

CURRICULUM ON MILITARY SUBJECTS

Strand 2: The Flag

Level 11

This Strand is composed of the following components:

- A. Flag Basics
- B. **Presenting the Flag**
- C. Patriotic Music & Poems



Table of Contents

B. PRESENTING THE FLAG	3
B1. Color Guard.....	4
B2. Taps.....	8
B3. State of California Flag	9
B. Presentation of the Flag Vocabulary:.....	14

B. PRESENTING THE FLAG

Objectives

DESIRED OUTCOME (Followership) / PRACTICUM B

90% of Unit Cadets are able to successfully and properly march in a Color Guard in a parade, presentation of colors, or competition; respond properly to Taps being played; and know the history of the California State flag.

1. Color Guard
 - a. Serve as a rifleman on a color guard
 - b. Serve as a flag bearer on a color guard
2. Display proper military courtesy during the playing of Taps.
3. Identify historical facts about and know how to properly display the California State flag.

B1. Color Guard



Note: These Color Guard members are on a military flight line. They are not wearing a cover because covers are never worn on a military flight line.

The Color and Colors

- The word Color means the American Flag
- The Color is always saluted when passing unless it is on a stationary flagpole; salutes are held from six paces from until six paces beyond the color
- The term “colors” refers to the combination of the American Flag with another flag (such as the California or an organizational flag)

The Color Guard

- The First Sergeant or Sergeant Major is responsible for the care and safeguarding of the Colors and the performance of the Color Guard
- Members of the Color Guard are ALWAYS non-commissioned officers or cadets, never officers
- The Color Guard consists of one or two sergeants who carry the color(s) and two corporals or cadets who are guards

Forming the Color Guard

- Color Guards are formed AT CLOSE INTERVAL with the color bearers in the center
- Members march at Right Shoulder Arms
- The Color Guard turns by doing wheeling movements, never facing movements.

- The US flag is always to the right or in front of all other flags. Sometimes this requires the Color Guard to have to determine an innovative way to post the colors that doesn't put the US flag behind or to the right of the other flag

Manual of Arms

- See TC 3-21.5 for full details on the manual of arms
- Practice until you can sharply execute each movement!
- Ensure you have the proper angles:
 - Right thumb on seam of trousers at Order Arms
 - Right forearm parallel to the ground, elbow back at Right Shoulder Arms
 - Left forearm parallel to the ground and rifle parallel to body at Present Arms

Wheeling Movements

- To execute a wheel, the guard nearest the direction of the turn serves as the pivot point and marches in place while simultaneously turning in the new direction.
- Other members keep abreast of each other and shorten steps as necessary to maintain alignment.
- Members march in place when finished with the turn until commanded to HALT or Forward March.

Eyes Right

- Just as in a regular formation, the members (except the right flank member) turn their heads to the right
- The US flag remains upright – it is never dipped in salute
- The California or organizational color executes a salute by dipping the flag
- The Command READY FRONT is given to restore the Color Guard to their normal positions

Posting the Colors

- Indoor assemblies that begin with the presentation of the Colors are called "Posting the Colors"
- Color Guards may form in either line or column, depending on the circumstances and available space
- If appropriate, the Color Guard Commander may report to the school principal or other person in the chain of command, "The Colors are Present" to which the dignitary will respond "POST THE COLORS"

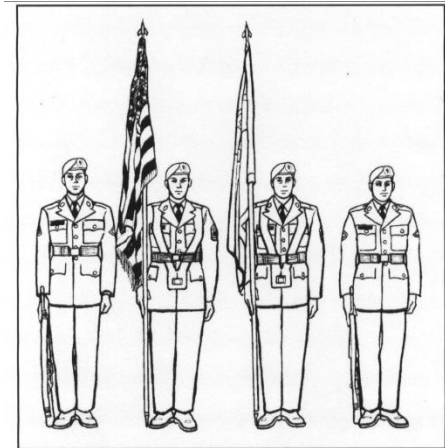
Retiring the Colors

- If there is a dignitary present in the Chain of Command, the Color Guard Commander MAY ask "Sir (Ma'am), Request permission to retire the colors" to which the response is "RETIRE THE COLORS"
- As always, during posting or retiring the colors, members of the audience stand at attention



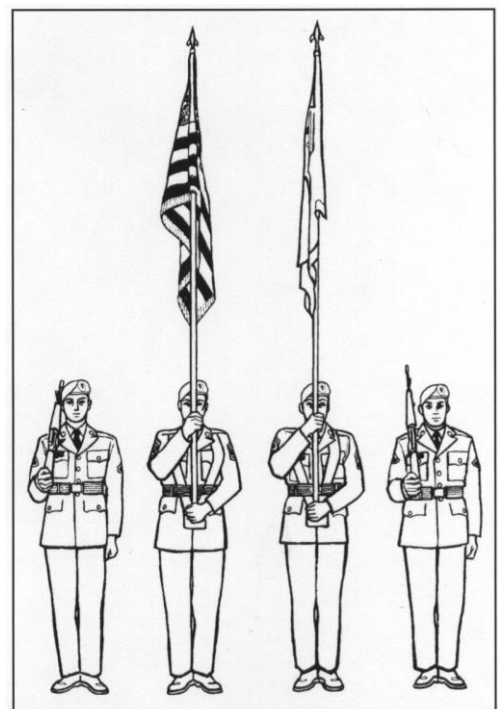
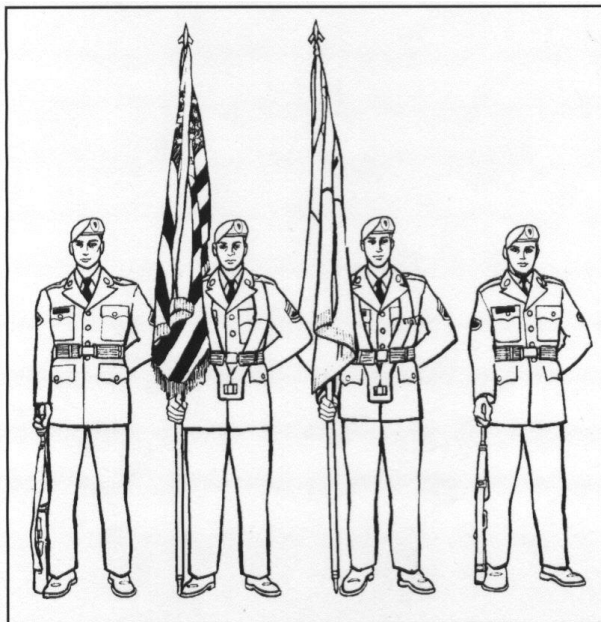
Position of the Colors at Order

- The members are at attention with the colors and weapons in the right hand with the bottom edge of the flag or weapon aligned with the tip of the right foot.
- Palms and fingers are flat



Position of the Colors at the Carry

- Guards (with weapons) are at right shoulder arms
- Flags are in slings
- Right hands are even with the mouth
- Left arms secure the ferrule (pole) in the socket of the holster or may be held under the right hand in windy conditions



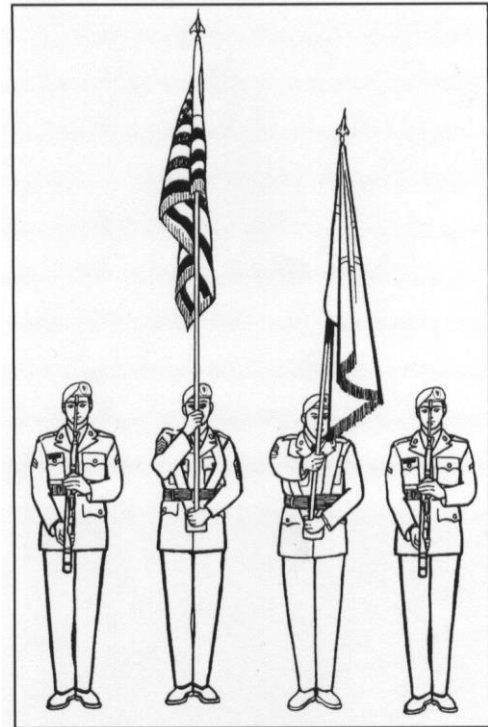
Position of the Colors at Parade Rest

- Staffs remain vertical on the ground next to the right feet of the Color Bearers
- Left arms are behind the small of each member's back (as in regular Parade Rest)
- Guards have weapons at their right feet and extended slightly outward so that arms are fully extended

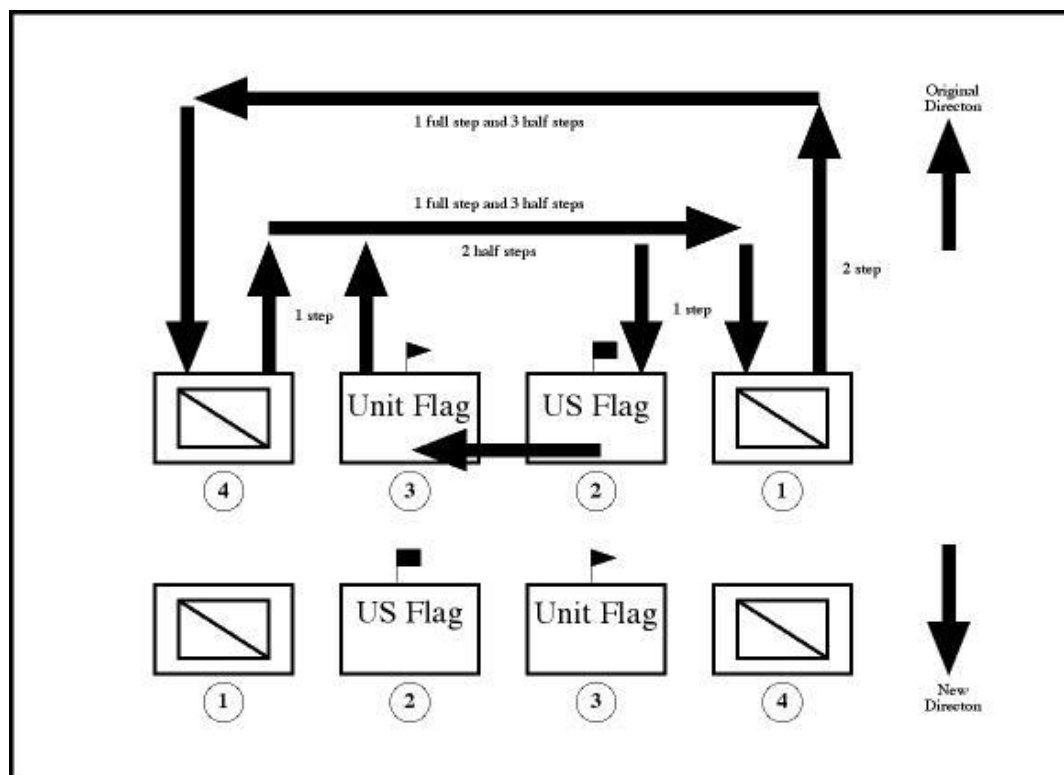
Color Salute

- ONLY the California or Organizational Color salutes.
- The American Flag NEVER dips.
- Salutes by the organizational or state flag occur by FULLY EXTENDING the flag bearer's right arm

Practical Exercise: Form color guards of four or five cadets each. First, just practice marching as a color guard, including Forward MARCH (concentrate on staying in step and dressing to the right), wheels, and Colors Reverse MARCH. Once their marching is acceptable, add flags and rifles and practice the movements from Order to Carry to Present ARMS. Then march with the flags and rifles. Check with your Principal to see when your cadets might be able to have a color guard support a student assembly or event, and give as many cadets as possible the experience of doing it for real!



Color Guard to the Rear (Colors Reverse, MARCH)



B2. Taps

Taps is a military bugle call played at dusk, during flag ceremonies, and at military funerals. Gen Daniel Butterfield during the Civil War arranged it. When Taps is played, personnel in military uniform face the flag and salute. At funerals, you face the coffin.

Taps

Day is done, gone the sun
From the hills, from the lake
From the sky.
All is well, safely rest,
God is nigh.

Go to sleep, peaceful sleep,
May the soldier or sailor,
God keep.
On the land or the deep,
Safe in sleep.

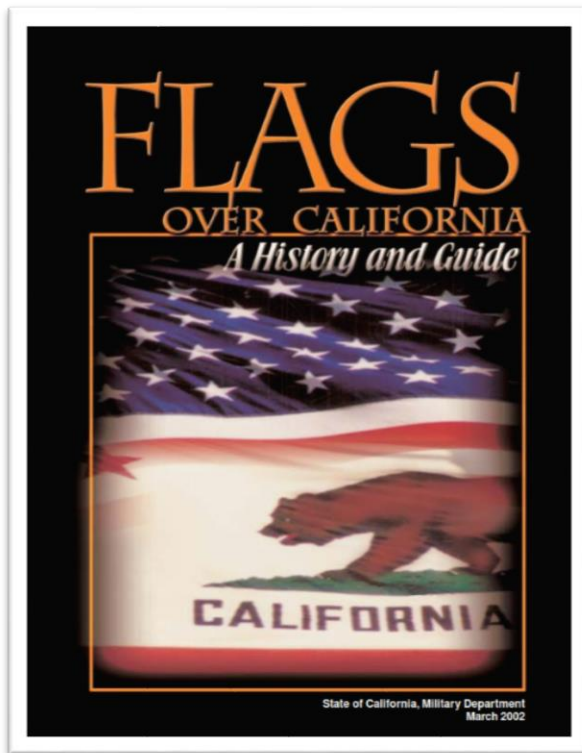
Love, good night, must thou go,
When the day and the night,
Needs thee so?
All is well, Speedeth all
To their rest.

Fades the light; and afar
Goeth day and the stars
Shineth bright,
Fare thee well; Day is gone,
Night is on.

Thanks and praise, for our days,
Neath the sun, neath the stars,
Neath the sky,
As we go, this we know,
God is nigh



B3. State of California Flag



The following information is excerpted from the State of California, Military Department, March 2002, *Flags Over California, A History and Guide*:

The story of the origin of the California Bear Flag parallels the story of the origin of our state. Flags of explorers, Spanish and Mexican Empires, England, Russia, the United States and even a pirate have waved in the breezes over what is now known as California since the year 1542.

Upon Mexico's gaining of independence from Spain in April of 1822, a meeting of the leading governing officials resulted in the declaration of California's allegiance to the new nation.

The

Mexican Empire flag was raised at the Presidio of Monterey, California, on April 11, 1822 and for several years the Northern California community of Monterey, under the flag of the Mexican Empire. Upon the overthrow of Mexican Emperor Augustin Iturbide, the Republic of Mexico was created, and the banner of that new nation was unfurled over California.



Mexican Flag Circa 1822

In the year 1845, Captain John Fremont, United States Topographical Engineers, headed what was termed a "scientific" expedition into California. The ruling Mexican authorities permitted the Fremont party to winter in California, if they avoided the coastal settlements.



Fremont Flag

Because Fremont was on a topographical expedition into areas claimed by Mexico, he chose not to carry a regular U.S. flag. Instead, his wife, Jessie, drew and made a flag using elements of design taken from the Stars and Stripes and Army regimental flags.

Upon learning that Fremont and his 60 armed men were marching towards Salinas, the Mexican officials ordered the “scientific” party out of California. Fremont’s group withdrew to Gavilan Peak, where they erected a log fortress. From the newly built fort he flew the Fremont flag (the only flag in his possession).

The first Yankees in California did not initially intend to overthrow the Mexican authority, but in 1846 the defense of California was completely neglected by Mexico. Mexico lacked the support



Bear Flag Revolt / Todd Flag

of their California administrators who were in California and anticipated statehood. Any military power could have easily captured California. A small uprising of settlers in the north resulted in the Bear Flag Republic which existed from June 14 to July 11, 1847. American forces arrived by sea and gained control of the entire region without firing a shot. A small revolt at Los Angeles led to a pocket of California resistance lasting from September 1846 to January 1847.

Today’s California State Flag has evolved from the historic Bear Flag (Todd Flag)

which was first raised at the town of Sonoma on June 14, 1846 by Americans who proclaimed California independent of Mexico in what became known as the Bear Flag Revolt.

The banner was hoisted up a hastily constructed wooden flagpole by a group of American settlers in revolt against the Mexican authorities.

William L. Todd, a nephew of Mary Todd (Mrs. Abraham Lincoln), who is most generally credited with the actual making of the original Bear Flag, stated in a letter to the Los Angeles Express in 1878, that a piece of new unbleached domestic cotton with a stripe of four-inch red flannel attached to its lower side, was used. A “Lone Star” was drawn in the upper left-hand corner of the flag with blackberry juice in recognition of California’s Lone Star Flag of 1836, and that a grizzly bear as a symbol of “strength and unyielding resistance” filled the flag’s center area. Appearing beneath the bear were the words “California Republic”. The whole flag was about three by five feet.

The flag flew over Sonoma until it was replaced on July 9, 1846 by the Stars and Stripes. The design served as the model for the current state flag.

The Current California Bear Flag

In 1911, the Legislature adopted the Bear Flag as the State Flag of California. The law was incorporated in the government code in 1943 as Section 420. In 1953, Senate Bill No. 1014 (Chapter 1140, Statutes of 1953), amended the section to read as follows:

“420. The Bear Flag is the State Flag of California. As viewed with the hoist end of the flag to the left of the observer there appears in the upper left-hand corner of a white field a five-pointed red star with one point vertically upward and in the middle of the white field a brown grizzly bear walking toward the left with all four paws on the green grass plot, with head and eye turned slightly toward the observer, a red stripe forms the length of the flag at the bottom and between the grass plot and red stripe appear the words CALIFORNIA REPUBLIC.

Display of the California Bear Flag

- ✓ On every occasion of public display of the Bear Flag, within the State of California, it shall occupy the position of honor when displayed in company with the flags of other states, nations, or international organizations, provided, however, that when the United States Flag is displayed with the Bear Flag, the National Flag shall occupy such position of honor.
- ✓ The Flag of the United States and the Bear Flag should always be raised briskly and lowered slowly and ceremoniously.
- ✓ It is a universal custom to display the Flag only from sunrise to sunset, on buildings or from stationary flag staffs in the open, if however, the Flag or Flags are to be displayed outdoors at night, they should be brightly illuminated.

- ✓ The Flag of the United States and the Bear Flag need not be displayed on days when the weather is inclement. Storm flags may be flown at military installations and armories as defined by Section 430 of the Military and Veterans Code, State of California.
- ✓ When the Bear Flag and other flags, e.g., flags of cities or pennants of societies, are grouped and displayed from staffs with the Flag of the United States, the latter should be at the center or at the highest point of the group. The Bear Flag takes the next place of honor (on the spectator's left).
- ✓ When carried in a procession with the Bear Flag and other flags, the Flag of the United States should be on the marching right with the Bear Flag taking the next position. When there is a line of other flags, the Flag of the United States is in front of the center of that line with the Bear Flag on the marching right of the line.
- ✓ The Bear Flag shall only be dipped as a mark of honor to the Flag of the United States, and to the National Anthem if the Flag of the United States is not being displayed, and shall not be dipped to any person or thing.
- ✓ When the United States Flag is displayed from a staff on a speaker's platform in a public auditorium, it shall occupy the position of honor and be placed at the speaker's right as he faces the audience. The Bear Flag displayed from a staff on the speaker's platform shall be placed on the speaker's left as he faces the audience.
- ✓ When the United States Flag is displayed from a staff in a public auditorium, elsewhere then on the platform, it shall be placed in the position of honor at the right of the audience as they face the platform. The Bear Flag shall be placed to the left of the audience as they face the platform.
- ✓ When displayed with the Bear Flag from crossed staffs the Flag of the United States should be on the right (Flag's own right) and its staff should be in front of the staff of the Bear Flag.
- ✓ When the Bear Flag and the United States Flag are displayed at the same time on separate flagpoles, the flagpoles should be of equal length and the Flags should be the same size.
- ✓ When the Flag of the United States is flown at half-staff, so shall the Bear Flag. When flown at half-staff, the flags should be hoisted to the peak for an instant and then

lowered to the half-staff position, but before lowering for the day, the flags should again be raised to the peak. When flown from adjacent staffs, the Flag of the United States is raised first and lowered last. By half-staff is meant hauling down the flag to one-half the distance between the top and the bottom of the staff. On Memorial Day display at half-staff until noon only; then hoist to the top of the staff. By order of the Governor or his representative, the Flag of the United States and the Bear Flag will be flown at half-staff at all installations or places prescribed in Sections 431 and 432, Government Code, State of California.

- Ø The Bear Flag should never be fastened, displayed, used, or stored in such a manner as will permit it to be easily torn, soiled, or damaged in any way.
- Ø The Bear Flag should not be carried flat or horizontally, but always aloft and free, as it is carried in a parade. It should always be attached securely to a staff.
- Ø The Bear Flag should not be draped over the hood, top, sides, or back of any vehicle, or of a railroad train, boat, or airplane.
- Ø The Bear Flag should never be used to cover a platform or speaker's desk, nor to drape over the front of a speaker's platform.

B. Presentation of the Flag Vocabulary:

- briskly
- ceremoniously
- dipped
- expedition
- half staff
- hoist
- illuminated
- inclement
- Todd Flag
- topographical