

commander or an individual of higher grade including foreign dignitaries of higher grade, but in no other case. The U.S. Army flag is considered to be an organizational Color and, as such, is also dipped while the national anthem, "To the Color," or a foreign national anthem is being played, and when rendering honors to the Chief of Staff of the U.S. Army, their direct representative, or an individual of equivalent or higher grade, but in no other case:

- When marching, organizational Colors salute when six steps from the person entitled to the *Salute*.
- They are returned to the *Carry* position when six steps beyond the person.

COLOR GUARD

15-13. The Color guard consists of two (three) sergeants and two specialists or privates. It is an honor to be selected as a member of the Color guard. The senior (Color) sergeant carries the national Color and commands the Color guard. The senior (Color) sergeant gives the necessary commands for the movements and for rendering honors. The uniform for Color guards should be the same as prescribed for participating troops. In addition to the uniform, the Color guard should be provided white polyester dress gloves, uniform neck scarves, and a white, black, or olive drab flag carrier. The flag carrier could be a single or double leather or web strapped harness with a brass or chrome cup.

15-14. When battalions or brigades carry their organizational Colors in a ceremony as part of a larger command, the battalion or brigade Color is carried four steps to the rear of the staff. A sergeant acts as Color bearer and two experienced specialists or privates, selected by the battalion or brigade CSM, act as members of the Color guard.

15-15. The Color guard is formed and *Marched* in one rank at *Close Interval*, the bearers in the center. They do not execute *Rear March* or *About Face*. The Color guard marches at *Right Shoulder Arms* and executes *Facing* movements by wheeling to the right or left. The command for a *Facing* movement is **Right (Left) Wheel, MARCH**. To execute a *Wheeling* movement, the guard nearest the direction of turn serves as the pivot point and executes the movement by marching in place and simultaneously turning in the new direction. Other members shorten their steps and turn in an arc keeping abreast of each other to maintain alignment. When the movement has been completed, each member automatically marches in place until the command **HALT** or **Forward, MARCH** is given.

15-16. When passing in review, the Color guard executes *Eyes Right* at the prescribed saluting distance on the command of the Color sergeant. The commands are **Eyes, RIGHT** and **Ready, FRONT**. The organizational Color salutes at the command **RIGHT** and resumes the *Carry* at the command **FRONT**. The guard on the right flank of the Color guard does not execute *Eyes Right*.

15-17. During ceremonies, the Color guard remains at *Right Shoulder Arms* except when executing *Present Arms*. When not participating in a ceremony and a situation occurs that warrants a *Salute* by the organizational Color, the Color sergeant commands **Color, SALUTE**. The return to the *Carry* is made at the command **Carry, COLOR**.

15-18. When in formation with the Color company, and not during a ceremony, the Color bearers execute *At Ease* and *Rest*, keeping the staffs of the Colors vertical. The Color guard executes *Right Shoulder Arms*, *Order Arms*, and *Present Arms* with the Color company. During ceremonies when the Colors are not forward and remarks are to be made, the Color guards and Color bearers execute *Order Arms* and *Parade Rest* on command of the Color company commander. During any ceremony when the units are *At Ease*, the Color guard and Color bearers are at *Parade Rest*.

RECEIVING OR DISMISSING THE COLORS BY THE COLOR GUARD

15-19. The Color guard uses the following procedures when receiving or dismissing the Colors:

- When receiving uncased Colors on display in the commander's office, the Color guard is positioned in a single rank facing the Colors. The Color sergeant commands **Present, ARMS** and **Order, ARMS**. On completion of *Order Arms*, the Color bearers (without command) secure the Colors. The Color guard files outside (guard, national Color, organizational Color, guard) and

re-forms in a line formation. The Color guards execute *Right Shoulder Arms* and the Color bearers assume the *Carry Position*.

- To dismiss the Colors, the procedures are basically the same except that the Colors are placed back in their stands before executing *Present Arms*.

CASING AND UPCASING THE COLORS

15-20. To case and uncase the Colors, the Color guard forms in a line formation with the cased Colors at the *Carry Position* (*Order Position* when indoors). The CSM (or their direct representative) positions themselves six steps in front of and centered on the formation. They then command ***Sling, ARMS***:

- The Color guards immediately adjust their slings and assume *Sling Arms*. The CSM commands **POST**. The Color guards face to the *Half Left (Right)* in marching, take four steps, halt, and execute *About Face*.
- The CSM then directs **UNCASE THE COLORS**. The Color bearers lower the Colors (same as *Present Guidon*). The two guards move forward and untie and uncase the Colors. The Color bearers unfurl and immediately return the Colors to the *Carry (Order) Position*. While the Colors are being unfurled, the guards fold the cases and secure them in their left hand.
- When the Colors are in the *Carry Position*, the CSM commands ***Present, ARMS***. The CSM, Color guards, and the organizational Color Salute.
- The CSM commands ***Order, ARMS***, and then commands **POST**. On the command of execution **POST**, the Color guards place the folded canvas cases inside the cartridge belts (center rear) of the Color bearers. The Color guards assume their original positions, adjust their slings, and return to *Right Shoulder Arms*.
- If the CSM or their representative is not present, the senior Color sergeant gives the necessary commands.

Note. To case the Colors, the procedures are basically the same except *Present Arms* is given before the Colors are lowered.

15-21. When casing or uncasing the Colors with the command present, the commander directs **UNCASE (CASE) THE COLORS**. The CSM and Color guards execute the movement (as previously stated in paragraph 15-20) except that they execute *Present Arms* and *Order Arms* with the Color company. When the Colors are uncased and returned to the *Carry Position*, the commander directs **BRING YOUR UNITS TO PRESENT ARMS**. After the units have executed this directive, the commander then directs **BRING YOUR UNITS TO ORDER ARMS**.

15-22. If the Colors are to be cased or uncased during the receiving or dismissing by the Color company, the Color guards execute *Present Arms* and *Order Arms* on command of the company commander. The CSM uncases the organizational Color when it is displayed by itself. The CSM major may also assist the Color guards when uncasing more than two Colors.

RECEIVING OR DISMISSING THE COLORS BY COLOR COMPANY

15-23. The designated Color company receives and dismisses the Colors as follows:

- The Color company should receive the Colors before it forms with the battalion.
- The Color company forms at *Attention* with the commander facing to the front as the Colors near the Color company.
- The Color guard, guided by the senior sergeant, approaches from the front and halts 10 steps from the company commander.
- The company commander then faces about and commands ***Present, ARMS***, faces the Colors, and *Salutes*. They terminate their *Salute*, faces about, and commands ***Order, ARMS***.
- The specialists or privates of the Color guard execute *Present Arms* and return to *Right Shoulder Arms* on the commands of the company commander (*Present Arms* and *Order Arms*).