

**SWORD MANUAL
SPECIFICALLY FOR
VIRGINIA CLASS "E" DRILL ROUTINE**

(illustrations are beside the descriptive paragraph, when applicable)

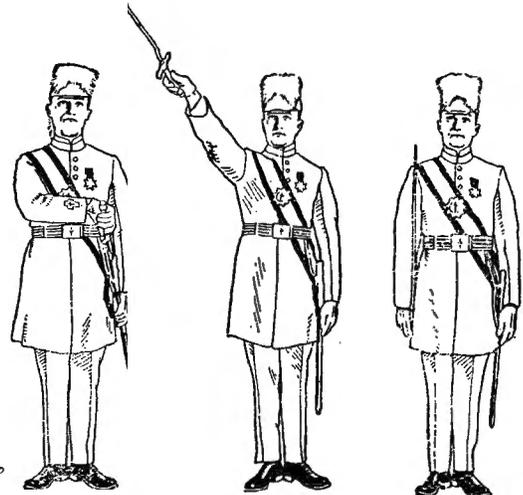
**Seq. A - 112. 1. Sir Knights, 2. Return,
3. SWORDS,**

At the command return, seize the scabbard near the mouth with the left hand, inclining it a little forward, and keeping the right hand near the body, drop the sword blade forward and to the left so that the point is about six inches from the floor and pointing to a line which is a prolongation of the left foot. Move the sword hand to the left, then raise the hand, drawing the sword blade between the first two fingers of the left hand. Insert the point of the blade in the mouth of the scabbard, edge to the front, assisted by the thumb and fingers of the left hand, eyes to the front, thrust the blade into the scabbard until the right arm is horizontal (first motion of draw). (Par. 85.) (SWORDS) Return the blade smartly and drop the hands to the sides. **NOTE**-In inserting the point avoid turning the scabbard to meet the sword.



**Seq. B – 85. 1. Sir Knights, 2. Draw, 3.
SWORDS.**

At the command DRAW, grasp the scabbard with the left hand, near its mouth, incline the hilt a little forward, seize the gripe with the right hand, and draw the blade until the right forearm is horizontal, back of hand against the breast. (TWO) Bring the back of the blade against the shoulder, the blade vertical, back of the gripe to the rear, the arm nearly straight down, the thumb and forefinger embracing the gripe, the thumb against the thigh, the other



fingers extended and joined in the rear of the gripe. This is the position of Carry Swords. From this position all movements of the sword manual begin, unless otherwise provided.

In all marching movements, except route march, at the command halt, unless otherwise provided, the sword, if drawn, will be brought to the carry without command.

Seq. C - 90. 1. Salute, 2. SWORDS.

Execute present swords. (TWO) Drop the point or the sword, edge to the left, to about fifteen inches in front of and in prolongation to the right foot, arm hanging naturally, the elbow close to the body, and the back of the hand down.



Seq. D - 89. 1. Carry, 2. SWORDS.

Resume the carry in one motion, without throwing the right hand to the front, or the point to the rear. **NOTE** – See picture at the end of Seq. B.

Seq. E - 88. 1. Present, 2. SWORDS.

Raise and carry the sword to the front, cross the hilt as high as the chin and six inches in front of the neck, edge to the left, point six inches farther to the front than the cross hilt, thumb extended on the back of the gripe, wrist straight, all fingers grasping the gripe.



Seq. F - 89. 1. Carry, 2. SWORDS.

Resume the carry in one motion, without throwing the right hand to the front, or the point to the rear. **NOTE** – See picture at the end of Seq. B.

Seq. G - 108. 1. Inspection, 2. SWORDS.

Execute present swords, and turn the wrist to show both sides of the blade, resuming the carry when the inspector has passed. (No picture)

Seq. H - 89. 1. Carry, 2. SWORDS.

Resume the carry in one motion, without throwing the right hand to the front, or the point to the rear. **NOTE** – See picture at the end of Seq. B.

Seq. I - 96. 1. Swords, 2. PORT.

Seize the blade in front of the right shoulder with the fingers and thumb of the left hand, the thumb to the rear, the left elbow close to the body. (TWO) With the left hand bring the sword diagonally across and about one inch in front of the body, edge down, the left hand at the height of the left shoulder, the thumb extended along the blade, the fingers closed, back of the hand down, the right hand grasping the hilt and nearly in front of the right hip.



Seq. J - 97. 1. Carry, 2. SWORDS.

Bring the sword to the carry with both hands, the left hand as high as the right shoulder, pressing the blade to its place, the fingers and thumb extended and joined in front of the blade, the elbow near the body. (TWO) Drop the left hand to the side.



Seq. K - 94. 1. Support, 2. SWORDS.

Bring the sword to the position of present. (Seq. E - Par. 88.) (TWO) Carry the sword vertically to the left side, lowering the right hand until the forearm is horizontal, edge of the sword to the front, the right hand firmly grasping the gripe about three inches below the guard, at the same time grasp the right forearm near the elbow with the left hand, the left forearm along and in front of the right forearm, the thumb of the left hand over and supported by the right forearm near the elbow, fingers of the left hand extended and joined, the guard resting on the left arm near its elbow, the blade vertical, edge to the front.

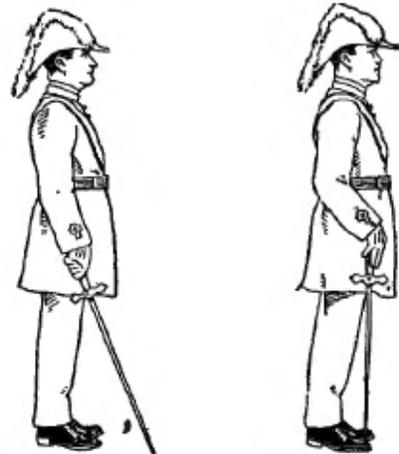


Seq. L- 95. 1. Carry, 2. SWORDS.

Bring the sword to the position of present, at the same time drop the left hand by the side. (TWO) Bring the sword to the carry. (Seq. D - Par. 89.)
NOTE – See picture at the end of Seq. B.

Seq. M - 92. 1. Order, 2. SWORDS.

Drop the sword point to the ground, blade inclined to the rear, back of blade to the front. (TWO) Bring the blade to a vertical position against the right toe, and place the hand on top of the hilt, three fingers in front of the gripe, thumb and little finger in the rear, elbow close to the body.



Seq. N - 130. 1. Un-, 2. COVER.

At the command Cover, take the chapeau by the front piece with the left hand. (TWO) Raise the chapeau from the head and place it on the right shoulder, slightly to the front, holding it in that position with the left hand.

NOTE-Uncover is never executed unless the swords are sheathed, at an order, or (with the right hand) when at a secure.



Seq. O - 131. 1. Re-, 2. COVER.

Replace the chapeau on the head. (TWO) Drop the hand to the side.

Seq. P - 49. 1. Stand at, 2. EASE.

Being at order swords, at the command EASE, carry the left foot 12 inches straight to the left, keeping the legs straight without stiffness, so that the weight of the body rests equally on both feet. At the same time incline the blade to the front by extending the right arm, without moving the point or changing the grasp on the hilt. Place the left hand behind the body, resting in the small of the back, palm to the rear, fingers together (as in hand salute) the body erect but not constrained. When resuming attention, return to the position of order swords.



Seq. Q - 48. 1. Commandery, 2. Attention.

Bring the left foot to the side of the right. Feet turned out equally and forming an angle of about 45 degrees. Knees straight without stiffness. Hips level and drawn back slightly; body erect and resting equally on hips; chest lifted and arched; shoulders square and falling equally. Drop the left hand to the side and carry the hilt to



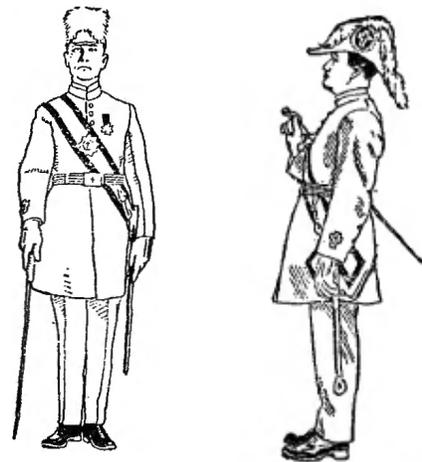
the right side, leaving the point undisturbed. Arms hanging naturally; left thumb along the seam of the trousers. Head erect and square to the front, chin slightly drawn in; eyes straight to the front. Weight of the body resting equally upon the heels and balls of the feet.

Seq. R - 93. 1. Carry, 2. SWORDS.

Resume the carry in one motion. **NOTE** – See picture at the end of Seq. B.

Seq. S - 102. 1. Reverse, 2. SWORDS.

Drop the blade forward and down until it is directed towards a point about one pace in front of the right foot, at the same time allow the fingers to grasp the lower part of the gripe and move the hand forward about 12 inches. (TWO) Carry the sword by a wrist movement so that the blade will swing to the rear, the point downward at an angle of about 45 degrees, the edge up. As the sword swings into position under the right arm pit, bring the hand in, grasp the gripe with the thumb and forefinger of the right hand, the other fingers front of the right armpit and successively curved, resting the blade between the right arm and the right side. The end of the hilt remains about nine inches in front of the right shoulder.



Seq. T - 103. 1. Carry, 2. SWORDS.

Bring the sword to the first position of reverse. (TWO) Resume the position of carry swords. **NOTE** – See picture at the end of Seq. B.

Seq. U - 109. 1. Invert, 2. SWORDS.

Drop the point of the sword directly forward about fifteen inches, grasping the blade (about nine inches from the guard) with the left hand palm to the front. (TWO) Release the gripe with the right hand and invert the sword with the left hand to a position about four inches in front of the center of the body, blade vertical, edge to the right, guard at the height of the chin, grasp the blade with the right hand at the height of the belt.



Seq. V - 110. 1. Carry, 2. SWORDS.

Release the right hand and swing the point of the sword forward and upward, at the same time lower the hilt to the right side and grasp it with the right hand (first position of invert). (TWO) Place the sword in the position of carry, the left hand at the right shoulder, turning the hand. (THREE) Drop the left hand to the side. **NOTE** – See picture at the end of Seq. B.

Seq. W - 111. 1. Guide, 2. SWORDS.

Bring the sword vertically in front of the center of the body, the right hand as high as the neck and six inches in front of it, back of the gripe to the right, at the same time clasp the left hand over the right, elbows close to the body.

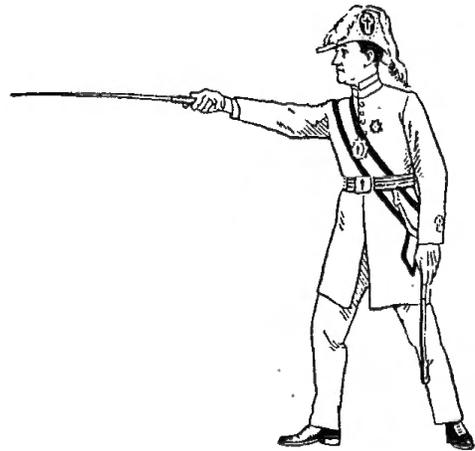


Seq. X - 111. 1. Carry, 2. SWORDS.

Resume the carry in one motion. **NOTE** – See picture at the end of Seq. B.

Seq. Y - 128. 1. Charge, 2. SWORDS.

Turn on the left heel, placing the toe square to the left; at the same time plant the right foot forward with a slight shock about eighteen inches, the feet being at right angles, the weight of the body resting on the right foot. At the time of planting the feet extend the arm to its full length, at the height of the shoulder, back of the hand down, the blade in prolongation of the arm and pointed at the opponent's breast.



Seq. Z - 129. 1. Carry, 2. SWORDS.

Resume the position of attention at carry swords.
NOTE – See picture at the end of Seq. B.

Seq. AA - 106. 1. Parade, 2. REST.

Being at the carry or order swords. Drop (carry) the sword point to the ground in front of the center of the body on a line with the left toe, edge to the right, the palm of the right hand resting on the end of the hilt; the thumb and fingers extended and joined against the gripe, the left hand clasped over the right; at the same time carry the right foot six inches straight to the rear, the left knee slightly bent, the body erect, Par. 49.



Seq. BB - 107. 1. Commandery, ATTENTION, 2. Carry, 3. SWORDS.

At the command attention, bring the right foot to the side of the left; drop the left hand to the side, and carry the hilt to the right side, leaving the point undisturbed. At the command swords, resume the position of order swords in one motion. At the command swords, resume the position of attention at carry swords. **NOTE** – See picture at the end of Seq. B.

