## Courtesies to the Flag



## dejerences

- AR 600.25, FM 3-21.5 Drill and Ceremonies
- The Stars and Stripes was born on 14 June 1777, two years to the day after birth of Army.
- On that date, Congress resolved that the flag of the United States be 13 stripes, alternate red and white, and that the union be 13 stars, white in a blue field, representing a new constellation.
- The arrangement of the stars on the blue field was not specified.
- The flag is displayed at all Army Installations.
- No more than one national flag is flown at any one time.
- The flag of the United States represents the Union.
- 50 stars on a field of blue.
- The field is always to the left of the observer.
- When the US Flag is flown and the flags of other nations are flown from staffs, the US flag is always displayed at the right end of the line. It is hoisted first and lowered last.
- In a group of flags consisting of state society, or city flags, the US flag should be placed in the center of the arrangement at the highest point.
- At every installation garrisoned by troops other than caretaking detachments, the flag is hoisted at the sound of the first note of reveille.
- Execute "Present Arms" at the command of officer or NCO in charge.
- Execute "Order Arms" at the command of officer or NCO in charge.
- At the first note of music, face flag and render hand salute
- If flag is not in view, face direction of music.
- End salute on last note of music.
- Execute "Parade Rest" at the command of the officer or NCO in charge.
- Remain at Parade Rest until given "Attention" by officer or NCO in charge.
- At the first note of music, face flag and stand at attention (if flag is not in view, face direction of music).
- Remain at attention until last note of "TO THE COLOR" has been played.

"Color" designates a U.S. flag trimmed on three sides with golden yellow fringe.



## WHEN COLORS ARE PASSING:

- Execute "Present Arms" at the command of officer or NCO in Charge.
- Command is given when Colors approach six paces of the flank of the unit, and held until the Colors are six paces past the flank of the unit.
- At that time, the command "Order Arms" will be given.

WHEN YOU ARE PASSING THE COLORS:

- Outdoors: When within six paces of the Colors, turn head in direction of Colors and render hand salute.
- Hold salute until six paces past the Colors.

COURTESIES BY INDIVIDUALS
(ADAPTED FROM AR 600-25, APPENDIX A)

1. MILITARY PERSONNEL IN UNIFORM (WITH OR WITHOUT HEADDRESS) AND IN FORMATION.

| REVEILLE | RETREAT WHEN PLAYED AS PRELUDE TO "TO THE COLOR" | "TO THE COLOR" OR NATIONAL ANTHEM | WHEN UNCASED COLORS PASS BY OR WHEN PASSING UNCASED COLORS | CANNON SALUTES RENDERED AS HONOR TO A PERSON (NOTE 1) | MILITARY FUNERALS |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Execute Present Arms and Order Arms at the command of OIC or NCOIC. | Execute Parade Rest at the command of OIC or NCOIC. <br> Remain at Parade Rest until given Attention by OIC or NCOIC. | Same as for Reveille. | COLORS ARE PASSING: Execute Present Arms at the command of OIC or NCOIC. Command is given when Colors are within six paces of the flank of the unit, and the salute is held until the Colors are six paces past the flank of the unit, at which time the command Order Arms is given. <br> PASSING THE COLORS: Execute orders at the command of OIC or NCOIC. | Execute Present Arms at the command of OIC or NCOIC. Hold Salute until command Order Arms is given by OIC or NCOIC. | Execute Present Arms at the command of OIC or NCOIC. |
| Notes: <br> 1. When the cannon salute to the Union or nation is fired, no individual action is required. <br> 2. Military photographers covering ceremonies will render appropriate courtesy during the playing of the National Anthem. |  |  |  |  |  |

COURTESIES BY INDIVIDUALS
2. MILITARY PERSONNEL IN UNIFORM (WITH OR WITHOUT HEADDRESS) NOT IN FORMATION.

| REVEILLE | RETREAT WHEN PLAYED AS PRELUDE TO "TO THE COLOR" | "TO THE COLOR" OR NATIONAL ANTHEM | WHEN UNCASED COLORS PASS BY OR WHEN PASSING UNCASED COLORS | CANNON <br> SALUTES RENDERED <br> AS HONOR TO A <br> PERSON (NOTE 1) | MILITARY FUNERALS |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| At the first note of music, face the flag (or music if flag is not in view) and render Hand Salute. End Salute on last note of music. | At the first note of music, face the flag (or music if flag is not in view) and stand at Attention. Hold that position until the last note of "Retreat" has been played. | (Note 2) At the first note of music: if outdoors, render Hand Salute; if indoors, stand at Attention. Hold that position until last note of music has been played. | COLORS ARE PASSING: When colors are within six paces: if outdoors, render Hand Salute; if indoors, stand at Attention. Hold that position until Colors have passed six paces. <br> PASSING THE COLORS: Outdoors: when within six paces of the colors, turn head in direction of the Colors and render Hand Salute. Hold Salute until six paces past the Colors. | At the first note of music or first round of Salute, face the ceremonial party and render Hand Salute. End Salute on last note of music or when last round of Salute has been fired. | Each time casket is moved: if outdoors, render Hand Salute; if indoors, stand at Attention. |

## COURTESIES BY INDIVIDUALS

3. ALL MEN (CIVILIAN AND MILITARY) WEARING CIVILIAN CLOTHERS (INCLUDING SPORTS UNIFORM) WITH HEADDRESS.

| REVEILLE | RETREAT WHEN <br> PLAYED AS PRELUDE <br> TO "TO THE COLOR" | "TO THE COLOR" OR <br> NATIONAL ANTHEM | WHEN UNCASED <br> COLORS PASS BY <br> OR WHEN PASSING | CANNON <br> SALUTES RENDERED <br> AS HONOR TO A <br> PERSON (NOTE 1) |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| At the first note of <br> music, face the flag <br> (or music if flag is not <br> in view), stand at <br> Attention, and remove <br> headdress with right <br> hand and hold over <br> left shoulder with <br> right hand over the <br> heart. Hold that position <br> until last note of music <br> has been played. | At the first note of <br> music, face the flag <br> (or music if flag is <br> not in view), remove <br> headdress with right <br> hand, and stand at <br> Attention. Remain at <br> Attention until last note <br> of "Retreat" has been <br> played. | (Note 2) At the first <br> note of music: if out- <br> doors, hold headdress <br> over the left shoulder <br> with the right hand <br> over the heart; if indoors, <br> stand at Attention. Hold <br> that position until last <br> note of music has been <br> played. | COLORS ARE <br> PASSING: When colors <br> are within six paces: if <br> outdoors, stand at <br> Attention, remove <br> headdress with right <br> hand, and hold over <br> the left shoulder with <br> right hand over heart; <br> if indoors, stand at <br> Attention. Hold that <br> position until Colors <br> have passed six paces. | At the first note of <br> music or first round of <br> Salute, face the cere- <br> monial party, remove <br> headdress, and stand <br> at Attention. Hold that <br> position until last <br> note of music or last <br> round of Salute has <br> been fired. | Each time casket is <br> moved: if outdoors, <br> stand at Attention, re- <br> move headdress with <br> right hand, and hold <br> over the left shoulder <br> with right hand over <br> heart; if indoors, <br> stand at Attention. |

## COURTESIES BY INDIVIDUALS

4. MILITARY PERSONNEL AND CIVILIANS IN CIVILIAN DRESS WITHOUT HEADDRESS. FEMALE PERSONNEL (CIVILIAN AND MILITARY NOT IN UNIFORM) WITH OR WITHOUT HEADDRESS. PERSONNEL ENGAGED IN SPORTS AND ATTIRED IN SPORT UNIFORM WITHOUT HEADDRESS.

| REVEILLE | RETREAT WHEN <br> PLAYED AS PRELUDE <br> TO "TO THE COLOR" | "TO THE COLOR" OR <br> NATIONAL ANTHEM | WHEN UNCASED <br> COLORS PASS BY <br> OR WHEN PASSING <br> UNCASED COLORS | CANNON <br> SALUTES RENDERED <br> AS HONOR TO A <br> PERSON (NOTE 1) | MILITARY <br> FUNERALS |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| At the first note of <br> music, face the flag <br> (or music if flag is not <br> in view) and stand at <br> Attention with right <br> hand over heart. Hold <br> that position until last <br> note of music has been <br> played. | At the first note of <br> music, face the flag <br> (or music if flag is not <br> in view) and stand at <br> Attention. Remain at <br> Attention until last note <br> of "Retreat" has been <br> played. | (Note 2) At the first <br> note of music: if <br> outdoors, stand at <br> Attention with right <br> hand over heart; if <br> indoors, stand at <br> Attention. Hold that <br> position until last note <br> of music has been <br> played. | COLORS ARE <br> PASSING: When colors <br> are within six paces: if <br> outdoors, stand at <br> Attention, with right <br> hand over heart; if <br> indoors, stand at <br> Attention. Hold that <br> position until Colors <br> have passed six paces. <br> PASSING THE <br> COLORS: No action is <br> required. | At the first note of music <br> or first round of Salute, <br> face the ceremonial party <br> and stand at Attention. <br> Hold that position until <br> last note of music or last <br> round of Salute has been <br> fired. | Each time casket is <br> moved: if outdoors, <br> stand at Attention with <br> right hand over heart; <br> Attention. |

Questions?

