

LESSON FIVE

PARADES

OVERVIEW

DESCRIPTION:

In this lesson, you will learn the sequence of events for ceremonial and street parades.

**LEARNING
OBJECTIVE:**

- OBJECTIVE:** After completing this lesson, you will be able to identify the sequence of events and movements of the band in ceremonial or street parades.
- CONDITIONS:** Given the information in this subcourse.
- ACTIONS:** You will identify the sequence of events and movements required to lead the marching band at ceremonial and street parades.
- STANDARDS:** IAW the information contained in this lesson.

INTRODUCTION

In addition to the ceremonies discussed in [Lesson Three](#) and [Lesson Four](#), you as drum major must be able to lead the band in a ceremonial and street parades.

PART A - CEREMONIAL PARADES

1. Ceremonial Parades. The ceremonial parade is similar to a review. The two types of ceremonial parades are the battalion parade and the brigade parade. The battalion and brigade parades differ from the review in that
 - the troop commander is also the reviewing officer.
 - inspection is omitted.
2. Battalion Parade. A battalion parade consists of the following steps in the sequence indicated:
 - Formation of troops
 - Sound Off

- Retreat (when scheduled)
- Honors to the nation
- Reports
- Publishing of orders
- Officers center (post)
- March in review
- Conclusion

NOTE: *When retreat is part of a parade, honors to the nation follow immediately after retreat.*

3. Brigade Parade. A brigade parade is the same as a battalion parade with the following changes:
 - The brigade commander replaces the battalion commander.
 - The brigade replaces battalion in the description of events.
 - The band executes a Sound Off by marching in front of the line of battalion commanders.

PART B - SEQUENCE OF EVENTS FOR CEREMONIAL PARADE

NOTE: *Words in UPPER CASE indicate commands or actions of the band commander, the drum major, or the band. Words in "UPPER CASE" with quotation marks (") indicate actions, commands, or directives given by the commander of troops, the adjutant, or unit commander other than the band commander. Words underlined indicate the titles of music.*

4. Formation of Troops. The formation of troops is the same as in a review. The band forms on the final line.
5. Sound Off.
 - a. Immediately following the march to move the troops to the final line, the band commander and drum major CHANGE POSTS.
 - b. When the battalion is at parade rest, the adjutant directs "SOUND OFF".
 - c. After the adjutant directs "SOUND OFF", the drum major signals INSTRUMENTS UP. The drum major commands "SOUND OFF" and conducts the SOUND OFF chords (tonic, dominant seventh, and tonic).

- d. After playing the SOUND OFF chords, the band STEPS OFF playing a march. The drum major signals a LEFT TURN to march the band in front of the line of unit commanders for a battalion parade, or in front of the line of battalion commanders for a brigade parade. [Figure 5-1](#) shows the route of march for the sound off in a parade.

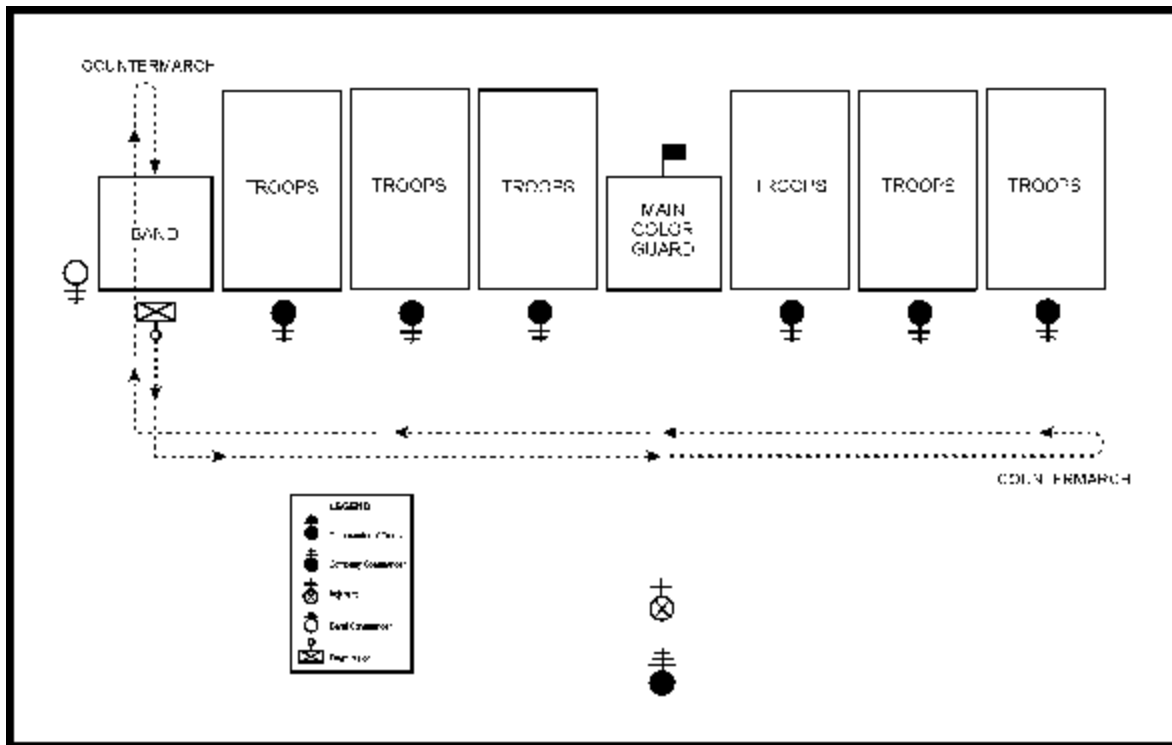


Figure 5-1. Sound Off Route For Ceremonial Parade.

- e. At the left of the line, the drum major signals a COUNTERMARCH and marches the band back down the line of troops.
- f. When the band reaches the right of the line, the drum major signals a RIGHT TURN and a COUNTERMARCH to return the band to its original starting position.
- g. When the band has reached its starting position, the drum major signals MARK TIME and HALT.
- h. At an appropriate place in the music, the drum major signals a CUT OFF, commands "SOUND OFF", signals for the SOUND OFF chords again, and signals a CUT OFF and INSTRUMENTS DOWN.
- i. The drum major and the band commander CHANGE POSTS.

NOTE: *Sound Off may be eliminated when ceremonies are indoors, during inclement weather, or when space is limited.*

6. Retreat. When scheduled, retreat occurs at this point.

- a. When the adjutant directs "SOUND RETREAT" the band commander signals INSTRUMENTS UP for the trumpet section only and conducts Retreat.

NOTE: *If the parade does not include a SOUND OFF, the adjutant directs "SOUND RETREAT". When the adjutant assumes parade rest, the trumpets sound Retreat.*

- b. Immediately after Retreat, the adjutant directs "BRING YOUR UNITS TO ATTENTION" and "PRESENT, ARMS".
 - c. When the unit commander at the immediate left of the band commands "PRESENT, ARMS", the drum major SALUTES and the band commander signals INSTRUMENTS UP.
 - d. When the adjutant salutes, the band commander begins conducting To the Color.
 - e. At the end of the music, the band commander FACES ABOUT, and SALUTES. Instruments remain in the playing position.
 - f. The band commander and drum major TERMINATE THEIR SALUTES on the command "ORDER, ARMS" given by the unit commander at the immediate left of the band. Bandmembers execute INSTRUMENTS DOWN in cadence at the command "ORDER, ARMS".
7. Honors to the Nation.
- a. If retreat is not scheduled, the adjutant directs "BRING YOUR UNITS TO ATTENTION AND PRESENT ARMS", after completion of sound off.
 - b. The band commander signals "INSTRUMENTS UP and the drum major SALUTES when the commander of the unit to the immediate left of the band commands "PRESENT, ARMS".
 - c. When the adjutant salutes, the band commander begins conducting the National Anthem.
 - d. Upon completion of the music, the band commander FACES ABOUT, and SALUTES. Instruments remain in the playing position.
 - e. When the unit commander to the immediate left of the band commands, "ORDER ARMS" the band commander and the drum major TERMINATE

THEIR SALUTES. Bandmembers execute INSTRUMENTS DOWN in cadence at the command "ORDER, ARMS".

8. The Battalion (or brigade) performs the Manual of Arms. No action is required of the band.
9. Reports. The battalion commander directs the adjutant to "RECEIVE THE REPORT". The adjutant receives reports from the unit commanders. The adjutant reports to the commander of troops.
10. Publishing of Orders. The battalion commander directs the adjutant to "PUBLISH THE ORDERS".
11. Officers Center (Post).
 - a. Unit commanders command PARADE REST. The band remains at ATTENTION. The band commander faces the band. The adjutant commands "OFFICERS CENTER, MARCH". On the command "MARCH", the band plays a march until the officers halt in front of the commander. The band commander signals INSTRUMENTS DOWN and FACES ABOUT.
 - b. The officers salute. The battalion commander gives all necessary instructions and then commands "OFFICERS POST, MARCH".
 - c. The band commander faces the band and signals INSTRUMENTS UP. On the command "MARCH", the band begins to play a march. The band commander ends the music when the last officer assumes parade rest. The band commander signals INSTRUMENTS DOWN. The band commander and drum major CHANGE POSTS in preparation for the march in review sequence.
12. March in Review. The battalion commander directs "BRING YOUR UNITS TO ATTENTION". When all units are at attention, the battalion commander directs "PASS IN REVIEW". The March In Review proceeds as in a review (See [Lesson 4, paragraph 15](#)).
13. Conclusion. The conclusion is the same as in a review (See [Lesson 4, paragraph 16](#)). The completion of The Army Goes Rolling Along officially ends the ceremony.

PART C - STREET PARADE

14. Formation.

- a. If the band participates as part of its parent organization, it forms behind the organization commander and his staff.
- b. If the band marches as a separate unit, it is the leading element of the column. If more than one band participates, the bands should be far enough apart so that their music does not conflict.
- c. The parade steps off at the command of the first troop element commander. On his command, the drum major signals the downbeat. The band steps off playing.

15. Honors.

- a. If the individual reviewing the street parade is entitled to honors, the drum major signals a CUT OFF so that honors will begin as the first rank reaches the eyes right marker.
- b. On the next accented beat after the CUT OFF, and without a signal from the drum major, the band plays the required number of Ruffles and Flourishes. The General's March or Flag Officer's March is not played at this time. The drum major and band commander SALUTE.
- c. At the conclusion of the honors, on the next accented beat, the band plays a previously designated march.

NOTE: *The band plays honors during a street parade only if the band commander has been officially informed of the requirement.*

16. Turn Out of the Line of March. After passing the reviewing stand, the band may turn out of the line of march to furnish music for the troop elements. The band returns to the line of march when the last of its assigned troop elements has passed the reviewing stand. These movements are accomplished as follows.

- a. The drum major signals a RIGHT (or LEFT) TURN when the last rank of the band is six steps past the reviewing stand.
- b. After the band clears the line of march, it countermarches and halts.
- c. The band commander and drum major SALUTE when the National Color passes.

NOTE: *No ruffles and flourishes are played at this time.*

- d. When the last troop element to which the band has been assigned has cleared

the reviewing stand, the band marches onto the line of march, executes the necessary turn, and follows the troop elements.

- e. [Figure 5-2](#) shows the band turning out of, and returning to, the line of march during a street parade.

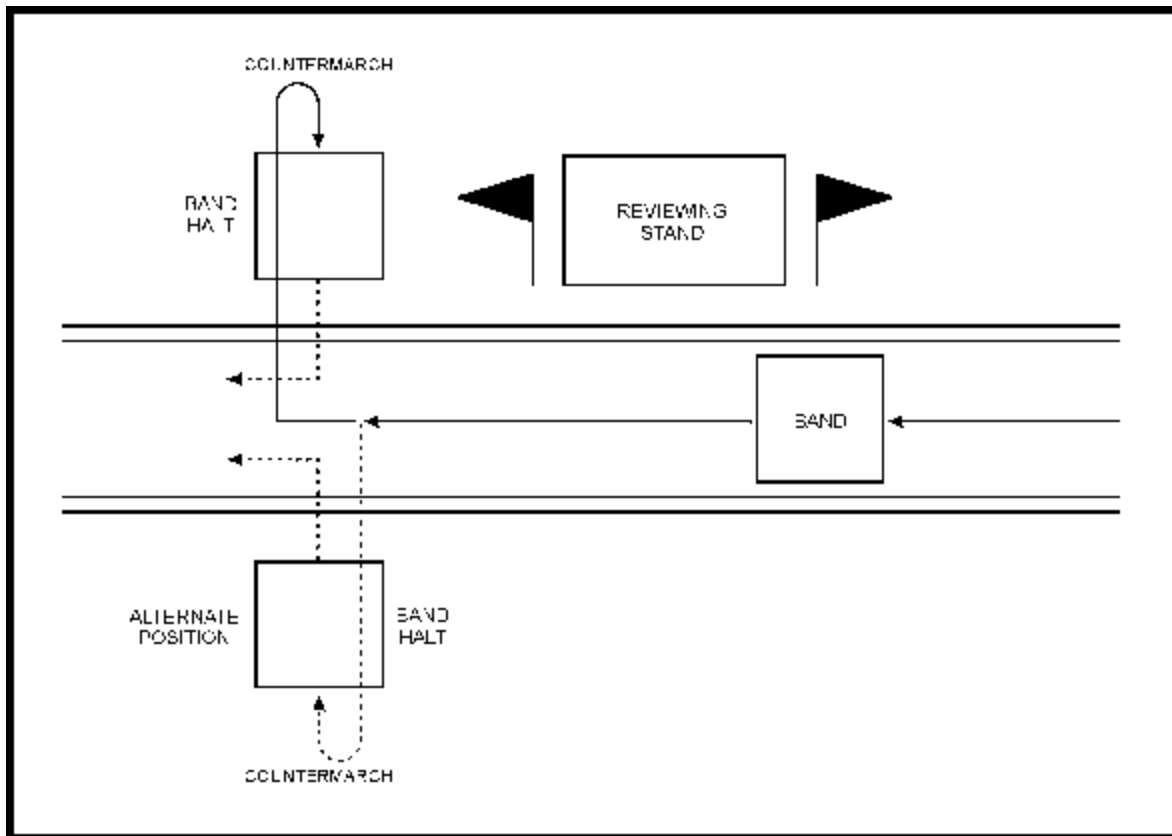


Figure 5-2. Band Out of Line of March.

Practical Exercise