

## INFANTRY DRILL REGULATIONS

August 4, 1941

### SECTION VII

# MANUAL OF THE COLOR AND STANDARD

95. USE AND CARE OF COLORS AND STANDARDS. - The following rules will govern the use and care of the colors and standards:

- a. The national and regimental flags carried by dismounted organizations are called the national color and the regimental color. The term "color" implies the national color. The term "colors" implies both the national color and regimental color.
- b. The national and regimental flags carried by mounted or motorized organizations are called by the national standard and the regimental standard. The term "standard" implies the national standard. The term "standards" implies both the national standard and the regimental standard.
- c. In garrison, the colors and standards when not in use are kept at the office or quarters of the commanding officer and are escorted thereto and therefrom by the color guard or standard guard. In camp the colors or standards when not in use are displayed in front of the commanding officer's tent. From reveille to retreat, when the weather permits, they are displayed uncased. From retreat and to reveille and during inclement weather, they are cased and placed in the commanding officer's office, quarters, or tent.
- d. Colors and standards are cased when furled and placed within protective covering.
- e. The colors and standards may be carried in any formation in which two or more companies participate, and in escorts when ordered.
- f. In separate organizations and commands entitled to colors or standards and in battalions not stationed with their regimental headquarters, the colors and standards are similarly cared for and displayed at the office, quarters, or tent of the commanding officer.
- g. Battalions and squadrons stationed with their regimental headquarters do not display the colors or standards of their organizations.
- h. At regimental formations, the colors or standards are posted with the regiment. When the regimental formation is broken up, as at drill or field exercises, the colors or standards join the regimental commander or are dismissed as directed.

96. SALUTES NOT RENDERED BY NATIONAL COLOR OR STANDARD. - The national color or

standard renders no salute.

#### 97. SALUTES BY REGIMENTAL COLOR OR STANDARD. -

- a. The regimental color or standard salutes in all military ceremonies while the *National Anthem* or *To the Color* is being played and when rendering honors to its regimental commander or an individual of higher rank, but in no other case.
- b. If marching, the regimental color or standard salutes when 6 paces from the person entitled to the salute and resumes the *CARRY* when 6 paces beyond him.
- c. In passing in review the color or standard guard executes *EYES RIGHT* at the command of the senior color sergeant, who commands: 1. *EYES*, 2. *RIGHT* and 1. *READY*, 2. *FRONT* at the saluting distances prescribed in b above. The regimental color or standard also salutes (a above) at the command *RIGHT* and resumes the *CARRY* at the command *FRONT*. The man on the right flank does not execute *EYES RIGHT*. In those organizations which do not execute *EYES RIGHT* in passing in review, the standard guard omits this compliment. Where applicable, the regimental standard salutes at the command of the senior, who commands: 1. *STANDARD*, 2. *SALUTE*. The return to the *CARRY* is made at the command: 1. *CARRY*, 2. *STANDARD*.

#### 98. COLOR GUARD. -

- a. The color guard consists of two color sergeants who are the regimental color bearers, and two experienced privates selected by the regimental commander, usually for long and honorable service. A position on the color guard is one of honor and responsibility. The privates so designated, when not engaged in the performance of their duties as members of the color guard, join their organizations. The senior color sergeant carries the national color and commands the color guards. He gives the necessary commands for movements and for rendering honors, when present, otherwise the senior remaining member does so. The junior color sergeant carries the regimental color. The regimental color is always placed on the left of the national color in whatever direction they face.
- b. When battalions carry the color, a battalion staff sergeant acts as color bearer, and two experienced privates are selected by the battalion commander as member of the color guard. The general rules prescribed for the regimental color guard are applicable to the battalion.
- c. The color guard is formed and marched in one rank at close interval, the color bearers in the center. The color guard does not execute *TO THE REAR MARCH*, *ABOUT FACE*, or *FIX BAYONETS*. When the unit to which it is attached moves to the rear for short distances, the color guard, at the command of the senior color sergeant, executes *COLUMN RIGHT (LEFT)* twice, marches to the new line, again executes *COLUMN RIGHT (LEFT)* twice, and halts in the proper place.
- d. At the command of the senior color sergeant, the privates of the color guard *PRESENT ARMS* or, if armed with the pistol, execute the *HAND SALUTE* on receiving and parting with the colors. After having parted with the colors, the guard is brought to *ORDER ARMS* by command of the senior remaining member who is placed as right man of the guard.
- e. Having received the colors, the senior sergeant conducts the guard to its proper position before the color company, as outlined in f below. Having parted with the colors, the guard is dismissed by the senior sergeant.
- f. At drills and ceremonies in which the colors are to participate, except escort of the color, the colors are received by the color company prior to the formation of the battalion with the following ceremony: the color company is formed, its company commander facing the front. The color guard, conducted by the senior sergeant, approaches from the front and halts at a distance of 10 paces from the company commander. The company commander then faces about, brings the company to the *PRESENT*, faces to the front, salutes, again faces about, and brings the company to the *ORDER*. The privates of the color guard execute *PRESENT* and *ORDER ARMS* with the color company. The color guard is then marched by the senior color sergeant directly to its post, as indicated. When the color company joins the battalion, the color guard take its appropriate post in the battalion formation. When the color battalion joins the regiment, the color guard takes its appropriate post in the regimental formation. When the color joins the color company, it takes post on the left when the company is in line or mass and in rear when it is in column.

g. When it is desired to dismiss the color guard at the conclusion of a drill or ceremony in which the colors have participated, the color guard proceeds from its position and halts 10 paces in front of and facing the company commander of the color company. The company commander then faces about, brings the company to the *PRESENT*, faces to the front, salutes, again faces about, brings the company to the *ORDER*. The privates of the color guard execute *PRESENT* and *ORDER ARMS* with the color company. The color guard then escort the colors to the office, quarters, or tent of the commanding officer. The color guard is dismissed from organizations smaller than a company (funeral escort) in a similar manner.

h. In campaign, prior to engagement to the regiment and upon direction of the commanding officer, the colors are stored with the regimental baggage under guard of one color sergeant. The other color sergeant remains with regimental headquarters.

99. POSITION OF COLOR AT ORDER. - At the *ORDER*, the heel of the pike rests on the ground on line with and touching the toe of the right shoe. The right hand at a convenient place on the pike clasps it with the thumb, back of the hand to the right, and holds it in a vertical position.

100. POSITION OF COLOR AT CARRY. - At the *CARRY*, the heel of the pike rests in the socket of the sling; the right hand grasps the pike at the height of the shoulder; the pike is inclined slightly to the front.

101. POSITION OF COLOR AT PARADE REST. -

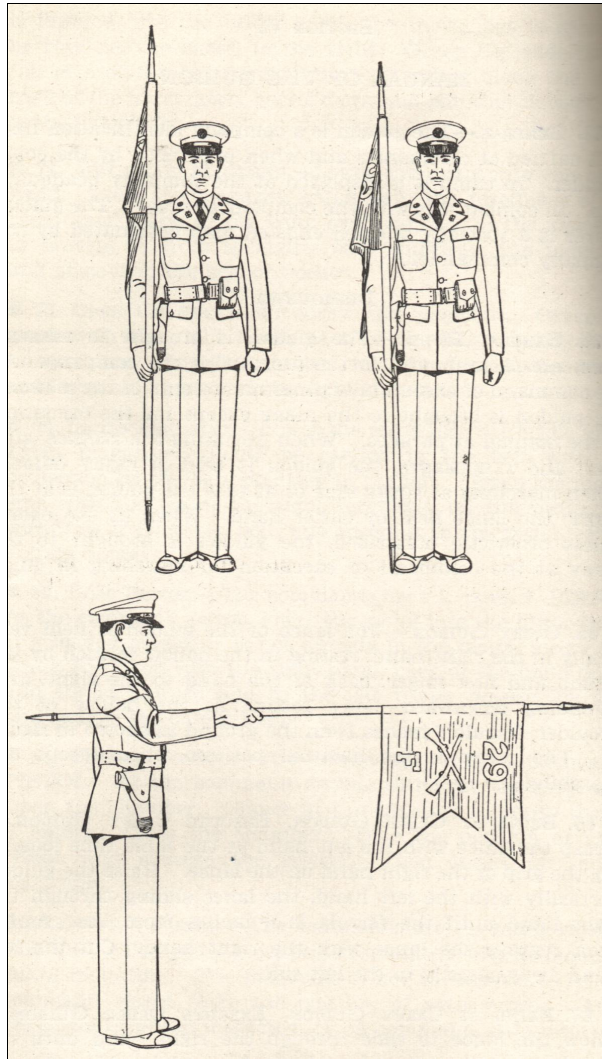
a. *PARADE REST* with the colors is similar to *PARADE REST* with the rifle, except that the pike is kept vertical.

b. The order is resumed at the command *ATTENTION*.

c. The order and *PARADE REST* are executed with the color company.

102. POSITION OF REGIMENTAL COLOR AT CLOR SALUTE. - The position is assumed from the *CARRY* by slipping the right hand up the pike to the height of the eye, then lowering the pike by straightening the arm to the front. When the regimental color salutes with troops who execute *PRESENT ARMS* from the order, the position of *CARRY* is assumed at the command *ARMS* and the *COLOR SALUTE* executed.

103. POSITION OF COLORS DURING MANUAL OF ARMS. - The colors habitually remain at the *ORDER* during the execution of the manual of arms.



See also...

[Manual of the Guidon](#)