



Basic Individual Drill

(Co B, 71st Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry –California Regiment)

(Select Drill Movements from Casey's Manual)

Order Arms

Shoulder Arms

Right Shoulder Shift

Support Arms

Rest

Attention Company

Present Arms

Secure Arms

Trail Arms

Ground Arms

Raise Arms

Fix Bayonets

Charge Bayonet

Guard Against Infantry

Guard Against Cavalry

Unfix Bayonet

Inspection Arms

Spring Rammers



Notes

*This packet contains material extracted from several Reenactor websites.
Simplified "Hardee's and Skirmish Drill, with allowance made for Casey's.*

- *This packet only covers the basics and is only a small part of the drill a soldier will need to learn and practice, practice, practice.*
- *All soldiers need to practice before they attend an event.. If a musket isn't available, try using a broom stick. The Federal Army did this at the beginning of the war due to a shortage of rifles.*
- *A soldiers day consisted of four to five hours of drill a day. We need to be as proficient as possible.*
- *Every movement in this packet is performed at every reenactment. Knowing these basic movements will only make the 71st look better in formation and on the battlefield. Soldiers will receive additional instructions at the reenactments.*
- *Hardee wrote the original drill manual, however, Hardee went to the Confederate forces. The union didn't want to use a manual written by a confederate for obvious reasons. Brigadier General Silas Casey stepped in and modified the Hardee manual.. The two manuals are very similar.*

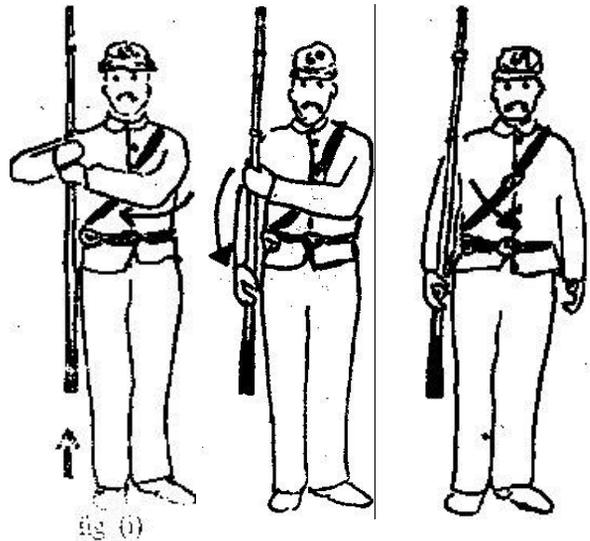
Order Arms

Body at attention
Right hand gripping musket
Butt by right foot
Barrel vertical along hollow of right shoulder
Muzzle about 2 inches from shoulder



Shoulder Arms

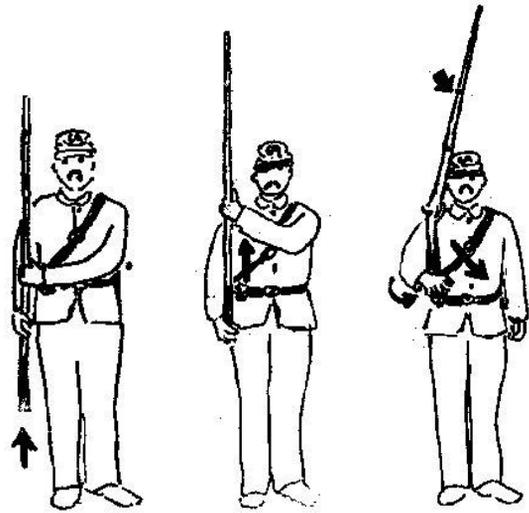
Main drill position
Raise Musket with right hand until
The hand is level with the chest
Grasp musket with left hand just below
The right hand
Lower right hand and grasp trigger
Guard with thumb and fore-finger, the
Other three fingers behind the stock
The right arm is extended beside the body
The musket is vertical and resting on
The small of the shoulder
Drop left hand to side



Right Shoulder Shift

(Used for extended marching)

Grasp musket with left hand between Lower band and sight. Raise left hand To shoulder level. Grasp butt with right Hand, thumb and first two fingers on Stock, other two fingers on butt plate. Drop left hand to side and raise musket With right hand, lock plate up.

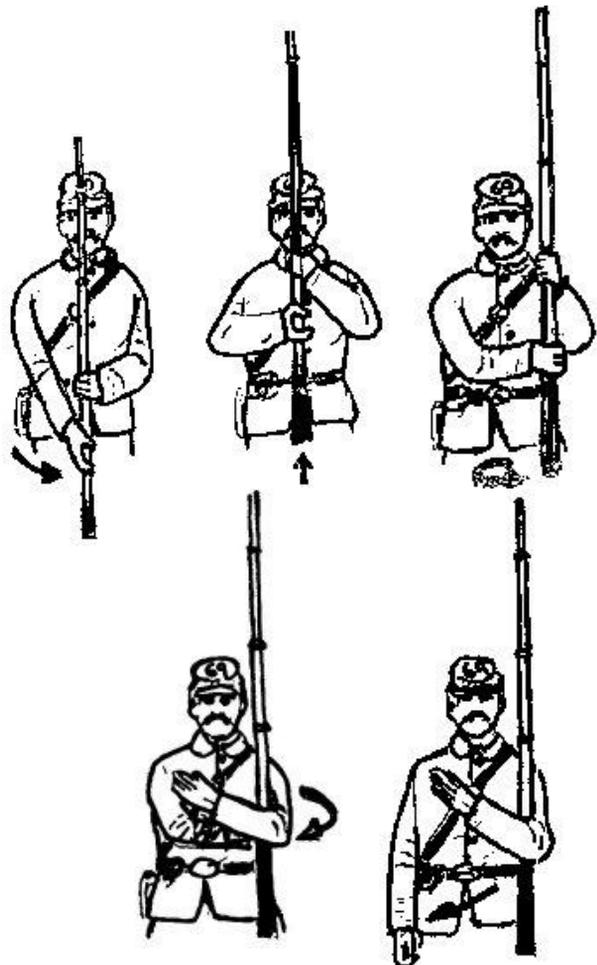


To return to shoulder arms drop right hand To side of body with barrel . At the same Time, grasp the musket with the left hand Between the lower band and sight. Grasp Trigger guard with the right hand and lower Musket to position of shoulder arms. Raise left hand, palm against musket, up To shoulder level to press the musket Against small of the shoulder. Drop left Hand to side.

Support Arms

Bring musket to front using right hand. Grasp Musket at lower band with the left hand. Raise left hand to chin level. Grasp musket With the right hand four inches below the Hammer, turn barrel to front and place it Against the left shoulder. Place left palm on chest. Support musket by resting hammer on Crook of the arm and pressing the musket to The shoulder. Drop right hand to side.

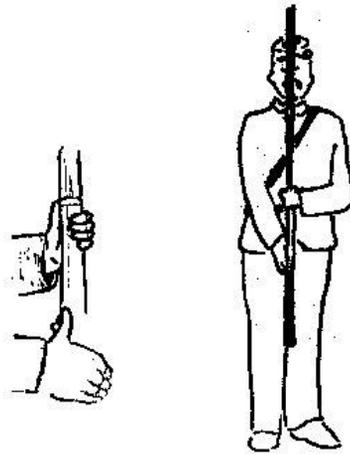
At the command of rest bring right hand Quickly to grasp small of stock. Soldiers Need not remain silent or at attention. At the Command ATTENTION COMPANY resume Support arms.



Present Arms

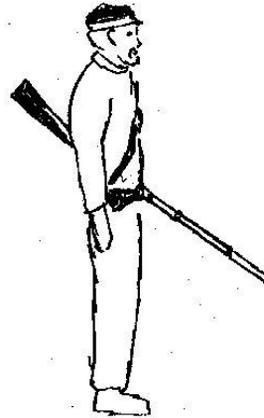
Bring musket to front with right hand.
Grasp musket with left hand halfway
Between lower band and sight. Turn
Thumb up and make left arm horizontal.
Grasp the small of the the stock with the
Right hand below and against the trigger
Guard.

To return to shoulder arms use both hands
To bring the musket to the shoulder arms
position. Grasp trigger guard with right hand.
Raise left palm up to the musket to shoulder
Level. Drop left hand to side.



Secure Arms

With right hand bring musket to front. Grasp
At lower band with left hand and raise to chin
Level. Grasp stock with right hand. Turn
Barrel to front and bring musket opposite left
Shoulder with the butt against the hip. Keep
The left hand at the lower band, thumb
Extending on rammer. Invert musket putting
Trigger guard under left arm. Drop hand to
Side.



Trail Arms

Similar to order arms with the muzzle tilted
Forward and the butt to the rear about four
Inches from the ground. Rear rank soldiers take
care not to touch the front rank with bayonets!
To return to shoulder arms on "shoulder" make
musket vertical, on "arms" raise to shoulder
arms.



Ground Arms

From order arms position. On "arms" turn musket with the right hand so that the barrel is to the Left. At the same time, grasp the cartridge box With the left hand behind back. Step forward with The left foot and lay the musket on the ground With the lock plate up and the butt next to the Right toe. Raise, let go of the cartridge box.

Stand to attention

Raise Arms

Grasp cartridge box as before. Step forward with Left foot and grasp musket with right hand.

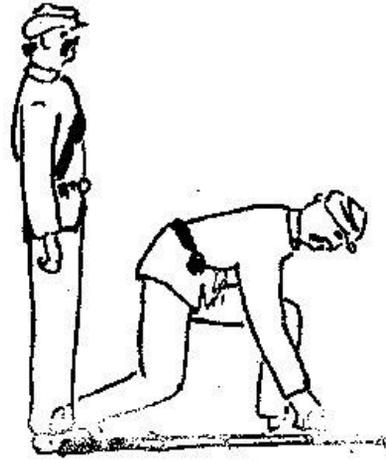
Raise musket and assume order arms.

Fix Bayonets

From shoulder arms grasp the musket with the Left hand at shoulder level. Let go with right hand and place butt on ground between feet, With rammer facing body and barrel vertical About three inches from chest. This is the LOAD Position. Grasp the musket at the upper band With the right hand. The left hand grasps the bayonet, back of hand against body thumb down. Draw bayonet from scabbard and attach to musket.

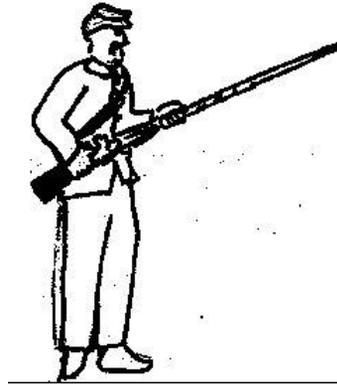
Grasp musket with left hand at upper band.

Drop right hand to side. At command "shoulder Arms", raise the musket with the left hand and Place against hollow of shoulder. At the same time grasp the trigger guard with the right hand and drop the left arm to side. If "fix Bayonets" is given from order arms, then resume order arms after fixing bayonet.



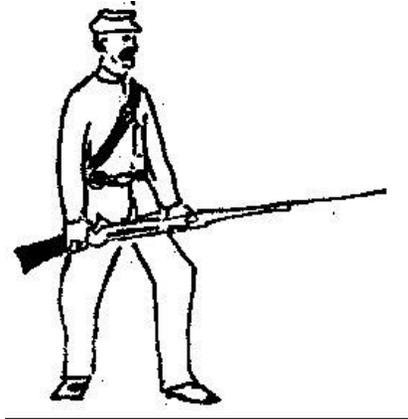
Charge Bayonet

Raise musket slightly to face half-right. Come to the “ready” position. The tip of the bayonet should be at eye level. If in two ranks the rear rank remains at shoulder arms. On shoulder arms while facing to the front bring musket to the shoulder with left hand. Grasp trigger guard with right hand and drop left hand to side.



Guard Against Infantry

Turn half right on both heels and grasp musket with left hand just above rear band. Move right foot 20 inches to rear, knees slightly bent. Grasp small of stock and lower musket until point of bayonet is slightly elevated. On “shoulder arms”; raise musket to shoulder with left hand then lower to side. Move right foot up to left, facing front.



Guard Against Cavalry

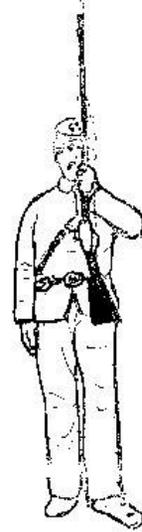
As guard against infantry except that the point of the bayonet is at eye level as in charge bayonet

Unfix Bayonet

Bring musket to load. Remove bayonet with left hand and return it to scabbard.

Inspection Arms

Musket to load. Fix bayonet. Place rammer in barrel.
Assume order arms. When the inspector is in front of the Soldier, the soldier raises the musket with the right hand. He then grasps the musket with the left hand between the lower Band and the sight, and raises his left hand to chin level With the lock to the front. The barrel is in front of the left eye. The right hand drops to the side. The inspector may take The musket with his right hand. When the inspector does Take it, the soldier drops his arms to his side. When the Inspector is finished, the soldier takes it back with his right hand and returns to order arms. When the inspector passes on, The soldier brings his musket to the load position. He then Returns the rammer, unfixes bayonet and resumes order arms. If the inspector does not take the musket, but passes on, the soldier brings his Musket to load, returns rammer, unfixes bayonet and resumes order arms.



Spring Rammers

On “rammer” bring musket to load and place rammer in barrel.
Resume order arms. The inspector may spring the rammer or ask
The soldier to do this.

Ring = Unloaded

Clunk = loaded or really dirty!