



**Casey's School of the Soldier:
Manual of Arms,
By The Motion.
An Illustration.
(Field Manual)**

by

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Fundamentals of Shoulder Arms

Instructions
127 - 128

Casey's School of the Soldier: GENERAL RULES.

125. The instructor will not pass the men to this second part until they shall be well established in the position of the body, and in the manner of marching at the different steps.

126. He will then unite four men, whom he will place in the same rank, elbow to elbow, and instruct them in the position of shouldered arms, as follows:

LESSON 1. PRINCIPLES OF SHOULDERED ARMS.

127. The recruit being placed as explained in the first lesson of the -first part, the instructor will cause him to bend the right arm slightly, and place the piece in it, in the following manner.



128. The piece in the right hand -

1. the barrel nearly vertical and resting in the hollow of the shoulder - the guard to the front, the arm hanging nearly at its full length near the body;
2. the thumb and fore-finger embracing the guard,
3. the remaining fingers closed together, and grasping the swell of the stock just under the cock, which rests on the little finger.

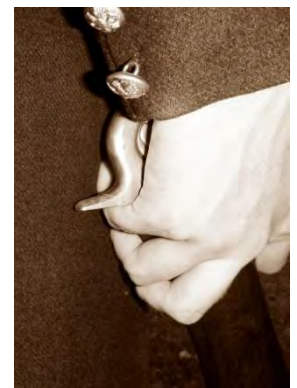
1



2



3



Casey's School of the Soldier: GENERAL RULES.

129. Recruits are frequently seen with natural defects in the conformation of the shoulders, breast and hips. These the instructor will labor to correct in the lessons without arms, and afterwards, by steady endeavors, so that the appearance of the pieces, in the same line, may be uniform, and this without constraint to the men in their positions.

130. The instructor will have occasion to remark that recruits, on first bearing arms, are liable to derange their position by lowering the right shoulder and the right hand, or by sinking the hip and spreading out the elbows.



131. He will be careful to correct all these faults by continually rectifying the position; he will sometimes take away the piece to replace it the better; he will avoid fatiguing the recruits too much in the beginning, but labor by degrees to render this position so natural and easy that they may remain in it a long time without fatigue.

132. Finally, the instructor will take great care that the piece, at a shoulder, be not carried too high nor too low: if too high, the right elbow would spread out, the soldier would occupy too much space in his rank, and the piece be made to waver; if too low, the files would be too much closed, the soldier would not have the necessary space to handle his piece with facility, the right arm would become too much fatigued, and would draw down the shoulder.

133. The instructor, before passing to the second lesson, will cause to be repeated the movements of eyes right, left and front, and the facings.



Fundamentals of the Manual of Arms

Instructions

134 - 138

LESSON II. MANUAL OF ARMS.

134. The manual of arms will be taught to four men, placed, at first, in one rank, elbow to elbow, and afterwards in two ranks.

135. Each command will be executed in one time (or pause), but this time will be divided into motions, the better to make known the mechanism.

136. The rate (or swiftness) of **each motion**, in the manual of arms, with the exceptions herein indicated, **is fixed at the ninetieth part of a minute**; but, in order not to fatigue the attention, the instructor will, at first, look more particularly to the execution of the motions, without requiring a nice observance of the cadence, to which he will bring the recruits progressively, and after they shall have become a little familiarized with the handling of the piece.

137. **As the motions relative to the cartridge, to the rammer, and to the fixing and unfixing of the bayonet, cannot be executed at the rate prescribed, nor even with a uniform swiftness, they will not be subjected to that cadence.** The instructor will, however, labor to cause these motions to be executed with promptness, and, above all, with regularity.

138. **The last syllable of the command will decide the brisk execution of the first motion of each time** (or pause). **The commands two, three, and four, will decide the brisk execution of the other motions.** As soon as the recruits shall well comprehend the positions of the several motions of a time, they will be taught to execute the time without resting on its different motions; **the mechanism of the time will nevertheless be observed, as well to give a perfect use of the piece, as to avoid the sinking of, or slurring over, either of the motions.**

139. The manual of arms will be taught in the following progression; the instructor will command:

<Author's Note >

The instructions provided in 136 and 138 are very important: "the instructor will, at first, look more particularly to the execution of the motions, without requiring a nice observance of the cadence," and "the mechanism of the time will nevertheless be observed, as well to give a perfect use of the piece, as to avoid the sinking of, or slurring over, either of the motions." These statements make it clear that there are NO SHORTCUTS! Take your time. Each step in the motion must be performed. Execute the motions properly. Then we can progress to execute the motion with the proper cadence.

Instruction 135 describes the timing for each motion. Each command will be executed in "one time, the time will be divided into one or more "motions"; and the rate, or swiftness, of the execution of each motion is "fixed at the ninetieth part of a minute". That is 2/3rds of a second per motion.

Instruction 138 describes the cadence to be used. It begins with the last syllable of the command of execution followed by the commands "two, three, and four". There is no "ONE" command. The last syllable of the command of execution, "ARMS", serves that purpose.

If we pronounce the commands as a dance instructor might: "ARMS and TWO, and THREE, and FOUR", we can succeed in our efforts to execute the motions with promptness and regularity.

<End Author's Note >



**The soldier being at
Shoulder Arms
to cause pieces to be brought to
Support Arms**

***Support-ARMS.
One time and three motions.***

***Instructions
140 - 142***

The soldier being at Shoulder Arms

Support-ARMS.

One time and three motions.

Instructions

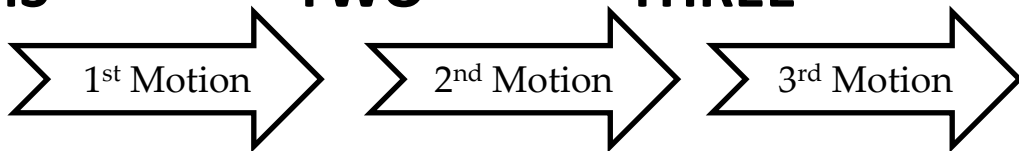
140 - 142

Support –

ARMS

TWO

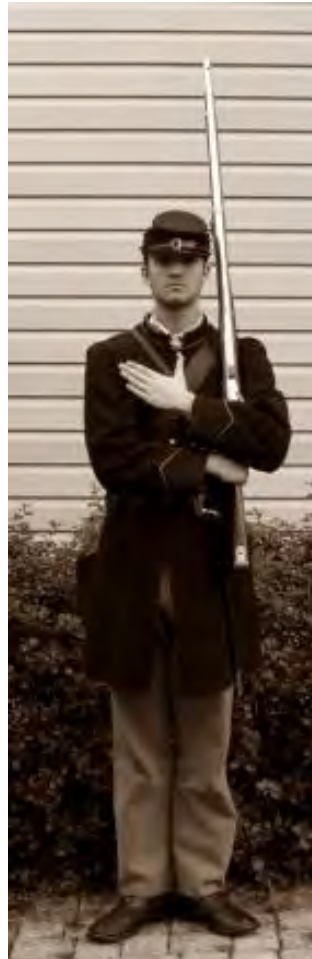
THREE



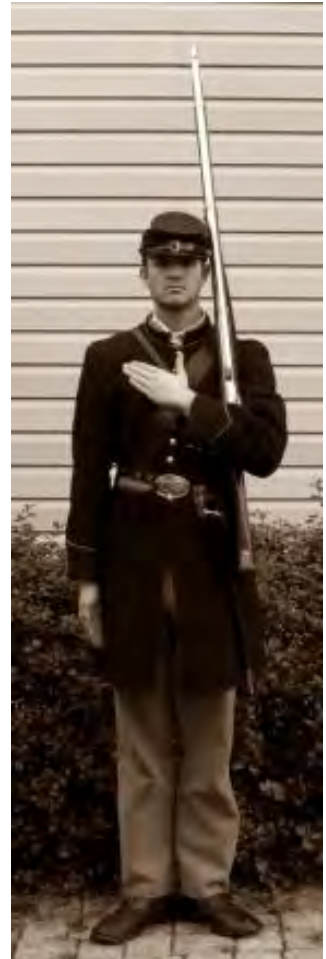
Starting Position



End of 1st Motion



End of 2nd Motion



End of 3rd Motion



**The soldier being at
Support Arms
to cause pieces to be brought to
Rest.
and returned to
Attention.**

***Instructions
143 - 146***

The soldier being at Support Arms

REST

One time and one motion.

Instructions

143 - 144

REST



Starting Position



End of 1st Motion

The soldier being at Support Arms & Rest

Attention-SQUAD
One time and one motion.
Instructions
145 - 146

Attention –
SQUAD



Starting Position



End of 1st Motion



**The soldier being at
Support Arms
to cause pieces to be brought to
Shoulder Arms.**

***Shoulder-ARMS.
One time and three motions.
Instructions
147 - 149***

The soldier being at Support Arms

Shoulder-ARMS.

One time and three motions.

Instructions

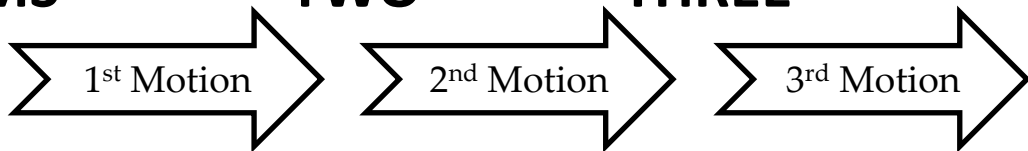
147 - 149

Shoulder –

ARMS

TWO

THREE



Starting Position



End of 1st Motion



End of 2nd Motion



End of 3rd Motion



**The soldier being at
Shoulder Arms
to cause pieces to be brought to
Present Arms.**

***Present-ARMS.
One time and two motions.
Instructions
150 - 151***

The soldier being at Shoulder Arms

Present-ARMS.
One time and two motions.
Instructions
150 - 151

Present –

ARMS

TWO



Starting Position



End of 1st Motion



End of 2nd Motion



**The soldier being at
Present Arms
to cause pieces to be brought to
Shoulder Arms.**

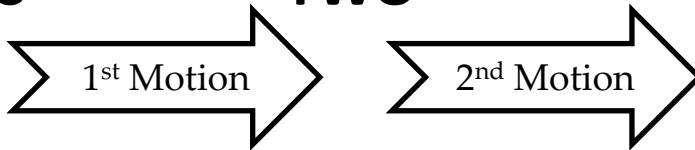
***Shoulder-ARMS.
One time and two motions.
Instructions
152 - 153***

The soldier being at Present Arms

Shoulder-ARMS.
One time and two motions.
Instructions
152 - 153

Shoulder –
ARMS

TWO



Starting Position



End of 1st Motion



End of 2nd Motion



**The soldier being at
Shoulder Arms
to cause pieces to be brought to
Order Arms.**

***Order-ARMS.
One time and two motions.
Instructions
154 - 155***

The soldier being at Shoulder Arms

Order-ARMS

One time and two motions.

Instructions

154 - 155

Order –

ARMS

TWO



Starting Position



End of 1st Motion



End of 2nd Motion



Fundamentals of the Position of Order Arms

Instructions

156 - 160

POSITION OF ORDER ARMS

156.

1. The hand low, the barrel between the thumb and fore-finger extended along the stock;
2. the other fingers extended and joined;
3. the muzzle about two inches from the right shoulder;
4. the rammer in front;
5. the toe (or beak) of the butt, against, and in a line with, the toe of the right foot,
6. the barrel perpendicular

1



2



2



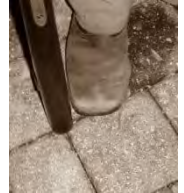
3



3, 4



5



1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6





**The soldier being at
Order Arms
to cause pieces to be brought to
Shoulder Arms.**

***Shoulder-ARMS.
One time and two motions.
Instructions
161 - 162***

The soldier being at Order Arms

Shoulder-ARMS.

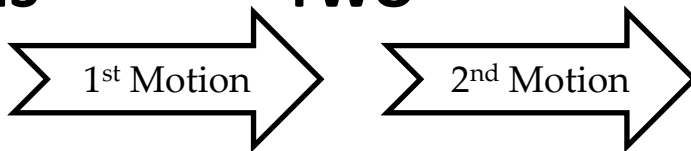
One time and two motions.

Instructions

161 - 162

***Shoulder –
ARMS***

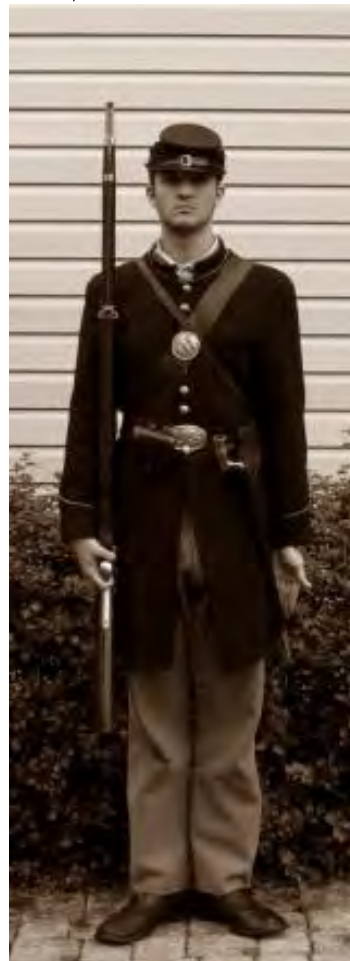
TWO



Starting Position



End of 1st Motion



End of 2nd Motion



**The soldier being at
Shoulder Arms
to cause pieces to be brought to
Trail Arms.**

***Trail-ARMS.
One time and two motions.
Instructions
206 - 207***

The soldier being at Shoulder Arms

Trail-ARMS.

One time and two motions.

Instructions

206 - 207

Trail –

ARMS

TWO



Starting Position



End of 1st Motion



End of 2nd Motion

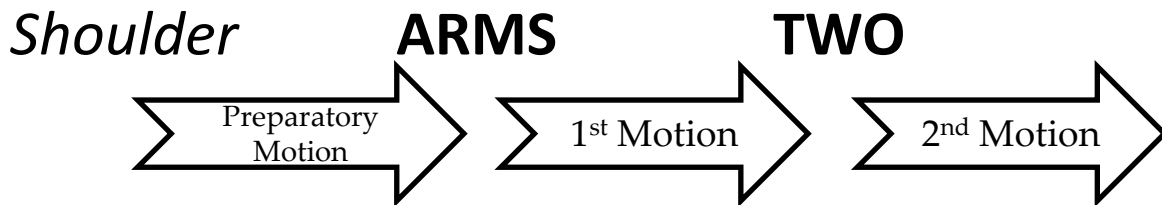


**The soldier being at
Trail Arms
to cause pieces to be brought to
Shoulder Arms.**

***Shoulder-ARMS.
One time and two motions.
Instructions
208***

The soldier being at Trail Arms

Shoulder-ARMS.
One time and two motions.
Instruction
208



Starting Position



End of
Preparatory Motion



End of 1st Motion



End of 2nd Motion



**The soldier being at
Shoulder Arms
to cause pieces to be brought to
Secure Arms.**

***Secure-ARMS.
One time and three motions.
Instructions
213 - 215***

The soldier being at Shoulder Arms

Secure-ARMS.

One time and three motions.

Instructions

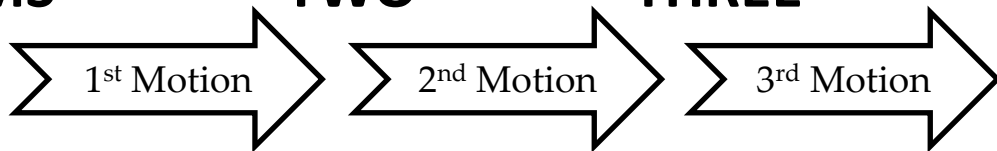
213 - 215

Secure –

ARMS

TWO

THREE



Starting Position



End of 1st Motion



End of 2nd Motion



End of 3rd Motion



**The soldier being at
Secure Arms
to cause pieces to be brought to
Shoulder Arms.**

***Shoulder-ARMS.
One time and three motions.
Instructions
216 - 218***

The soldier being at Secure Arms

Shoulder-ARMS.

One time and three motions.

Instructions

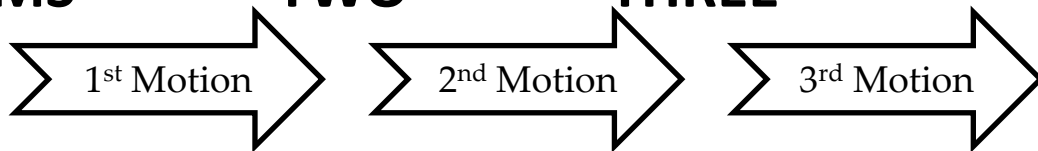
216 - 218

Shoulder –

ARMS

TWO

THREE



Starting Position



End of 1st Motion



End of 2nd Motion



End of 3rd Motion



**The soldier being at
Shoulder Arms
to cause pieces to be brought to
Right shoulder shift Arms.**

Right shoulder shift-ARMS.

One time and two motions.

Instructions

219 - 220

The soldier being at Shoulder Arms

Right shoulder shift-ARMS.

One time and two motions.

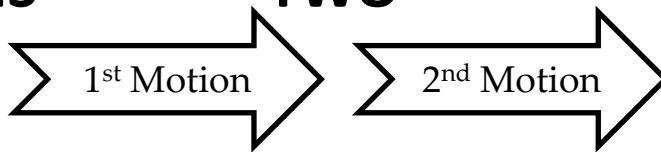
Instructions

219 - 220

Right shoulder shift –

ARMS

TWO



Starting Position



End of 1st Motion



End of 2nd Motion



**The soldier being at
Right shoulder shift Arms
to cause pieces to be brought to
Shoulder Arms.**

***Shoulder-ARMS.
One time and two motions.
Instructions
221 - 222***

The soldier being at Right Shoulder Shift Arms

Shoulder-ARMS.

One time and two motions.

Instructions

221 - 222

***Shoulder –
ARMS***

TWO

1st Motion

2nd Motion



Starting Position



End of 1st Motion



End of 2nd Motion



**The soldier being at
Support Arms
to cause pieces to be brought to
Right shoulder shift Arms.**

Right shoulder shift-ARMS.

One time and two motions.

Instructions

223 - 225

The soldier being at Support Arms

*Right shoulder shift-ARMS.
One time and two motions.*

Instructions

223 - 225

Right shoulder shift –

ARMS

TWO



Starting Position



End of 1st Motion



End of 2nd Motion



**The soldier being at
Right shoulder shift Arms
to cause pieces to be brought to
Support Arms.**

***Support-ARMS.
One time and two motions.
Instructions
226 - 227***

The soldier being at Right shoulder shift Arms

Support-ARMS.
One time and two motions.
Instructions
226 - 227

Support –
ARMS

TWO



Starting Position



End of 1st Motion



End of 2nd Motion



**The soldier being at any carry
to cause pieces to be brought to
Arms At Will,
and return to
Shoulder Arms.**

One motion
Instructions
228 - 229

The soldier being at any carry

Arms-AT WILL.

228. At this command, carry the piece at pleasure on either shoulder, with one or both hands, the muzzle elevated.

<Author's Note>

The instruction here states that the piece is carried "on either shoulder". This would preclude it from being carried at Trail Arms or at Arms Port.

The instruction also states "the muzzle elevated". This would preclude it from being carried at Secure Arms.

<End Author's Note>

The soldier being at Arms AT WILL

***Shoulder-ARMS.
One Time One Motion.***

Shoulder-ARMS.
One time and one motion.

229. At this command,
retake quickly the position of shoulder arms.



**The soldier being at
Order Arms
to cause pieces to be brought to
Ground Arms.**

***Ground-ARMS.
One time and two motions.
Instructions
231 - 232***

The soldier being at Order Arms

Ground-ARMS.

One time and two motions.

Instructions

231 - 232

Ground –
ARMS

TWO

1st Motion

2nd Motion



Starting Position



End of 1st Motion



End of 2nd Motion



**The soldier having
Ground Arms
to cause pieces to be brought to
Raise Arms.**

***Raise-ARMS.
One time and two motions.
Instructions
233 - 234***

The soldier having Ground Arms

Raise-ARMS.

One time and two motions.

Instructions

233 - 234

Raise –

ARMS

TWO

1st Motion

2nd Motion



Starting Position



End of 1st Motion



End of 2nd Motion



**Special thanks to my son for his
assistance with this project.**

The End