the element leaders, execute an automatic dress right dress to establish dress and cover, and then execute an automatic ready front:**
- 24. Who occupies the last position in the third element?**
- 25. What is the command to fall in at close interval?**
- 26. How are FALL IN and DISMISSED the same?**
- 27. How are FALL IN and DISMISSED different?**
- 28. T/F Facing movements are performed in 4 counts:**
- 29. What does it mean to perform facing movements in the cadence of quick time?**
- 30. T/F An easy way to check if your feet are 90 degrees is to do the following: make a 90 degree angle with your feet, close the angle halfway, and then memorize what this looks/feels like:**
- 31. How many degrees does one turn at the command of About, FACE?**
- 32. T/F You may use the command Hand, SALUTE for training purposes only:**
- 33. T/F A cadet may “return to ranks” following a different path from the one he/she took left when the command FRONT AND CENTER was called:**
- 34. How many inches to the front and rear of the cadet should the armswing be?**
- 35. On what foot is Flight, HALT called from?**
- 36. On the command Flight, HALT, the airman will take how many more 24-inch steps before stopping?**
- 37. On what foot is Mark Time, MARCH called from?**

38. On the command Mark Time, MARCH, the airman will take how many more 24-inch steps before marching in place?

39. On the command Mark Time, MARCH, how many inches above the ground are the feet raised?

40. During mark time, do individuals maintain normal armswing or do arms remain stationary at the sides?

41. The halt in mark time is similar to the halt in _____ (quick or double) time.

42. The airman, when executing mark time from a halt, raises and lowers first the _____ (left or right) foot and then the _____ (left or right).

43. T/F When marching in quick time and on the command MARCH (given as either foot strikes the ground), the airman takes one more step in quick time and then steps off in double time:

44. What command is called to resume quick time from double time?

45. When calling Quick Time, MARCH from Double Time, how many steps are between “Quick Time” and “MARCH”?

46. To halt from double time, the command Flight, HALT is given as either foot strikes the ground, with four steps between commands. The airman will take _____ (2,3, or 4) more steps in double time and halt in _____ (2,3, or 4) counts at quick time, lowering the arms to the sides.

47. Name the only 4 commands that can be given to a flight in double time:

48. At Ease, MARCH and Route Step, MARCH are both called on what foot?

49. At Ease, MARCH and Route Step, MARCH are both the same except for this one difference:

50. Column Left March and Column Right March are easy:

51. When the command Column Half Right, MARCH is given, the leading airman of the right flank advances _____ (1,2, or 3) full _____ (12, 24, 48) inch steps, maintaining coordinated armswing, pivots 45 degrees to the _____ (right or left) on the ball of the _____ (right or left) foot. The airman then takes up the half step and continues in a half step until each member in his or her rank is _____.

52. When all members of the above mentioned rank are abreast of each other they _____.

53. T/F In the meantime (following the above scenario), the remaining individuals of the leading rank pivot 45 degrees to the right, with coordinated armswing and without changing the interval, and continue marching in full 12-inch steps until they are abreast of

the base file. At this point, they conform to the step of the individual in the right flank and establish the proper interval:

54. Explain what this means: 4.12.3. When column half right (left) is executed from a halt, the procedures are the same as described in paragraphs 4.12.1 and 4.12.2 above except, on the command of execution, the element leaders begin the movement by executing a face in marching to the indicated direction:

55. On the command Left Flank, MARCH, the airman will take how many more 24-inch steps before pivoting 90 degrees to the left?

56. Can Left Flank March be called from a halt?

57. When Right Flank March is called from a halt, does the cadet take 1 step forward with the left foot then pivot?

58. How wide should steps be in Right/Left Step March?

59. To halt from the right (left) step, the preparatory command and command of execution are given as the heels _____ (separate, come together).

60. Half Step, March is called on which foot?

61. The 12 inches in half-steps are measured from what to what?

62. T/F Forward, March can be called from either foot when in half-steps:

63. T/F When Forward, March is called when in half-steps, on the command MARCH, the airman takes one more 12-inch step with the right foot and then steps out with a full 24-inch step with the left foot:

64. T/F The halt executed from a half step is similar to the halt executed from a 24 inch step.

65. T/F The half step can be executed from the halt:

66. T/F Changes of direction can be made from the half step:

67. T/F Half Step March can be executed only from quick time:

68. T/F During Half Step March, normal arm swing is maintained:

69. What foot is change step called on?

70. T/F Armswing is not suspended during Change Step March.

71. What series of steps are taken during To the Rear March?

72. T/F For Dress Right, DRESS, on the command DRESS, everyone in each element raises and extends the left arm laterally from the shoulder with snap so the arm is parallel with the ground:

73. During Dress Right, Dress, at what point is the hand uncapped when raising it?

74. During Dress Right, Dress, when the arm is extended, the palm should be facing which direction?

75. During Dress Right, Dress, cadets are to turn their head and eyes 45 degrees to the right with snap. Are the head and eyes facing the same direction (i.e. 45 degrees to the right)?

76. T/F During Dress Right, Dress, the second and third element leaders align themselves directly behind the person in front of them (using small choppy steps) and visually establish a 30-inch distance:

77. T/F During Dress Right, Dress, the remaining members align themselves behind the individual in front of or to the right of them:

78. T/F During Dress Right, Dress, cadets who raise their left arms may or may not reach the shoulders of the person to their left:

79. During Dress Right, Dress, if the arm is too long, the extended hand is placed _____ of the individual to the left. If the arm is too short, leave it extended _____ the individual to the left and parallel to the ground.

80. During Dress Right, Dress, when Ready, FRONT is called, at what point is the hand recapped?

81. What is the difference between Dress Right Dress and At Close Interval, Dress Right Dress?

82. If a flight is in normal interval, can they call At Close Interval, Dress Right, DRESS to get the flight into close interval?

83. Can either Dress Right Dress or At Close Interval, Dress Right Dress be called from column or inverted column formation?

84. When giving the command Dress Left, DRESS or At Close Interval, Dress Left, DRESS, use the procedures for dress right dress except _____, _____, and _____.

85. Is the command At Close Interval, COVER real?

86. If a flight in column formation at close interval needs to cover, what command is given?

87. Is there a 3 second rule when covering?

88. Can Cover be called from inverted line formation?

89. Eyes Right is given on which foot?

90. T/F On the command of Eyes, RIGHT, all persons turn their heads and eyes smartly 45 degrees to the right:

91. T/F The command Ready, FRONT is also called on the right foot:

92. T/F You should review the Open Ranks Inspection PowerPoint presentation made by Cadets Scott and Gombio:

93. After the command Count, OFF is given, do flight commanders or guides say count off?

94. After the command Count, OFF is given, cadets sound off in a _____ (normal, loud, screeching) tone of voice.

95. After the command Count, OFF is given, how do cadets in ranks 2, 3, etc know when they are to turn their heads and say their number?

96. T/F The only way to go from normal to close interval and vice versa is to call Close or Extend March:

97. From a halt, when Close, MARCH is called, the third element _____, the second element _____, and the first element _____.

98. From a halt, when Extend, MARCH is called, the third element _____, the second element _____, and the first element _____.

99. Close and Extend March, when called while marching, are called on which foot?

100. The second element obtains close interval by pivoting 45 degrees to the _____ on the ball of the _____ foot, taking one 24-inch step (with coordinated armswing) toward the third element, and then pivoting 45 degrees back to the _____ on the ball of the _____ foot.

101. The first element takes _____ steps between pivots.

102. T/F The half step is taken up once close interval is obtained:

DRILL AND CEREMONIES TEST WITH ANSWERS

BY CADET ANDREW VILLAGRAN

1. This word means the alignment of cadets side by side: (dress)
2. What is the length of a normal *interval*? (an arms length)
3. What is the length of a close *interval*? (4 inches)
4. This word means the alignment of a cadet behind another: (cover)
5. What is the *distance* from one cadet to another? (40 inches as measured from the rear individual's chest to the back of the individual directly in front of him/her)
6. What is a pace? (a step of 24 inches)
7. What is the length of a full step in quick time? (24 inches)
8. What is the length of a full step in mark time? (0 inches)
9. How high above the ground does one raise the ball of each foot in mark time? (4 inches)
10. What is the length of a full step in double time? (30 inches)
11. T/F Cadets should march approximately 2 steps per second in mark time and quick time. (True - 100 to 120 steps per minute)
12. T/F Cadets should march 4 steps per second in double time: (False - 180 steps per minute = 3 steps per minute)
13. In the command Forward, MARCH, the command of execution is: (March)
14. Name three commands that have the preparatory command and the command of execution combined: (FALL IN, AT EASE, REST)
15. Name two commands that are given when one unit of the element must execute a movement different from the other units or must execute the same movement at a different time: (CONTINUE THE MARCH, STAND FAST)
16. T/F When giving commands, flight commanders may add the name of their flight to the command, such as Alpha Flight, HALT: (False – flight commanders may add the *letter* only, i.e. A Flight, HALT)
17. T/F You will sometimes march in column formation with 2 or 4 elements at field training: (False - you will always march with 3 elements)

18. T/F Cadence is called in the following manner: HUP, TOOP, THREEP, FOURP; HUP, TOOP, THREEP, FOURP: (False – it's *HUT*, TOOP, THREEP, FOURP; *HUT*, TOOP, THREEP, FOURP)

19. T/F When in squadron formation, the cadets calling cadence in both flights will alternate calling cadence so that cadence is always being called: (True)

20. What does the acronym Little People Die In Space stand for? (Loudness, Projection, Distinctness, Inflection, Snap)

21. On the command of FALL IN, how many paces away from the flight commander should the flight fall in? (3 paces)

22. T/F On the command of FALL IN, the guide performs an automatic dress right dress until he/she feels the presence of the first element leader on his/her fingertips, at which point the guide executes an automatic ready front: (True)

23. T/F On the command of FALL IN, cadets are to fall into any open position to the left of the element leaders, execute an automatic dress right dress to establish dress and cover, and then execute an automatic ready front: (True)

24. Who occupies the last position in the third element? (deputy flight commander)

25. What is the command to fall in at close interval? (At Close Interval, FALL IN)

26. How are FALL IN and DISMISSED the same? (both allow cadets to break rank, i.e. move around and talk)

27. How are FALL IN and DISMISSED different? (FALL OUT - individuals must remain in the immediate area; DISMISSED – individuals may leave the area)

28. T/F Facing movements are performed in 4 counts: (False – 2 counts)

29. What does it mean to perform facing movements in the cadence of quick time? (The rate of marching at 100 to 120 steps per minute – in other words, 2 counts will take you 1 second or less)

30. T/F An easy way to check if your feet are 90 degrees is to do the following: make a 90 degree angle with your feet, close the angle halfway, and then memorize what this looks/feels like: (True – just don't do this in formation)

31. How many degrees does one turn at the command of About, FACE? (180 degrees)

32. T/F You may use the command Hand, SALUTE for training purposes only: (True)

33. T/F A cadet may “return to ranks” following a different path from the one he/she took left when the command FRONT AND CENTER was called: (False – cadets are supposed to follow the same path, but no one probably knows about this or cares)

34. How many inches to the front and rear of the cadet should the armswing be? (6 inches to the front (measured from the rear of the hand to the front of the thigh) and 3 inches to the rear (measured from the front of the hand to the back of the thigh))

35. On what foot is Flight, HALT called from? (either foot)

36. On the command Flight, HALT, the airman will take how many more 24-inch steps before stopping? (1 step)

37. On what foot is Mark Time, MARCH called from? (either foot)

38. On the command Mark Time, MARCH, the airman will take how many more 24-inch steps before marching in place? (1 step)

39. On the command Mark Time, MARCH, how many inches above the ground are the feet raised? (4 inches)

40. During mark time, do individuals maintain normal armswing or do arms remain stationary at the sides? (normal armswing)

41. The halt in mark time is similar to the halt in _____ (quick or double) time. (quick)

42. The airman, when executing mark time from a halt, raises and lowers first the _____ (left or right) foot and then the _____ (left or right). (left, right)

43. T/F When marching in quick time and on the command MARCH (given as either foot strikes the ground), the airman takes one more step in quick time and then steps off in double time: (True)

44. What command is called to resume quick time from double time? (Quick Time, MARCH)

45. When calling Quick Time, MARCH from Double Time, how many steps are between “Quick Time” and “MARCH”? (4 steps)

46. To halt from double time, the command Flight, HALT is given as either foot strikes the ground, with four steps between commands. The airman will take _____ (2,3, or 4) more steps in double time and halt in _____ (2,3, or 4) counts at quick time, lowering the arms to the sides. (2, 2)

47. Name the only 4 commands that can be given to a flight in double time: (Incline to the Right; Incline to the Left; Quick Time, MARCH; and Flight, HALT)

48. At Ease, MARCH and Route Step, MARCH are both called on what foot? (either as long as both the preparatory command and command of execution are given on the same foot and only from quick time)

49. At Ease, MARCH and Route Step, MARCH are both the same except for this one difference: (for At Ease March you can't talk, but for Route Step March you can – so you probably can't use Route Step March at field training)

50. Column Left March and Column Right March are easy: (True)

51. When the command Column Half Right, MARCH is given, the leading airman of the right flank advances _____ (1,2, or 3) full _____ (12, 24, 48) inch steps, maintaining coordinated armswing, pivots 45 degrees to the _____ (right or left) on the ball of the _____ (right or left) foot. The airman then takes up the half step and continues in a half step until each member in his or her rank is _____. (1, 24, right, left, abreast of each other)

52. When all members of the above mentioned rank are abreast of each other they _____. (resume a full 24-inch step)

53. T/F In the meantime (following the above scenario), the remaining individuals of the leading rank pivot 45 degrees to the right, with coordinated armswing and without changing the interval, and continue marching in full 12-inch steps until they are abreast of the base file. At this point, they conform to the step of the individual in the right flank and establish the proper interval: (False – the 12-inch steps should be 24-inch steps)

54. Explain what this means: 4.12.3. When column half right (left) is executed from a halt, the procedures are the same as described in paragraphs 4.12.1 and 4.12.2 above except, on the command of execution, the element leaders begin the movement by executing a face in marching to the indicated direction: (It means that when you hear MARCH, the element leaders execute the facing movement (Half Left Face), but instead of bringing the heels together after pivoting they step off and continue marching)

55. On the command Left Flank, MARCH, the airman will take how many more 24-inch steps before pivoting 90 degrees to the left? (1 step)

56. Can Left Flank March be called from a halt? (Yes)

57. When Right Flank March is called from a halt, does the cadet take 1 step forward with the left foot then pivot? (No – for both right and left flanks, on the command MARCH, the airman executes a 90-degree pivot on the ball of the right (left) foot and, at the same time, steps off with the left (right) foot in the new direction with coordinated arm swing. The pivot and step are executed in one count, and proper dress, cover, interval, and distance are maintained)

58. How wide should steps be in Right/Left Step March? (Place the right (left) foot 12 inches, as measured from the inside of the heels, to the right (left) of the left (right) foot)

59. To halt from the right (left) step, the preparatory command and command of execution are given as the heels _____. (separate, come together). (Come together)

60. Half Step, March is called on which foot? (Either)

- 61. The 12 inches in half-steps are measured from what to what? (Measured from heel to heel)**
- 62. T/F Forward, March can be called from either foot when in half-steps: (False – called only from the left foot)**
- 63. T/F When Forward, March is called when in half-steps, on the command MARCH, the airman takes one more 12-inch step with the right foot and then steps out with a full 24-inch step with the left foot: (True)**
- 64. T/F The halt executed from a half step is similar to the halt executed from a 24 inch step. (True)**
- 65. T/F The half step can be executed from the halt: (False)**
- 66. T/F Changes of direction can be made from the half step: (False)**
- 67. T/F Half Step March can be executed only from quick time: (True)**
- 68. T/F During Half Step March, normal arm swing is maintained: (True)**
- 69. What foot is change step called on? (Right foot)**
- 70. T/F Armswing is not suspended during Change Step March. (False – try this one while moving your arms and see how difficult it is)**
- 71. What series of steps are taken during To the Rear March? (half step, turn, half step, full step)**
- 72. T/F For Dress Right, DRESS, on the command DRESS, everyone in each element raises and extends the left arm laterally from the shoulder with snap so the arm is parallel with the ground: (False - everyone except the last airman)**
- 73. During Dress Right, Dress, at what point is the hand uncapped when raising it? (at approximately waist level)**
- 74. During Dress Right, Dress, when the arm is extended, the palm should be facing which direction? (Down towards the ground)**
- 75. During Dress Right, Dress, cadets are to turn their head and eyes 45 degrees to the right with snap. Are the head and eyes facing the same direction (i.e. 45 degrees to the right)? (No – the eyes need to be turned 45 degrees, and because the head is already 45 degrees, that means the eyes are now looking over your right shoulder)**
- 76. T/F During Dress Right, Dress, the second and third element leaders align themselves directly behind the person in front of them (using small choppy steps) and visually establish a 30-inch distance: (False – 40-inch distance)**

77. T/F During Dress Right, Dress, the remaining members align themselves behind the individual in front of or to the right of them: (True)

78. T/F During Dress Right, Dress, cadets who raise their left arms may or may not reach the shoulders of the person to their left: (True)

79. During Dress Right, Dress, if the arm is too long, the extended hand is placed _____ of the individual to the left. If the arm is too short, leave it extended _____ the individual to the left and parallel to the ground. (behind the shoulder, toward)

80. During Dress Right, Dress, when Ready, FRONT is called, at what point is the hand recapped? (at approximately waist level)

81. What is the difference between Dress Right Dress and At Close Interval, Dress Right Dress? (For At Close Interval, Dress Right Dress, all airmen except the last one in each element raise their left hand so the heel of the hand rests on the left hip, fingers extended and joined, thumb along the forefinger, fingertips pointed toward the ground, and the elbow in line with the body)

82. If a flight is in normal interval, can they call At Close Interval, Dress Right, DRESS to get the flight into close interval? (No, Dress Right (Left), DRESS is not given to a flight at normal interval, and Dress Right (Left), DRESS is not given to a flight at close interval)

83. Can either Dress Right Dress or At Close Interval, Dress Right Dress be called from column or inverted column formation? (No, only from line/inverted line formation)

84. When giving the command Dress Left, DRESS or At Close Interval, Dress Left, DRESS, use the procedures for dress right dress except _____, _____, and _____. (the flight must be in inverted line formation, the right arm/hand raised, and the head turned left)

85. Is the command At Close Interval, COVER real? (No, it does not exist in the D&C)

86. If a flight in column formation at close interval needs to cover, what command is given? (Cover)

87. Is there a 3 second rule when covering? (No, it's nowhere to be found in the D&C)

88. Can Cover be called from inverted line formation? (Yes, though I know of no occasion when this would be necessary/beneficial)

89. Eyes Right is given on which foot? (Right foot)

90. T/F On the command of Eyes, RIGHT, all persons turn their heads and eyes smartly 45 degrees to the right: (False - all persons except those on the right flank)

91. T/F The command Ready, FRONT is also called on the right foot: (False – it's always called on the left foot)

92. T/F You should review the Open Ranks Inspection PowerPoint presentation made by Cadets Scott and Gombio: (True)

93. After the command Count, OFF is given, do flight commanders or guides say count off? (No)

94. After the command Count, OFF is given, cadets sound off in a _____ (normal, loud, screeching) tone of voice. (normal)

95. After the command Count, OFF is given, how do cadets in ranks 2, 3, etc know when they are to turn their heads and say their number? (Once the heads of the individuals of the previous rank are turned back to the front, individuals in the next rank turn their heads 45 degrees to the right and call out the subsequent number)

96. T/F The only way to go from normal to close interval and vice versa is to call Close or Extend March: (True)

97. From a halt, when Close, MARCH is called, the third element _____, the second element _____, and the first element _____. (stands fast, takes two steps right, takes 4 steps right)

98. From a halt, when Extend, MARCH is called, the third element _____, the second element _____, and the first element _____. (stands fast, takes two steps left, takes 4 steps left)

99. Close and Extend March, when called while marching, are called on which foot? (Left foot)

100. The second element obtains close interval by pivoting 45 degrees to the _____ on the ball of the _____ foot, taking one 24-inch step (with coordinated armswing) toward the third element, and then pivoting 45 degrees back to the _____ on the ball of the _____ foot. (right, left, left, right)

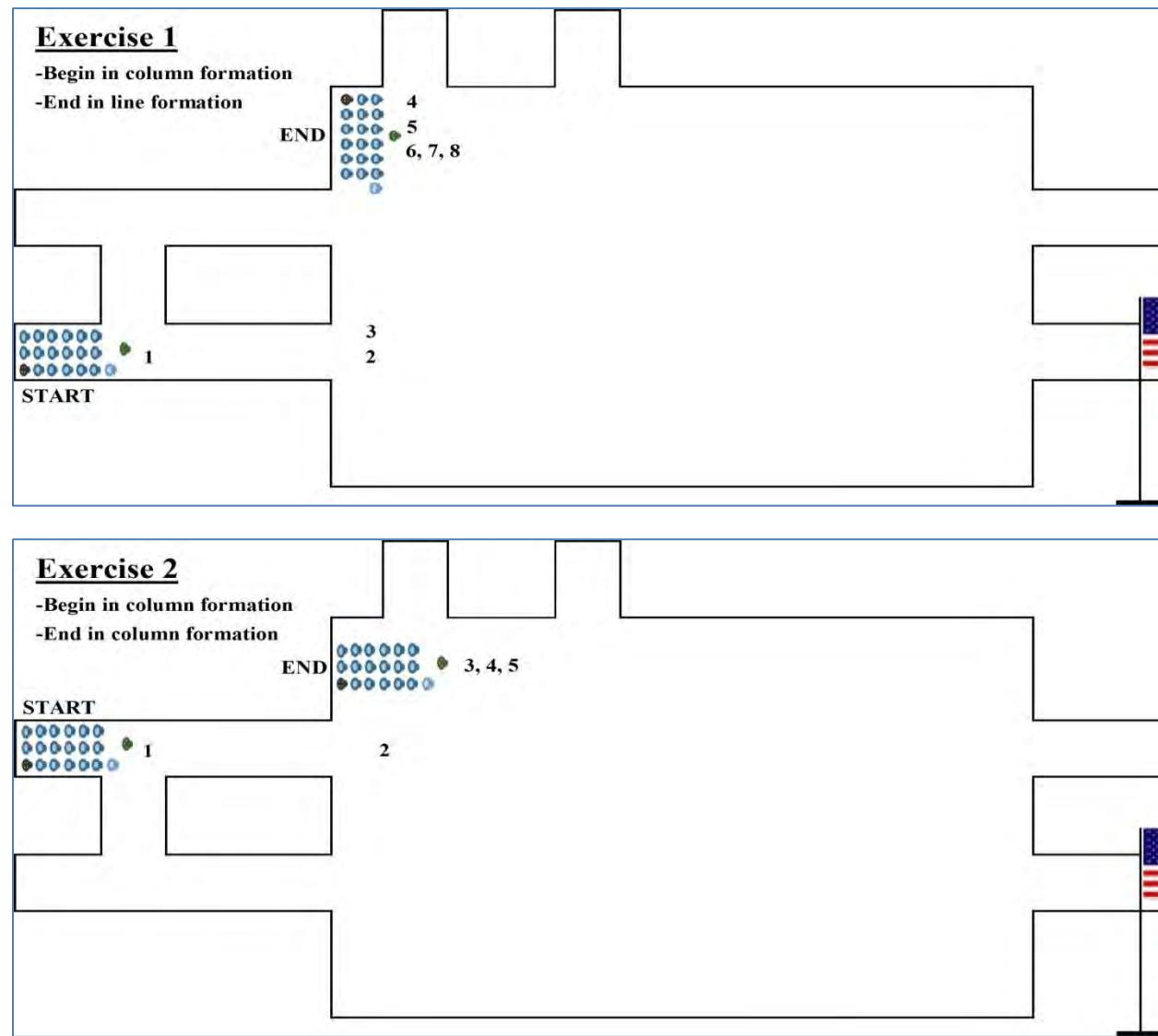
101. The first element takes _____ steps between pivots. (Three)

102. T/F The half step is taken up once close interval is obtained: (True)

DRILL AND CEREMONIES EXERCISES

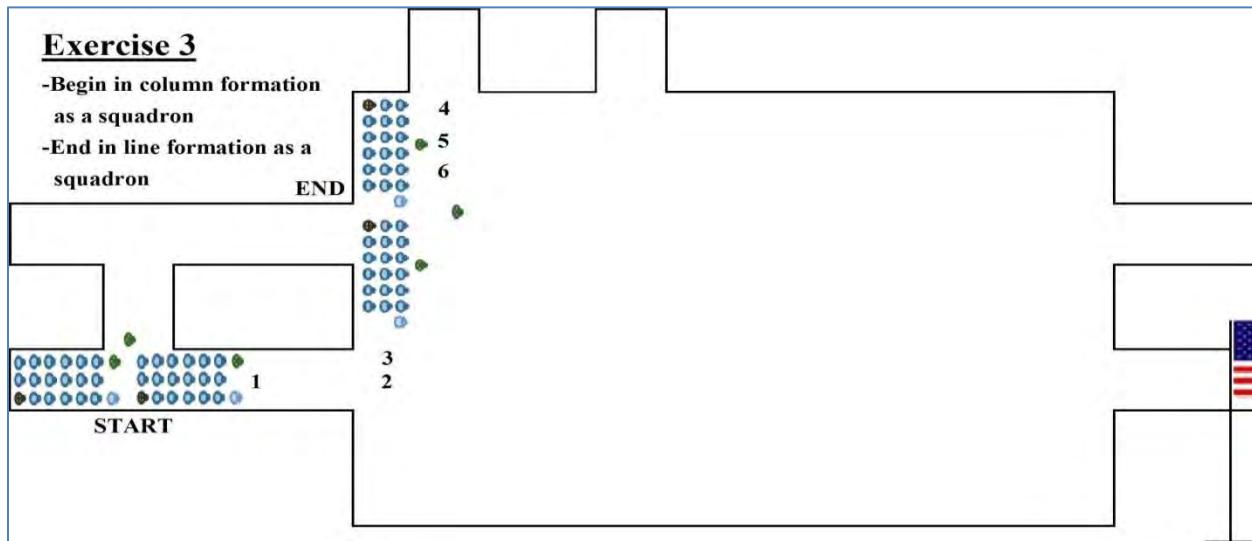
BY CADET ANDREW VILLAGRAN

For the following exercises, see if you can figure out what series of commands to call to get your flight or squadron from the starting point to the ending point. Calling FALL OUT and FALL IN to rearrange the formation is unacceptable and is in poor taste. I spent hours talking to cadets asking them about how their flight/squadron was arranged on the reveille/retreat pad, and their answers varied significantly. It seems the formations are dependent on the Field Training Unit and whether or not anyone in the group staff chooses to standardize the parking arrangements. The answers are posted at the end of the exercises and the series of calls correspond to the numbers on each picture.



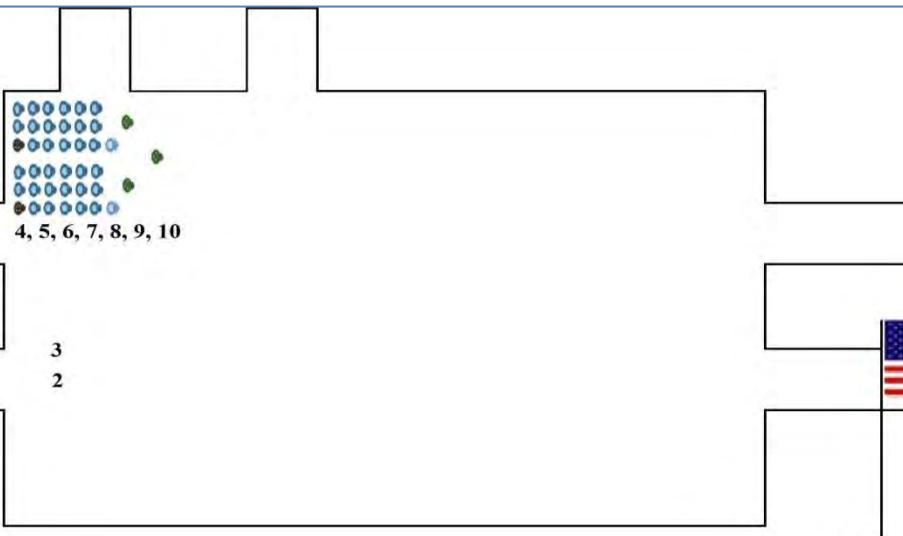
Exercise 3

- Begin in column formation as a squadron
- End in line formation as a squadron



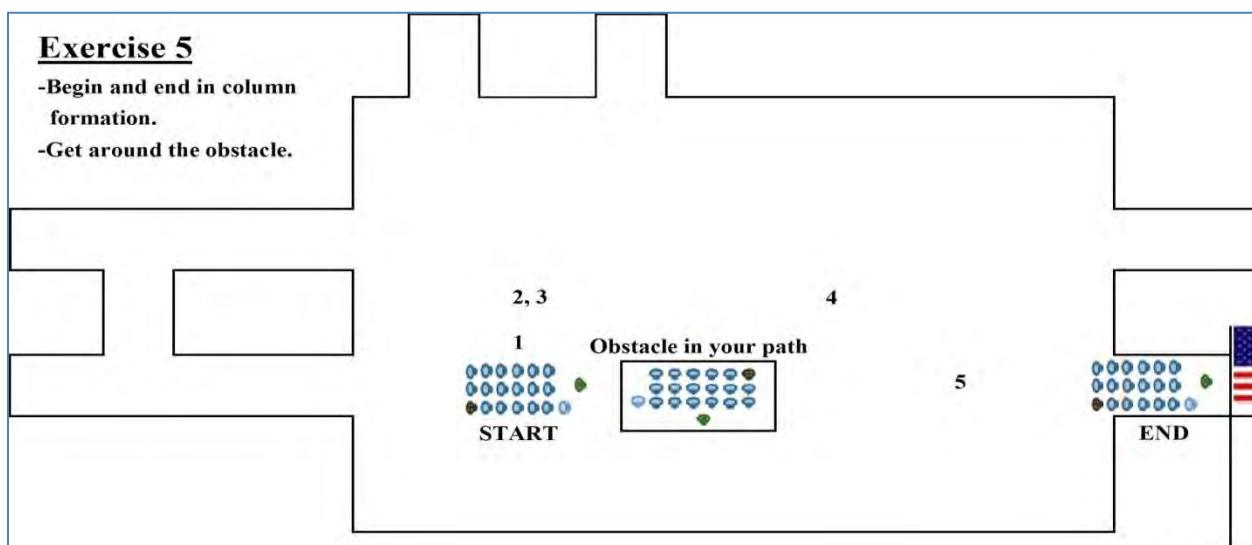
Exercise 4

- Begin in column formation as a squadron
- End as a squadron with both flights in column formation side by side



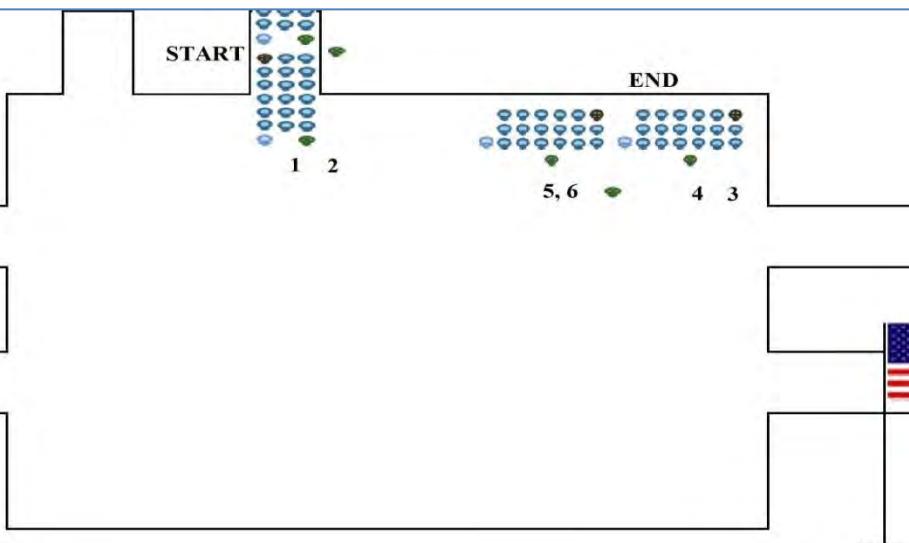
Exercise 5

- Begin and end in column formation.
- Get around the obstacle.



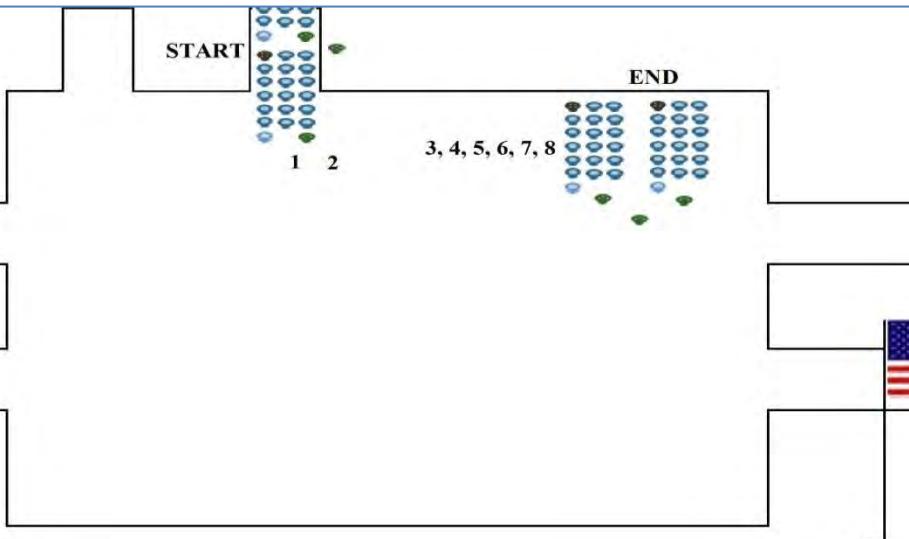
Exercise 6

- Begin in column formation as a squadron
- End in line formation as a squadron



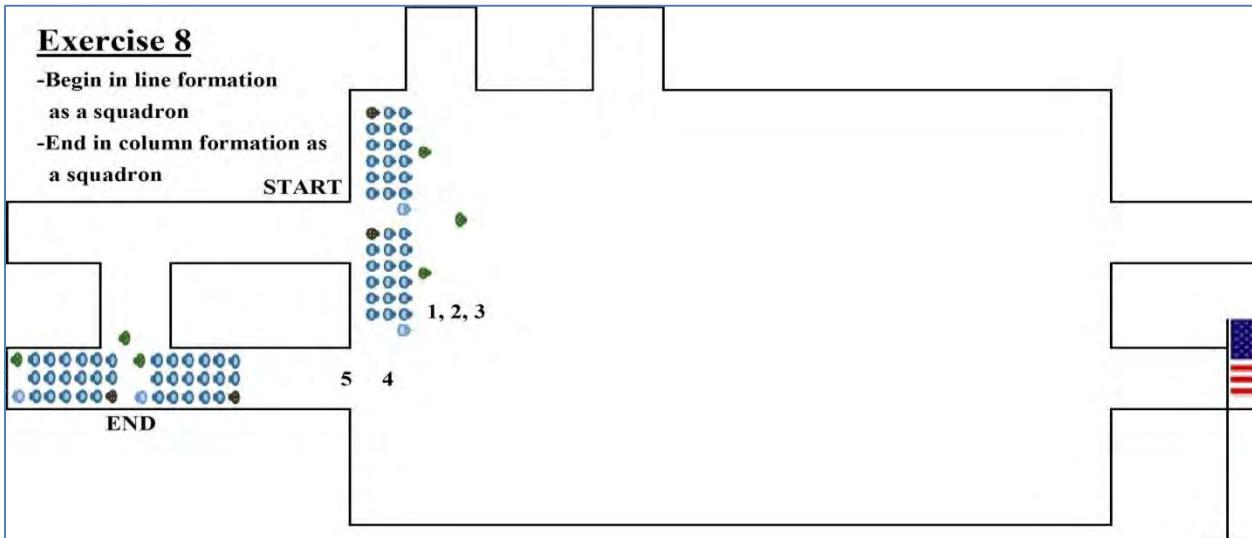
Exercise 7

- Begin in column formation as a squadron
- End as a squadron with both flights in column formation side by side



Exercise 8

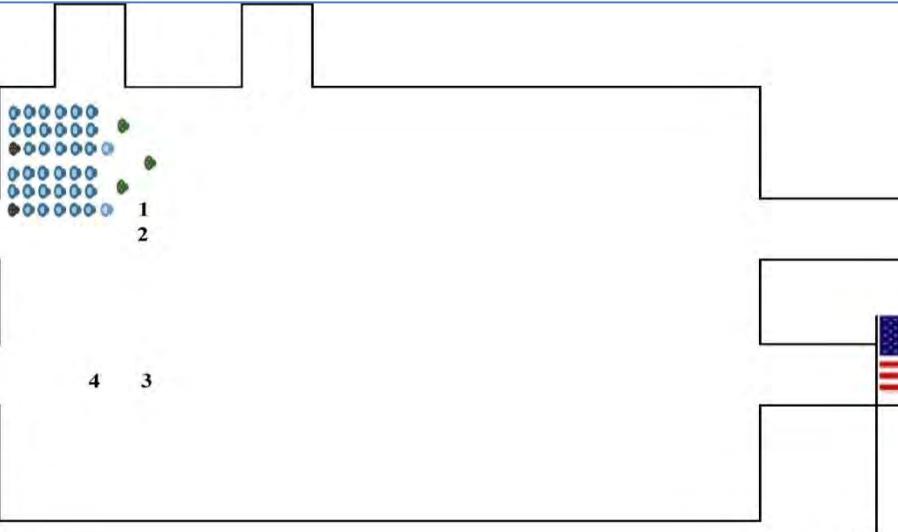
- Begin in line formation as a squadron
- End in column formation as a squadron



Exercise 9

- Begin as a squadron with both flights in column formation side by side
- End in line formation as a squadron

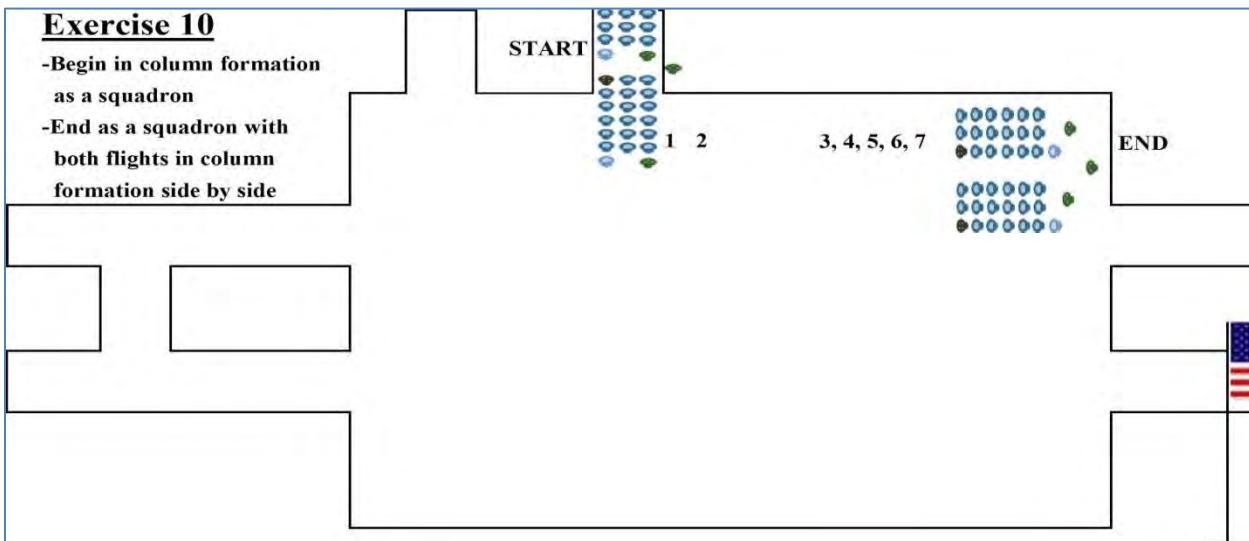
START



Exercise 10

- Begin in column formation as a squadron
- End as a squadron with both flights in column formation side by side

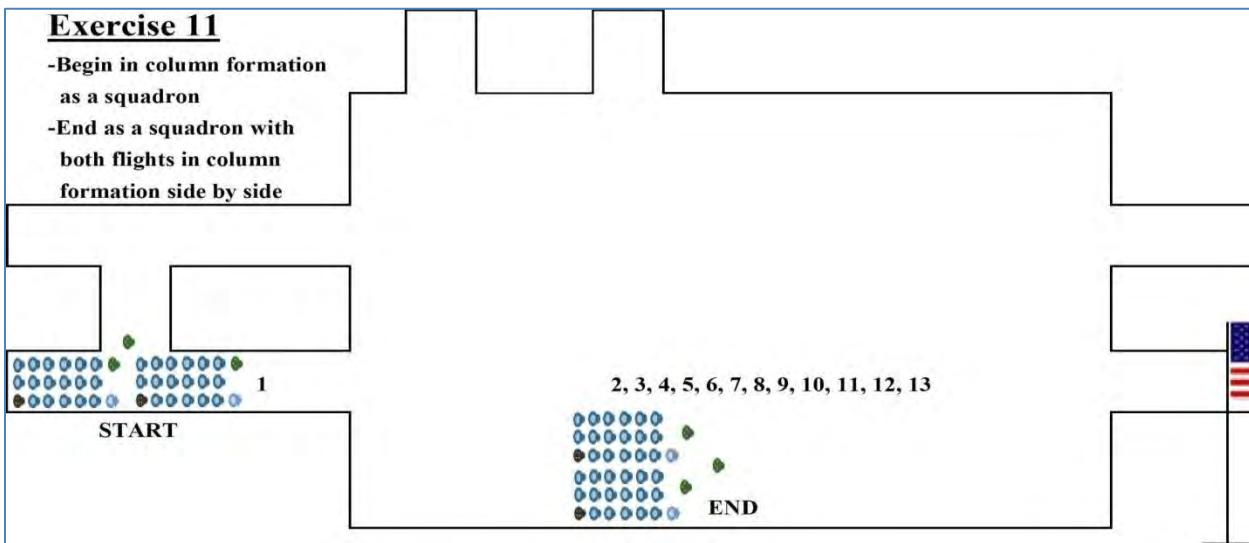
START



Exercise 11

- Begin in column formation as a squadron
- End as a squadron with both flights in column formation side by side

START



Exercise 12

- Begin in column formation as a flight
- End in column formation as a flight



Exercise 13

- Begin in column formation as a flight
- End in column formation as a flight



DRILL AND CEREMONIES EXERCISES ANSWERS

BY CADET ANDREW VILLAGRAN

EXERCISE 1

1. Forward, MARCH
2. Column Left, MARCH
3. Forward, MARCH
4. Counter, MARCH
5. Forward, MARCH
6. Flight, HALT
7. COVER
8. Left, FACE

EXERCISE 2

1. Forward, MARCH
2. Left Flank, MARCH
3. Flight, HALT
4. COVER
5. Right, FACE

EXERCISE 3

1. Squadron (Flight) Forward, MARCH
2. Column Left (Column Left), MARCH
3. Forward (Forward), MARCH
4. Counter (Counter), MARCH
5. Forward (Forward), MARCH
6. Squadron (Flight), HALT

() = Flight commanders echoing commands

Alternate Option:

At point 1: Squadron commander dismisses the squadron and instructs them to march as individual flights into their spots on the reveille/retreat pad. Squadron commander falls into his/her flight.

EXERCISE 4

1. Squadron (Flight) Forward, MARCH () = Flight commanders echoing commands
2. Column Left (Column Left), MARCH
3. Forward (Forward), MARCH
4. Squadron (Flight), HALT
5. Until further notice, B Flight Standby. Column Right (Column Right), MARCH.
6. Forward (Forward), MARCH
7. Squadron (Flight), HALT
8. A Flight Standby. Column Right (Column Right), MARCH
9. Forward (Forward), MARCH
10. Squadron (Flight), HALT

Although not a legal command in this formation, squadron commanders might choose to call Flight Commanders, POST to have the flight commanders post to the front and centers of their flights.

Alternate Option:

At point 1: Squadron commander dismisses the squadron and instructs them to march as individual flights into their spots on the reveille/retreat pad. Squadron commander falls into his/her flight.

EXERCISE 5

1. Left Step, MARCH
2. Flight, HALT
3. Forward, MARCH
4. Column Half Right, MARCH
5. Column Half Left, MARCH

EXERCISE 6

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Column Left (Column Left), MARCH 2. Forward (Forward), MARCH 3. Counter (Counter), MARCH 4. Forward (Forward), MARCH 5. Squadron (Flight), HALT 6. Left (Left), FACE | () = Flight commanders echoing commands |
|--|--|

This time, calling the flight commanders to post before calling Left Face is appropriate without question since the squadron wants to end up in line formation.

Alternate Option:

At point 1: Squadron commander dismisses the squadron and instructs them to march as individual flights into their spots on the reveille/retreat pad. Squadron commander falls into his/her flight.

EXERCISE 7

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Column Left (Column Left), MARCH 2. Forward (Forward), MARCH 3. Until further notice, B Flight Standby. Column Right (Column Right), MARCH. 4. Forward (Forward), MARCH 5. Squadron (Flight), HALT 6. A Flight Standby. Column Right (Column Right), MARCH 7. Forward (Forward), MARCH 8. Squadron (Flight), HALT | () = Flight commanders echoing commands |
|---|--|

Although not a legal command in this formation, squadron commanders might choose to call Flight Commanders, POST to have the flight commanders post to the front and centers of their flights.

Alternate Option:

At point 1: Squadron commander dismisses the squadron and instructs them to march as individual flights into their spots on the reveille/retreat pad. Squadron commander falls into his/her flight.

EXERCISE 8

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Right (Right), FACE 2. Flight commanders, POST. 3. Forward (Forward), MARCH 4. Column Right (Column Right), MARCH 5. Forward (Forward), MARCH | () = Flight commanders echoing commands |
|--|--|

EXERCISE 9

Again, although not a legal command in this formation, squadron commanders might choose to call Flight Commanders, POST to have the flight commanders return to their spots within the flights.

1. Column of Flights, Left Flight, Column Right (Column Right) (STAND FAST), MARCH
2. Forward (Forward), MARCH
3. Column Right (Column Right), MARCH
4. Forward (Forward), MARCH

EXERCISE 10

1. Column Left (Column Left), MARCH
 2. Forward (Forward), MARCH
 3. Squadron (Flight), HALT
 4. Until further notice, A Flight Standby. Right Step, MARCH
 5. Squadron (Flight), HALT
 6. Forward (Forward), MARCH
 7. Squadron (Flight), HALT
- () = Flight commanders echoing commands

Or, you can reverse the order of the two flights with the following:

4. Until further notice, B Flight Standby. Right Step, MARCH
5. Squadron (Flight), HALT
6. Until further notice, A Flight Standby
7. Forward (Forward), MARCH
8. Squadron (Flight), HALT

EXERCISE 11

1. Forward (Forward), MARCH
 2. Squadron (Flight), HALT
 3. Until further notice, B Flight Standby
 4. Right (Right), FACE
 5. Forward (Forward), MARCH
 6. Squadron (Flight), HALT
 7. Left (Left), FACE
 7. Until further notice, A Flight Standby
 8. Right (Right), FACE
 9. Forward (Forward), MARCH
 10. Squadron (Flight), HALT
 11. Left (Left), FACE
 12. Forward (Forward), MARCH
 13. Squadron (Flight), HALT
- () = Flight commanders echoing commands

Compare this method with that presented in exercise 10. I prefer the steps in exercise 10.

EXERCISE 12

1. At Close Interval, FALL IN
2. Column Right, MARCH
3. Forward MARCH
4. At Ease, MARCH
5. Flight, ATTENTION (yes, you can call this while the flight is marching to bring them back to attention)
6. Column Left, MARCH
7. Forward, MARCH
8. Guide, incline to the right side of the troop walk
9. Column Left, March
10. Flight, HALT
11. COVER

EXERCISE 13

1. Forward, MARCH
2. Guide, incline to the right side of the troop walk (There is no time to column right, then forward march, then call a column half right, especially if you're in squadron formation)
3. Flight, HALT

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