



A SEMINAR ON CASEY'S SCHOOLS OF INSTRUCTION

SCHOOLS OF THE SOLDIER AND COMPANY

MARCHING OBLIQUES

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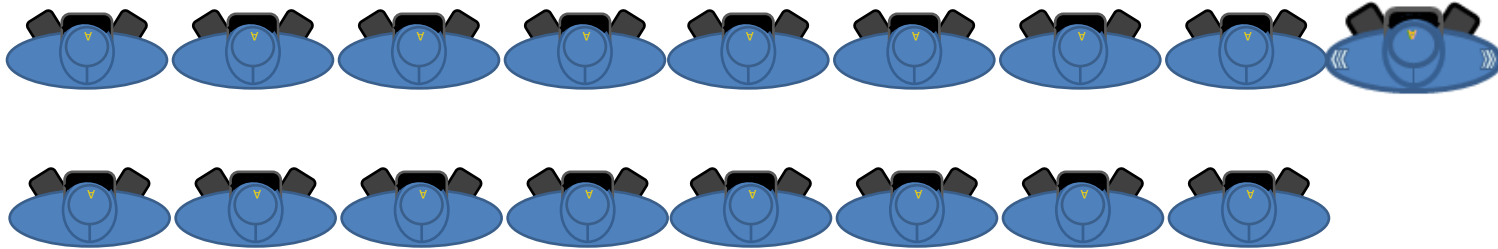
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1. *Right (or left) oblique.* 2. MARCH.

- The relevant instructions for marching at the Oblique are found in School of the Soldier instruction 340 and School of the Company instruction 102.
 - **S.S. 340.** At the second command, each man will make a half face to the right (or left), and will then march straight-forward in the new direction. As the men no longer touch elbows, they will glance along the shoulders of the nearest files, toward the side to which they are obliquing, and will regulate their steps so that the shoulder shall always be behind that of their next neighbor on that side, and that his head shall conceal the heads of the other men in the rank. Besides this, the men should preserve the same length of pace, and the same degree of obliquity.
 - **S.C. 102.** At the command *march*, the company will take the oblique step. The men will accurately observe the principles prescribed in the S. S., No. 340. The rear-rank men will preserve their distances, and march in rear of the man next on the right (or left) of their habitual file leaders.
- Maintain alignment
 - In the School of the Soldier, the soldiers were drilled in a single rank. Instruction S.S. 340 provides the reference points for maintaining alignment within a rank.
 - In the School of the Company, the soldiers were drilled in two ranks. Instruction S.C. 102 provides the additional reference points for maintaining alignment between the front and rear ranks.
- Make a half face to the right (or left)
 - The “degree of obliquity” is typically a 45 degree angle
 - The “half right face” turns the body and the head. The “half right face” also means the oblique is a 45 degree angle.
 - However, the officer sets the guide’s direction and the men conform to the guide
- March straight-forward and look in the new direction
 - No “crab-walk”! There is no instruction that requires the soldier to face / look at the enemy while trying to march at the oblique.
 - The instruction is to first “make a half face to the right (or left),” and then “march straight-forward in the new direction.”
- Preserve the same length of pace
 - Marching at the Oblique does not change either the Cadence or the Pace.

1. *Right (or left) oblique*. 2. MARCH.

While marching by the front (or rear).



Four References for maintaining alignment.

Within a rank, S.S. 340:

1. "the shoulder shall always be behind that of their next neighbor on that side"
2. "his head shall conceal the heads of the other men in the rank"

Between ranks, S.C. 102:

3. "The rear-rank men will preserve their distances."
4. The rear-rank men "march in rear of the man next on the right (or left) of their habitual file leaders."

