TRAINERS’
GUIDE TO

DRILL

AND

CEREMONIES

OFFICE OF THE COMMANDANT
DRILL POINTERS FOR CADRE DRILL

http://vimeo.com/channels/524805/videos

- While teaching drill to the knobs, use the key words and elements of the script. This will provide continuity throughout the Corps of Cadets. I am more concerned about the content of what is taught than your movements and technique.

- While instructing you will have your knobs stand “at ease”, not “parade rest” or “stand at, ease.”

- While instructing you will ensure that your knobs are in the shade or an area conducive to learning. Let’s be smart about how we train! Be conscious of black flag conditions, and be prepared to move indoors as needed

- Constantly use reinforcing language that helps to remediate what was instructed previously. Everything you do (pt etc.) relates back to drill.

- Outside of scheduled drill periods I want you making constant corrections. When standing in line, waiting to go into a building or after coming out and waiting on their classmates, remediate drill! It doesn’t always have to be knob knowledge. It depends on your environment and how much room you have.

- While instructing, be conscious of the position of your demonstrator and vantage point of the knobs. What is being taught must be visible by everyone.

- Ensure that your demonstrator knows and repeats the “ditty’s” associated with each movement. Have the knobs say it with you as you demonstrate at regular cadence.

- With any movement that according to the Drill Manual can be given on either foot, be sure to rehearse with your demonstrator in advance so they know how you plan to execute.

- Arms continue to swing 9” and 6” during Column movements, rear march, etc. Do not pin them to your sides.

- During squad movement and or platoon movement, the platoon commander will not march in front of the unit. Squad leaders in front of squads, Corporals in the rear of each squad, Platoon Sergeant’s to the left giving commands and calling cadence.

- Ensure that the Camelbak is worn high on the back to allow their hands to be placed in the small of their back during positions of “Rest.”

- Use the phrase “What are your questions” when checking for understanding.

- During the practical work phase of instruction, I want to see platoon sergeants involved in remediating where needed. This helps in promoting success.

- Some stationary movements require space between cadets during the practical work phase. Do not feel that you are restricted to remaining between stanchions.
-While conducting practical work with knobs on stationary movements (R. face, L. face, About face) work with all knobs in your squad by breaking them down into two groups so that all are engaged. Avoid having knobs standing by idly.

-Be a good time manager! It is important that you stay on schedule, and that all movements scripted for that particular drill period are instructed. Be aware of time, and understand that your practical work phase may be very limited. Use any available opportunities throughout the day to remediate what you have instructed during previous drill periods.

-Don’t forget to leave time to change from dress shoe to running shoe as you transition to the next scheduled event.

-Following the demonstration phase at normal cadence, and asking if there are questions, simply give the command “Fall Out” to your demonstrator.

-Ditty’s and noise levels. Be conscious of not stepping all over each other with cadet responses and sounding off of ditties. The barracks acoustics are not conducive to instruction, thus be mindful.

-Our source document for Drill is the Army Drill and Ceremonies FM 3-21.5. Do not incorporate any other services commands into your instruction. Read and review your trainers’ guide prior to each drill period.
Ditty List

- Left/right face = “1 Stop, 2 Stop”
- About face = “Trace the C, ease about”
- Parade rest = “Snap”
- Attention = “Pop”
- Present arms (unarmed) = “Snap”
- Forward = “Sir/ma’am, take a full 30 inch step with the left foot sir/ma’am” + March = Step, two, three, four, left, right, left.
  Once the 4C step off, chins come out and arms swing
- Dress right dress = “Snap”
- Left/right step march = “Step, together”
- Port arms = “1 Stop, 2 Stop”
- Order arms = “1 Stop, 2 Stop, Cut, ease to the deck”
- Right/left shoulder arms = “1 Stop, 2 Stop, 3 Stop, Cut”
- Order arms(left shoulder) “1 Stop, 2 Stop, 3 Stop, 4 stop, Cut, ease to the deck”
- Order arms (right shoulder) = “1 Stop, 2 Stop, 3 Stop, Cut, ease to the deck”
- Present arms (armed) = “1 Stop, 2 Stop, 3 Stop”
- Inspection arms = “1 Stop, 2 Stop, 3 Stop, 4 Stop, 5 Stop”
- Column right/left and right/left flank = “Pivot, step”
- Halt = “Step, freeze”
- Change Step = “Step, Heel, Step”
- Mark time march = “Step together and up, 1, 2, 3, 4”
  Command can be given on either foot
- Ears = “Open”
DRILL AND CEREMONIES

(Movements that require numerous or simultaneous actions by an individual or unit)

SCRIPT - Talk-Through Method of Instruction

* The talk-through method of instruction: Each movement or action by the individual is executed as it is orally described. 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.

“Demonstrator, POST”, The next movement I will name, explain, have demonstrated, and conduct practical work on is Attention. This movement is a one count movement used as the basis for all drill and ceremonies movements. The command for this movement is “Demonstrator (or some unit designator), Attention”. In its entirety it sounds like this. “Demonstrator, ATTENTION”. What are your questions concerning the command?

I will now use the talk-through method of instruction. On the command of execution Attention, 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. The head is square and erect, looking straight to the front. The chin is drawn in so that the axis of the neck and head 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.”

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?

Demonstrator, ATTENTION. You will be my assistant instructor, FALL OUT.”
DRILL AND CEREMONIES

(Movements that have two or more counts)

SCRIPT - By-The-Numbers Method of Instruction

* The by-the-numbers method of instruction: Movements are explained one count at a time. 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.

“Demonstrator, POST”. The next movement I will name, explain, have demonstrated, and conduct practical work on is Right Face. This is a two count movement used to turn an element 90 degrees to the right. The command for this movement is “Right, FACE.” In its entirety it sounds like this, “Right, FACE”. What are your questions concerning the command?

I will now use the by-the-numbers method of instruction. On the command of execution FACE, of Right, FACE, this being count one, pivot on the heel of the right foot, and the ball of the left foot, 90 degrees to the right. Keep the right leg straight without stiffness and allow the left leg to bend naturally.

“By-the-numbers, Right, FACE.”

On count two, place the left foot alongside the right foot, resuming the position of attention. Arms remain at the sides, as in the position of attention, throughout this movement.

“Ready, TWO.”

At normal cadence, the commands are as follows: “Without-the-numbers, Right, FACE. AT EASE.”

What are your questions pertaining to Right, FACE when executed at normal cadence or when executed by-the-numbers?

Demonstrator, ATTENTION. You will be my assistant instructor, FALL OUT.”
* The step-by-step method of instruction: The movements are taught one step at a time using the step-by-step method of instruction. 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 taken on the next step. The instructor then has the demonstrator execute the movement at the normal cadence.

“Demonstrator, POST”. The next movement I will name, explain, have demonstrated, and conduct practical work on is Column Left, MARCH. This is a two part command used to turn a marching element 90 degrees to the left. The command for this movement is “Column Left, MARCH.” In its entirety it sounds like this, “Column Left, MARCH.” What are your questions concerning the command?

I will now use the step-by-step method of instruction. On the command of 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 to the rear of the seam of the trousers. The fingers and thumbs are curled as in the position of attention, just barely clearing the trousers. “Forward, MARCH.”

On the command of execution Step of Ready, STEP, execute a 30-inch step with the trail foot. Once again, you are at the position of attention. “Ready, STEP.”

The preparatory command for Column Left, MARCH is given as the left foot strikes the ground. On the command of execution Step, of Ready, STEP, execute another 30-inch step with the trail foot, and when it strikes the ground, give the preparatory command of Column Left.

“Ready, STEP. Column Left.”

On the command of execution Step, of Ready, STEP, execute another 30-inch step with the trail foot. “Ready, STEP.”

When the left foot strikes the ground again, give the command of execution, MARCH, of Column Left, MARCH.

“Ready, STEP. MARCH.”

On the command of execution Step, of Ready, STEP, execute another 30-inch step with the trail foot and pivot on the ball of the right foot 90 degrees to the left and step off in the new indicated direction with a full 30-inch step. “Ready, STEP.”
On the command of execution Step of Ready, STEP, execute a 30-inch step with the trail foot. “Ready, STEP.”

Halt can be given as either foot strikes the ground. 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 preparatory command Demonstrator of Demonstrator, HALT.

“Ready, STEP. Demonstrator.”

On the command of execution Step, of Ready, STEP, execute a 30-inch step with the trail foot. This is the intermediate step required between the preparatory command and the command of execution. “Ready, STEP.”

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.

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.”

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.”

At normal cadence, the commands are as follows: “Forward, MARCH. Column Left, MARCH. Demonstrator, HALT.”

What are your questions pertaining to Column Left, March when executed at normal cadence or when using the step-by-step method of instruction?

Demonstrator, ATTENTION. You will be my assistant instructor, FALL OUT.”
Cadre Drill Training

These Drill periods, and their activities are in line with the training schedule for Cadre, and do not correspond with the numbered Drill periods for the training of Knobs

Drill Period #1: Introduction to Drill and Ceremonies

Drill Period #2: *INDIVIDUAL DRILL*: Stand at Attention, Rest Positions, Facing at the Halt, The Hand Salute
March w/30 inch Step, Change Step, At Ease march, Route Step March

Drill Period #3: Half Step, Mark Time, Right/Left Step, Double Time, Face in Marching from the Halt
Review Previous Instruction

Drill Period #4: *SQUAD DRILL*: Form the Squad, Dismiss the Squad, Rest the Squad, Count Off, Change interval while in Line Formation
Align the Squad, March the Squad, Change direction of a Column

Drill Period #5: March to the Flank, form a Column of Two’s and reform
Review Previous Instruction

Drill Period #6: *INDIVIDUAL DRILL W/WEAPON*: Order Arms, Rest Positions w/rifle, Port Arms, Present Arms

Drill Period #7: Inspection Arms, Right Shoulder Arms, Left Shoulder Arms, Changing positions at the Halt
Review Previous Instruction

Drill Period #8: *PLATOON DRILL*: Form the Platoon, Break Ranks, Dismiss the Platoon, Rest the Platoon
Have the Platoon Count Off, Change Interval, Align the Platoon, Open/Close Ranks
Drill Training

Drill Period #1: **INDIVIDUAL DRILL**: Stand at Attention, Rest Positions, Facing at the Halt, The Hand Salute

Drill Period #2: March w/30 inch Step, Change Step, Mark Time, At Ease march, Route Step March

Drill Period #3: Half Step, Right/Left Step, Double Time, Face in Marching from the Halt, Marching Backward

Drill Period #4: Review Previous Instruction

Drill Period #5: **SQUAD DRILL**: Form the Squad, Dismiss the Squad, Rest the Squad, Count Off, Change interval while in Line Formation

Drill Period #6: Align the Squad, Change direction of a Column

Drill Period #7: March to the Flank

Drill Period #8: Review Previous Instruction

Drill Period #9: **INDIVIDUAL DRILL W/WEAPON**: Order Arms, Rest Positions w/rifle, Port Arms, Present Arms

Drill Period #10: Inspection Arms, Right Shoulder Arms, Left Shoulder Arms, Changing positions at the Halt

Drill Period #11: Review Previous Instruction

Drill Period #12: **PLATOON DRILL**: Form the Platoon, Break Ranks, Dismiss the Platoon, Rest the Platoon

Drill Period #13: Have the Platoon Count Off, Change Interval, Align the Platoon, Open/Close Ranks

----------------------------**CADRE DRILL TRAINING STOPS HERE**-------------------------------

Drill Period #14: March as a Platoon, Eyes right, Change direction of a Column

Drill Period #15: March to the Flank, Forming a File

Drill Period #16: Review Previous Instruction

Drill Period #17: **COMPANY DRILL**: Forming the Company, Dismiss the Company

Drill Period #18: Change the direction of a Column

Drill Period #19: Form a Mass Formation, Change the direction of March, Form a Column from a Mass Formation
Knob Drill Period 1 – Individual Drill (Continued)

Activity 1: Position of Attention (Talk-Through Method)

a. Assume the position of attention on the command FALL IN or the command Squad (Platoon), ATTENTION.

b. To assume this position, bring the heels together sharply on line, with the toes pointed out equally, forming an angle of 45 degrees. Rest the weight of the body evenly on the heels and balls of both feet. Keep the leg straight without locking the knees. Hold the body erect with the hips level, chest lifted and arched, and the shoulders square.

c. Keep the head erect and straight to the front with the chin drawn in so that alignment of the head and neck is vertical.

d. 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.

e. Remain silent and do no move unless otherwise directed.

Activity 2: Rest Positions (Talk-Through Method)

NOTE: Any of the rest positions 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. 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. 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. 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.

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 may be executed from this movement.

c. At Ease. The command for this movement is AT EASE. On the command AT EASE, the cadet may move, however, the cadet must remain standing and silent with the right foot in place. Cadets are permitted to hydrate. Rest may be executed from this position.
d. Rest. The command for this movement is REST. On the command REST, the cadet may move, talk, or drink unless otherwise directed. The cadet must remain standing with the right foot in place.

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.

Activity 3: Facing Movements (By-The-Numbers Method)

a. Facing to the flank is a two-count movement. The command is Left (Right), FACE. 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. On the second count, 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 the movement.

b. Facing to the rear is a two-count movement. The command is About, FACE. 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. On the second count, 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 the movement.

Activity 4: Hand Salute (Talk-Through Method)

a. The hand salute is a one-count movement. The command is Present, ARMS. 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.

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.

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.
**Knob Drill Period 2 – Individual Drill (Continued)**

**Activity 1: March with 30 – inch Step (Step-by-Step Method)**

a. To march with a 30 – inch step from the halt, the command FORWARD, MARCH is given. On the preparatory command of FORWARD, shift your weight to the right leg without noticeable movement. On the command MARCH, step forward with your left foot and continue to march with a 30 – inch step while keeping your head and eyes to the front. Without exaggeration, let your arms swing in a natural motion without bending at the elbow. The swing should be about 9 inches straight to the front and 6 inches straight to the rear. The seam of your trousers would be the center point.

b. To halt while marching the command of SQUAD (GROUP/SECTION), HALT, is given as either foot hits the ground. The movement is executed in two counts. On the command of execution (HALT) take one more step and then bring your trailing foot alongside you leading foot, resuming the position of attention.

**Activity 2: Change Step (Step-by-Step Method)**

a. To change step while marching the command CHANGE STEP, MARCH, is given as the right foot hits the ground. On the command of execution (MARCH) 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.

b. This movement is executed automatically when you find yourself out-of-step with other members of a marching formation.

**Activity 3: Mark Time (Step-by-Step Method)**

a. To march in place the command of MARK TIME, MARCH, is given as either foot hits the ground. On the command of execution (MARCH) take one more step and then bring the trailing foot alongside the leading foot marching in place. Raise each foot at least 2 inches off the ground while swinging your arms naturally.

**NOTE:** The higher the feet are raised the easier it is to maintain cadence.

b. To resume marching, the command FORWARD, MARCH, is given as either foot hits the ground. On the command of execution (MARCH), take one more step in place and then step off with a full step.

c. The command for halt is the same as for a 30-inch step.
Activity 4: Rest Movements (Step-by-Step Method)

a. At Ease, March – The command AT EASE, MARCH, is given as either foot hits the ground. On the command of execution (MARCH), you are no longer required to maintain cadence; however, silence and the approximate interval and distance are maintained.

**NOTE:** Quick time and route step, march are the only commands that can be given while marching At Ease.

b. Route Step, March – Route step is executed exactly the same as At Ease, March, except you may talk (Quietly).

**NOTE:** To change direction at route step/ at ease march the leader normally directs the lead element to turn in the desired direction. The command QUICK TIME, MARCH, is used to get the cadets back to marching at attention.
Activity 1: Half Step (Step-by-Step Method)

a. To change the step from a 30-inch to a 15-inch, the command HALF STEP, MARCH, is given as either foot hits the ground. On the command of execution (MARCH) take one more 30-inch step and then begin marching with a 15-inch step. The arms swing normally as if you were marching with a 30-inch step.

b. To resume marching at a 30-inch step the command of FORWARD, MARCH, is given as either foot hits the ground. On the command of execution (MARCH) take one more 15-inch step and begin marching with a 30-inch step.

c. The halt is executed the same as in a 30-inch step.

NOTE: While marching at half step, the commands of mark time, forward, and extend march, as well as halt are the only commands that may be given.

Activity 2: Right/Left Step March (Step-by-Step Method)

a. Marching in step movements to the right or left is done at a 15-inch step. Also, the command is only given from the halt.

b. When the command of RIGHT/LEFT STEP, MARCH, is given, bend the knee opposite the direction of movement slightly and raise the other leg just enough to allow freedom of movement. Place the raised foot 15-inches to the side, then move the other foot to the side of the first while maintaining the position of attention. Continue the movement while keeping the arms down by your side.

c. To halt while marching left or right, the command of SQUAD (GROUP), HALT, is given. The preparatory command (SQUAD/GROUP) is given when the heels are together. The command of execution (HALT) is given the next time the heels come together. On the command of execution, take one more step with the lead foot, then bring the trailing foot along side the leading foot stopping at the position of attention.

Activity 3: Double Time (Step-by-Step Method)

a. Double time is marching with a 30-inch step at a cadence of 180 steps per minute. The command is DOUBLE TIME, MARCH. When the command of execution (MARCH) is given, raise your forearms to the horizontal position, with your fingers and thumbs closed, knuckles out. Simultaneously begin marching at a cadence of double time. Let your arms swing naturally to the front and rear, while keeping the forearms horizontal.

b. To halt, the command of SQUAD (GROUP), HALT, is given as either foot hits the ground. On the command of execution (HALT), take two more 30-inch steps at double time.
while lowering your hands down to your side, then one more step at quick time, and bring the trailing foot up alongside the leading foot, coming to a halt in the position of attention.

**Activity 4: Face in Marching (Step-by-Step Method)**

a. Facings in marching from a halt are important parts of the following movements: alignments, column movements, inspecting cadets in ranks, and changing from normal interval to double interval or double interval to normal interval. 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.

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.

**Activity 5: Marching Backward (Step-by-Step Method)**

a. To march with a 15 inch step backward, the command is BACKWARD, MARCH. This command can only be given at the halt. 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, basically the same as the halt from the 30 inch step.
Knob Drill Period 4 – Review Previous Instruction

Activity 1: Individual Drill

Review all individual Drill:

a. Attention
b. Rest Positions
c. Facing at the Halt
d. March w/30-inch step
e. Change Step
f. At ease March
g. Route Step March
h. Half Step March
i. Right/Left Step March
j. Double Time
k. Face in Marching from the Halt
**Knob Drill Period 5 – Squad Drill**

**Activity 1: Forming the Squad (Talk-Through Method)**

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:

a. Each member double times to their position in the formation.

b. The right flank cadet positions himself/herself so that when the squad is formed it is three steps in front of and centered on the squad leader.

c. The right flank cadet comes to the position of attention and raises the left arm laterally at shoulder level, elbow locked, fingers and thumb extended and joined, and palm facing down. Ensure that the left arm is in line with the body.

d. The cadet to the immediate left of the right flank cadet comes to the position of attention, turns the head and eyes to the right, and raises the left arm in the same manner as the right flank cadet. Obtain proper alignment by taking short steps forward or backward until on line with the right flank cadet. Then obtain exact interval by taking short steps left or right until the shoulder touched the extended fingertips of the right flank cadet. As soon as the cadet to the left has obtained normal interval, each cadet individually lowers the arm to the side, sharply turns the head and eyes to the front and assumes the position of attention.

e. The right flank cadet then sharply returns to the position of attention.

f. All other members of the squad form in the same manner except that the left flank cadet does not raise the left arm.

**NOTE:** The right flank cadet raises the arm and looks straight to the front unless the squad is to align on an element to its right.

g. To form at close interval the formation is completed in the same manner as described above except at the command of AT CLOSE INTERVAL, FALL IN, squad members obtain their interval by placing the heel of the left hand on their hip even with the top of their belt line, fingers and thumb joined and extended downward, with the elbow in line with the body and touching the arm of the cadet to the left.

**ACTIVITY 2: Dismissing the Squad (Talk-Through Method)**

**TRAINER’S NOTES:**

1. The squad is dismissed only from a line formation with cadets at attention.

2. Sergeants should ensure that squad members are given information as to what is expected of them once they are dismissed.
a. With unarmed cadets, the command is DISMISSED.

b. With armed Cadets the commands are: INSPECTION ARMS, READY, PORT, ARMS, DISMISSED.

**ACTIVITY 3 : Rest the Squad (Talk-Through Method)**

a. The squad members execute the rest position in formation in the same manner as described in the individual command of rest.

b. The command for rest is REST.

c. When the situation warrants a greater degree of relaxation than the rest position, the squad leader may command FALL OUT. Squad members may leave their positions in formation, but remain in the immediate area.

**ACTIVITY 4 : Count Off (Talk-Through Method)**

a. The squad may count off in a line or column formation. The command is COUNT, OFF.

b. When in line formation, the counting is executed from right to left. On the command of execution (OFF), each cadet (except the number one cadet) turns the head and eyes to the right and the right flank cadet sounds off with the number “ONE.” After the cadet to the right counts off their number, the cadet to the left sounds off with the next number in sequence and simultaneously turns their head and eyes to the front. The sequence is continued with the next cadet to the left until the last cadet in line has sounded off with their number.

c. When in a column formation, the counting is executed from front to rear. The command is the same as for a line formation. On the command of execution (OFF), the first cadet turns the head and eyes to the right and sounds off (over the shoulder) with “ONE.” After he/she sounds off, immediately return to the position of attention. All other members of the squad count their numbers in sequence following the same procedures as the first except for the last cadet. The last cadet keeps the head and eyes to the front and sounds off with the next number.

**ACTIVITY 5 : Change Interval while in Line (Talk-Through Method)**

a. To obtain close interval from normal interval the command is CLOSE INTERVAL, MARCH. On the command of execution (MARCH), the right flank cadet (number one) stands fast, all cadets to the left of the right flank cadet execute right step march and take one step less than their number and halt.

**NOTE:** Prior to executing this move have cadets count off.
b. To obtain normal interval from close interval the command is NORMAL INTERVAL, MARCH. On the command of execution (MARCH), the right flank cadet (number one) stands fast, all cadets to the left of the right flank cadet execute left step march and take one step less than their number and halt.
Knob Drill Period 6 – Squad Drill (Continued)

Activity 1: Align the Squad (Talk-Through Method)

a. To align the squad at normal interval the commands are DRESS RIGHT, DRESS and READY, FRONT. *These commands are only given when the cadets are at order or sling arms.* On the command of execution (DRESS), each cadet (except the right flank cadet) turns their head and eyes to the right while at the same time extends their left hand (left flank cadet will not raise the hand) and aligns themselves on the right flank cadet while positioning themselves by short right or left steps until the right shoulder touches the fingertips of the cadet to their right. On the second command of execution (FRONT), each cadet smartly lowers their hand to their side while turning their head and eyes to the front and resumes the position of attention.

b. To align the squad at close interval the commands are AT CLOSE INTERVAL DRESS RIGHT, DRESS and READY, FRONT. The movements are the same as above, except the squad member obtain close interval as described in Drill Period 5, Activity 1g.

c. To align the squad in a column, the command is COVER. On this command each cadet except the number one cadet raises their left arm to the horizontal position, fingers extended and joined, palm down, and obtains an arm’s length plus approximately six inches from the finger tips to the back of the cadet to their front. At the same time each cadet aligns themselves directly behind the cadet to their front. To resume the position of attention the command RECOVER is given. On this command, each cadet lowers their arms smartly back to their sides.

Activity 2: Change Direction of a Column (Step-by-Step Method)

a. From the halt, the command to place the squad in motion and simultaneously change direction of march 45 or 90 degrees is COLUMN RIGHT (LEFT), MARCH, or COLUMN HALF RIGHT (LEFT), MARCH. On the command of execution (MARCH), the lead cadet faces to the right/left or half right/left in marching and continues to march in the direction specified. All other cadets march forward and pivot to the right/left on the ball of the lead foot and step off in the new direction with the trailing foot. As the cadets approach the pivot point, they shorten or lengthen their pivot step as necessary so as to turn at the approximate same point as the lead cadet.

b. To change direction of march 45 or 90 degrees when marching, the preparatory command of COLUMN RIGHT (LEFT), or COLUMN HALF 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 cadet takes one additional step and turns in the desired direction as the pivot foot strikes the ground. Other cadets continue to march and pivot as prescribed from the halt.

c. To march in the opposite direction, the command is REAR, MARCH. The preparatory command is given as the right foot strikes the ground. The command of execution
(MARCH) is given the next time the right foot strikes the ground. On the command of execution, ALL cadets take one more step with their left foot, pivot on the ball of both feet, turning 180 degrees to the right, and step off in the new direction. Do not allow the arms to swing outward while turning.

d. To change the direction of march of a column less than 45 degrees, the squad leader directs INCLINE TO THE RIGHT (LEFT). The lead cadet changes direction and continues to march in the new direction. All other cadets continue to march forward and turn at the same point as the lead cadet. To avoid an obstacle in the path of march, the squad leader directs INCLINE AROUND. The lead cadet inclines around the obstacle and reestablishes the original cadet direction. All other cadets follow the lead cadet.
Knob Drill Period 7 – Squad Drill (Continued)

Activity 1: March to the Flank (Step-by-Step Method)

   a. The squad may be marched to the flank when marching in a column for short distances only.

   b. The command for this movement is RIGHT/LEFT FLANK, MARCH. The preparatory command 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 of the desired direction strikes the round. On the command of execution, ALL cadets take one more step, turn in the commanded direction on the ball of the lead foot opposite the direction of march, and step off in the new direction with the trailing foot. As the cadets begin to march in the new direction, they glance out of the corner of the eye and dress to the right.

Activity 2: Form a Column of Twos and Re-form (Step-by-Step Method)

   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 cadet (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 and inclines to the right/left when the correct interval is obtained and commands, TEAM, HALT, so as to halt abreast of the lead team.

   b. Forming a file from a column of twos is executed only from the halt. The command is FILE FROM THE RIGHT (LEFT), MARCH. On the preparatory command, the 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 then 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.
Knob Drill Period 8 – Review Previous Instruction

Activity 1: Squad Drill

Review all Squad Drill:

a. Form the Squad
b. Dismiss the Squad
c. Rest the Squad
d. Count Off
e. Change interval while in a Line Formation
f. Align the Squad
g. Change direction of a column
h. March to the flank
Knob Drill Period 9 – Individual Drill With Weapon

Activity 1 : Order Arms (with M14) (Talk-Through Method)

a. Assume order arms on the command FALL IN or from parade rest on the command of execution ATTENTION. The butt of the weapon is on the ground, with the toe of the butt of the rifle on line with the front of the right foot. The weapon is secured with the right hand in a “U” formed by the fingers (extended and joined) and thumb. The weapon is held above where the barrel and upper stock meet, with the right thumb and forefinger pointed downward, and on line with the flat surface of the upper stock. Keep the right hand and arm behind the rifle so that the thumb is straight along the seam of the trouser leg.

Activity 2 : Rest Positions with M14 (Talk-Through Method)

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

a. For parade rest, thrust the muzzle forward, keeping the “U” shape with the right hand, holding the weapon at the upper portion of the upper stock, keeping the toe of the butt of the rifle on the marching surface and on line with the front of the right foot, and the right arm straight.

b. For stand at ease, the same as “a” applies, except turn the head and eyes toward the commander.

c. For at ease and rest, the butt of the rifle is kept in place.

Activity 3 : Port Arms (By-the-Numbers Method)

a. To execute this movement the command is PORT, ARMS. Port arms from order arms is a two count movement. On the command of execution (ARMS) the upper portion of the upper stock is grasped with the right hand and raised diagonally across the body. The left hand grasps the balance of the upper stock just forward of the magazine well so that the rifle is approximately 4 inches from the belt, keeping the right elbow down (without strain). On the second count the rifle is re-grasped with the right hand at the small of the stock, and the rifle is held diagonally across the body with the right forearm horizontal and the elbows at the sides.

b. Order arms from port arms is executed in three counts. On the command of execution arms, move the right hand up and across the body to the right front of the upper stock. Grasp the upper portion of the upper stock without moving the rifle and keep the right elbow down without strain. On count two, move the left hand from balance of the weapon and lower the rifle to the right side until it is about one inch from the marching surface. Guide the rifle to the side by placing the forefinger of the left hand at the bayonet stud, fingers and thumb extended and joined, palm to the rear. On the third count, the left hand is moved away sharply to the side and the rifle is lowered gently to the ground. At the end of the third count, resume the position of order arms.
Activity 4: Present Arms  (By-the-Numbers Method)

a. Present arms from order arms is a three-count movement. The command is PRESENT, ARMS. On the command of execution (ARMS), execute port arms in two counts. On the third count, twist the rifle with the right hand so that the magazine well is to the front, and move the rifle to a vertical position with the rifle about 4 inches in front of and centered on the body. The weapon is lowered until the left forearm is horizontal to the ground; keep the elbows in at the sides. Order arms from present arms is a four count movement, the command is order arms. On the command of execution arms, return the rifle to port arms. Counts two, three, and four are the same as order arms from port arms.

b. Rifle salute can be executed from order arms, right/left shoulder arms, and may be used to render courtesy when an individual is marching at right/left shoulder arms and not a part of a larger formation. It is a one-count movement, and the command is RIFLE, SALUTE. On the command of execution (SALUTE), if at order arms, move the left arm across the body with the forearm and wrist straight, fingers and thumb extended and joined, and palm down. The first joint of the forefinger touches the rifle at a point below the bayonet stud. If not in ranks, the head and eyes turn toward the person or Color saluted. While at right/left shoulder arms, the right/left arms is moved across the chest and the first joint of the forefinger of the right/left hand is touching to the rear of the receiver.

c. Order arms from rifle salute is a one-count movement. The command is ORDER, ARMS. On the command of execution (ARMS), the left hand is moved smartly to side of the body as in the position of attention, and the head and eyes are turned to the front.
Activity 1: Inspection Arms (By-the-Numbers Method)

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

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

Activity 2: Right Shoulder Arms (By-the-Numbers Method)

a. Right shoulder arms from order arms is a four-count movement executed on the command of RIGHT SHOULDER, ARMS. Grasp the upper portion of the stock with the right hand and raise it diagonally across the body, keeping the right elbow down without strain. With the left hand, grasp the upper portion of the stock at the balance, ensuring that the weapon is about 4 inches from the waist. On the second count, move the right hand from the stock and grasp the heel of the butt between the first two fingers with the thumb and forefinger touching. On the third count, twist the rifle and place it on the right shoulder with the left hand, moving the left hand to the small of the stock to guide the rifle to the shoulder. The first joint of the left forefinger touches the rear of the receiver. Keep the left elbow down, and keep the right forearm horizontal with the right upper arm against the side and on line with the back. On the final count (four), sharply move the left hand back to the left side as in the position of attention.

b. Order arms from right shoulder arms is a four-count movement executed on the command of ORDER, ARMS. On the command of execution (ARMS), press down quickly and firmly on the butt of the rifle with the right hand and twist the weapon, guiding it diagonally across the body and about 4 inches from the waist. Grasp the rifle with the left hand at the upper portion of the stock at the balance. On the second count, move the right hand up and across the body, approaching from the right front of the front sight assembly, and firmly grasp the upper portion of the upper stock without moving the rifle. Keep the right elbow down without strain. The third and fourth counts are the same as from Port Arms to Order Arms.
**Activity 3 : Left Shoulder Arms  (By-the-Numbers Method)**

a. Left shoulder arms from order arms is a four-count movement executed on the command of LEFT SHOULDER, ARMS. On the command of execution (ARMS), execute port Arms in two counts. On the third count, place the weapon on your left shoulder with your right hand, keeping your elbow down. At the same time, regrasp the butt with your left hand in the same manner as for right should arms (butt between the first two fingers, with the thumb and index finger touching). On count four, lower your right hand smartly to your right side as in the position of attention.

b. Order arms from left shoulder arms is a five-count movement executed on the command of ORDER, ARMS. On the command of execution (ARMS), move your right hand up and across the body and grasp the small of the stock, keeping the right elbow down. On the second count carry the rifle diagonally across your body with your right hand. At the same time, with the left hand, re-grasp the upper portion of the stock at the balance, resuming Port Arms. Counts three, four, and five are the same as from Port Arms to Order Arms.

**Activity 4 : Changing Position  (By-the-Numbers Method)**

a. From port arms to right shoulder arms is a three-count movement executed on the command of RIGHT SHOULDER, ARMS. On the command of execution (ARMS), slide the right hand to the right and grasp the butt. Counts two and three are the same as counts three and four from Order Arms.

b. From port arms to left shoulder arms is a two-count movement executed on the command of LEFT SHOULDER, ARMS. On the command of execution (ARMS), execute left shoulder arms in the same manner as counts three and four from Order Arms.

c. From right shoulder arms to left shoulder arms is a four count movement executed on the command of LEFT SHOULDER, ARMS. On the command of execution (ARMS), execute the first count the same as executing Order Arms. On the count of two, release the butt of the weapon with the right hand and re-grasp the small of the stock (port arms). Counts three and four are the same movements as from Port Arms.

d. From left shoulder arms to right shoulder arms is a five-count movement executed on the command of RIGHT SHOULDER, ARMS. On the command of execution (ARMS), execute port arms in two counts. Counts three, four, and five are the same movements as from Port Arms.
Knob Drill Period 11 – Review Previous Instruction

Activity 1: Individual Drill with a Weapon

Review all individual drill with a weapon:

a. Order Arms
b. Rest positions with a rifle
c. Port Arms
d. Present Arms
e. Inspection Arms
f. Right/Left Shoulder Arms
g. Changing positions at the halt
Knob Drill Period 12 – Platoon Drill

Activity 1 : Forming the Platoon (Talk-Through Method)

a. The platoon normally forms in a line formation; however, it may reform in a column when each cadet can independently identify his exact position (equipment grounded) in the formation.

b. 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 of the first squad double times to his post so that the first squad (when formed) will be three steps and centered on the platoon sergeant. Other squad leaders cover on the first squad leader at 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, assumes the position of attention and turn their head and eyes to the right. They obtain correct distance by taking short steps forward or backward and align themselves on the cadet 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 cadet to their front. Members of all squads, other than the first squad, will not raise their left arms unless the cadet to their immediate left has no one to their front in the formation on which to cover.

c. When armed, members fall in at order arms. For safety purposes, an inspection arms should be conducted.

Activity 2 : Breaking Ranks (Talk-Through Method)

a. When the situation requires one or more cadets to leave the formation or to receive specific instruction from the platoon leader, the platoon leader directs, PVT DOE (pause) FRONT AND CENTER, or THE FOLLOWING PERSONNEL FRONT AND CENTER – PVT DOE (pause), PVT SMITH.

b. When the cadet’s name is called, the cadet assumes the position of attention and replies “Here Sir/Sergeant.” The cadet than takes one 15-inch step backwards, halts, faces to the right or left and exits the formation by marching to the nearest flank. Once the cadet has cleared the formation, the cadet begins to double time and halts two steps from and centered on the platoon leader/platoon sergeant.

NOTE: When a group is called, the platoon leader will direct where the first cadet is to stand so that the formation will be centered on the platoon leader.

Activity 3 : Dismissing the Platoon (Talk-Through Method)

NOTE: The procedures for dismissing the platoon are basically the same as those for the squad.
a. With unarmed cadets, the command is DISMISSED.

b. With armed cadets the commands are: INSPECTION ARMS; READY, PORT, ARMS; DISMISSED.

**Activity 4 : Resting the Platoon (Talk-Through Method)**

a. The platoon members execute the rest position in formation in the same manner as described in the individual command of rest.

b. The command for rest is REST.

c. When the situation warrants a greater degree of relaxation than the rest position, the platoon leader may command FALL OUT. Platoon members may leave their positions in formation, but remaining in the immediate area.
Knob Drill Period 13 – Platoon Drill (Continued)

Activity 1: Counting Off (Talk-Through Method)

a. The platoon counts off in the same manner as the squad. The command is COUNT, OFF.

b. When in line formation, the squad counts in unison from right to left with each squad leader sounding off with ONE. One the command of execution (OFF), each cadet (except the squad leaders) turns their head and eyes to the right and as the squad leaders sounds off with the number “ONE.” After the squad leaders counts off their number, the cadets to their left sounds off with the next number in sequence and simultaneously turns their heads and eyes to the front. The sequence is continued with the next cadets to their left until the last cadet/s in line has sounded off with their number.

c. When in a column formation, the cadets abreast each other count in unison from front to rear with each squad leader sounding off with ONE. The command is the same as for a line formation. On the command of execution (OFF), the squad leaders turn their heads and eyes to the right and sounds off (over their shoulders) with “ONE.” After they sound off, they immediately return to the position of attention. All other members of the platoon count their numbers in sequence following the same procedures as the first except for the last cadet. The last cadet/s keep their heads and eyes to the front and sound off with the next number.

Activity 2: Change the Interval within the Platoon (Step-by-Step Method)

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

a. To obtain close interval from normal interval when the platoon is in a column at the halt, the command is CLOSE INTERVAL, MARCH. On the command of execution (MARCH), the right file stands fast and serves as the base. All other squads to the left of the right flank squad execute right step march with the third squad taking one step, second squad two steps, and the third squad three steps.

b. To obtain normal interval from close interval the command is NORMAL INTERVAL, MARCH. On the command of execution (MARCH), the right flank squad stands fast; all squads to the left of the right flank squad execute the same number of left steps and halt.

c. To change intervals in a 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 (MARCH), the base squad (right file) takes one more 30-inch step then assumes the half step. All other cadets take one more 30-inch 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 cadets of the base squad. On the command of FORWARD, MARCH, all cadets resume marching with a 30-inch step.
NOTE: In addition to FORWARD MARCH, MARK TIME or HALT may also be given.

d. To obtain normal interval the command of NORMAL INTERVAL, MARCH. The procedures are the same as close interval. On the command of execution (MARCH), the right squad takes up the half step while the other squads execute the facing movements.

Activity 3: Aligning the Platoon (Talk-Through Method)

NOTE: The procedures for the platoon are basically the same as those for the squad.

a. To align the squad at normal interval the commands are DRESS RIGHT, DRESS and READY, FRONT. These commands are only given when the cadets are at order or sling arms. 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 raise their left arms and obtain exact interval. Members of the other squads raise their left arms (for uniformity) and obtain approximate interval while covering and aligning on the squad leaders.

b. To align the platoon in a column, the command is COVER. On this command the squad leader of the fourth squad stands fast and serves as a base. The fourth, third, and second squad leaders raise their left arms laterally to verify interval. The members of the fourth squad raise their left arms horizontally to the front (one arms length plus 6 inches) and cover the cadet to their front at correct distance. All other platoon members raise their left arms horizontally to the front and cover the cadet to their front, and at the same time glancing out of the corner of their eyes and align themselves for the right file. To resume the position of attention the command RECOVER is given. On this command, each cadet lowers their arm smartly back to their side.

Activity 4: Opening and Closing Ranks (Step-by-Step Method)

a. Open ranks is executed from a line formation while at the halt. It may be executed while at any of the prescribed intervals. The Command is OPEN RANKS, MARCH.

b. On the command of execution (MARCH), the front squad takes two steps forward, the second squad takes one step forward, the third stands fast, and the fourth rank takes two steps backwards. If additional ranks are present, they would take corresponding steps.

NOTE: After taking the prescribed steps the cadets do not raise their arms.

c. To close ranks, the command is CLOSE RANKS, MARCH. On the command of execution (MARCH), the first rank takes four steps backwards, the second rank takes two steps backwards, the third rank stands fast, and the fourth rank takes one step forward.
Activity 1: Marching the Platoon (Step-by-Step Method)

NOTE: The platoon marches in the same manner prescribed for the squad.

a. The squad leader of the first squad serves as a guide when marching in line and the fourth squad leader serves as a guide when marching in column.

b. When marching in line, each squad (glancing out of the corner of their eye) maintains alignment on their squad leader. When marching in column, the members of the first, second, and third squads maintain alignment on the soldier in the right file.

Activity 2: Executing Eyes Right (Step-by-Step Method)

a. The platoon renders courtesy during ceremonies or when marching pass the Colors by executing eyes eight. The command for this movement is EYES, RIGHT.

b. At the halt, all cadets, on the command of execution (RIGHT), turn their head and eyes to right at an angle of 45 degrees while keeping the shoulders parallel to the front. They focus on and follow (turning the head) the person passing to the front until they are again looking forward, at which time the head and eyes remain fixed to the front.

NOTE: Only the platoon leader renders the hand salute.

c. When marching, the preparatory command (EYES) is given as the right foot hits the ground, and the command of execution is given the next time the right foot hits the ground. On the command of execution (RIGHT), all cadets, except the right file, turn their head and eyes to the right and align themselves on the right file while continuing to march.

NOTE: The right file looks straight to the front and maintains correct distance. Only the Platoon leader salutes.

d. To return to the front or terminate the courtesy, the preparatory command of READY is given as the left foot hits the ground. The command of execution (FRONT) is given, the next time the soldiers turn their heads and eyes sharply to the front and the platoon leader terminates the hand salute.

Activity 3: Changing the Direction of a Column (Step-by-Step Method)

NOTE: The platoon changes direction of march basically the same as the squad.

a. The base element during a column movement is the squad on the flank in the direction of the turn.
b. From the halt, the command to place the platoon in motion and simultaneously change direction of march 45 or 90 degrees is COLUMN RIGHT (LEFT), MARCH, or COLUMN HALF RIGHT (LEFT), MARCH. For a 90 degree turn, on the command of execution (MARCH), the base squad executes the movement as in squad drill, except the squad leader takes one full 30-inch step and then takes up the half step. He continues to march with the half step until the other squad leaders are abreast, once abreast, they step off with a 30-inch step without command. On the command of execution the other squad leaders execute a column half left/right, continue marching in an arc (maintaining correct [offset] interval) and assume the half step once abreast of the base squad leader.

All other platoon members, on the command of execution, march forward and execute the column movement at approximately the same location as their squad leaders and in the same manner.

c. To change direction of march 45 degrees, the command is COLUMN HALF RIGHT (LEFT), MARCH. On the command of execution (MARCH), the platoon executes movements in the same manner as a 90 degree turn except the base squad leader and well as the other squad leaders execute a column half/left.
Knob Drill Period 15 – Platoon Drill (Continued)

Activity 1: March to the Flank (Step-by-Step Method)

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

b. The command for this movement is RIGHT/LEFT FLANK, MARCH. The preparatory command 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 of the desired direction strikes the ground. On the command of execution, ALL cadets take one more step, turn in the commanded direction on the ball of the lead foot opposite the direction of march, and step off in the new direction with the trailing foot. As the cadets begin to march in the new direction, they glance out of the corner of the eye and dress to the right.

Activity 2: Forming a File (Step-by-Step Method)

a. The platoon forms a single file from the right or left as designated by the platoon leader only when the platoon is at the halt.

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 cadet in the preceding squad at the correct distance.

b. The command is FILE FROM THE RIGHT (LEFT), MARCH. On the preparatory command, the squad leader of the designated squad commands FORWARD, the other squad leaders command STAND FAST. On the command of execution (MARCH), the lead squad marches forward. The squad leader next to the lead element looks over their shoulder and commands COLUMN HALF RIGHT (LEFT) when the second from the last cadet is on line with them, and gives the command MARCH as the right foot of the last cadet strikes the ground. On their command of execution, the squad leader executes the column half right/left, then inclines without command to the right or left, and follows the last man of the preceding squad at correct distance without command. 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.
Drill Period 16 – Review Previous Instruction

Activity 1: Platoon Drill

Review all Platoon Drill:

a. Form the Platoon
b. Break Ranks
c. Dismiss the Platoon
d. Rest the Platoon
e. Counting Off
f. Change Interval
g. Align the Platoon
h. Open/close Ranks
i. March the Platoon
j. Eyes Right
k. Change the direction of a column
l. March to the Flank
m. Forming a File
Knob Drill Period 17 – Company Drill

Activity 1: Forming the Company

The company normally forms in a line formation. However, it may re-form in column when each cadet can identify their exact position (equipment, grounded) in the formation.

a. 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.

b. 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.

c. The company may be formed by the first sergeant (platoon sergeants) or by the company commander (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.

Activity 2: Dismissing the Company

a. The company is dismissed while at attention and from a line formation. It may be dismissed by the company commander, first sergeant, or designated NCOs.

b. When all platoon sergeants are at their post the first sergeant directs TAKE CHARGE OF YOUR PLATOONS, or, DISMISS YOUR PLATOONS. The platoon sergeants salute. The first sergeant salutes with one salute. After salutes are exchanged, the first sergeant along with the guidon bearer fall out. At that time the platoon sergeant will either command DISMISS or FALL OUT.
Activity 1: Changing Direction of March (Column)

a. The company changes 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 a halt, the leading platoon leader repeats the company commander’s preparatory command. Succeeding platoon leaders give the supplementary command FORWARD. On the command of execution (MARCH), the leading platoon executes the movement as prescribed in platoon drill; and, succeeding platoons execute the movement of their platoon leader’s command.

d. While marching, the movement is executed as prescribed from the halt, except succeeding platoon leaders give the supplementary command CONTINUE TO MARCH, rather than FORWARD.
Activity 1: Forming a Mass Formation

a. 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 before the command of COMPANY MASS LEFT, MARCH, is given.

b. On the preparatory command of COMPANY MASS LEFT, given at the halt, the leading platoon leader commands STAND FAST. The platoon leaders of the succeeding platoons command COLUMN HALF LEFT. On the command of execution (MARCH), the leading platoon stands fast. The other platoon execution (MARCH), the leading platoon stands fast. The other platoons execute their column half left and then execute a column half right on the command of their platoon leader. (Platoon leader will select a point that will bring the platoon at close interval alongside of the base platoon.) As the platoon comes abreast of the base platoon, the platoon leader commands MARK TIME, MARCH. While the platoon is marking time, the members adjust their position to ensure exact alignment on the elements to their right. The leaders allow mark time for approximately eight counts and then command, PLATOON, HALT.

c. On the preparatory command of COMPANY MASS LEFT, given while marching, the leading platoon leader commands MARK TIME. The platoon leaders of the succeeding platoons command COLUMN HALF LEFT. On the command of execution (MARCH), the leading platoon executes mark time in place. After marking time for approximately eight counts the platoon leader commands, PLATOON, HALT. The other platoons form in the same manner as from the halt.

Activity 2: Changing Direction of March (Company Mass)

a. The company changes direction of march in mass basically the same as a platoon column movement. When executed from the halt, the command is COMPANY, RIGHT (LEFT) TURN, MARCH. 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. They then begin marching with the half step dressing on the right (left) flank platoon leader until the commander gives FORWARD, MARCH.

b. When executed while marching, the movement is executed the same as from the halt, except for the movements of the company commander.

Activity 3: Forming a Column from a Company Mass

a. To form a company in column from a company mass at the halt, the command is COLUMN OF PLATOONS, RIGHT PLATOON, FORWARD (COLUMN RIGHT [LEFT])—COLUMN HALF RIGHT [LEFT], MARCH. The right platoon leader gives the supplementary command of FORWARD (COLUMN RIGHT [LEFT])—COLUMN HALF RIGHT [LEFT], and
the other platoon leaders command STAND FAST. On the command of execution (MARCH),
the right platoon marches in the indicated direction. All other platoons follow in sequence, in
column, executing column half right (left) and column half left (right) on the command 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 of DOUBLE TIME and the other platoon leaders give the
supplementary command of CONTINUE TO MARCH. On the command of execution
(MARCH) the right platoon marches in double time. All other platoons follow in sequence,
giving the command of COLUMN HALF RIGHT, DOUBLE TIME, MARCH and COLUMN
HALF LEFT, MARCH to bring succeeding platoons in column with the lead platoon.