

CRM LESSON PLAN REPORT

DRILL AND CEREMONIES 6 (PLATOON DRILL)
805-BT805008 / 3.4 ©

Approved
23 Aug 2021

Effective Date: 23 Aug 2021

SCOPE:

In this lesson the Soldiers learn the platoon has two prescribed formations-line and column. However, the platoon may be formed into a file or a column of twos from a column formation. When in a line formation, the elements (squads) of a platoon are numbered from front to rear; in a column formation, from left to right. For the most part, platoon drill merely provides the procedures for executing drill movements in conjunction with other squads formed in the same formation.

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Foreign Disclosure: FD1 - This training product has been reviewed by the training developers in coordination with the Fort Jackson SC foreign disclosure officer. This training product can be used to instruct international military students from all approved countries without restrictions.

SECTION I. ADMINISTRATIVE DATA

All Course Masters/POIs Including This Lesson

Courses				
<u>Course Number</u>	<u>Version</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Phase</u>	<u>Status</u>
750-BT	11.0	Basic Combat Training	N/A	Analysis

POIs				
<u>POI Number</u>	<u>Version</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Phase</u>	<u>Status</u>
31B10-OSUT	21.0 ©	Basic Military Police	0	Analysis
12C10-OSUT	20.0 ©	Bridge Crewmember	0	Analysis
750-BT	11.0 ©	Basic Combat Training	0	Analysis
12C10-OSUT (ST)	20.0 ©	Bridge Crewmember	0	Analysis
12B10-OSUT	20.0 ©	Combat Engineer	0	Analysis

Task(s) Taught(*) or Supported

<u>Task Number</u>	<u>Task Title</u>	<u>Status</u>
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Reinforced Task(s)

<u>Task Number</u>	<u>Task Title</u>	<u>Status</u>
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Knowledge

<u>Knowledge Id</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Taught</u>	<u>Required</u>
K1242	Drill and Ceremonies Demonstration of Talk-Through Method of Instruction using the three teaching stages	Yes	Yes
K1244	Drill and Ceremonies Demonstration of Step-By-Step Method of Instruction using the three teaching stages	Yes	Yes
K1243	Drill and Ceremonies Demonstration of By-The-Numbers Method of Instruction using the three teaching stages	Yes	Yes

Skill

<u>Skill Id</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Taught</u>	<u>Required</u>
None			

Administrative/Academic Hours

The administrative/academic (50 min) hours required to teach this lesson are as follows:

<u>Academic</u>	<u>Resident Hours / Methods</u>		
Yes	2 hrs	40 mins	Practical Exercise (Hands-On/Written)
Total Hours(50 min):			
	2 hrs	40 mins	

Instructor Action Hours

The instructor action (60 min) hours required to teach this lesson are as follows:

<u>Hours/Actions</u>			
0 hrs	30 mins	Logistics Support – Weapon	
0 hrs	30 mins	Student Re-train	
Total Hours (60 min):			
	1 hrs	0 mins	

Test Lesson(s)

<u>Hours</u>	<u>Lesson Number</u>	<u>Version</u>	<u>Lesson Title</u>
None			

Prerequisite Lesson(s)

<u>Hours</u>	<u>Lesson Number</u>	<u>Version</u>	<u>Lesson Title</u>
0 hrs 40 mins	805-BT805003	Version 3.1 ©	Drill and Ceremonies 1 (Drill Orientation)
1 hr 30 mins	805-BT805004	Version 3.2 ©	Drill and Ceremonies 2 (Individual Drill - Stationary Movements)
2 hrs 35 mins	805-BT805005	Version 3.2 ©	Drill and Ceremonies 3 (Individual Drill - Steps and Marching)
4 hrs 30 mins	805-BT805006	Version 3.3 ©	Drill and Ceremonies 4 (Individual Drill with Weapons)
4 hrs 35 mins	805-BT805007	Version 3.2 ©	Drill and Ceremonies 5 (Squad Drill)

Training Material Classification

Security Level: This course/lesson will present information that has a Security Classification of: U - Unclassified.

Foreign Disclosure Restrictions

FD1. This training product has been reviewed by the training developers in coordination with the Fort Jackson SC foreign disclosure officer. This training product can be used to instruct international military students from all approved countries without restrictions.

References

<u>Number</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Date</u>
AR 385-10	The Army Safety Program	24 Feb 2017
ATP 3-34.5	Environmental Considerations	10 Aug 2015
ATP 5-19	RISK MANAGEMENT, with change 1 dated 8 Sep 2014	14 Apr 2014
TC 3-21.5	Drill and Ceremonies	03 May 2021
TRADOC PAM 600-4	The Soldiers Blue Book	01 Aug 2019

Student Study Assignment

TRADOC Pam 600-4, *The Soldier's Blue Book*.

Instructor Requirements

Be familiar with this Lesson Plan.

Support Personnel Requirements

None

Additional Support Personnel Requirements

<u>Name</u>	<u>Student Ratio</u>	<u>Qty</u>	<u>Man Hours</u>
Additional Instructors and/or Drill Sergeants Remarks:	0:0	8	24.0
Bus Driver Remarks:	1:44		15.0
Driver, HMMWV Remarks:	0:0	1	3.0
Driver, LMTV Remarks:	0:0	1	3.0

**Equipment
Required
for Instruction**

<u>ID - Name</u>	<u>Student Ratio</u>	<u>Instructor Ratio</u>	<u>Spt</u>	<u>Qty</u>	<u>Exp</u>
2330-01-580-7654 - Trailer, Tank, Unit Water Pod System (Camel II), Model: Camel II 800 Remarks:	0:0	0:0	Yes	1	No
5820-01-243-4960 - Radio 10 Channel, Portable, Motorola: MDL-Q2 Remarks:	1:25	0:0	Yes	0	
6530-00-783-7510 - Litter, Nonrigid, Poleless, Nylon, 78 X 26 Inch, Retaining Straps, Field Use Remarks:	1:50	0:0	Yes	0	
6530-01-260-1222 - Rescue and Transport System, Patient Remarks:	1:50	0:0	Yes	0	
6545-01-532-3674 - Medical Equipment Set, Combat Lifesaver, Version 2005, UA 245A Remarks:	1:50	0:0	Yes	0	
6665-01-103-8547 - Wet Globe Temperature Kit, Dial Thermometer Type, Mechanical Remarks:	1:200	0:0	Yes	0	
7210-00-081-1417 - Sheet, Bed, Cotton-Polyester, White, 104 X 72 Inches, Solid, Plain, Flat Remarks:	1:25	0:0	Yes	0	
8960-01-430-4378 - Ice, 8 Pounds Remarks:	1:10	0:0	Yes	0	
M12986 - Mask Chemical Biological M50 Remarks:	1:1	0:0	No	0	
T56383 - Truck Utility Cargo M1165 Remarks:	1:200	0:0	Yes	0	

(Note: Asterisk before ID indicates a TADSS.)

**Materials
Required**

Instructor Materials:

This Lesson Plan.

Student Materials:

TRADOC Pam 600-4, *The Soldier's Bluebook*.

**Classroom,
Training Area,
and Range
Requirements**

<u>ID - Name</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Student Ratio</u>	<u>Setup Mins</u>	<u>Cleanup Mins</u>
17980-1-1 Parade/Drill Field, 1 Acre, 1 Each Remarks:		1:200	10	10

**Ammunition
Requirements**

<u>DODIC - Name</u>	<u>Exp</u>	<u>Student Ratio</u>	<u>Instruct Ratio</u>	<u>Spt Qty</u>
None				

**Instructional Guidance/
Conduct of Lesson**

NOTE: Before presenting this lesson, instructors must thoroughly prepare by studying this lesson and identified reference material.

ATTENTION INSTRUCTORS:

- a. The Drill Sergeant should use the three teaching stages, when practical, for this and all following periods of drill and ceremonies.

- b. The Drill Sergeant should use as many demonstrators/ assistant instructors as available.

- c. Each period of drill and ceremonies training (D&C 2 through D&C 7) should provide an integrated review and practice of previously learned movements and positions.

NOTE: Drill Sergeants have the option to be less formal when teaching learning steps that have been previously taught. They are allowed to use more or less time on drill movements as they see fit.

**Proponent Lesson
Plan Approvals**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Date</u>
andre.williams2	Not available	Approver	23 Aug 2021

SECTION II. INTRODUCTION

Method of Instruction: Practical Exercise (Hands-On/Written)
Mode of Delivery: Resident Instruction
Instr Type (I:S Ratio): Military - NON-ICH (1:15) (Drill Sergeant)
Time of Instruction: 5 mins

Motivator

Correctly executing platoon drill movements is a part of long-standing Army tradition.

“The fundamentals of drill are established daily ... If these maneuvers are all accurately observed and practiced every day then the army will remain virtually undefeatable and always awe inspiring...”

Frederick the Great: “History of My Own Times,” trans. 1789

Terminal Learning Objective

NOTE. Inform the students of the following Terminal Learning Objective requirements.

At the completion of this lesson, you [the student] will:

Action:	Execute Platoon Drill Movements.
Conditions:	In an area suitable for performing drill movements.
Standards:	Correctly execute the following platoon drill movements in accordance with TC 3-21.5: a. Forming the Platoon b. Breaking Ranks c. Counting Off d. Changing Interval e. Aligning the Platoon f. Opening and Closing Ranks g. Resting the Platoon h. Dismissing the Platoon i. Eyes Right j. Change the Direction of a Column k. Marching to the flanks l. Forming a file and re-forming m. Forming a column of twos and re-forming
Learning Domain - Level:	Psychomotor - Precision
No JPME Learning Areas Supported:	None

Safety Requirements

Safety must be paramount in the complex outdoor environment. During the training process, commanders will utilize the 5-step composite risk management process to determine the safest and most complete method to train. Every precaution will be taken while replicating realistic battlefield conditions.

Safety is everyone's responsibility to recognize, mitigate and report hazardous conditions.

Instructor note: The instructor will brief the unit/site SOP and composite risk management worksheet for all potential contingencies encountered during that training period/event i.e., severe weather, fire, evacuation and rally points, etc.

Risk Assessment Level

Low - Heat/Cold Weather Injuries

Assessment: Ensure to check local weather reports with range control prior to executing training. Drill Sergeants must ensure all required clothing and equipment are present.

Controls: Drill Sergeants will monitor Trainees to ensure adequate hydration and nutrition. Drill Sergeants will ensure Trainees are wearing the appropriate clothing and protective gear for the local weather.

Leader Actions: Ensure DD Form 2977 is updated with the appropriate controls. Make sure all Cadre are aware of controls prior to execution of training so they can take appropriate action.

Low - Interaction with the local wildlife

Assessment: Check local listing of wildlife

Controls: Ensure Soldiers get a detailed safety briefing prior to the execution of training to include what potentially hazardous animals and insects could be in the training area.

Leader Actions: Ensure DD Form 2977 is updated with the appropriate controls. Make sure all Cadre are aware of controls prior to execution of training so they can take appropriate action.

Medium - Inclement Weather

Assessment: Check local forecasts with the Range Control

Controls: Brief and rehearse Soldiers on what course of action to take for specific weather conditions (lightning, tornadoes, ect.)

Leader Actions: Ensure DD Form 2977 is updated with the appropriate controls. Make sure all Cadre are aware of controls prior to execution of training so they can take appropriate action.

Low - Dehydration

Assessment: Check water levels in the unit's hydration system prior to execution of training. Make sure Soldiers have their water filled before and during training.

Controls: Make sure All Cadre and Trainees have received the most up to date Heat/Cold weather training available. All should be able to recognize symptoms of dehydration.

Leader Actions: Ensure DD Form 2977 is updated with the appropriate controls. Make sure all Cadre are aware of controls prior to execution of training so they can take appropriate action.

Environmental Considerations

NOTE: Instructor should conduct a risk assessment to include environmental considerations IAW the current environmental considerations publication, and ensure students are briefed on hazards and control measures.

a. Based on its commitment to environmental protection, the Army will conduct its operations in ways that minimize environmental impacts. The Army will—

(1) Comply with all environmental laws and regulations. This includes federal, state, local, and Host Nation laws, some of which are outlined in FM 3-34.5/MCRP 4-11B, Environmental Considerations, Appendix A.

(2) Prevent pollution at the source by reducing, reusing, and recycling material that causes pollution.

(3) Conserve and preserve natural and cultural resources so that they will be available for present and future generations.

b. Units and installations will prepare an environmental risk assessment IAW ATP 5-19, Appendix A. The checklist should supplement local and state environmental regulations applicable to your area. Units will also refer to FM 3-34.5/MCRP 4-11B Appendix D (Environmentally Related Risk Assessment) for further guidance.

The Drill and Ceremonies movements you will be taught today will serve as a foundation for the remaining drill and ceremony lessons you will receive in Initial Entry Training and throughout your military career.

Instructional Lead-in

SECTION III. PRESENTATION

TLO - LSA 1. Learning Step / Activity TLO - LSA 1. Execute Platoon Drill Movements

Method of Instruction: Practical Exercise (Hands-On/Written)

Mode of Delivery: Resident Instruction

Instr Type (I:S Ratio): Military - NON-ICH (1:15)(Drill Sergeant)

Time of Instruction: 10 mins

Media Type: None

Other Media: Unassigned

Security Classification: This course/lesson will present information that has a Security Classification of: U - Unclassified.

a. **FORMATIONS:** The platoon has two prescribed formations—line and column. However, the platoon may be formed into a file or a column of twos from a column formation. When in a line formation, the elements (squads) of a platoon are numbered from front to rear; in a column formation, from left to right.

b. **BASIC INFORMATION:** For the most part, platoon drill merely provides the procedures for executing drill movements in conjunction with other squads formed in the same formation. Individual drill movements and the manual of arms are executed as previously described while performing as a squad member during the conduct of platoon drill. "Platoon Sergeant" may also denote "Platoon Leader" when the Platoon Sergeant is executing drill from their post.

NOTE: Drill Sergeants will familiarize themselves with PARA 7-1 of TC 3-21.5 in order to execute movements required of the Platoon Sergeant during Platoon drill movements.

c. **FORMING THE PLATOON:** The platoon normally forms in a line formation; however, it may re-form in a column when each Soldier can identify his exact position (equipment grounded) in the formation.

(1) The platoon forms basically the same as a squad. The Platoon Sergeant assumes the *Position of Attention* and commands **FALL IN (At Close Interval, FALL IN or In Column, FALL IN)**. On the command **FALL IN (At Close Interval, FALL IN)**, the squad leader and the first squad (when formed) is three steps in front of and centered on the platoon sergeant. Other squad leaders cover on the first squad leader at the correct distance, which is obtained by estimation. The members of the first squad fall in on their squad leader as prescribed for squad drill. Members of the other squads fall in on their squad leader, assume the *Position of Attention*, and turn their heads and eyes to the right. They obtain correct distance by taking short steps forward or backward

and align themselves on the Soldiers to their right. They then sharply turn their heads and eyes to the front as in the *Position of Attention* and obtain proper interval by taking short steps left and right to cover on the Soldier to their front. Members of all squads, other than the first squad, will not raise their left arms unless the Soldier to their immediate left has no one to their front in the formation on which to cover.

(2) When armed, members fall in at *Order Arms* or *Sling Arms*. For safety, the commands ***Inspection, Arms; Ready, Port, ARMS; Order (Sling), ARMS*** are given at the initial formation of the day and just before the last command, **DISMISSED**.

(3) When a report is appropriate, the Platoon Sergeant commands **REPORT**. The squad leaders, in succession from front to rear, turn their heads and eyes toward the Platoon Sergeant and salute (holding the *Salute* until returned) and report. The squad leaders do not state the unit. For example:

(a) Situation 1. When all squad members are in formation, the report is "**All Present.**"

(b) Situation 2. When squad members are absent, the Soldiers name and reasons for absence are reported:

Pvt. Smit - charge of quarter's runner; Pvt. Miller - sick call; Pvt. Rodriguez - absent without leave.

(4) Platoon sergeant turns their head and eyes toward the reporting squad leader, receives the report, and returns the salute. After receiving the report from the squad leaders, the Platoon Sergeant faces about and awaits the arrival of the Platoon Leader or a directive from the First Sergeant to **REPORT**. When the Platoon Leader has halted at their post, the Platoon Sergeant salutes and reports, "**Sir or Ma'am, All Present**"; or "**Sir or Ma'am, All accounted for**"; or "**Sir or Ma'am, (so many) Soldiers absent.**" The Platoon Leader returns the *Salute*. After the *Salute* has been returned, the Platoon Sergeant faces to the right in marching, inclines around the squad leaders, halts at their post, and faces to the right. If reporting to the First Sergeant, the Platoon Sergeant turns his head and eyes toward the First Sergeant, salutes, and reports.

NOTE: Additional information can be found in PARA 7-17 of TC 3-21.5.

Check on Learning: Conduct check on learning

Review Summary: Conduct a Summary Review

TLO - LSA 2. Learning Step / Activity TLO - LSA 2. Breaking Ranks

Method of Instruction: Practical Exercise (Hands-On/Written)

Mode of Delivery: Resident Instruction

Instr Type (I:S Ratio): Military - NON-ICH (1:15)(Drill Sergeant)

Time of Instruction: 5 mins

Media Type: None

Other Media: Unassigned

Security Classification: This course/lesson will present information that has a Security Classification of: U - Unclassified.

a. **BREAKING RANKS:** When the situation requires one or more individuals to leave the formation or to receive specific instructions from the Platoon Sergeant, the Platoon Sergeant directs: "**Private Rodriguez (pause), front and center**"; or, "**The following personnel front and center—Private Rodriguez (pause), Private Miller.**" When the individual's name is called, they assume the position of attention and reply, "**Here, Sergeant (Sir or Ma'am).**" they then take one (15-inch) step backward, halt, face to the right (left) in marching, and exit the formation by marching to the nearest flank. *The Soldier does not look left or right.* Once the individual has cleared the formation, he begins to double-time and halts two steps in front of and centered on the Platoon Sergeant.

NOTE: When a group of individuals are called from the formation, the group forms centered on the Platoon Sergeant. The Platoon Sergeant should direct (point) the first Soldier into position so that the rank will be centered when the last Soldier has joined the group.

Check on Learning: Conduct check on learning

Review Summary: Summarize key points

TLO - LSA 3. Learning Step / Activity TLO - LSA 3. Counting off

Method of Instruction: Practical Exercise (Hands-On/Written)

Mode of Delivery: Resident Instruction

Instr Type (I:S Ratio): Military - NON-ICH (1:20)(Drill Sergeant)

Time of Instruction: 5 mins

Media Type: None

Other Media: Unassigned

Security Classification: This course/lesson will present information that has a Security Classification of: U - Unclassified.

a. **COUNTING OFF:** The platoon counts off in the same manner as the squad. When in a line formation, the squads count in unison from right to left; each squad leader sounds off, "**ONE.**" When in a column formation, the men abreast of each other count in unison from front to rear; each squad leader sounds off, "**ONE.**"

Check on Learning: Conduct check on learning

Review Summary: Summarize key points

TLO - LSA 4. Learning Step / Activity TLO - LSA 4. Changing Interval

Method of Instruction: Practical Exercise (Hands-On/Written)

Mode of Delivery: Resident Instruction

Instr Type (I:S Ratio): Military - NON-ICH (1:15)(Drill Sergeant)

Time of Instruction: 10 mins

Media Type: None

Other Media: Unassigned

Security Classification: This course/lesson will present information that has a Security Classification of: U - Unclassified.

a. **CHANGING INTERVAL:** The platoon changes interval in a line formation in the same manner as the squad.

(1) To change interval when the platoon is in a column at the *Halt*, the right file stands fast and serves as the base. All other members (abreast of each other) execute the movement as previously described. To obtain *Close Interval* from *Normal Interval*, the third squad takes one right step, the second squad takes two right steps, and the first squad takes three right steps. To obtain *Normal Interval*, the procedures are the same except that the squads execute the same number of left steps.

(2) To change interval when the platoon is marching in a column, the preparatory command **Close Interval** is given as the right foot strikes the marching surface, and the command of execution **MARCH** is given the next time the right foot strikes the marching surface. On the command of execution **MARCH**, the base squad (right file) takes one more 30-inch step and then executes the *Half Step*. All other men take one more step, simultaneously execute a *Column Half Right*, and march until *Close Interval* is obtained. They execute a *Column Half Left* and assume the *Half Step* when abreast of the corresponding Soldier of the base squad. On the command **Forward, MARCH**, all Soldiers resume marching with a 30-inch step. The commands **Mark Time, MARCH** and **Platoon, HALT** may also be given.

(3) To resume marching at *Normal Interval*, the preparatory command **Normal Interval** is given as the left foot strikes the marching surface, and the command of execution **MARCH** is given the next time the left foot strikes the marching surface. On the command of execution **MARCH**, the platoon members obtain *Normal Interval* in the same manner prescribed for *Close Interval* except that they each execute *Column Half Left* and then *Column Half Right*.

(4) To obtain *Double Interval* from *Normal Interval*, the procedures are the same as from *Close Interval* to *Normal Interval*.

(5) To obtain *Normal Interval* from *Double Interval* (closing the formation in column from *Open Ranks*), the procedures are the same as obtaining *Close Interval* from

Normal Interval.

Check on Learning: Conduct check on learning

Review Summary: Summarize key points

TLO - LSA 5. Learning Step / Activity TLO - LSA 5. Aligning the Platoon

Method of Instruction: Practical Exercise (Hands-On/Written)

Mode of Delivery: Resident Instruction

Instr Type (I:S Ratio): Military - NON-ICH (1:15)(Drill Sergeant)

Time of Instruction: 20 mins

Media Type: None

Other Media: Unassigned

Security Classification: This course/lesson will present information that has a Security Classification of: U - Unclassified.

a. **ALIGNING THE PLATOON:** The platoon is aligned similar to the squad.

(1) On the command of execution **DRESS**, the first squad leader stands fast and serves as the base. Other squad leaders obtain correct distance by estimation. The members of the first squad execute in the same manner as in squad drill to obtain exact interval. All other squads execute as the first squad, except that each squad member raises the left arm only for uniformity, actually covering (glancing out the corner of the left eye) on the Soldier to the front.

(2) If the Platoon Sergeant wants exact alignment, they face to the *Half Left (Half Right)* in marching and march (on the command of execution **DRESS**) by the most direct route to a position on line with the first squad, halt one step from the squad leader or left flank Soldier, and faces down the line. From this position, they verify the alignment of the first squad, directing the Soldier to move forward or backward, as necessary, calling them by name or number: "*Private Smit, forward 2 inches; Number eight, backward 4 inches.*" The Platoon Sergeant remains at Attention, taking short steps to the right or left as necessary, to see down the squad.

(3) Having aligned the first squad, the Platoon Sergeant, after centering himself on the first squad, faces to the left (right) in marching, taking two (three if at open ranks) short steps to the next squad, halts, faces down the line, and aligns the squad in the same manner.

(4) After the last squad is aligned, the Platoon Sergeant centers himself on the squad leader by taking short steps left or right, faces to the right (left) in marching, returns to their position (centered on the platoon), halts perpendicular to the formation, faces to the left (right), and commands **Ready, FRONT**.

NOTE: When the platoon dresses as part of a larger formation, all squad leaders turn their heads and eyes to their right and align themselves on the unit to their right. The Platoon Sergeant aligns the platoon from the left flank rather than from the right flank when his platoon is not formed as the right flank platoon.

(5) To align the platoon in column, the commands are **COVER** and **RE-COVER**. On the command **COVER**, the fourth squad leader stands fast and serves as base. The squad leaders with the exception of the left flank squad leader, raise their arms laterally and turn their heads and eyes to the right. The members of the fourth squad raise their left arms horizontally (as in squad drill) to the front and cover the Soldier to their front at correct distance (one arm's length plus 6 inches). Squad members of the third, second, and first squads raise their left arms horizontally to the front (for uniformity only), cover on the Soldier to their front, and, at the same time, glance out of the corner of their right eyes aligning on the Soldier to their right. To resume the *Position of Attention*, the command is **RE-COVER**. On this command, each man sharply returns to the *Position of Attention*.

NOTE: When the platoon is aligned in column as part of a larger unit but is not the lead platoon, the squad leaders do not raise their arms or turn their heads and eyes but cover on the squad to their front. The Platoon Sergeant must wait until the platoon to his front has been given the command **RE-COVER** before giving the command **COVER**. If the Platoon Leader is at their post, they must wait until the Platoon Leader of the platoon to his front has commanded **RE-COVER** before he faces about and gives the command **COVER**.

Check on Learning: Conduct check on learning

Review Summary: Summarize key points

TLO - LSA 6. Learning Step / Activity TLO - LSA 6. Opening and closing ranks

Method of Instruction: Practical Exercise (Hands-On/Written)

Mode of Delivery: Resident Instruction

Instr Type (I:S Ratio): Military - NON-ICH (1:15)(Drill Sergeant)

Time of Instruction: 12 mins

Media Type: None

Other Media: Unassigned

Security Classification: This course/lesson will present information that has a Security Classification of: U - Unclassified.

a. **OPENING AND CLOSING RANKS:** To open or close ranks, use the following procedures:

(1) **Open Ranks, MARCH** is executed from a line formation while at the halt. It may be executed while at any of the prescribed intervals. The command for this movement is **Open Ranks, MARCH**. On the command of execution **MARCH**, the front rank takes two steps forward, the second rank takes one step forward, the third rank stands fast, and the fourth rank takes two steps backward. If additional ranks are present, the fifth rank takes four steps backward, and the sixth rank takes six steps backward.

NOTE: After taking the prescribed steps, the Soldiers do not raise their arms. If the Platoon Sergeant wants exact interval or alignment, they command **At Close Interval**

(At Double Interval), Dress Right, DRESS. If the platoon is to align on an element to the right, the squad leaders turn their head and eyes to the right and align themselves with that element.

(2) To *Close Ranks*, the command is **Close Ranks, MARCH.** On the command of execution **MARCH**, the first rank takes four steps backward, the second rank takes two steps backward, the third rank stands fast, and the fourth rank takes one step forward. On the command of execution **MARCH**, the Platoon Leader and Platoon Sergeant take the appropriate number of steps to maintain their posts.

Check on Learning: Conduct check on learning

Review Summary: Summarize key points

TLO - LSA 7. Learning Step / Activity TLO - LSA 7. Resting the Platoon

Method of Instruction: Practical Exercise (Hands-On/Written)

Mode of Delivery: Resident Instruction

Instr Type (I:S Ratio): Military - NON-ICH (1:15)(Drill Sergeant)

Time of Instruction: 5 mins

Media Type: None

Other Media: Unassigned

Security Classification: This course/lesson will present information that has a Security Classification of: U - Unclassified.

a. **RESTING THE PLATOON:** The platoon rests in the same manner prescribed for the squad. The Platoon Leader places the platoon at the Position of Attention and then into one of the rest positions.

Check on Learning: Conduct check on learning

Review Summary: Summarize key points

TLO - LSA 8. Learning Step / Activity TLO - LSA 8. Dismissing the Platoon

Method of Instruction: Practical Exercise (Hands-On/Written)

Mode of Delivery: Resident Instruction

Instr Type (I:S Ratio): Military - NON-ICH (1:15)(Drill Sergeant)

Time of Instruction: 5 mins

Media Type: None

Other Media: Unassigned

Security Classification: This course/lesson will present information that has a Security Classification of: U - Unclassified.

a. **DISMISSING THE PLATOON:** The procedures for dismissing the platoon are basically the same as prescribed for the squad.

(1) If the Platoon Sergeant so desires, the squads may be released to the control of the squad leaders. The Platoon Sergeant commands **TAKE CHARGE OF YOUR SQUADS**, and *Salutes* are exchanged. The Platoon Sergeant is no longer part of the formation.

NOTE: Without leaving their positions, the squad leaders turn their heads and eyes

over the left shoulder and command **FALL OUT**. The squad leaders move to a position in the immediate area, and command **FALL IN**. Then, they carry out the previous instructions and or give any instructions for actions before the next duty formation.

(2) At times the Platoon Sergeant may want to turn the formation over to a subordinate; for example, to have the subordinate march the platoon to a different location.

(3) The Platoon Sergeant calls on an individual and the individual breaks rank. The designated Soldier posts two steps from and facing the Platoon Sergeant. The Platoon Sergeant passes on any additional instructions and *Salutes* are exchanged. After exchanging *Salutes*, the Platoon Sergeant moves to a position where they can observe, or they may resume their post at the rear of the formation.

(4) The subordinate steps forward two steps, and assumes the post of the Platoon Sergeant. The Platoon Sergeant is no longer part of the formation; however, they may march along side of, or behind, the formation to make any corrections or to give further guidance, if necessary.

NOTE TO INSTRUCTOR: Item (5) is for the Drill Sergeants knowledge only. It may be taught to Soldiers if the Drill Sergeant thinks it is necessary.

(5) If the Platoon Leader is at their post, they command **PLATOON SERGEANT**. The Platoon Sergeant faces to the left in marching and inclines around the squad leaders' left flank, halts three steps in front of and centered on the platoon, and faces to the right. The Platoon Leader then commands **TAKE CHARGE OF THE PLATOON**, and *salutes* are exchanged. The Platoon Leader is no longer part of the formation. The Platoon Sergeant remains at their post, faces about, and carries out the Platoon Leader's instructions.

Check on Learning: Conduct check on learning

Review Summary: Summarize key points

TLO - LSA 9. Learning Step / Activity TLO - LSA 9. Executing eyes right

Method of Instruction: Practical Exercise (Hands-On/Written)

Mode of Delivery: Resident Instruction

Instr Type (I:S Ratio): Military - NON-ICH (1:15)(Drill Sergeant)

Time of Instruction: 12 mins

Media Type: None

Other Media: Unassigned

Security Classification: This course/lesson will present information that has a Security Classification of: U - Unclassified.

MOVEMENTS: The platoon marches in the same manner prescribed for the squad.

When the platoon is marching in a line, the first squad leader serves as the guide, and when the platoon is marching in a column, the fourth squad leader serves as the guide. When marching in line, each member of each squad (glancing out of the corner of their right eye) maintains alignment on the Soldier to their right. When marching in column, each member of the first, second, and third squads maintains alignment on the Soldier to their right.

a. **EYES RIGHT:** The platoon renders courtesy during ceremonies or when marching past the Colors by executing *Eyes Right*. The commands for this movement are **Eyes, RIGHT** and **Ready, FRONT**.

(1) At the *Halt*, all Soldiers (on the command of execution, **RIGHT**), while keeping their shoulders parallel to the front, turn their heads and eyes to the right at a 45-degree angle. They focus on and follow the person passing to the front until they are again looking forward, at which time their heads and eyes remain fixed to the front. Only the Platoon Leader renders the *Hand Salute*.

(2) When marching, the preparatory command **Eyes** is given as the right foot strikes the marching surface and the command of execution **RIGHT** is given the next time the right foot strikes the marching surface. On the command of execution **RIGHT**, all Soldiers, except the right file, turn their heads and eyes to the right and align themselves on the right file while continuing to march. Soldiers in the right file do not turn their heads and eyes but continue looking straight to the front and maintain correct distance. Only the Platoon Leader salutes. To terminate the courtesy, the preparatory command **Ready** is given as the left foot strikes the marching surface, and the command of execution **FRONT** is given the next time the left foot strikes the marching surface. On the command of execution, the Soldiers turn their heads and eyes sharply to the front and the Platoon Leader terminates the *Hand Salute*.

Check on Learning: Conduct check on learning

Review Summary: Summarize key points

TLO - LSA 10. Learning Step / Activity TLO - LSA 10. Change the direction of a column

Method of Instruction: Practical Exercise (Hands-On/Written)

Mode of Delivery: Resident Instruction

Instr Type (I:S Ratio): Military - NON-ICH (1:20)(Drill Sergeant)

Time of Instruction: 12 mins

Media Type: None

Other Media: Unassigned

Security Classification: This course/lesson will present information that has a Security Classification of: U - Unclassified.

a. **CHANGING THE DIRECTION OF A COLUMN:** The platoon changes the direction of marching basically the same as the squad.

(1) During a column movement, the base element is the squad on the flank in the direction of the turn.

(2) To change the direction 90 degrees, the command is **Column Right (Left), MARCH**. On the command of execution **MARCH**, the base squad executes the movement as in squad drill except that the squad leader takes one 30-inch step and then takes up the *Half Step*. The squad leader continues marching with the *Half Step* until the other squad leaders come abreast. The other squad leaders, while maintaining correct (offset) interval, execute a 45-degree pivot and continue marching in an arc. As they come on line (abreast) with the base squad leader, they take up the *Half Step*. When all squad leaders are abreast, they step off with a 30-inch step without command. All other platoon members march forward on the command of execution and execute the column movement at approximately the same location as their squad leaders and in the same manner.

NOTE: When the Platoon Sergeant is marching their platoon as a separate unit or when the company is marching without officers in charge, the Platoon Sergeant stays centered on the platoon. When the Platoon Leader and Platoon Sergeant are marching at their post in column as part of a larger formation, they execute a *Column Half Right (Left)* rather than a 90-degree column movement. After executing the *Column Half Right (Left)*, they continue marching in an arc, incline as necessary, and resume their correct positions. After sensing that the squad leaders are abreast of each other, the Platoon leader resumes the 30-inch step. At times, the Platoon Leader may find it necessary to shorten or lengthen their step in order to maintain correct distance from the unit to the front.

(3) To change the direction 45 degrees, the command is **Column Half Right (Left), MARCH**. On the command of execution **MARCH**, the platoon executes the movement in the same manner as a 90-degree turn except that the base squad leader, as well as the other squad leaders, execute a *Column Half Right (Left)*.

(4) To march the platoon in the opposite direction the command **Rear, MARCH** is given by platoon sergeant in the same manner as previously discussed. The platoon marches in the opposite direction (**Rear, March**) in the same manner as the squad.

(5) The platoon inclines in the same manner as the squad. The squad nearest the direction of the turn serves as the base. To avoid an obstacle in the path of the march, the Platoon Leader directs **INCLINE AROUND LEFT (RIGHT)**.

(6) When space is limited and the Platoon Sergeant wants to march his unit in the opposite direction (reverse), with the squad leaders at the head of their squads, they command **Counter Column, MARCH**. On the command of execution **MARCH** (at the *Halt*), the first squad marches forward three steps, executes a *Column Right*, marches

across the front of the platoon, and executes another *Column Right* just beyond the fourth squad. The second squad steps forward one step, executes a *Column Right*, marches forward, and executes another *Column Right* between the third and fourth squads. The third squad executes two short *Column Lefts* from the *Halt* and marches between the remainder of the third squad and the second squad. The fourth squad marches forward two steps, executes a *Column Left*, marches across the front of the platoon, and executes another *Column Left* between the first and second squads.

(7) As the third squad leader marches past the last Soldier in the third squad, they and their squad begin to march at the *Half Step*. After marching past the last Soldier in each file, all other squads incline to the right and left as necessary, obtain *Normal Interval* on the third squad, and begin to march with the *Half Step*. When all squads are abreast of each other, they begin marching with a 30-inch step without command.

(8) During the movement, *without the Platoon Leader present*, The Platoon Sergeant marches alongside the first squad. *With the Platoon Leader present*, the Platoon Sergeant marches one step to the rear and centered between the second and third squads and the Platoon Leader marches alongside the first squad.

(9) When marching, the preparatory command **Counter-Column** is given as the left foot strikes the marching surface and the command of execution **MARCH** is given the next time the left foot strikes the marching surface. On the command of execution **MARCH**, the platoon executes the movement basically the same as from the *Halt*, except that the squad takes one additional step to ensure that the pivot foot is in the correct position to execute the movement.

NOTES:

1. When there are only three squads in the column, the first squad takes two steps before executing.

2. When the Platoon Leader and Platoon Sergeant are marching at their posts as part of a larger formation, the Platoon Leader takes three steps forward and executes a column right, marches across the front of the platoon, executes another column right (just beyond fourth squad), marches to his post in the most direct manner, takes up the *Half Step*, and then steps off with a 30-inch step when the squad leaders come on line. The Platoon Sergeant inclines to the right, follows the third squad until the movement is completed, and then resumes their post.

Check on Learning:

Conduct Check on learning

Review Summary:

Summarize key points

TLO - LSA 11. Learning Step / Activity TLO - LSA 11. Marching to the flanks

Method of Instruction: Practical Exercise (Hands-On/Written)

Mode of Delivery: Resident Instruction

Instr Type (I:S Ratio): Military - NON-ICH (1:15)(Drill Sergeant)

Time of Instruction: 5 mins

Media Type: None

Other Media: Unassigned

Security Classification: This course/lesson will present information that has a Security Classification of: U - Unclassified.

a. **MARCHING TO THE FLANKS:** The platoon may march to the flank (for short distances only) when in a column. The command for this movement is **Right (Left) Flank, MARCH**. The preparatory command is given as the foot in the desired direction strikes the marching surface. On the command of execution **MARCH**, all members take one more step, pivot 90 degrees in the commanded direction on the ball of the lead foot, and step off in the new direction with the trailing foot. As members begin to march in the new direction, they glance out the corner of their right eye and dress to the right.

Check on Learning:

Conduct check on learning

Review Summary:

Summarize key points

TLO - LSA 12. Learning Step / Activity TLO - LSA 12. Forming a file and re-forming

Method of Instruction: Practical Exercise (Hands-On/Written)

Mode of Delivery: Resident Instruction

Instr Type (I:S Ratio): Military - NON-ICH (1:15)(Drill Sergeant)

Time of Instruction: 19 mins

Media Type: None

Other Media: Unassigned

Security Classification: This course/lesson will present information that has a Security Classification of: U - Unclassified.

a. **FORMING A FILE AND RE-FORMING:** The platoon forms a single file, from the right, left, or as designated, only when in column and at the *Halt*. The commands are **File from the left (right), MARCH** or **File in sequence three-two-four-one, MARCH**.

NOTE: If the squad's direction of travel is to the left, or the squad is immediately following an element on the left, then **all** supplementary commands will be given over the left shoulder. If the squad's direction of travel is forward or to the right, or is immediately following a squad on the right, **all** supplementary commands will be given over the right shoulder. The squad leaders give the appropriate command so that they are following the last Soldier in the preceding squad at the correct distance.

(1) On the preparatory command, the squad leader of the designated squad gives the supplementary command **Forward**. The other squad leaders command **STAND FAST**. On the command of execution **MARCH** (given by the Platoon Sergeant), the lead

squad marches forward. The squad leader next to the lead element (or as designated) looks over the shoulder nearest the moving element and commands **Column Half Left (RIGHT)** when the second from the last Soldier is abreast of them and their right foot strikes the marching surface. The *squad leader* gives the command of execution **MARCH** as the right foot of the last Soldier strikes the marching surface when abreast of them. On the command of execution, the squad leader executes the **Column Half Left (Right)**, then inclines without command to the right (left), and follows the last Soldier of the preceding squad at correct distance. Other members of the squad march forward and execute the same movements as the squad leader. The remaining squads form the file in the same manner as the squad immediately behind the lead element.

(2) The platoon may form a file and execute a column movement simultaneously from a column formation. The command for this movement is **File from the left (right), Column Left (Right), MARCH**. Following the Platoon Sergeant's preparatory command, the squad leader of the lead element commands **Column Left (Right)**, instead of **Forward**. The other squad leaders command **STAND FAST**. On the Platoon Leader's command of execution **MARCH**, the lead squad executes the **Column Left (Right)**. The other squad leaders command **Column Left (Right)** (when the second from the last person is abreast of them) and then gives the command of execution **MARCH** as the right foot of the last person strikes the marching surface abreast of them.

NOTES:

1. At this point the platoon is executing platoon drill. The Platoon Sergeant will not release control of the squads to the squad leaders. The Platoon Sergeant will rest personnel on an as needed basis; for example, when filing into a building.

2. The squad leaders give the command of execution **MARCH** as the right foot of the last man strikes the marching surface at the pivot (*Column Left*), or the first time the last man's right foot strikes the marching surface after the pivot (*Column Right*).

(3) The platoon re-forms to the original column formation only from the *Halt*. The command is **Column of fours to the right (left), MARCH**.

NOTE: To re-form the platoon to its original column formation when the file was formed on the command **In Sequence, MARCH**, the commands **FALL OUT** and **FALL IN** must be given.

(4) On the preparatory command, the squad leader of the base squad commands **STAND FAST**. All other squad leaders command **Column Half Right (Left)**. On the

Platoon Sergeant's command of execution **MARCH**, the base squad stands fast; all other squads execute the *Column Half Right (Left)* simultaneously.

(5) As each of the moving squad leaders reach a point (line) that ensures correct interval on the element to their left (right), they automatically incline to the left (right) and command **Mark Time, MARCH** and **Squad, HALT** so that their squad is abreast of the base (other) squad when halted.

Check on Learning: Conduct check on learning

Review Summary: Summarize key points

TLO - LSA 13. Learning Step / Activity TLO - LSA 13. Forming a column of twos and re-forming

Method of Instruction: Practical Exercise (Hands-On/Written)

Mode of Delivery: Resident Instruction

Instr Type (I:S Ratio): Military - NON-ICH (1:15)(Drill Sergeant)

Time of Instruction: 10 mins

Media Type: None

Other Media: Unassigned

Security Classification: This course/lesson will present information that has a Security Classification of: U - Unclassified.

a. **FORMING A COLUMN OF TWOS AND RE-FORMING:** The platoon forms a column of twos from the right or left when in a column of fours at the Halt. The command is ***Column of twos from the left (right), MARCH.***

(1) On the preparatory command, the squad leaders of the two lead squads command **forward**. The other squad leaders command **STAND FAST**.

(2) On the Platoon Sergeant's command of execution **MARCH**, the two lead squads march forward. The squad leader (second or third) next to the lead element gives the command to start both of the remaining squads in motion. Looking over the shoulder nearest the moving elements, the squad leader gives the preparatory command **Column Half Left (Right)** (when the second from the last Soldier is abreast of them) and then gives the command of execution **MARCH** as the right foot of the last Soldier strikes the marching surface abreast of them.

(3) On the Platoon Sergeant's command of execution, both squad leaders execute the ***Column Half Left (Right)***, incline to the right (left) without command, and follow the last Soldier of the preceding squads at correct distance (do not close the space if the files of the two leading squads are uneven). Other members of the remaining squads march forward and execute the same movements as their squad leaders.

(4) The platoon may form a column of twos and execute a column movement simultaneously from a column formation. The command for this movement is ***Column of twos from the left (right), Column left (right), MARCH.***

(5) The squad leaders of the lead squads command **Column Left (Right)** instead of **Forward**. The squad leader of the second (third) squad gives the command **Column Left (Right)**; however, they execute *Column Half Left (Right)*. The remaining two squad leaders command **STAND FAST**.

(6) On the Platoon Sergeant's command of execution **MARCH**, the lead squads execute the *Column Left (Right)*. The squad leader (second or third) next to the lead elements gives the command to start both squads in motion. Looking over the shoulder nearest the moving elements, the squad leader gives the preparatory command **Column Left (Right)** when the second from the last Soldier is abreast of them. Then they give the command of execution **MARCH** as the right foot of the last Soldier strikes the marching surface at the pivot (*Column Left*) or the first time the last Soldier's right foot strikes the marching surface after the pivot (*Column Right*). Although the command is **Column Left (Right)**, the outside squads (fourth or first) execute *Column Half Left (Right)*.

(7) The platoon re-forms to the original column formation only from the Halt. The command is *Column of fours to the right (left)*, **MARCH**.

(8) The platoon re-forms to the original formation only from the halt. The command of **Column of fours to the right (left)**, **MARCH**:

When re-forming into a column of fours *without the Platoon Leader present*, the Platoon Sergeant remains at their post centered on the platoon. When re-forming into a column of fours with the Platoon Leader present, the Platoon Leader faces as in marching and resumes their original position in the column. The Platoon Sergeant follows the rear element and resumes their post in the formation when the element has halted.

(9) On the preparatory command, the squad leaders of the base squads command **STAND FAST**. The trailing squad leaders command **Column Half Right (Left)**. On the Platoon Sergeant's command of execution **MARCH**, the base squads stand fast. The trailing squad leaders execute slightly more than the *Column Half Right (Left)* simultaneously. As the trailing squad leaders reach a point (line) that will ensure correct interval on the element to their left (right), they automatically incline to the left (right). The squad leader nearest the stationary squads (second or third) commands **Mark Time, MARCH** and **Squads, HALT**.

Check on Learning:

Conduct check on learning

Review Summary:

Summarize key points

SECTION IV. SUMMARY

Method of Instruction:	Practical Exercise (Hands-On/Written)
Mode of Delivery:	Resident Instruction
Instr Type(I:S Ratio):	Military - NON-ICH (1:15) (Drill Sergeant)
Time of Instruction:	5 mins

Check on Learning

Conduct check on learning

Review/ Summary

Summarize key points

SECTION V. STUDENT EVALUATION

**Testing
Requirements**

None

**Feedback
Requirements**

Provide feedback to Soldiers as needed

Appendix A - Viewgraph Masters

**Drill and Ceremonies 6 (Platoon Drill)
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Sequence	Media Name	Media Type
None		

Appendix B - Assessment Statement and Assessment Plan

Assessment Statement: None.

Assessment Plan: None.

Appendix C - Practical Exercises and Solutions

PRACTICAL EXERCISE(S)/SOLUTION(S) FOR LESSON 805-BT805008 Version 3.4 ©

Appendix D - Student Handouts

**Drill and Ceremonies 6 (Platoon Drill)
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Sequence	Media Name	Media Type
None		