



THE
MANUAL EXERCISE
AS ORDERED BY HIS MAJESTY
IN 1764
TOGETHER WITH
PLANS AND EXPLANATIONS,
Of the Method Generally Practiced
by
The 1ST Captain 's Company
23^D REGIMENT OF FOOT
THE ROYAL WELCH FUSILIERS
In AMERICA



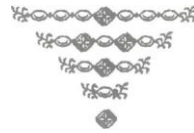
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The first thing to be done in training of young Soldiers, is to give them a free and easy carriage; to shew them well upon their limbs, and totally to expel the clown from their Gait and Air; it must be rendered familiar to every man to hold up his head; to stand quite upright and motionless; to cast his eyes to the right, without the least appearance of a formal stiffness, and to turn out his Toes, to march firm upon his Feet, keeping his Knees Stiff, turning out and pointing his Toes at the same time, to keep his body straight without leaning backwards, or pushing out his belly; to bring forward his chest; and to draw his shoulders back: to face to the right and left, and quite about, both standing and marching; to wheel in a proper manner, and to march in slow and quick time: in all of which, Recruits should be perfectly instructed and well trained, before they ar allowed to touch a Firelock.

Cu th *System for the Complete Interior Management and Economy of a*
bertson 's *LOF INFANTRY, a New Edition, with Corrections; BRISTOL, 1776.*

BATTALIONOEINFANTRY,

Chapter xxvlll, Article 11.



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MANUAL EXERCISE

"The 35 Count"

1. POISE YOUR FIRELOCKS
2. COCK YOUR FIRELOCKS
3. PRESENT
4. FIRE
5. HALF COCK YOUR FIRELOCKS
6. HANDLE YOUR CARTRIDGE
7. PRINIE
8. SHUT YOUR PANS
9. CHARGE WITH CARTRIDGE
10. DRAW YOUR RAMMERS
11. RAM DOWN YOUR CARTRIDGE
12. RETURN YOUR RAWvTERS
13. SHOULDER YOUR FIRELOCKS
14. REST YOUR FIRELOCKS
15. ORDER YOUR FIRELOCKS
16. GROUND YOUR FIRELOCKS
17. TAKE UP YOUR FIRELOCKS
18. REST YOUR FIRELOCKS
19. SHOULDER YOUR FIRELOCKS
20. SECURE YOUR FIRELOCKS
21. SHOULDER YOUR FIRELOCKS
22. FIX YOUR BAYONETS
23. SHOULDER YOUR FIRELOCKS
24. PRESENT YOUR ARMS
25. TO THE RIGHT FACE
26. TO THE RIGHT FACE
27. TO THE RIGHT ABOUT FACE
28. TO THE LEFT FACE
29. TO THE LEFT FACE
30. TO THE LEFT ABOUT FACE
31. SHOULDER YOUR FIRELOCKS
32. CHARGE YOUR BAYONETS
33. SHOULDER YOUR FIRELOCKS
34. ADVANCE YOUR ARMS
35. SHOULDER YOUR FIRELOCKS

Position of a Soldier under Arms,

"To stand straight and firm upon his legs; Head turned to the Right; Heels close; Toes a little turned out; the Belly drawn in a little, but without Constraint; the Breast a little projected; Shoulders square to the front, and kept back; the Right-hand hanging straight down the Side, with the Palm close to the Thigh; the left Elbow not to be turned out from the Body; the Firelock to be carried on the left Shoulder, as low down as can be admitted without Constraint; the three last Fingers under the butt; the Fore-finger and Thumb before the Swell; the Flat of the Butt to be supported against the Hip Bone, and to be pressed so that the Firelock may be felt against the left side, and that it may stand before the Hollow of the Shoulder, not leaning towards the Head nor from it; the Barrel almost perpendicular.

To be very exact in counting a Second of Time, or One - Two, between each Motion."

Note: The musket should be at half-cock with the hammerstall on. Bayonets should not be fixed unless a previous order to the contrary has been issued. THIS IS THE POSITION FROM WHICH THE DRILL BEGINS.



Ed. Note: This is the position of "attention. " It is the position the soldier should always assume upon falling into line. There should be no talking or superfluous movement when in ranks in this posture. ALL of the inspection returns note the quietness and steadiness of the RWF on parade.

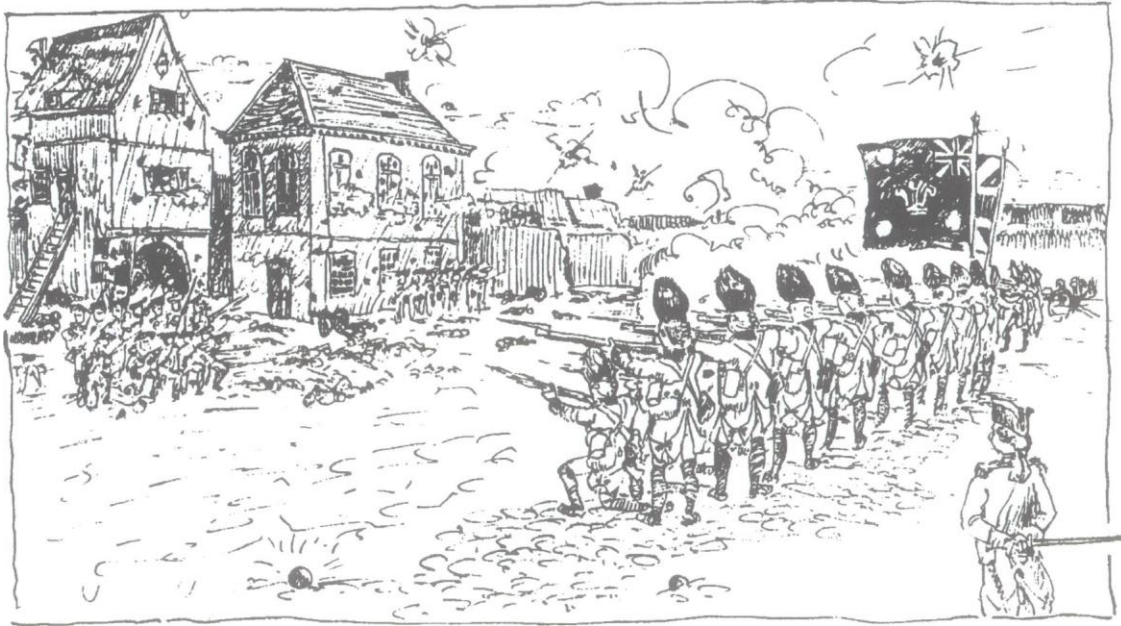
One of the most important characteristics that sets a soldier apart from a costumed civilian is the intangible called "bearing. " You will notice it in real soldiers. It is manifested in the carriage of the body - erect, head high (not looking at the ground or the feet), firm steps, silence. Most reenactors fail miserably to exhibit bearing - and therefore never make convincing soldiers.

TIMING FOR EXERCISE:

Each count should be very exact, allowing a full second of time, or the count "One-and-Two" between each motion of the Exercise.

Positions I through 13 deal with the formal firing sequence starting at the Shoulder position, musket loaded - ending at the Shoulder position, musket loaded.

Positions 24 through 31 deal with formal facings beginning at the REST. Facing orders given while troops are at the Shoulder are executed the same as without arms. The arms should remain shouldered throughout the facing movements.



Artwork by John Wright

(Preparatory Command - Command of Execution {emphasis})

(Ed. Note: This is how commands in the manual will be presented. Nomenclature is in Tab 4.)

1. POISE your - FIRELOCKS

1. Seize the firelock with your right hand at the small (wrist of the stock) as you turn the lock toward the front (the way you are facing), keeping the firelock perpendicular (straight up and down).