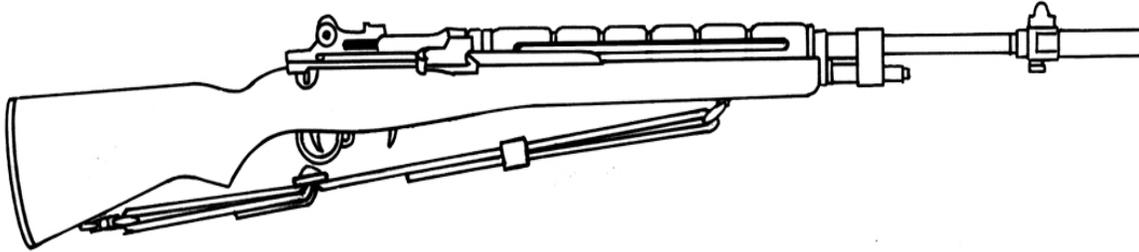


## MANUAL OF ARMS

1. **General.** This attachment contains procedures for executing the manual of arms with rifles for color guard teams.



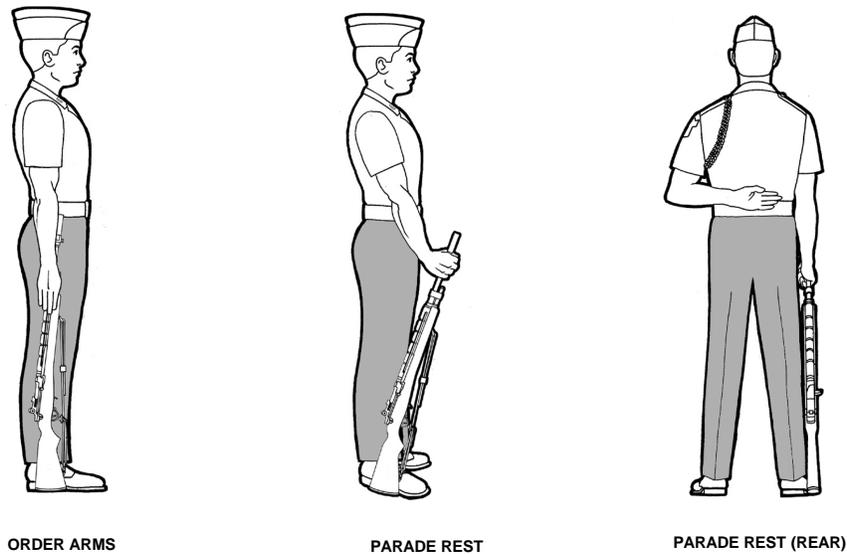
- a. At the *halt*, all movements are initiated from *order arms*, which is the position of *attention* with the rifle.
- b. All precision movements are executed in quick-time cadence.
- c. *Port arms* is the key position assumed in most manual of arms movements from one position to another except *right shoulder arms* from *order arms* and *order arms* from *right shoulder arms*.
- d. Manual of arms movements are a combination of the position of *attention* and the procedures for the prescribed movement. Most manual of arms movements are executed with the head, eyes, and body in the position of *attention*.

### 2. Order Arms.

- a. Assume *order arms* on the command, "FALL IN" or from *parade rest* on the command of execution, "ATTENTION".
- b. At *order arms*, maintain the position of *attention* with the rifle. Place the butt of the rifle on the marching surface, centered on the right foot, with the sights to the rear. The toe of the rifle butt touches the foot so that the rear sight and the trigger guard form a straight line to the front. Secure the rifle with the right hand in an "U" formed by the fingers (extended and joined) and the thumb. Hold the rifle at the front sight with the right thumb and forefinger pointed downward, and on line with the flat surface of the hand grip. Keep the right hand and arm behind the rifle so that the thumb is straight along the seam of the trouser leg (see Figure 1).

### 3. Rest Position.

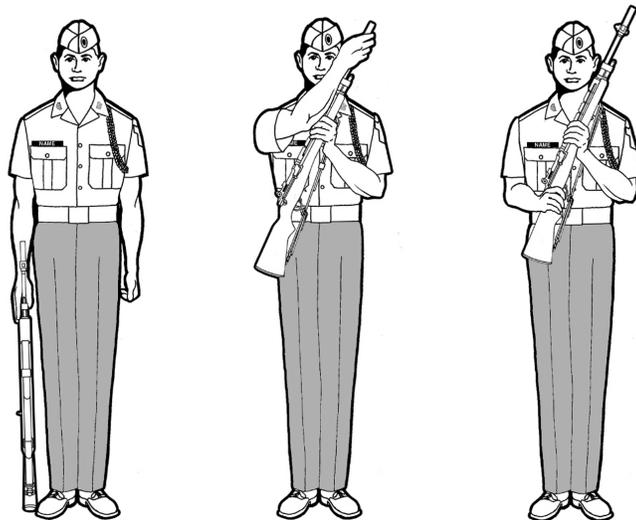
- a. On the command of execution "REST" of *parade rest*, thrust the muzzle forward, simultaneously changing the grip of the right hand to grasp the barrel, keeping the toe of the butt of the rifle on the marching surface and the right arm straight (see Figure 1).
- b. Execute *at ease* in the same manner as *parade rest* with rifle except turn the head and eyes toward the commander.
- c. On the command "AT EASE" or "REST," keep the butt of the rifle in place as in *parade rest*.



**Figure 17-1. Order Arms and Parade Rest**

#### 4. Port Arms.

a. *Port arms* from *order arms* is a two-count movement. The command is “**Port, ARMS.**” On the command of execution “**ARMS,**” grasp the rifle barrel with the right hand and raise the rifle diagonally across the body, keeping the right elbow down (without strain). With the left hand, simultaneously grasp the hand grip at the mid point of the rifle so that the rifle is about 4 inches from the waist. On the second count, re-grasp the rifle at the small of the stock with the right hand. Hold the rifle diagonally across the body, about 4 inches from the waist, with the right forearm horizontal and the elbows close to the sides (see Figure 2).



**Figure 17-2. Port Arms**

b. *Order arms* from *port arms* is executed in three counts. The command is “**Order, ARMS.**” On the command of execution “**ARMS,**” move the right hand up and across the body to the right front of the front sight, grasp the barrel firmly without moving the rifle and keep the right elbow down without strain. On the second count, move the left hand from the hand guard and lower the rifle to the right side until it is about 1 inch from the marching surface. Guide the rifle to the side by placing the forefinger of the left hand on the end of the barrel, fingers and thumb extended and joined, palm to the rear. On the third count, move the left hand sharply to the left side, lower the rifle gently to the marching surface (see Figure 3).

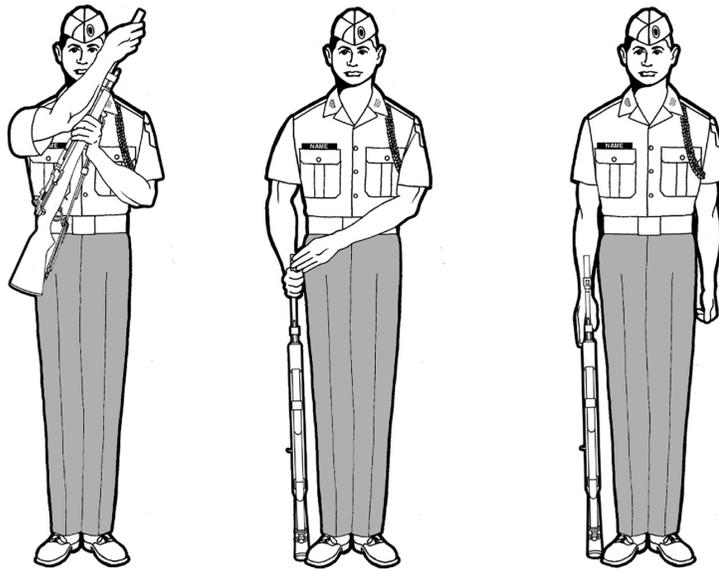


Figure 17-3. Order Arms

#### 5. Present Arms.

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 trigger is to the front and move the rifle to vertical position with the ejection port (bolt) about 4 inches in front of and centered on the body. Lower the rifle until the left forearm is horizontal; keep the elbows in at the sides (see Figure 4).

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



IN FORMATION/INDIVIDUAL

Figure 17-4. Present Arms

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

## 6. Right Shoulder Arms.

a. *Right shoulder arms* from *order arms* is a four-count movement. The command is, “**Right shoulder, ARMS.**” On the command of execution, “**ARMS**”, grasp the rifle barrel with the right hand and raise it diagonally across the body, keeping the right elbow down (without strain). With the left hand, grasp the hand grip just forward of the ejection port (bolt), ensuring the weapon is about 4 inches from the waist. On the second count, move the right hand from the barrel and grasp the heel of the rifle butt between the first two fingers with the thumb and forefinger touching. On the third count (without moving the head), release the grasp of the left hand (without changing the grasp of the right hand), twist the rifle so that the sights are up and place the rifle on the right shoulder. Keep the left hand’s fingers and thumb extended and joined with the palm turned toward the body. The first joint of the left forefinger should touch the rear of the ejection port (bolt assembly). Keep the elbow down and keep the right forearm horizontal with the right upper arm against the side and on line with the back. On the fourth count, sharply move the left hand back to the left side as in the position of *attention* (see Figure 5).

b. *Order arms* from *right shoulder arms* is a four-count movement. The command is “**Order, ARMS.**” On the command of execution, “**ARMS**,” without moving the head and without changing the grasp of the right hand, press down quickly and firmly on the butt of the rifle with the right hand and twist the rifle (with sights up), guiding it diagonally across the body and about 4 inches from the waist. Grasp the rifle with the left hand at the hand grip just forward of the bolt assembly. 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 barrel 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* (see Figure 2).

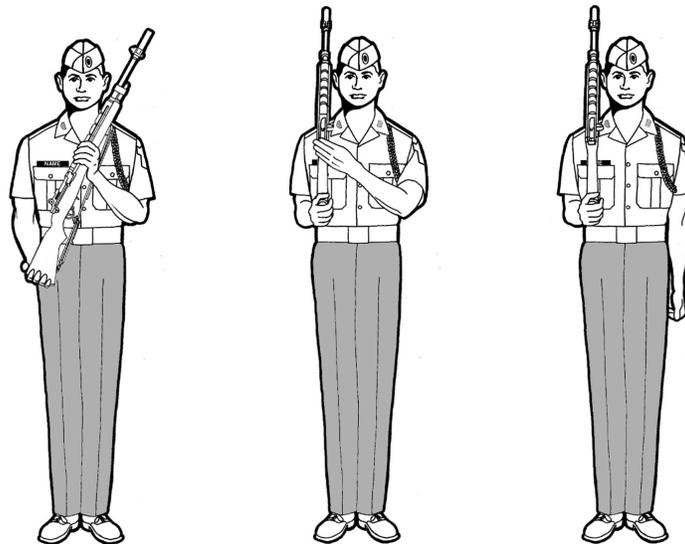


Figure 17-5. Right Shoulder Arms

## 7. Changing Positions.

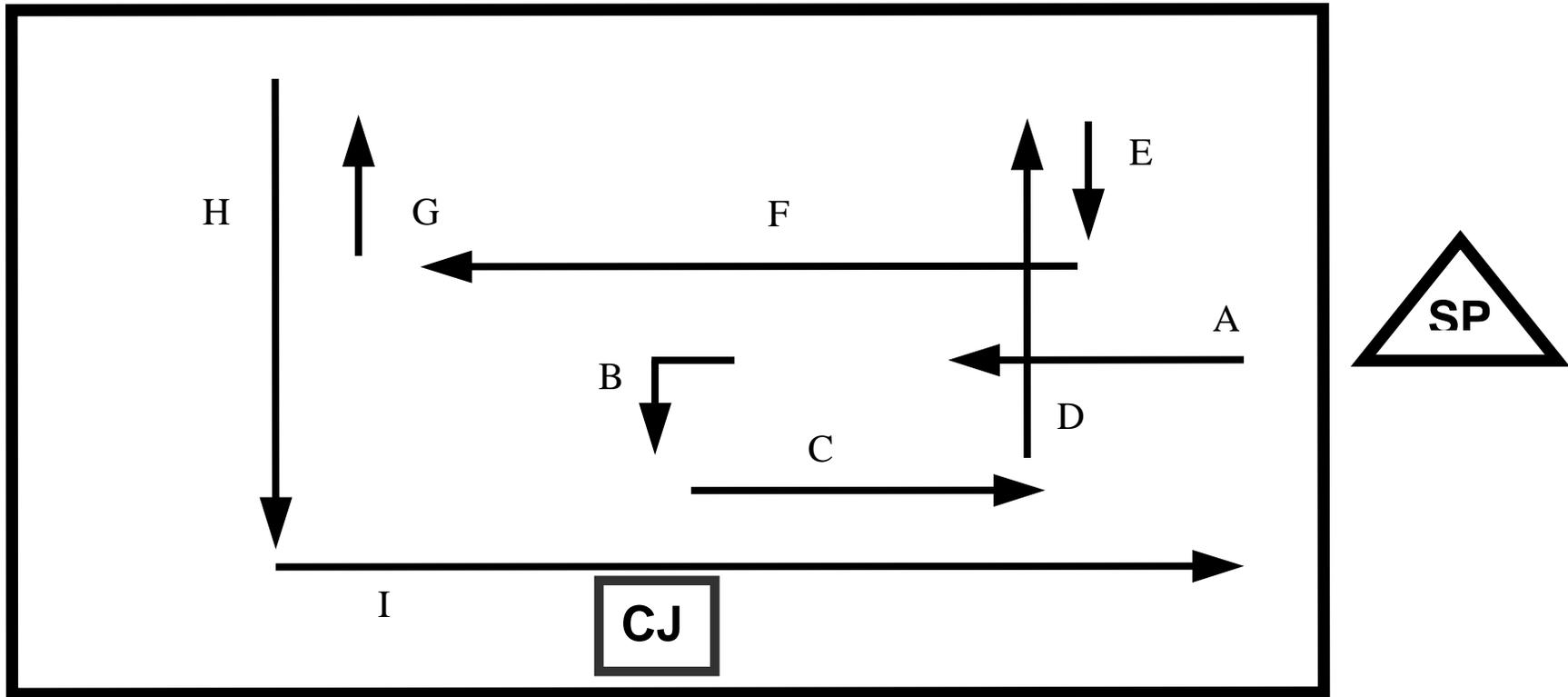
a. *Right shoulder arms* from *port arms* is a three-count movement. The command is “**Right shoulder, ARMS.**” On the command of execution, “**ARMS**”, release the grasp of the right hand and re-grasp the rifle with the heel of the rifle butt between the first two fingers, with the thumb and forefinger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

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

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

d. To resume *right shoulder arms* front *present arms*, the command is “**Right shoulder, ARMS.**” On the command of execution, “**ARMS**,” execute *port arms* in one count and then execute the counts as prescribed from *port arms*.

DRILL ROUTINE



- |           |                                 |           |                                     |
|-----------|---------------------------------|-----------|-------------------------------------|
| <b>A:</b> | <b>March On</b>                 | <b>F:</b> | <b>Half Right About</b>             |
| <b>B:</b> | <b>Report – Execute Actions</b> | <b>G:</b> | <b>Half Right About</b>             |
| <b>C:</b> | <b>Half Left About</b>          | <b>H:</b> | <b>Left About</b>                   |
| <b>D:</b> | <b>Half Left About</b>          | <b>I:</b> | <b>Half Left About – Eyes Right</b> |
| <b>E:</b> | <b>Right About</b>              |           | <b>March Off</b>                    |

**SP:** Start Point

**CJ:** Chief Judge