

SWORD MANUAL

Revised 0223v1

SWORD MANUAL

40. THE SWORD and SCABBARD

The Sword should be carried with a flexible wrist and without grasping the grip tightly. The grip should be held at position of Carry by the thumb and forefinger, as if holding a pen, and covering about two thirds of the grip below the guard. When marching, the left hand may steady the scabbard when necessary.

41. DRAW and CARRY SWORDS

Being in line at a halt with swords in scabbards:

1. Sir Knights, 2. Draw, 3. SWORDS

At the command DRAW, grasp the scabbard with the left hand, near its mouth, incline the hilt a little forward, seize the grip with the right hand, and draw the blade until the right forearm is horizontal, back of hand against the breast.

SWORDS draw the sword quickly, raising the arm to its full length at an angle of about 45°, the sword in a straight line with the arm, edge down, extending in the same direction as the right foot. (TWO) Bring the back edge of the blade against the shoulder the blade vertical back of the grip to the rear, the arm nearly straight down, the thumb and forefinger embracing the grip, the thumb against the thigh, (seam of the trousers), the other fingers extended and joined in the rear of the grip. This is the position of Carry Swords. From this position all movements of the sword manual begin, unless otherwise specified.

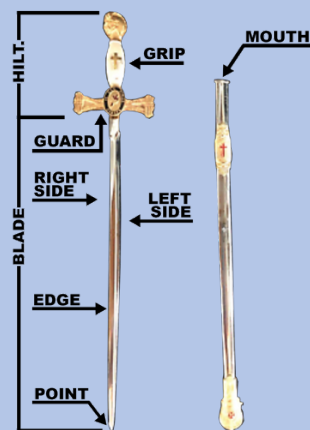
42. PRESENT SWORDS

1. Present, 2. SWORDS.

Raise and carry the sword to the front, cross hilt as high as the chin and six inches in front of the neck, edge to the left, point six inches farther to the front than the cross hilt, thumb extended on the back of the grip, wrist straight, all fingers grasping the grip.

1. Carry, 2. SWORDS.

Resume the carry in one motion without throwing the right hand to the front, or the point to the rear.



The Sword and Scabbard



Carry
Swords

Draw Swords
Second Motion

Draw Swords
First Motion



Present Swords

43. SALUTE SWORDS

1. Salute, 2.SWORDS.

Execute present swords. (TWO) Drop the point of the sword, edge to the left, to about fifteen inches in front of and in prolongation of the right foot, arm hanging naturally, the elbow close to the body, the back of the hand down, at the seam of the trousers.

1. Carry, 2.SWORDS.

Resume the position of carry swords in one motion.

The Salute Swords is the Present Swords used by the Commander, Generalissimo, and Captain General. At the command PRESENT, they execute Present Swords, and at the command SWORDS, execute the second motion of Salute Swords. Junior Officers execute the Present unless otherwise specified.

44. ORDER SWORDS

1. Order, 2.SWORDS.

Drop the sword point to the ground, blade inclined to the rear, back of blade to the front, cutting edge forward. (TWO) Bring the blade to a vertical position against the right toe, and place the hand on top of the hilt, three fingers in front of the grip, thumb and little finger in the rear, elbow close to the body.

1. Carry, 2.SWORDS.

Resume the position of carry swords in one motion.

45. SWORDS PORT

1. Swords, 2. PORT.

Seize the blade in front of the right shoulder with the fingers and thumb of the left hand, the thumb to the rear, the left elbow close to the body. (TWO) With the left hand bring the sword diagonally across and about one inch in front of the body, edge down, the left hand at the height of the left shoulder. The thumb extended along the blade, the fingers closed, back of the hand down, the right hand grasping the hilt and nearly in front of the right hip.

1. Carry, 2.SWORDS.

Bring the sword to the carry with both hands, the left hand as high as the right shoulder, pressing the blade to its place, the fingers and thumb extended and joined in front of the blade, the elbow near the body. (TWO)

Drop the left hand to the side.



Salute Swords
Officers Present



Order Swords



First Motion
Order Swords



Swords Port



Carry from Port
First Motion

46. INSPECTION SWORDS

The Knight to be inspected executes Present Swords as the Inspecting Officer approaches or leaves Knight on the right. When the Inspector faces him, he turns the wrist in regular cadence (two counts) without any forward movement of the forearm, to show both sides of the blade. He resumes Carry when the Inspector has passed.

47. RETURN SWORDS

1. Sir Knights, 2. Return, 3. SWORDS.

At the command RETURN, seize the scabbard near the mouth with the left hand, inclining it a little forward, and keeping the right hand near the body. Drop the sword blade forward and to the left so that the point is about six inches from the floor and pointing to a line which is a prolongation of the left foot. Move the sword hand to the left then raise the hand drawing the sword blade between the first two fingers of the left hand. Insert the point of the blade in the mouth of the scabbard, edge to the front, assisted by the thumb and fingers of the left hand, eyes to the front, thrust the blade into the scabbard until the right forearm is horizontal (first motion of draw) SWORDS. Return the blade smartly and drop the hands to the sides. Note: In inserting the point avoid turning the scabbard to meet the sword or looking down.

48. ON GUARD

1. On, 2. GUARD

Turn the left foot square to the left, turning on the left heel, and plant the right foot firmly about eighteen inches to the front, feet at right angles, the weight resting principally on the right foot, the shoulders oblique to the front head and eyes square to the front. At the same time, raise the sword hand on a line with the lower part of the belt and about two inches from it, the guard three or four inches to the right of the belt clasp. Drop the sword diagonally to the left, the blade about eighteen inches in front of the left shoulder, edge to the front, thumb on back of grip. The sword held without restraint.

1. Carry, 2. SWORDS

Resume the position of attention



Return Swords
First Motion



On Guard

49. CUTS OR PARRIES

In giving the parries, first take the position On Guard, keeping the feet at right angles and looking into the eyes of the Knight opposite. The flats of the blades should be crossed about ten inches from the points, the sword arm straight. Parries should be given with spirit, but the swords touching lightly.

1. Parry, 2. ONE

Raise and extend the arm, back of the hand to the left and up without changing the grasp, the edge of the sword up, the blade in prolongation of the forearm and engage the sword of the Knight opposite.

1. Parry, 2. TWO

Disengage the sword and describe a circular movement toward the rear and right back of the hand down, edge of the sword down, and engage the opposite sword on the right side, crossing the blades as before.

1. Parry, 3. THREE

Disengage the sword and describe a circular movement toward the left and downward, engage the opposite sword on the left side, the point of the sword near the ground, the edge upward, the back of the hand to the left, and cross blades.

1. Parry, 4. FOUR

Come directly to the position of “Parry One”

1. Carry, 2. SWORDS.

After each word has been communicated, the position of On Guard and Carry Swords will be resumed as follows.

At the first command CARRY, come to the position of On Guard and at the command SWORDS, bring the right foot back to the original line and resume the Carry.

50. WIELD SWORDS

Raise the sword to the second position of Draw Swords. Wield the sword in a circular motion to the left, clockwise, with the arm moving from the shoulder, stopping at the first position of Wield Swords.



Parry One – Cross



Parry Three

51. FORM ARCH OF STEEL

The Commandery being formed in two lines, facing inward, and about three paces apart, at Carry Swords, the command will be given:

1. Form Arch of Steel, 2. Cross, 3. SWORDS

At the command Cross, execute Present Swords. At the comma SWORDS, advance the right foot and take the position of Parry One.

1. Carry, 2. SWORDS

At the command Carry, bring the sword to the position of Present and replace the feet, the command SWORDS, resume the position of Carry Swords.

52. CHARGE (For use at the Triangle)

1. CHARGE.

Turn on the left heel, placing the toe square to the left; at the same time, plant the right foot forward with a slight shock about eighteen inches, the feet being at right angles, the weight of the body resting on the right foot. At the time of planting the feet, extend the arm to its full length, at the height of the shoulder, back of the hand down, the blade in prolongation of the arm, and pointed at the opponent's breast. At the Triangle, the Arch of Steel is formed from the position of Charge upon the indication of the Commander.

1. Carry, 2. SWORDS.

Resume the position of Attention at Carry Swords.

53. UNCOVER and RECOVER

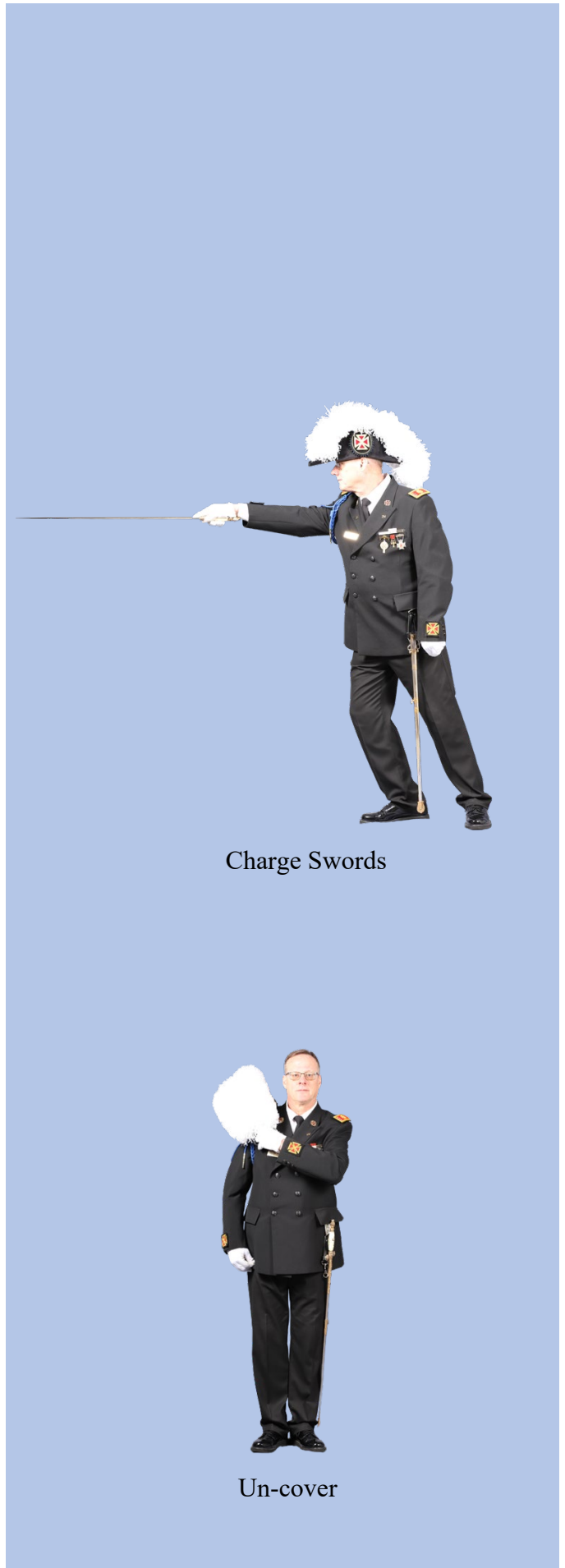
1. Un, 2. COVER

At the command Cover, take the Chapeau by the visor with the left hand, (TWO) Raise the Chapeau from the head and place it on the right shoulder, slightly to the front, holding it in that position with the left hand.

1. Re, 2. COVER

Replace the Chapeau on the head. (TWO) Drop the hand to the side.

NOTE: Uncover is never executed unless the swords are in the scabbard or in the position of Order Swords.



Charge Swords

Un-cover

54. KNEELING

1. Sir Knights, 2. KNEEL (Swords sheathed).

Carry the left foot about twenty-four inches to the rear. (TWO) Kneel on the left knee, the body and left thigh erect, the right leg below the knee nearly vertical, both hands hanging at the sides. The Triangle Guard kneels, from Order Swords, same as above, except as to the right hand, which rests on top of the sword hilt covered by the left.

To communicate cross the Lines, each Knight steps forward one pace with his right foot and kneels on his left knee, both hands hanging at sides.

55. DEPOSIT CHAPEAU

From uncover while kneeling

1. Deposit, 2. CHAPEAU

At the command, CHAPEAU, place the Chapeau on the floor to the left, rosette up, prow pointed toward the body, Crowns as per figure. (Two) Resume position of Kneel, body erect and hands hanging at the sides.

1. Secure, CHAPEAU, 2. Re-COVER, 3. Sir Knights, RISE.

At the command CHAPEAU, grasp the visor of the Chapeau with the left-hand, place it on the right shoulder. At the Command Re-COVER, replace the Chapeau on the head and drop the hand. At the command RISE, all rise bringing the right foot backward into line.

(After Devotion)

1. Re-COVER, 2. Sir Knights, RISE.

At command Re-COVER, replace the chapeau on the head and drop the hand to the left side. At the command RISE, all rise bringing the left feet forward into line.



Kneel
Rest on-Swords



Deposit Chapeaux



Recover Chapeaux

56. STAND AT EASE

1. Stand at 2. EASE.

Being at order swords, at the command EASE, carry the left foot 12 Inches straight to the left, keeping the legs straight without stiffness, so that the weight of the body rests equally on both feet. At the same time incline the blade to the front by extending the right arm, without moving the point or changing the grasp on the hilt. Place the left hand behind the body, resting in the small of the back, palm to the rear, fingers together (as in hand salute) the body erect but not constrained. To resume attention: 1. Detail 2. ATTEN-TION. Return to position of "Order, Swords".



Stand at Ease

57. REVERSE SWORDS

1. Reverse, 2. SWORDS

Drop the blade forward and down until it is directed towards a point about one pace in front of the right foot, at the same time allows the fingers to grasp the lower part of the grip, and move the hand forward about twelve inches. (TWO) Carry the sword by a wrist movement so that the blade will swing to the rear, the point downward at an angle of about 45°, the edge up. As the sword swings into position under the right arm pit, bring the hand in front of the right armpit and grasp the grip with the thumb and forefinger of the right hand, the other fingers successively curved, resting the blade between the right arm and the right side. The end of the hilt remains about nine inches in front of the right shoulder.

To resume the carry: 1. Carry, 2. SWORDS

Bring the sword to the first position of reverse. (TWO) Resume the position of carry swords.



Reverse Swords
First Motion

Reverse Swords

58. INVERT SWORDS

1. Invert, 2. SWORDS

Drop the point of the sword directly forward about fifteen inches, grasping the blade (about nine inches from the guard) with the left hand palm to the front. (TWO) Release the grip with the right hand and invert the sword with the left hand to a position about four inches in front of the center of the body, blade vertical, edge to the right, guard at the height of the chin, grasp the blade with the right hand at the height of the belt.

To resume carry: 1. Carry 2. SWORDS

Release the right hand and swing the point of the sword forward and upward, at the same time lower the hilt to



Invert Swords
First Motion

Invert Swords

the right side and grasp it with the right hand (first position of invert). (TWO) Place the sword in the position of carry, the left hand at the right shoulder, turning the hand. (THREE) Drop the left hand to the side.

NOTE: An Invert sword is used for ceremonial purposes, for devotions, as in church service during prayer in lieu of present swords.

59. GUIDE SWORDS

1. Guide, SWORDS

Bring the sword vertically in front of the center of the body, the right hand as high as the neck and six inches in front of it, back of the grip to the right, at the same time clasp the left hand over the right, elbows close to the body.

To resume carry: 1. Carry 2. SWORDS
Resume the position of CARRY SWORDS in one motion.

NOTE: Upon taking post on the line, as in successive formations in battalion drill, guides will take this position without command, returning to the carry at the command GUIDES POST.

60. PARADE REST

1. Parade, REST

Being at the carry or order swords, drop(carry) the sword point to the ground in front of the center of the body on a line with the left toe, edge to the right, flat side of blade forward, the palm of the right hand resting on the end of the hilt; the thumb and fingers extended and joined against the grip, the left hand clasped over the right; at the same time carry the right foot six inches straight to the rear, the left knee slightly bent, the body erect.

To resume carry:

1. Squad, ATTENTION, 2. Carry (order), 3. SWORDS

At the command attention, bring the right foot to the side of the left; drop the left hand to the side, leaving the point undisturbed. At the command swords, resume the position of carry (order) swords in one motion.



Guide Swords



Parade Rest



Attention From
Parade Rest

61. SUPPORT SWORDS

1. Support, 2. SWORDS

Bring the sword to the position of present. (par. 42)

(TWO) Carry the sword vertically to the left side, lowering the right arm until the forearm is horizontal, edge of the sword to the front, the right hand firmly grasping the grip about three inches below the guard, at the same time grasp the right forearm near the elbow with the left hand, the left forearm along and in front of the right forearm, the thumb of the left hand over and supported by the right forearm near the elbow, fingers of the left hand extended and joined, the guard resting on the left arm near its elbow, the blade vertical, edge to the front.

To resume carry: 1. Carry, 2. SWORDS

Bring the sword to the position of present (Par. 42) at the same time drop the left hand by the side.

(TWO) Bring the sword to the carry.



Support Swords

**HE REVISION OF THIS MANUAL WAS MADE POSSIBLE BY THE
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