

## CHAPTER 9 - SQUADRON DRILL

### SQN WO ROLE

1. Marching on markers, organize and set up parade ground then hand over to Adj. Once handed over, WO moves 10 paces beyond No 1 Flt marker.

### SQN ADJT ROLE (His position is 6 paces front and centre of Sqn.)

2. The Sqn Adj. can march on the parade, if WO has not already done so. Once Sqn on parade, Adj. must march on the officers' who are perambulating at the flank of the right marker.

3. Once the Adj. proves the Sqn he turns left and says

Fall in the officers

4. They all salute up, two, three, down, pause, turn left, pause, Flt Cdrs take over from their SNCO's and supernumerary officers march to their respective positions behind their Flts. Adj. says

Tell off by Flights

5. Remember, only No 1 and No 3 say Flight, ie

No 1 Flight - No 2 - No 3 Flight

6. Adj. says

Squadron - **stand at** - EASE

He then turns and stands himself at ease to await Sqn Cdr.

8. Sqn Cdr comes to attention. The Adj. brings the Sqn to attention

Squadron - **Shun**

9. Sqn Cdr moves to the front of Adj., they salute. Sqn Cdr tells him to take post. They salute. Adj. moves to his position 3 paces in front of No 1 Flt, first file of 3s.

10. Sqn Cdr proves the Sqn

Squadron - **stand at** - EASE  
**Shun**  
Squadron - **open order** - MARCH  
**right** - DRESS

11. WO moves into position to check dressing, at the same time Flt Cdrs about turn once the WO has finished checking the dressing. He then moves to his new position to the rear of No 1 Flt's first file and says

Squadron steady

12. Sqn Cdr says

Squadron - **eyes** - FRONT

13. Flt Cdr's about turn.

14. Sqn Cdr says

Officers take post in review order - **outwards** - TURN  
Officers - **quick** - MARCH

15. Supernumerary officers left turn and march to the front. Flt Cdrs turn right and march to the first file of their Flts. Adjt turns right and moves 3 paces beyond first file. Sqn Cdr

Officers - **inwards** - TURN  
Squadron - **stand at** - EASE

16. Sqn Cdr about turns and awaits Reviewing Officer. Reviewing Officer arrives - now a parade.

17. Sqn Cdr

Parade - **Shun**  
Parade - **general** - SALUTE

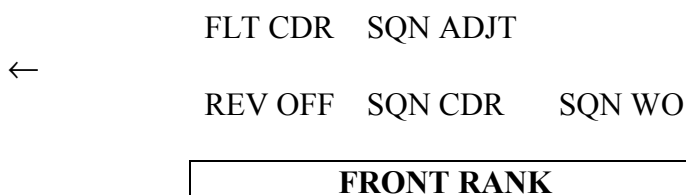
18. All officers up, 2, 3, 4, 5, down. Sqn Cdr moves towards Reviewing Officer. Salutes

Parade ready for your inspection sir

19. Sqn Cdr then turns to the right and awaits Reviewing Officer. If Reviewing Officer does not give permission, Sqn Cdr must ask permission to stand Nos 2 and 3 Flts at ease. Sqn Cdr gets into step with Reviewing Officer and keeps his arms locked into the side.

### INSPECTION

20. Flt Cdr salutes and moves in line with Reviewing Officer. The Sqn Cdr, Adjt and WO also escort them on the inspection, until all Flts have been inspected.



21. After inspection, Sqn Cdr escorts Reviewing Officer towards dais and moves back to his position then goes forward a second time. Salutes

Permission to march off sir

22. Salutes again he then moves back to parade

Officers take post - **outwards** - TURN  
Officers - **quick** - MARCH  
Officers - **inwards** - TURN  
Parade - **close order** - MARCH  
**right** - DRESS

23. Officers in front about turn.

**eyes** - FRONT

24. Officers about turn again

Parade will march off move to the right in column of route  
**right** - TURN

25. Supernumerary officers/SNCOs move to the right, pause, about turn, pause, march to the rear of Flts.

26. Sqn Cdr - Adj - WO - Flt Cdr's move to the front of Flts

WO \* GUIDE  
\*

CO \* \* FLT CDR

\* MARKER  
ADJT

27. On the command

Parade

all turn and face direction of travel

Will march off in column of route  
By the left - **quick** - MARCH

28. As they change direction, dressing by the right. As they approach Point A

**eyes** - RIGHT

29. Sqn Cdr - Adj - WO - Flt Cdrs salute. Individual Flt Cdr's give commands.

30. Once all the Flt has passed Point B, all Flt Cdr's again give individual commands "eyes FRONT". Remember to have 6 paces between Flts, and march off parade square. Finally, Sqn Cdr falls out the officers and hand over to Sqn WO.

Annexes:

- A. Sqn in Column of Flts - Positions of Executives and Supernumeraries.
- B. Sqn in Column of Route (or 3s) - Positions of Executives and Supernumeraries.
- C. Sqn in Line - Positions of Executives and Supernumeraries.
- D. March Discipline.

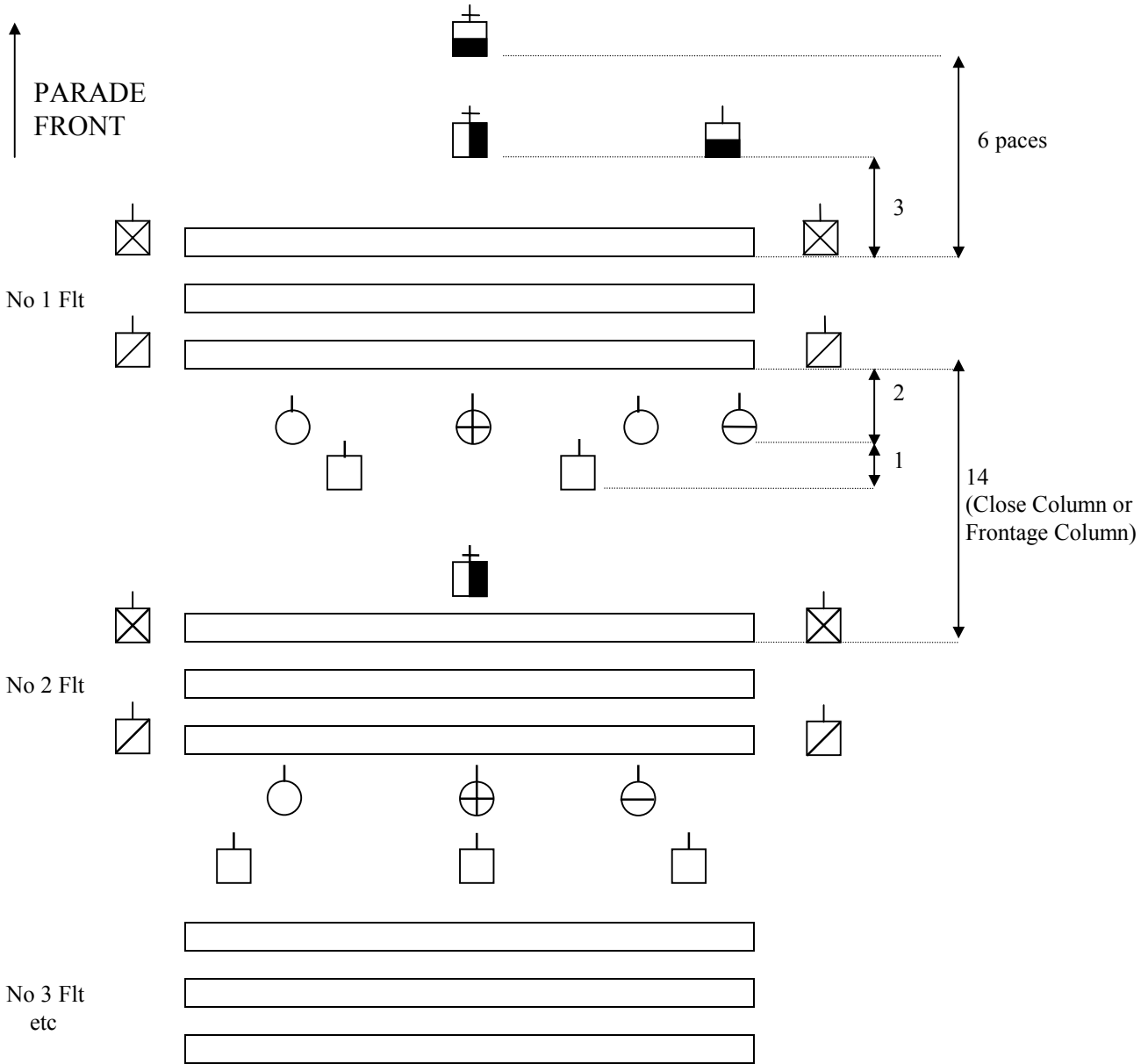
**SQN IN COLUMN OF FLTS - POSITIONS OF EXECUTIVES AND SUPERNUMERARIES**

Appointment (a)	Position (b)
1. Sqn Cdr	Six paces in front of the centre of the leading Flt.
2. Sqn Adjnt	Three paces in front of the right file of the leading Flt (in line with the Flt Cdr).
3. Sqn WO	Two paces to the rear of the right file of the leading Flt (in line with the supernumerary NCOs).

INTENTIONALLY

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**SQN IN COLUMN OF FLTS**



Note: It is not normal to have supernumerary WOs on a parade; but if this is required such WOs are to stand in the supernumerary NCOs' line.

(Not to scale)

LEGEND	
	Sqn Cdr
	Sqn Adj
	Sqn WO

INTENTIONALLY

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**SQN IN COLUMN OF ROUTE (or 3s) - POSITIONS OF EXECUTIVES AND**  
**SUPERNUMERARIES**

**Column of Route**

Appointment (a)	Position (b)
1. Sqn Cdr	Six paces centrally in front of the leading guide and marker.
2. Sqn Adjt	Two paces to the rear and one pace to the left of the Sqn Cdr (directly in front of the marker).
3. Sqn WO	Two paces to the rear and one pace to the right of the Sqn Cdr (directly in front of the guide).
4. Other Officers and NCOs	As diagram.

Note: While it is normal to have supernumerary WOs on a parade, if this is required such WOs are to form the rear lines of supernumerary NCOs while in Column of Route.

**Column of 3s**

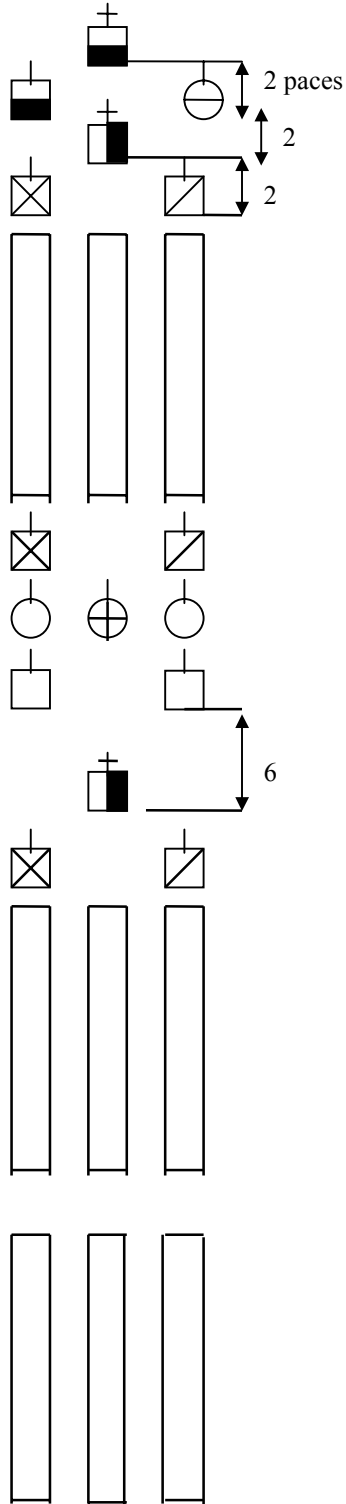
5. Officers and NCOs are to be in the same relative positions as for Sqn in Line of Flts, but facing the required direction.

INTENTIONALLY

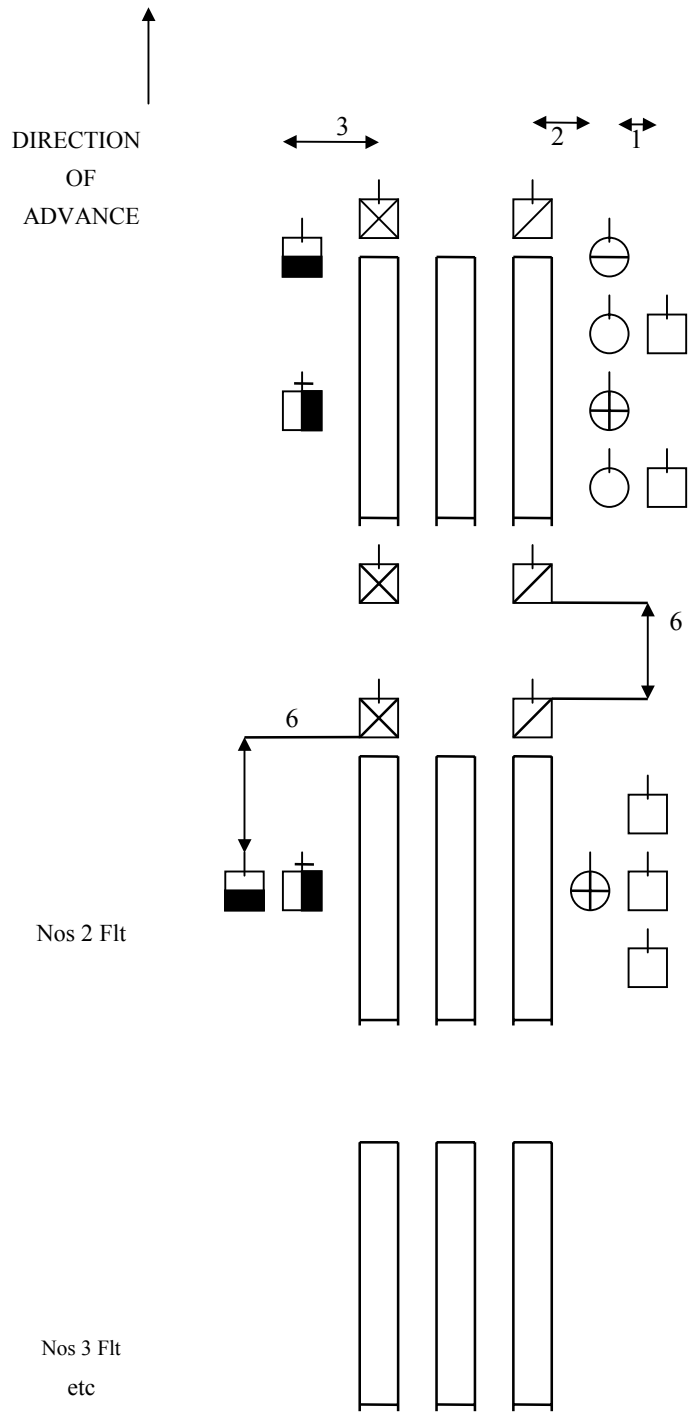
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**sqn in column of route (OR 3s)**

a. Column of Route



b. Column of 3s



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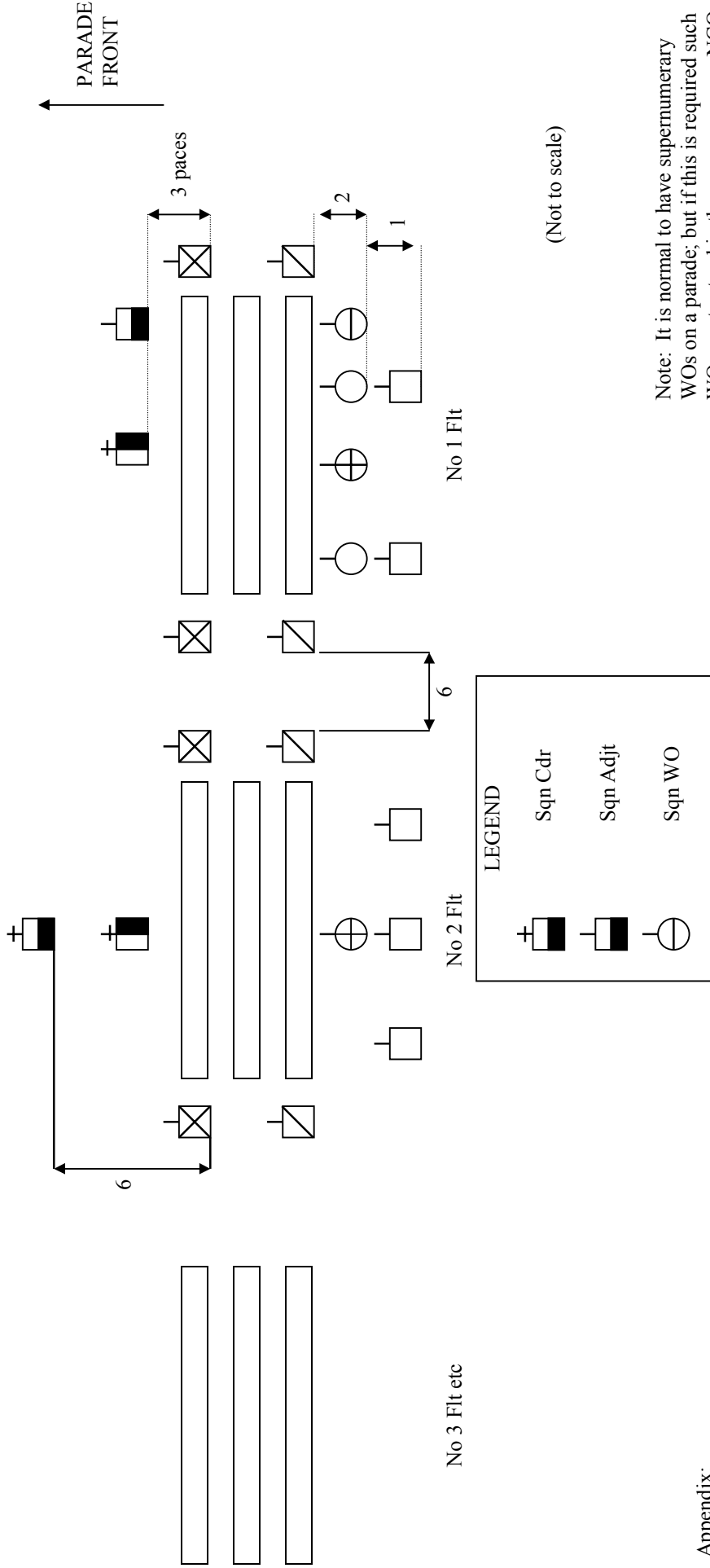
**SQN IN LINE - POSITIONS OF EXECUTIVES AND SUPERNUMERARIES**

Appointment (a)	Position (b)
1. Sqn Cdr	Six paces in front of the centre of the Sqn.
2. Sqn Adjnt	Three paces in front of the right file of the Flt on the right of the line (in line with the Flt Cdrs).
3. Sqn WO	Two paces to the rear of the right file of the Flt on the right of the line (in line with the supernumerary NCOs).
4. Other officers and NCOs	As diagram.

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SON IN LINE



Note: It is normal to have supernumerary WOs on a parade; but if this is required such WOs are to stand in the supernumerary NCOs line.

Appendix:

1. Positions of Executive and Supernumeraries.

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**MARCH DISCIPLINE**

**SAFETY**

1. **Head and Rear of a Column.** An officer or NCO is to march at the head and rear of each marching unit.
2. **Traffic Safety.** In accordance with QRs J835, when troops are moving by foot on public roads in formed bodies, lookout personnel are to be posted at a suitable distance in front and to the rear to warn the drivers of approaching vehicles. In daylight these personnel are to wear the high visibility reflective waistcoat (CH/8415-99-137-9574) and use appropriate hand signals. In darkness or conditions of poor visibility, the high visibility reflective waistcoat is to be worn and additionally 2 white lights in front and 2 red lights at the rear are to be so positioned as to indicate the width of the column. Instruction on the necessary hand signals is to be given to the lookout personnel. All formed bodies of troops are to observe traffic signals.
3. **Marching in Column.** Units moving in column of route, which is the normal formation for marching distances, are to march well into the nearside of the road (depending upon the local rule of the road) so as not to impede traffic. The directing flank is similarly to be in accordance with the rule of the road. In all, a marching body is to be conducted on the road in the same manner as a vehicle.
4. **Distances.** The following distances are normally to be kept between units in column of route:
  - a. Between Flts 6 paces (4.5m)
  - b. Between Sqns 10 paces (7.5m)
  - c. Between Wgs 24 paces (18m)

An increase of intervals may be ordered.

**RATE OF MARCHING**

5. The rate of marching is normally to be 120 paces per minute (or about 4.5 kph including rest halts). The pace is, however, to be strictly regulated from the head of the column to avoid exhausting those in the rear.
6. Personnel are not to be doubled in order to make up lost distances. These are to be made up gradually or by halting or by a slower rate at the column head.

## RULES FOR MARCHING

7. Files of 3s are to be kept dressed, closed up, and covered off. No officer or NCO is to march outside the column.
8. Personnel are to keep step, maintain exact covering, dressing and maintain prescribed distances and intervals from person to person.
9. The instruction to march at Ease or to attention is to be given as a verbal order which is to be passed down the column:
  - a. Marching at Attention. Units are to be marched at attention when entering or leaving a Station or Barracks, or passing through a town or when paying compliments. When marching to attention personnel are to carry their arms in a like manner as ordered by the Unit Cdr.
  - b. Marching At Ease. Except when described in sub-Para a above, units may be marched at Ease at the discretion of the Unit Cdr. This means that personnel, while maintaining step, pace, cover, dressing and distance, may otherwise relax and may talk quietly. Arms may be carried in the manner found the most comfortable to the individual.
10. Moving Off and Halting. Units are to move off and halt by sub-units when the order is given.

## LONG MARCHES

11. Changeover Ranks. On long marches it is desirable to change over periodically the personnel of the inner and outer flanks so that all may share the vagaries of the road surface (smooth, sloping, lower, gutter, rough etc).
12. Falling Out. Personnel who, through fatigue, are unable to keep up are to be instructed to follow in the rear of the column. Permission to do so is to be given by an officer.
13. Singing. Organized singing (when marching at Ease) is to be encouraged as it helps personnel to forget fatigue.
14. Halts. During long marches, halts are to be made for 10 minutes rest after every hour's marching, irrespective of the time of the start or the end of the march. During halts, roads including crossings and junctions are to be left clear for traffic. Personnel bearing equipment are to lay this down during each rest halt and take it up again one minute before starting. In suitable conditions, personnel are to be encouraged to lie down and if possible raise their feet to permit the blood to circulate.
15. Longer Halts. Longer halts may be authorized every few hours, during which time feeding etc may take place.
16. Refuse. All refuse from a halt is to be gathered up and buried or burnt before moving off.

17. Drinking and Feeding. Drinking and feeding are only to take place as authorized by the Unit Cdr at organized halts. Water carried is to be fresh and receptacles clean. Personnel are to be reminded that smoking decreases endurance and that thirst is aggravated rather than reduced by frequent recourse to drinking water.

18. Foot Inspection. For any sustained march, the Unit Cdr is to inspect feet before and immediately afterwards. Particular attention is to be paid to the fitting of footwear and the cleanliness of feet and socks, to prevent discomfort and soreness.

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