

Oregon Fire Service Honor Guard

Detail and Drill Manual 4-2009



- H: Honor & Integrity.
- O: Outstanding commitment to service and delivery.
- N: Nurturing personal and professional relationships.
- O: Overall consistency to excellence through training.
- R: Respect for those we serve and represent.

Commands

There are two parts to calling commands, the *preparatory command* and the *command of execution*.

The preparatory command should be delivered with a rise and inflection in the voice. It is intended to alert the detail to be ready for a command or what type of command is to be carried out.

Example: "DeeTAIL" "ForeWARD" "LeeFT"

The Command of Execution should be given in a sharper and higher pitch than the tone of the preparatory command's last syllable. The command should have no inflection and is delivered with a sharp emphasis and should have a snap. The snap is used for the proper execution of the command so all members should move at the same time.

When you put them both together it would be like this.

Example: "DeeTAIL - TENHUT" "ForeWARD - MARCH"
"LeeFT FACE"

Some commands can be shortened so they are easier to say and take less time or the command can be a simple standard word that the detail knows.

Example: "DeeTAIL - ATTENTION" can be "DeeTAIL - TENHUT"

The simple command of "TWO" can be used when the detail is already in a command and is waiting to return to a rehearsed position. This would serve as the preparatory and execution command.

Example: The detail has already carried out the command of

"HaND - SALUTE"

To return to the position of attention a simple crisp command of "TWO" can be used.

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Commands must be in the volume needed for the detail to hear so they can carry it out properly. In a noisy environment or a large group a very loud command or even a relay command will be needed. When in a quiet part of a ceremony a quiet sharp subdued command or even a hand signal or head nod can be used. Practice is essential to carry these out properly.

In some details just an initial command will be given and the rest of the detail is carried out in silence using only silent signals or a silent count of one thousand ... two thousand ... and so on. When using a silent count an "*audible practice*" should be used so that all members of the detail will be using the same count timing, just a small change between members timing will be very apparent to anyone watching when all members do not move together. Example: Casket watch, Flag Fold

Commands can be carried out "By the Numbers". This can be a series of movements or just different parts of one movement. This can be useful to reduce the distraction of using a series of long commands to a detail. Practice is a must so everyone can execute each movement without the benefit of a preparatory command and stay synchronized with each other. Anyone moving slightly late will be very noticeable to anyone watching. When using this type of command the first command in the series would be "DeeTAIL - By the Numbers". After this command further commands would only be a short sharp "ONE" , "TWO" , "THREE" and so on until the movement has been completed.

Basic Commands

Position Of Attention:

Command: "Attention" or "TenHUT"

Bring your left heel smartly against your right heel your toes should be at a 45 degree angle so that a boot will fit between them without stepping on your shoe.

Your legs should be straight but not stiff at the knees your shoulders, hips and cover should stay level and square and your chest lifted.

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Your arms should be straight, elbows in tight but not stiff palms facing inward thumbs forward along the trouser seam with your fingers in a natural curl.

In this position look straight ahead be still with no moving or talking until another command has been given.

All additional commands are given only once the detail is in the position of attention and before the detail can fall out or be dismissed. You can be in the position of attention when carrying an axe, pike pole, casket or flag and always when rendering a salute.

Fall In:

Command: "FALL- IN"

At the execution command "IN" You should assume your position in ranks at the position of attention. This is would be used to get quickly formed up and ready for a drill or detail.

For even spacing use the command "Dress Right - DRESS". This should put you approximately 30" apart and ready to march.

On the command of execution "DRESS" the individual on the far right continues to face ahead the rest turn their heads to the right over their shoulder. At the same time everyone except the individual on the far left will raise their left arm shoulder height in line with their body fingers extended together with the palm facing down. This will provide the spacing to line up on, your fingers should touch the shoulder of the person next to you, it is easiest to start with the person on the far right and then everyone moves down as the proper interval is reached.

On the command "FRONT" everyone should drop their arm, look forward and return to the position of attention.

On the command "COVER" any rows formed behind the first align with the person now in front of them. The detail commander should now only see the front row. From this position you should be evenly spaces and ready for turning and marching movements.

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If the detail needs to be closer together then the command would be "At Close Interval, Dress Right - DRESS". Everything is the same as dress right dress except instead of raising the arm shoulder height the left hand would slide up to the hip so the palm is resting on the hip fingers extended and joined pointing down. The elbow is bent and flared out at a 45 degree angle. The elbow should now touch the arm of the person next to you this will provide the proper close quarters alignment.

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Parade Rest / Ceremonial Rest:

Command: "ParADE – REST" "CeremONIAL – REST" or if a pre-planned move just "REST"

At the execution command of "REST" Your left foot should move to shoulder width apart (approx 12") and the left hand is always placed against your body with the right over it thumbs laced together fingers straight.

For ceremonial rest place your hands in front palm in just above belt level. This is usually used at funerals so the movement is subdued and slow so not to attract attention and if the detail has a difference in height try to even out the hand placement so the hands appear as close to the same height as possible. At ceremonial rest during a detail such as casket watch you would remain motionless at your post until relieved.

For parade rest place your hands behind your back just below your belt with the palms out. This should be carried out quickly and crisply, it is usually used during non funeral details lasting a short period of time.

At Ease / Rest

Command: "At - EASE" "DeeTAIL – REST"

These are used to place the detail in a more comfortable position for a longer period of time. It can be used with the hands placed in the position of parade rest or ceremonial rest or comfortably at your side. The difference is what you are allowed to do from the position.

When given the execution command "EASE" you must keep your right foot in place at all times but you may move, talking is not permitted.

When given the command "REST" you must keep your right foot in place, you may move and you may talk. Note this is different than using the command "REST" during a rehearsed detail like at a funeral that would have you go to ceremonial rest with no moving or talking.

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Hand Salute / Present Arms

When weapons are in use as in posting the colors the command would be "PreSENT – ARMS"

When no weapons are in use the command would be "HaND – SALUTE"

Before any salute you should always be at the position of attention. Your shoulders and cover should stay level and square your heels should be together and your toes should be at a 45 degree angle so a boot will fit between them without stepping on your shoe.

On the execution command of "ARMS" or "SALUTE" a two second hand salute up (oneonethousandone – oneonethousandtwo) hold for a one count and return with the same count as up. The right hand should stop with the forefinger touching the rim of your cover above and slightly right of your right eye. Fingers and thumb in line extended straight, all the way down to the elbow. You should see only the palm of your hand and anyone in front of you should only see the backside of your hand. Your upper arm should be level with the deck your elbow in line with your body with your forearm at a 45 degree angle. Your fingers, wrist and forearm should form a straight line.

To return to attention the command would be either "OrDER – ARMS" or "ReaDY - TWO"

Regular Ceremonial Salute:

This is usually used at a memorial or funeral it is slow and subdued showing mourning and respect. This requires that most of the time it will be executed on a silent count or subdued command.

This uses the same positions as Hand Salute / Present Arms using a slower pace of oneonethousand-twoonethousand-threeronethousand-fouronethousand hold for the same count and then automatically return to attention on the same count of 1-4 onethousand.

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Close Quarters Ceremonial Salute:

This is used when the detail is close together as in casket watch and to avoid the wrinkle or pull of the jacket during a regular salute or when the detail commander deems it appropriate. This has the same 1-4 onethousand count as the regular ceremonial salute, same hold and same return. The difference is the elbow is kept tight in to the body and only moves slightly up at the end. Fingers and thumb in line, extended straight all the way down to the elbow. You should see only the palm of your hand and anyone in front of you should only see the backside of your hand. The hand passes with the palm flat toward the body fingers and thumb extended and together up the jacket in line with the "button line" at the center of the jacket. The right hand will stop palm flat in toward your body with the forefinger touching the rim of your cover slightly right of your right eye.

Facing Movements

Left / Right Face:

Command: "LeFT – FACE" "RigHT – FACE"

This is a two count movement the preparatory command is "RiGHT" count one at the execution command of "FACE" raise your left heel and right toe slightly then turn to the right using your right heel and left toe keeping your shoulders and cover should stay level and square, legs straight but not stiff. On count two place the left heel beside the right and stand at attention your heels should be together and your toes should be at a 45 degree angle so a boot will fit between them without stepping on your shoe.

This is a two count movement the preparatory command is "LeFT" count one at the execution command of "FACE" raise your right heel and left toe slightly then turn to the left using your left heel and right toe keeping your shoulders and legs straight but not stiff. On count two place the right heel beside the left and stand at attention your heels should be together and your toes should be at a 45 degree angle so a boot will fit between them without stepping on your shoe.

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About Face:

Command: "AbOUT – FACE"

This is a two count movement at the preparatory command "AbOUT" shift your weight to your left leg without being noticed. Count one at the execution command of "FACE" place your right toe half a foot length behind and slightly to the left of your left heel. Your weight should be balanced evenly between your left heel and the ball of your right foot. On count two turn smoothly to your right keeping your shoulders and cover should stay level and square. You should now face to the rear at attention your heels should be together and your toes should be at a 45 degree angle so a boot will fit between them without stepping on your shoe.

Fall out:

Command: "FALL – OUT"

At the execution command of "OUT" you would remain in the general area for additional commands or proceed with instructions that were given just before the command or to a pre-designated assignment or location.

Dismissed:

Command: "Diss - MISSED"

This command is always called from the position of attention. On the execution command "MISSED" step back with your left foot bring your right foot back so they are together and then execute an about face and walk off. This is used at the end of a detail or when they do not have another immediate assignment and do not need to remain in the area or go to carry out other instructions.

As You Were:

Command: "As you Were"

This cancels a movement or order that has been started but not carried out. This command is used with no inflection and can be used anytime. When this command is given the detail would resume their original position ready for the

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Marching Movements

Forward March

Command: "ForWARD – MARCH"

Also known as "Quick Time," On the preparatory command "ForWard" shift your weight to your right leg without being noticed at the execution command of "MARCH" step off with your left foot 112-120 steps per minute taking a 30 " step measured from heel to heel. Your arms should swing easily in a natural arc 6" forward and 3" to the rear.

When marching the cadence can be changed such as in a funeral you would step no faster than 60 steps per minute and shortening the step to 20-24 inches. During any colors posting you would be in **quick time** and then if called for **double time** would be 180 steps per minute with a 36 inch step.

There are times when you will need to use a **half step** with this you would continue at the same quick time cadence but the step would be shortened to 15". This is usually automatically taken during movements such as during a column left/right or marching to the rear.

Incline Left / Right

This is used when marching around an obstruction and then automatically returning to the original line of march or when you need to angle off without a facing move such as during casket watch and posting the colors.

When marching the command is "InCLINE – LEFT / RIGHT" The command is given on either foot as the lead element nears the obstruction this tells them to angle away from the object and then to return to the original line of march. Each person would then follow at the same point and return without further commands. The incline during marching can be used without a command as needed.

Halt

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The preparatory command would be designated by the size of the group as in squad/platoon or function as in detail. This is a two count movement *the execution command of "HALT" may be given on either foot as it strikes the deck.* On "HALT" take one more 30" step then bring your rear heel forward against the other and assume the position of attention your heels should be together and your toes should be at a 45 degree angle so a boot will fit between them without stepping on your shoe.

Mark Time

Command: "Mark TIME – MARCH"

This is an essential marching movement used in nearly every colors posting detail and must be executed properly for the detail to stay in step. Mark time can also be used to correct your position or execute a turn without a facing move. *The command of execution can be given on either foot as it strikes the deck.*

During training it is helpful on the execution command of "MARCH" to say loudly as a group "Step Together and Up" This will help with timing especially in a large group. When the group is not all together when their foot strikes the deck it is obvious in details such as posting the colors. On the command "MARCH" take one more 30" step and bring your heels together then begin marking time without the loss of cadence with the other foot. Point your toe down as you lift your knee approximately twice as high as when marching so that when your foot strikes the deck it will roll and look smooth. This is very important when carrying a long instrument such as a flag or pike pole because any movement is amplified and noticeable.

Flanking Movement:

Command: "By the Right / Left FLANK – MARCH"

Example: "By the Left FLANK – MARCH"

On the execution command of "MARCH" the left foot should be striking the deck then take one more step with the right and pivot on the ball of your foot making a 90 degree turn to the left. Then step out on the left foot marching in a straight line without losing step. There is no pause.

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Everyone in the group would turn left **at the same time** 90 degrees from the original direction.

Oblique Movements:

Command: "RigHT / LeFT Oblique – MARCH"

The command of execution will be given as the foot in the direction of the turn strikes the deck then take one more 30" step and turn 45 degrees on the ball of the foot on the outside of the turn. Continue marching off without pause at the new 45 degree angle.

To resume marching in the original direction the command is "ForeWARD – MARCH". On the execution command of "MARCH" take one more step in the direction of the oblique then pivot back 45 degrees to the original direction and continue marching without a pause.

Column Movements:

Command "Column LeFT / RigHT – MARCH"

This will use both 90 degree turns and 45 degree (oblique)turns to turn a marching column 90 degrees from the original direction of travel. This is very useful when marching a column in down the side of a room and then across the front to center as when posting the colors.

The command of execution will be given as the foot in the direction the column will go strikes the deck then take one more 30" step and turn on the ball of the foot on the outside of the turn. The members marching in the first (front) row in the direction of travel are the lead members. The leading member on the inside of the turn will execute a 90 degree turn and then begin to half step until all the leading members are even at 90 degrees. At the same time the other leading members will execute a oblique then step in this direction 2 steps if a 2 member column 4 steps if a three member column and so on until you are in line then execute a second oblique to finish the 90 degree turn.

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Marching to the Rear:

Command "To the REAR – MARCH"

This movement will have the entire column reverse their direction in step and resume marching in the new direction. *The command of execution will be given as the right foot strikes the deck* then take one more 15" step with your left foot then pivot to the right on the balls of both feet. Your shoulders and cover should stay level and square. After the pivot is complete continue to march normally in a 30" step without pause. *NOTE* the step after the execution command is a 15" step roughly a half step. If you take too large of a step you will not be balanced and the turn will not work properly.

Side Step:

Command "LeFT / RigHT STEP – MARCH"

This is used to move the entire detail in a line as they face front as in posting the colors and casket watch. *The command of execution will be given only at the halt.* On the command of execution "MARCH" move your left or right foot shoulder width out (approximately 12") then place the other foot smartly beside it. Your shoulders and cover should stay level and square, keep your legs straight but not stiff, hold your arms at your sides as if you were at the position of attention. When marching at the right/left step the command "HALT" is given when the heels are together. Take one more side step after "HALT" then bring your heels together and assume the position of attention ready for the next command.

Change Step:

Command "Change STEP – MARCH"

When at quick time march *the command of execution will be given as the right foot strikes the deck* then take one more 30" step with your left foot then bring your right foot forward with your toe next to your left heel and step again with the left foot. The movement would look like LEFT – change step – LEFT – RIGHT – LEFT if you are out of step this should bring you back into cadence again. Use this when you see you are out of cadence rather than trying to shuffle step or

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change the pace. Since your marching rhythm will be unchanged the correction will be much less noticeable and will not throw anyone else off behind you.

When marking time *the command of execution will be given as the right foot strikes the deck* then lift and lower the left foot twice in cadence and resume mark time. This should have you back in cadence without changing your rhythm. This can be used when you notice you are off cadence and need to do a correction that is not as noticeable or by command.

References:

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