


Color Guard



Drill Decks: **Update. 2/14/22**

IAW the universal drill cards the head judge will be located on the same side as the entry and exit. This is a change since the old diagram had the judge on the opposite side of the entry and exit.

Additionally, the Color Guard drill deck size will be 55 x 55.

Corrections have been made [here](#).

7

10. **COLOR GUARD (Unarmed and Armed)**

Color Guard drill deck: **70' W x 60' L** (As close to these dimensions as possible)

There will be at least two judges for this event.

NOTE: **Glendale (faux wood and chrome) Drill Rifle only**, must have a functioning bolt and slings SHALL NOT be taped. NOTE: **SOME TYPE OF RUBBER PADDING / BOOT WILL BE REQUIRED FOR ALL RIFLES.**

There will be one category of Color Guards (Male, Female or Mixed) but there will be one Color Guard for Unarmed Division and a totally separate Color Guard for Armed Division.

Upon direction of the Head Judge, the Color Guard will position themselves at the entrance of the drill deck, colors will be cased. As soon as the Color Guard is formed, the Color Guard Commander will be told to begin by the Head Judge. At that time the Color Guard Commander can begin the execution of the card. When the Color Guard Commander reports to the Head Judge they'll be giving an appropriate greeting, name of team, name of school and a brief statement telling the judge they are ready to begin. The entire Color Guard will be judged from the time the team is called to ATTENTION, until they exit the drill area. The departure from the drill deck is graded. The sequence must be committed to memory. Ten (10) points will be deducted from the overall score for

each incorrect command or sequence violation. Two judges will accomplish the Color Guard grading. The Head Judge will dismiss the Color Guard upon completion of the Performance Phase.

All movements will be on the orders of the Color Guard Commander and will be executed according to the sequence listed within this enclosure. The sequence must be performed from memory. No cue cards or prompter cards of any type will be allowed. Each omission, addition of "extra" movements, or movement given out of sequence will be assessed a five (5) point penalty.

The Color Guard Teams will consist of two color bearers and two color guard riflemen. The Color Guard Commander will carry the National Colors.

Judging will be according to the current, MCO 5060.20 Marine Corps Drill and Ceremonies Manual and the current TC 3-21.5 Drill and Ceremonies - Army Publishing Directorate. Color Guard Riflemen will be armed with the Glendale (faux wood and chrome) Drill Rifle.

The standard color staff consists of a 9 ½ foot, hardwood pole capped at each end by metal ferrules. A metal spearhead will be screwed into the top ferrule.

There will be a 25-point deduction if The Colors touch the deck at any time after the Color Guard enters the drill area and until the Color Guard exits the drill area.

POINTS WILL BE DEDUCTED FOR ANY EXHIBITION DRILL CONDUCTED IN THE EXECUTION OF ANY PHASE OF THE COLOR GUARD COMPETITION.

The Color Guard will execute all movements in sequence and from memory. A five second delay is required after all "stationary" commands.

When the sequence is completed, the Color Guard commander will report out by stating, "Sir/Ma'am, the Color Guard from (name of unit) has completed the required Drill". The judging will terminate after the Color Guard exits the drill floor.

The Color Guard drill deck will be properly marked.

(4). Color Guard - (Male, female, or mixed) Deck Size: **70'W x 60' L***. The **only authorized uniform is Blue Dress "B"**. Ribbons, badges, and white gloves are **optional**.

8. Color Guard - The Color Guard will utilize the standard issued National Ensign and MCJROTC Colors. These Colors must be on the standard 9 ½ foot pole with pike. Rifleman will use the Glendale Drill Rifle with a rubber butt plate.

2023 JROTC Universal All Services Color Guard Drill Card

Color Guard

Cadet Cmdr Name:	School Name:	Grand Total:	
CC Initials:	Team Name :		

HEAD JUDGE #1

A 5- second pause must be maintained after executing BOLD UPPERCASE COMMANDS

Notes:

Color Guard Sequence	Point Range	Judge's score
ENTER the drill floor and CENTER on Head Judge to begin		
1. Uncase Colors ³	0-50	
2. Report In ¹	0-20	
3. Colors Reverse March (MC/Counter March)	0-10	
4. Left Wheel March (MC/Left Turn)	0-10	
5. Colors Reverse March (MC/Counter March)	0-10	
6. Mark Time, March (5 Seconds)	0-10	
7. COLOR GUARD HALT	0-10	
8. Order Colors	0-10	
9. Parade Rest	0-10	
10. Color Guard Attention	0-10	
11. CARRY COLORS	0-10	
12. Forward March	0-10	
13. Right Wheel March (MC/Right Turn)	0-10	
14. Right Wheel March (MC/Right Turn)	0-10	
15. Colors Reverse March (MC/Counter March)	0-10	
16. Eyes Right	0-10	
17. Ready Front	0-10	
18. Left Wheel March (MC/Left Turn)	0-10	
19. Left Wheel March (MC/Left Turn)	0-10	
20. Left Wheel March (MC/Left Turn)	0-10	
21. Color Guard, Halt	0-10	
22. Report Out ²	0-20	
OVERALL TECHNICAL SCORE	0-20	
OVERALL PRECISION SCORE	0-20	

1. **Report In** - Scoring for movements needed to move onto the drill floor, center the colors on the head judge & verbally report in.
2. **Report Out** - Scoring for movements needed to center the colors on the head judge, verbally report out, then leave the drill floor.
3. **Uncase Colors** - Scoring for all of the movements required to correctly uncase the colors - specific items are listed within the SOP.

PENALTIES

1. **Boundary Violations:**
 _____ Occurrences @ -10 points per = _____
2. **Incorrect Commands:**
 _____ Occurrences @ -5 points per = _____
3. **Pause Violations:**
 _____ Occurrences @ -5 points per = _____
4. **Uneven/Improper Cadence:**
 Minor (-20 pts) _____ or Major (-50 pts)

SPECIFY DEDUCTION BELOW

5. **Uniform/Equipment Violations:**
 Minor (-20pts) _____ or Major (-50 pts)

SPECIFY DEDUCTION BELOW

PENALTY TOTAL = _____

Teams MUST add "Forward March" command after all wheel and reverses

(for SNI use only)
Judge Total Points

Judges Name: _____

JUDGES NOTES:

Carry Colors (Whole Color Guard)

2. Carry Colors from Order Colors

a. When changing from order colors to carry colors, the command is "Carry, COLORS."

b. At the Command "Carry," change the grip on the staff to the "V" grip so as to grip it from the rear between the thumb and fingers of the right hand with the fingers around the staff.

c. At the command "COLORS," raise the staff smartly with the right hand to a point where the lower ferrule is just above the sling socket. While raising it, keep the staff vertical. Grasp the staff at the lower ferrule with the left hand to steady it and align it with the sling socket. Do not look down. (See figure 7-10a.)

NOTE: All organizational colors will be raised to the carry with the national colors.

d. Color guards armed with rifles execute right and left shoulder arms at the command "COLORS" so that the rifles are on the outboard shoulders as described in section 1, paragraph 6 of this chapter.

e. All members of the color guard will halt their movements before executing the last count. (See figure 7-10b.) On the senior color bearer's command "Ready, Cut," all members will move their free hands smartly to their sides, and the color bearers will seat the lower ferrule in the sling socket. As the ferrule is seated, permit the right hand to slide down the staff to position directly in front of the color bearer's chin. (See figure 7-10c.) If the color staffs need additional support due to high winds, the color bearers will grip the staff with their left hands just below their right.



a. Raising Staff.



b. Last Count.

Figure 7-10.--Carry Colors from Order Colors.

"V" grip



c. Carry Colors.

Carry Colors (Guards)

6. Synchronizing the Manual of Arms for the Color Guards Armed with Rifles

a. The manual of arms for color guards armed with rifles must be synchronized so that the rifles move (e.g., off of or to the shoulder) at the same time. Since the left rifleman is at left shoulder arms and the right rifleman is at right shoulder arms, moving to and from the right/left shoulder to the order, present or back the shoulder often involves different "counts" in the movement for each rifleman. To get the rifles moving together one or the other of the riflemen will have to do an occasional pause in the manual of arms so the other rifleman may catch up. When executing the rifle manual, both riflemen will wait for the senior color bearer's command of "Ready, CUT" before executing the final count of the movement.

(1) Order Colors to Carry Colors. The command is "Carry, COLORS." This is a four-count movement for both rifles. The right rifleman goes to right shoulder arms and the left rifleman goes to the left shoulder arms.

2-9

1. General

- a. With the exception of right step, all steps and marching movements beginning from a halt start with the left foot.
- b. The instructor indicates the proper rhythm by counting cadence.
- c. To change direction on the march, the command of execution is given as the foot in the desired direction of the turn strikes the deck.

2. Quick Time. The purpose of quick time is to march at 112 to 120 steps per minute taking 30-inch steps. It may be executed when halted at attention, marking time, marching forward at double time, or marching at half step. The commands are "Forward, MARCH" or "Quick Time, MARCH."

- a. When halted, the command to march forward at quick time is "Forward, MARCH."
- b. On "Forward," shift your weight to the right leg without noticeable movement.
- c. On "MARCH," step off smartly, left foot first, and march straight ahead with 30-inch steps. Swing your arms easily in their natural arcs, six inches straight to the front and three inches to the rear. Do not exaggerate movements.

Turns

P. 7-35

1. Face the Color Guard to the Right (Left)

a. The command is "Right (Left) Turn, MARCH." It may be executed while halted, marking time, or marching.

b. On the command "MARCH," with the right (left) flank color guard acting as a stationary pivot, the color guard turns to the right (left) while half stepping until they face the new direction. When making the turn, all members of the color guard face the same direction maintaining their alignment. (See figure 7-17.) Upon completion of the turn, the color guard will be marking time. The senior color bearer must immediately give the next appropriate command, such as "Forward, MARCH" or "Colors, HALT."

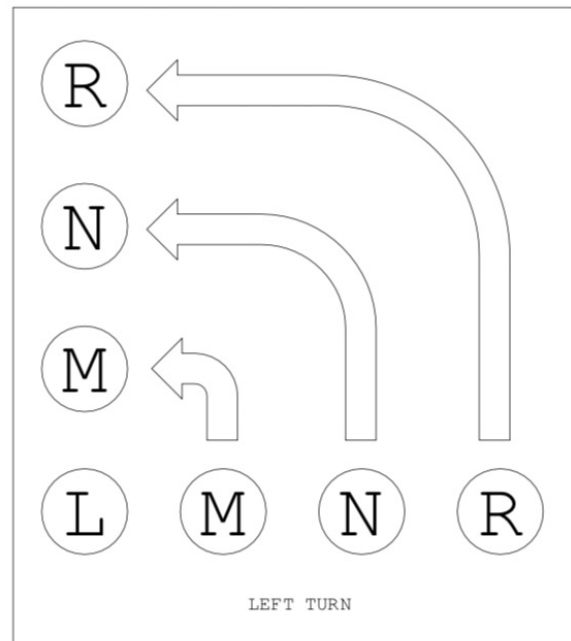
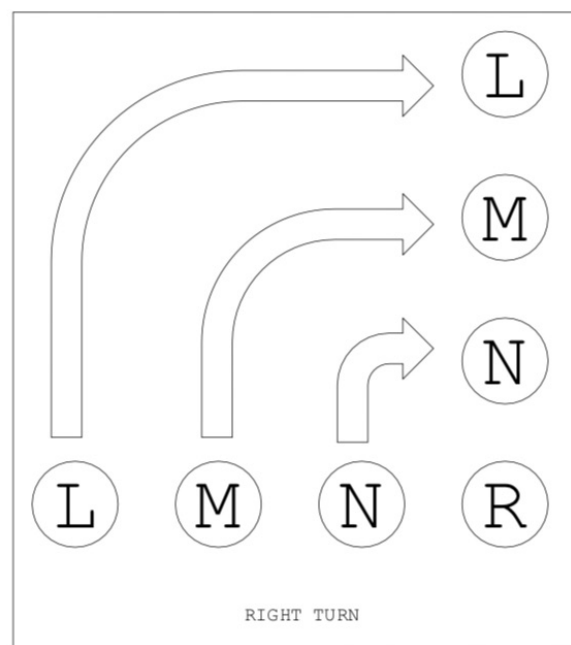


Figure 7-17.--Right (Left) Turn.

UNCASE COLORS

The Color Guard will start and enter the Floor with the cased Colors. They will march forward and turn so they will be centered on the Head Judge.

The Color guard will be in a line formation with the cased Colors at the Carry Position. **At this point in time they will Transition to the ARMY TC to Conduct UNCASE.**

The Color Sergeant then commands **LEFT GUARD, RIGHT SHOULDER ARMS.**

Once the Guard is at Right Shoulder, they will cut automatically. At the same time the Guard cuts the flag bearers will grasp the harness at the harness socket with their left hand. It will remain there for the remainder of the movement.

The Color Sergeant then commands **SLING, ARMS:**

The Color guards immediately adjust their slings and assume the position of Sling Arms.

The Color Sergeant then commands **POST**

The Color guards face to the Half Left (Right) in marching, swing their free arm and take four steps, halt, and execute About Face.

The Color Sergeant then directs **UNCASE THE COLORS.** The Color bearers lower the Colors (the Colors SHOULD NOT be lowered to the position of attention and thrust under the arm). The two guards move forward and untie and uncase the Colors.

The Color bearers unfurl (Colors should be rolled) and immediately return the Colors to the Carry Position. While the Colors are being unfurled, the guards fold the cases and secure them in their left hand.

When the Colors are in the Carry Position, the Color Sergeant commands **PRESENT, ARMS.**

The Color guards, and the organizational Colors, Salute immediately on the command Arms. The organizational Color Bearer shall, on the first count, raise their right hand several inches (such that their arm will be parallel to the marching surface) and thrust the Colors forward on the second count. The pike will remain flat to the front. The rifle bearers will grasp the sling with the left hand and render a hand salute on the second count with the right hand.

The Color Sergeant Commands **ORDER, ARMS.** The Rifle bearers will cut their salute and the right hand will drop as in the position of attention, then immediately return up to grasp the sling of the rifle. The wrist should be straight and the forearm should be horizontal to the deck. The left hand will cut after the sling is grasped on order arms.

The Color Sergeant then commands **POST.** On the command of execution POST, the Color guards march with a coordinated arm swing until they are one step beyond the Color Bearers. Then face inboard, take one more step forward so they are behind their Color Bearer then face left or right so they are facing the back of the color bearer. They will place the folded cases inside the white belt (center rear) of the Dress Blue Uniform.

Once they are complete, the Color guards will assume their original positions, by taking two side steps and then one step forward so they are on line with the Color bearers. Adjusting their slings is automatic and they return to Right Shoulder Arms.

The Color Sergeant will then command left guard, **LEFT GUARD, LEFT SHOULDER ARMS.** Once the rifle is back in the guards left shoulder, the left guard and both Color Bearers will cut. The Color bearers will drop their left hand back to their side as in the position of attention and the left Guard will cut his right hand back to their side as in the position of attention.

THIS WILL COMPLETE THE PORTION OF DRILL THAT IS CONDUCTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE ARMY TC.

POSITION OF THE COLORS AT THE CARRY

15-34. At the *Carry*, rest the ferrule of the staff in the socket of the sling. The socket is below the waist and adjusted to ensure that the finials of all Colors are of equal height (see figure 15-7). Grasp the staff with the right hand (even with the mouth) and incline it slightly to the front with the left hand securing the ferrule in the socket. The left hand may be positioned immediately below the right hand to more firmly secure the Colors on windy days.

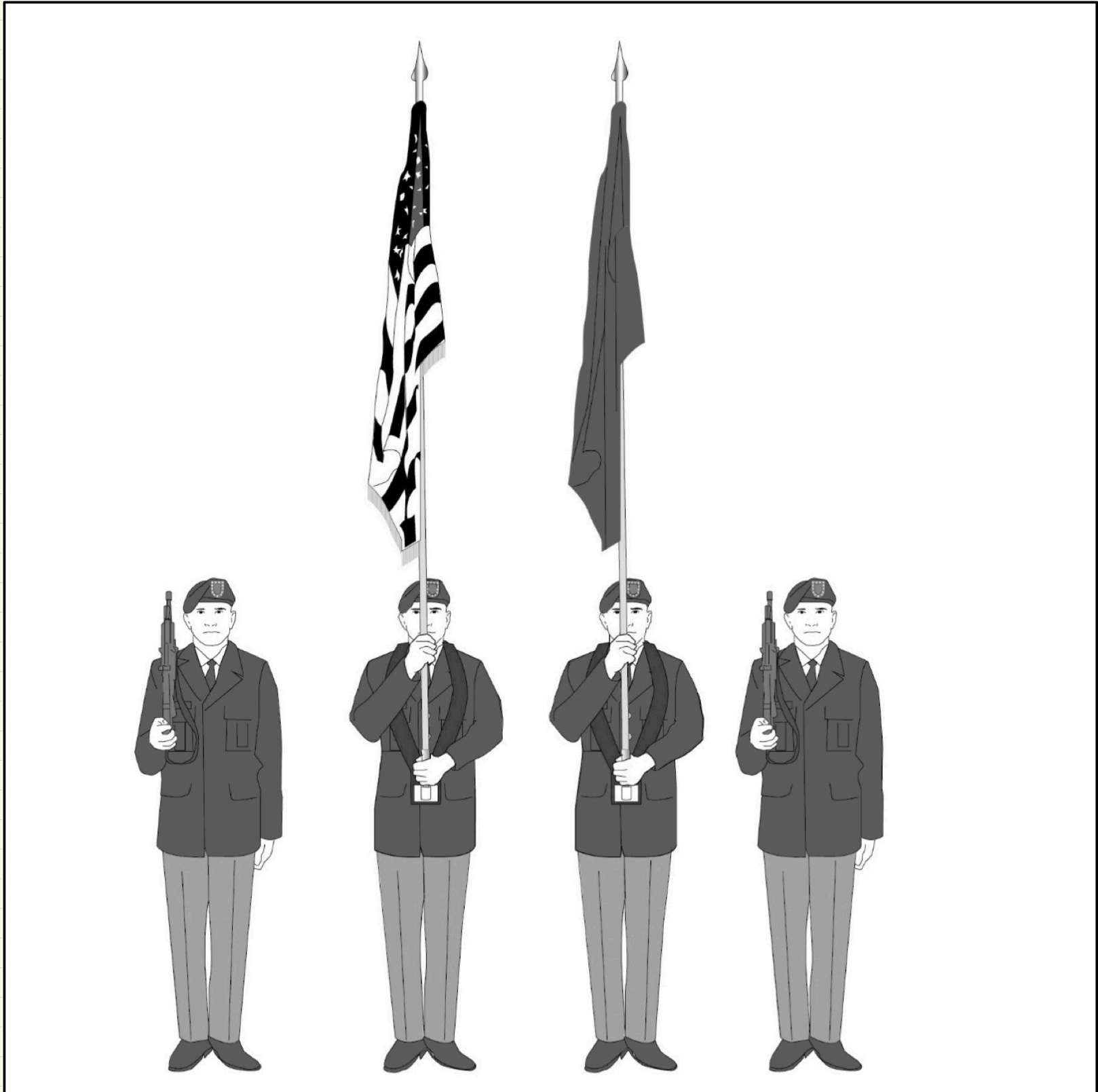


Figure 15-7. Position of the Colors at the Carry

Sling

- From *Order Arms* with sling(s) tight, the command is **Sling, ARMS**. On the command of execution **ARMS**, grasp the rifle barrel with the right hand and raise the rifle vertically. **With the left hand**, place the rifle butt on the right hip, **cradle the rifle in the crook of the right arm**, and use **both hands to adjust the sling**. Grasp the sling with the left hand near the upper sling swivel and execute *Sling Arms* (as previously described).
- From *Order Arms* with the sling(s) loose, the command for *Sling Arms* is **Sling, ARMS**. On the command of execution **ARMS**, grasp the rifle barrel with the right hand and raise it vertically. Grasp the sling near the upper sling swivel with the left hand and release the right hand. Place the right hand and arm between the sling and rifle and place the sling over the right shoulder. **Re-grasp the sling with the right hand so that the wrist is straight**, the right forearm is horizontal, **the elbow is tight against the side**, and the rifle is vertical. **Release the grasp of the left hand and move it sharply to the left side as in the *Position of Attention***.

Post

The Color guards immediately adjust their slings and assume *Sling Arms*. The CSM **commands POST**. The Color guards face to the **Half Left (Right) in marching**, take four steps, halt, and execute **About Face**.

FACING IN MARCHING

4-27. *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*. (**Double interval is defined as 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.**)

- 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 4-17, third bullet, and chapter 3, paragraph 3-2, first bullet.)
- *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).
- The *Halt* from *Facing in Marching* is executed in two counts, the same as the *Halt* from the 30-inch step.

Uncase

- The CSM then directs **UNCASE THE COLORS**. The Color bearers lower the Colors (same as *Present Guidon*). The two guards move forward and untie and uncase the Colors. The Color bearers unfurl and immediately return the Colors to the *Carry (Order) Position*. While the Colors are being unfurled, the guards fold the cases and secure them in their left hand.

PRESENT GUIDON

F-11. To assume this position, execute the following actions:

- On the preparatory commands for *Present, ARMS* and *Eyes, RIGHT*, execute *Raised Guidon*. On the command of execution, lower the guidon to the front using 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 the left hand sharply to the left side (see figure F-5 on page F-6).

← Cadets may leave their left hand to support the flag

RAISED GUIDON

F-10. On the preparatory command *Present* of *Present, ARMS* and *Eyes* of *Eyes, RIGHT*, raise the guidon vertically, by grasping the staff with the right hand. Raise the guidon with the right hand while simultaneously moving the left hand (with palm to the rear) across the body to guide the guidon (see figure F-4, item 1). 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 (see figure F-4, item 2).

Present Arms / Order Arms

There is no CSM
↓

- When the Colors are in the *Carry Position*, the CSM commands **Present, ARMS**. The CSM, Color guards, and the organizational Color Salute.

SALUTE AT SLING ARMS

B-14. To execute *Salute* while at *Sling Arms*, use the following procedures:

- To *Salute* while at *Sling Arms*, the command is **Present, ARMS**. On the command of execution **ARMS**, reach across the body with the left hand and grasp the sling just above the right hand. Release the right hand and execute the *Hand Salute*. 2 counts
- To terminate the *Hand Salute*, the command is **Order, ARMS**. On the command of execution **ARMS**, lower the right hand sharply to the side as in the *Position of Attention* and then regrasp the sling at the original position. After grasping the sling with the right hand, release the left hand and return it sharply to the left side as in the *Position of Attention*. 3 counts

Post/Tucking the Cases

The CSM commands **Order, ARMS**, and then commands **POST**. On the command of execution **POST**, the Color guards place the folded canvas cases inside the cartridge belts (center rear) of the Color bearers. The Color guards assume their original positions, adjust their slings, and return to **Right Shoulder Arms**.

- There are no additional verbal commands after "Post". Everything is executed automatically by the guards until they return to Right Shoulder Arms.

Cartridge Belts - The flag bearers are **NOT** wearing cartridge belts, which usually have pockets. We are looking for the flag cases to be secured in the belt in some way **NOT** in the flag harness.

Unslung

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

- To return the rifle to *Order Arms* with the sling tight, the command is **Adjust, SLINGS**. On command of execution **SLINGS**, remove the rifle from the shoulder. Then, grasp the rifle barrel with the right hand and raise it vertically. With the left hand, place the butt of the rifle on the right hip and cradle it in the crook of the right arm. Use both hands to tighten the sling on the ejection port side. Grasp the rifle barrel with the right hand and guide the rifle to the *Order Arms* position.

↑

Right Shoulder Arms

Unslung Arms/Adjust Slings - These command will not be given during the uncasing procedures. The movement will be executed automatically.

Report In/Present Arms from Carry Colors(Whole Color Guard)

5. Salutes by the Organizational Colors

a. Once the color guard is at present colors, and when appropriate, the organizational color bearer will render a salute with the organizational colors by straightening the right arm and lowering the staff naturally to the front. The staff will rotate naturally as it goes forward causing the sharp edge of the spearhead to face down. (See figure 7-13.)

b. Salutes by the organizational colors are not automatic when presenting colors. They will be rendered only during honors to national colors, to the commander of the organization represented by the colors or to an individual senior in rank to the organizational commander; (e.g., during a parade or review when the adjutant presents the command to the commander of troops. The organizational colors does not salute, unless the commander of troops is the organizational commander or of higher rank.)

c. When musical honors are played, the organizational colors will salute on the first note of music. The colors will be returned to the vertical position following the last note of music or the last volley of a gun salute. If no music is to be played and a color salute is appropriate, the organizational colors will salute immediately after the color guard has gone to present colors.

d. When marching, the salute is rendered when 6 paces from the reviewing stand or person to be saluted. Carry colors is resumed when 6 paces beyond the reviewing stand or person to be saluted.



Figure 7-13.--Salutes by the Organizational Colors.

Carry Colors from Present Colors

8. Carry Colors from Present Colors

a. To change from present colors to carry colors, the command is "Carry, COLORS."

b. At the command "Carry," if the organizational colors are saluting, it will be brought back to the vertical position with the flat side of the spearhead facing the front.

c. At the command "COLORS," color guards return to the shoulder as described in section 1, paragraph 6.a.(6) of this chapter. Before executing the last count, the color guards will await the senior color bearers command "Ready, CUT."

Present Arms from Carry Colors (Guards)

(5) Carry Colors to Present Colors. The command is "Present, COLORS." This is a three-count movement for both riflemen; however, it becomes a four-count movement to synchronize the rifles being brought from the left and right shoulder to present arms. (See figure 7-7.)



a. Start.



b. Count One.
Right Rifleman Stands Fast.
Left Rifleman Re-grasps the
Small of the Stock.



c. Count Two.
Both Rifles Moved from the Shoulder.



d. Count Three.
Right Rifleman Re-grasps the Small
of the Stock.
Left Rifleman Stands Fast.



e. Count Four.
Both Rifles Rotated to Present Arms.

(6) Present Colors to Carry Colors. The command may be "**Carry, COLORS**" or "**Shoulder, ARMS.**" This is a three-count movement for the left rifleman and a four-count movement for the right rifleman to return the weapons to the left and right shoulder from present arms. (See figure 7-8.)



a. Start.



b. Count One
Both Rifles Rotated to Port Arms.



c. Count Two.
Right Rifleman Grasps the Butt
of the Rifle.
Left Rifleman Stands Fast.



d. Count Three.
Both Rifles Moved to the Shoulder.

Figure 7-8.--Present Colors to Carry Colors.

Colors Reverse/Counter March

P. 7-36

2. Face the Color Guard to the Rear

a. The command is "**Countermarch, MARCH.**" It may be executed while halted, marking time, or marching. When marking time or marching, the command of execution "**MARCH**" is given as the left foot strikes the deck. When this command is given while marking time or marching, the color guard will take one more 2-inch vertical step in place or one more 30-inch step forward with the right foot before starting the half steps for this movement. If executed from the halt, the color guard will immediately begin the designated steps starting with the left foot. (See figure 7- 18.)

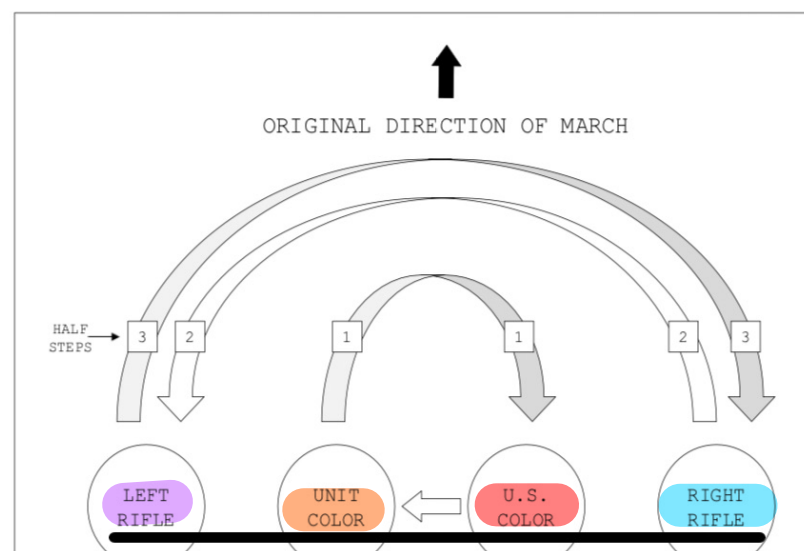
b. The national color bearer pivots to the left, moving into the position formerly occupied by the organizational color bearer, facing the new direction of march and begins marking time.

c. The organizational color bearer takes one half step forward, pivots to the right outside the national color bearer, moving into the position formerly occupied by the national color bearer, facing the new direction of march and begins marking time.

d. The right color guard takes two half-steps forward, pivots to the left, outside the organizational color bearer, moving into the position formerly occupied by the left color guard, facing the new direction of march and begins marking time.

e. The left color guard takes three half-steps forward, pivots to the right outside the right color guard, moving into the position formerly occupied by the right color guard, facing the new direction of march and begins marking time.

f. Upon completion of this movement, the entire color guard marks time until it is halted or until it receives the command "**Forward, MARCH**" or "**Colors, HALT.**"



Mark Time

2-11

5. Mark Time. The purpose of mark time is to march in place at quick time cadence. It may be executed when halted at attention, double timing in place, marching at half step and marching forward at quick time. While marching, the command will be given as the right foot strikes the deck. The command is "**Mark Time, MARCH.**"

a. When Halted

(1) On the command "**Mark Time,**" shift your weight to your right leg slightly without noticeable movement.

(2) On the command "**MARCH,**" beginning with your left foot, then alternating, raise each foot so that the ball of the foot is approximately two inches and the heel approximately four inches from the deck at a cadence of quick time. At the same time, swing your arms naturally as in marching.

b. When Marching at Quick Time

(1) On the command "**MARCH,**" take one more 30-inch step as if coming to a halt.

(2) Bring your heels together. Begin marking time without loss of cadence with the opposite foot.

Order Colors (Whole Color Guard)

3. Order Colors from Carry Colors

- a. When changing from carry colors to order colors, **the command is "Order, COLORS (ARMS)."** Execution is begun on the preparatory command.
- b. **At the command "Order," grip the staff with the left hand above the ferrule and remove the staff from the sling socket. The staff remains centered on the body with the ferrule just forward of the sling socket.** (See figure 7-11a.)
- c. **At the command "COLORS," lower the staff to a point approximately 2 inches above the deck along the outside edge of the right shoe; release the staff with the left hand and re-grip it above the right hand.** (See figures 7-11a and 7-11b.)
- d. **Relax both hands so the staff will slide down until the ferrule rests on the deck. Then trim or strip the colors by maintaining a grip on the staff with the left hand and raising the right hand to lightly grasp the fabric of the colors. Pull it down along the staff (do not attempt to throw or tuck it) and re-grip the staff with the right hand, with the fabric under the right arm.** (See figures 7-11c and d.) Then change the position of the right hand to that described for order colors.
- e. Color guards armed with rifles will execute order arms from right and left shoulder as described in section 1, paragraph 6.a.(1) of this chapter. All members of the color guard will halt their movements before executing the last count. The senior color bearer will then command **"Ready, CUT,"** at which time all members of the color guard will return their left hands smartly to their sides and color guards will assume order arms. (See figure 7-11e.)



a. Removing the Ferrule.



b. Lowering the Staff.



d. All Movement Halted.



c. Trimming the Colors.



e. Movement Complete.

Order Colors (Guards)

(2) Carry Colors to Order Colors. The command is "Order, COLORS." This is a four-count movement for the right rifleman and a five-count movement for the left rifleman. In order to have the rifles move to the order together, the "counts" are modified as follows: (See figure 7-6.)



a. Start.



b. Count One.

Right Rifleman Stands Fast.
Left Rifleman Re-grasps the
Small of the Stock.



c. Count Two.

Both Rifles Moved from the Shoulder.



d. Count Three.

Both Riflemen Re-grasp the Barrel.



e. Count Four.

Both Rifles Moved to the Right Side.



f. Count Five.
Ready Cut.

Parade Rest

9. Rests with the Colors

a. The color guard assumes the parade rest position in lieu of at ease or rest. At ease or rest are not used by the color guard when carrying uncased colors. Only the senior color bearer or person in charge of a formation with which colors are posted gives the command from the position of order color. It is executed in one count.

b. At the command "**Parade, REST;**" "**AT EASE;**" or "**REST,**" all members of the color guard execute parade rest. The color staff will remain along the color bearer's side and will **not** be thrust forward as with a guidon staff. (See figure 7-14.) The national and organizational color bearers

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will grasp the sling socket with their left hand.



a. Front View.



b. Rear View.

Figure 7-14.--Color Guard at Parade Rest.

Color Guard Attention

1. Order Colors

a. At order colors, the lower ferrule rests on the deck touching the outside edge of the right shoe. The staff is gripped in a strong grip with the thumb wrapped around the front of the staff with the fingers wrapped to the rear. The right elbow is held close to the side so the forearm will help support the staff. The upper staff rests in the hollow of the right shoulder. The staff is vertical with the flat side of the spearhead facing front. The color bearer is at attention. (See figure 7-9.)

b. Color guards armed with rifles are at order arms when the colors are at the order.



Figure 7-9.--Order Colors.

Eyes Right / Ready Front

10. Eyes Right (Left) from Carry or Order Colors

- a. The command is "Eyes, RIGHT (LEFT)." It will be given only when marching at carry colors or while halted at order colors.
- b. When marching at carry color, at the command "RIGHT," all members of the color guard except the national color bearer and the individual on the right turn their head and look 45 degrees to the right. When the reviewing officer of a parade is entitled to a salute by the organizational colors, the salute is executed at the command "RIGHT." (See figure 7-15b.)
- c. When marching at carry color, at the command "LEFT," all members of the color guard except the national color bearer and the individual on the extreme left turn their head and look 45 degrees to the left. When the reviewing officer of a parade is entitled to a salute by the organizational colors, the salute is executed at the command "LEFT."
- d. When halted at order colors, at the command "RIGHT," all members of the color guard except the national color bearer turn their head and look 45 degrees to the right. (See figure 7-15a.) The organizational colors cannot salute from order color.
- e. When halted at order color, at the command "LEFT," all members of the color guard except the national color bearer turn their head and look 45 degrees to the left. The organizational colors cannot salute from order colors.



Figure 7-15b.--Eyes Right, Marching.

11. Carry or Order Colors from Eyes Right (Left)

- a. The command is "Ready, FRONT."
- b. When marching at carry colors, at the senior color bearer's command "Ready," if the organizational colors saluted, it resumes to the carry. At the command "FRONT," all members of the color guard who executed eyes right (left) will return their head and eyes smartly to the front.
- c. When at order colors during a review when the reviewing officer troops the line, ready front will not be given after eyes right. During such a ceremony, members of the color guard who executed eyes right, will follow the reviewing officer with their eyes, turning their heads back toward the front as he passes by. Once the reviewing officer is directly in front of them, all movement of the head and eyes is halted.

Color Guard Halt

4. Halt. The purpose of halt is to stop the movement of a marching unit. It is executed in two counts when marching at quick time, and three counts when marching at double time. It may be executed when marching at quick time, half step, double time, side step, back step, mark time, and double time in place. The command of execution is "**HALT**," which is always preceded by a preparatory command designated by the size of the unit, such as "**Squad, Platoon**," or "**Company**." The command of execution will be given as the right foot strikes the deck.

a. While Marching at Quick Time or Half Step. When you are marching forward at quick time (half step), and you receive the command, "**Platoon, HALT**." The command will be given as the right foot strikes the deck. On the command of execution, "**HALT**," and for the count of one, you will take one more 30 inch step (15 inch step if at half step) to the front with your left foot. Your next step and for the second count of halt, you will smartly bring your right heel against the left heel and assume the position of attention. You will remain in this position until given another command.