Tiger Claws

A GUIDE FOR MMI RECRUITS

Marion Military Institute
1101 Washington Street
Marion, Alabama 36756
www.marionmilitary.edu

2026–2027

CONTENTS

- ITC Mission
- President’s Biography
- Senior MMI Officials
  - TAC Officers
- History of MMI
  - Honor Ground
- Corps of Cadets
- Ranks
- Customs and Courtesies
- Dress and Appearance
  - Regulations
- General Knowledge
- Facing Movements
- Rifle Movements
- Marching/Pass in Review
- Campus
  - Named Buildings
  - Plaques and Monuments
- MMI Programs
- Cadet Organizations
- Acronyms

INTENSIVE TRAINING CYCLE (ITC) MISSION STATEMENT

To develop cadets of character who will become our nation’s future military and civilian leaders.



Origin traced back to 1842.
Founded as Marion Military Institute in 1887

PRESIDENT'S BIOGRAPHY



Colonel David J. Mollahan, U.S. Marine Corps (retired) became the 16th President of Marion Military Institute on 1 August 2009. He had been serving at the U.S. Naval Academy as Division Director, Humanities and Social Sciences Division, and as the senior Marine Corps Representative until 1 July 2009 when he retired, completing a 30-year Marine Corps career.

He was commissioned in June 1979 upon graduation from Oregon State University, where he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Nuclear Engineering Technology. He later earned a Master of Military Studies degree from Marine Corps Command and Staff College where he graduated as a Distinguished Graduate. Colonel Mollahan also attended the Marine Corps Amphibious Warfare School, the Joint Forces Staff College, and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) Security Studies Program as the Commandant of the Marine Corps Fellow.

Colonel Mollahan's military career has included multiple land and sea-based deployments to Okinawa, Korea, the Mediterranean Sea, the Indian Ocean and the Persian Gulf. He has participated in contingency and combat operations in Liberia, Somalia, the Adriatic Sea, Kosovo, and Iraq. His assignments have included Commanding Officer, Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 263 (reinforced); Deputy Chief of Staff, U.S. Joint Forces Command; Chief of Staff, 2d Marine Aircraft Wing; and Commanding Officer, Marine Aircraft Group 26 (reinforced).

His personal decorations include the Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit with Gold Star, Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Air Medal with Bronze Numeral 4, Navy Commendation Medal, Combat Action Ribbon, (8) Sea Service Deployment Ribbons, the Humanitarian Service Medal, and various other unit awards and decorations. He has also accumulated over 4,100 mishap free flight hours as a Marine naval aviator, including over 250 combat flight hours.

Colonel Mollahan and his wife Ingrid have two sons; LT Sean Mollahan, USN, U.S, Naval Academy '02, a P-3 Orion Naval Flight Officer; and 1stLt Kellen Mollahan, USMC, U.S. Naval Academy '05, a MV-22 Osprey aviator.

SENIOR MMI OFFICIALS

President
David J. Mollahan, Col, USMC (Ret)

Senior Vice President and Commandant of Cadets
Edwin W. Passmore, COL, USA (Ret)

Chief of Police
Darrell W. Martin, LTC, USA (Ret)

Director of Anthony J. Rane Center for Leadership
Bret Tecklenburg, LTC, USA (Ret)

Director of Service Academy Program
Thomas Bowen, LTC, USA (Ret)

Academic Dean
Mrs. Camie Jones

Chief of Staff and Vice President for Institutional Advancement
Mrs. Suzanne McKee

Chief Academic Officer
Mr. David Ivey

Director of Athletics
Dr. Michelle V. Ivey

Director of Human Resources/Title IX Coordinator
Ms. Carmon Fields

Director of Enrollment Management
Mr. Daniel Pinch

Director of Facilities and Operations
Mr. Randy Harper

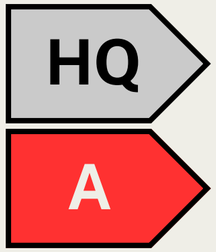
Director of Information Technology
Mr. A.J. Crittenden

Public Information Officer
Mrs. Marietta Holmes

Director of Financial Aid
Ms. Jacqueline Wilson

Director of Alumni Affairs
Mrs. Dawn S. Curtis

TAC OFFICERS



Headquarters and Alpha Company
Michael Dunfee, 1SG, USA (Ret)



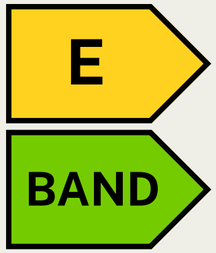
Bravo Company
Michael Magnus, 1SG, USA (Ret)



Charlie Company
Ernest Donaldson, 1SG, USA (Ret)



Delta Company
David Mennig, 1SG, USA (Ret)



Echo Company and Band Company
James Drake, CPO, USCG (Ret)

Each Company's TAC Officer serves as a Teacher, Advisor, and Counselor to the Corps of Cadets, focusing on mentoring and developing cadet leadership within the company structure.

HISTORY OF MMI

- Founded in 1842 as Howard College, an all-male private college. It is the oldest Military Junior College in the country and is older than all the U.S. Service Academies, except West Point.
- During the Civil War, MMI served as Breckinridge Military Hospital, treating both Union and Confederate soldiers.
- After the Civil War, MMI housed newly emancipated slaves. In 1867, the “Marion Nine” went on to found the Lincoln Normal School, located directly behind MMI’s Campus. Lincoln Normal School is the nation’s first state-supported Black college. This school served as a teaching university and eventually became Alabama State University in Montgomery.
- In 1887, Howard College was moved to Birmingham. COL J.T. Murfee, the remaining board members, faculty and staff, remained in Marion and renamed the college Marion Military Institute.
- In 2006, MMI joined the Alabama Community College System, becoming a public school. It’s last high school class graduated in 2009.

HONOR GROUND

THOSE ALLOWED ON THE HONOR GROUND

MMI Honor Guard, active duty Military, Veterans, Faculty, allowed Visitors, Officials/MMI Alumni, and maintenance crews.

STORY OF THE HONOR GROUND

Two cadets shared a room in the South College barracks, a two-story white frame building a short distance south of the present campus area. At about 0530 hours on the morning of March 17th, 1924, south college barracks caught on fire. Fire call was sounded, and the entire battalion formed in front of the chapel and everyone was reported present. The tragedy occurred after dismissal of formation. One of the boys(it is not known which) had left his watch in the building and decided to return for it. Smoke was pouring from the building at this time, but there was no sign of flames. He apparently could see no danger. His roommate discovered he was missing and guessed he went back into the building, so he too went back to find him. The building suddenly exploded and burned swiftly. Cadet Jefferson Bryant Meharg of Pensacola, FL was killed instantly. Cadet Lawrence Christopher Olsen of Waukegan, IL, somehow managed to get out but was fatally burned and died six hours later in Selma Hospital.

The cannon placed overlooking the parade field was placed in their honor and the plaque on the monument bears the inscription:

“Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for a friend.”

-John 15:13

CORPS OF CADETS

HEADQUARTERS STAFF

Battalion Commander (BC)
c/LTC Billy Bush

Battalion Executive Officer (XO)
c/MAJ Jackson Bryan

Command Sergeant Major (CSM)
c/CSM Shelby Black

BN Operations Officer (S-3)
c/MAJ Matthew Lipski

BN S-3A (Assistant Operations Officer)
c/CPT Andrew Cajigan

BN S-1 (Personnel Officer)
c/CPT Kaitlin Baker

BN S-2 (Duty/Intel Officer)
c/CPT Baker Dye

BN S-4 (Logistics/Supply Officer)
c/CPT Albert Simmons

BN S-5 (Public Relations/Media Officer)
c/CPT Peyton Williamson

Cadet Wellness Officer
c/1LT Travis Blaha

Honor Council Chair
c/MAJ Xavier Scott

RANKS

	Private First Class (PFC)	Corporal	Sergeant (SGT)	Staff Sergeant (SL)	Sergeant First Class (PSG)	First Sergeant (1SGT)	Command Sergeant Major (CSM)
Cadet							
Enlisted							

RANKS

(CONT.)

Cadet



Second Lieutenant



First Lieutenant



Captain



Major



Lieutenant Colonel (BC)

Officer











Colonel



Brigadier General



Major General



Lieutenant General



General

CUSTOMS AND COURTESIES

GREETINGS

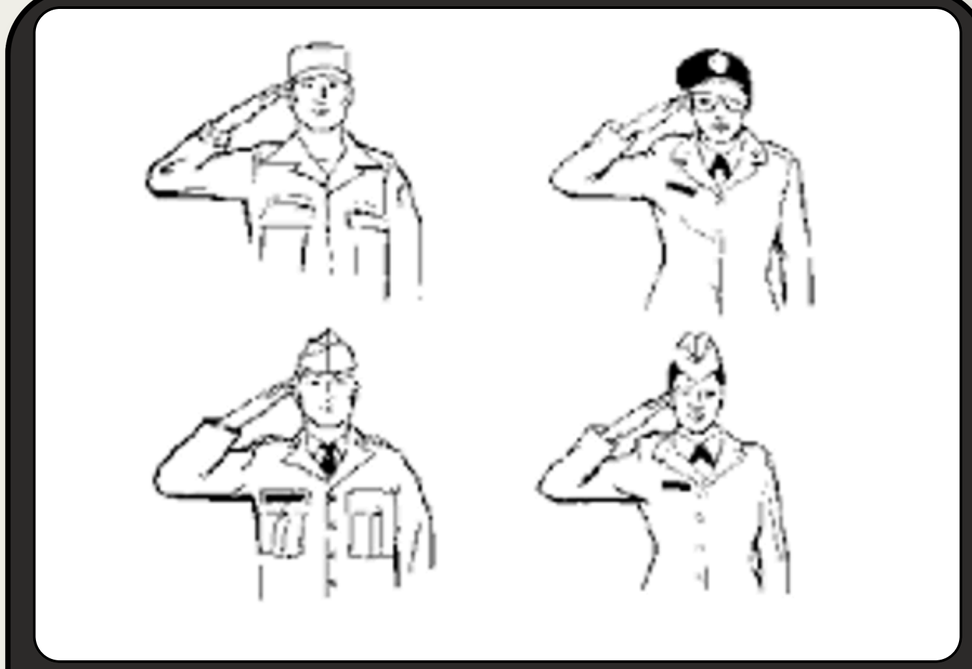
When passing a Cadet Officer, Cadet NCO, Commissioned Officer, or NCO, the greeting of the day will be given as you pass or report in/out:

“Good Morning/Afternoon/Evening, Sir/Ma’am/Rank”

SALUTING

When passing by, reporting in to, or addressing a Cadet Officer or Commissioned Officer, a salute will be rendered along with the Greeting of the Day.

DO NOT MISS YOUR GREETINGS



- Salutes will only be given at the position of attention.
- Hand will be slightly tilted palm down, touching the edge of the eyebrow/cover.

CALLING THE ROOM

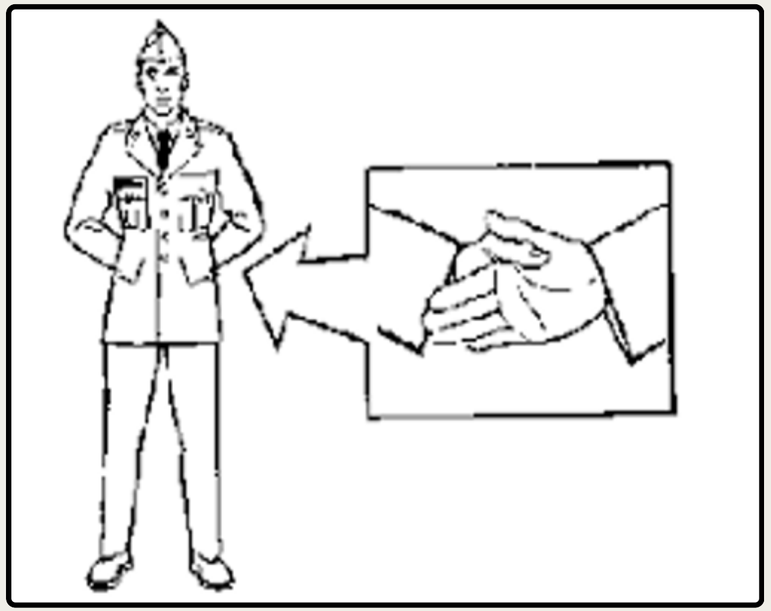
- When a Commissioned Officer enters the room/barracks, give the order:

  “ROOM/BARRACKS, ATTENTION!”

- When a NCO enters the room/barracks, give the order:

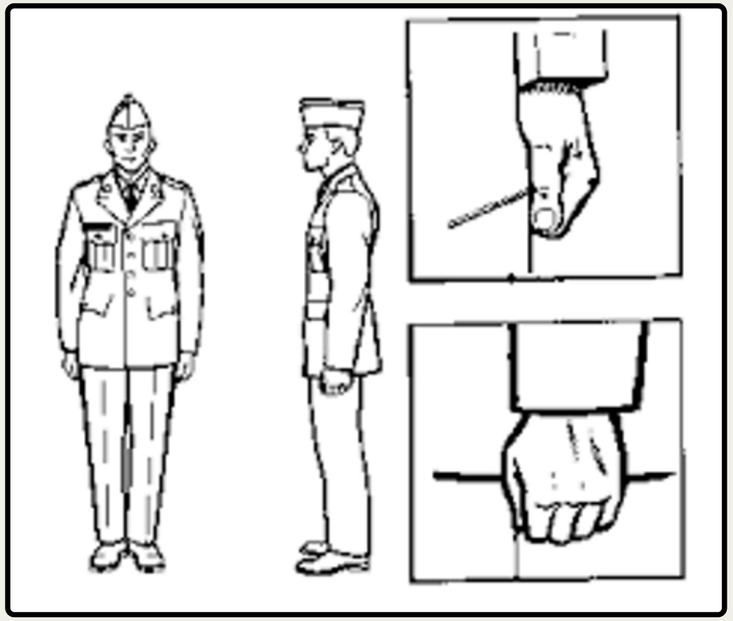
  “AT EASE!”

- When being addressed by or addressing a Cadet Officer, you will be at the position of attention until told otherwise.
- When being addressed by or addressing a Cadet NCO or NCO, you will be at the position of parade rest until told otherwise.



Parade Rest

- Right hand over left
- Hands at small of back
- Left foot moves 10 inch to the left when moving from the position of attention



Position of Attention

- Upright Posture
- Head and Eyes to the front
- Hands along pant seams
- Feet at 45 degree angle



At Ease

- Relaxed Stance
- Limited Shifting
- Hands Lowered

DRESS AND APPEARANCE

Uniform of the Day (UOD)

The daily uniform worn on campus

- **Class A**: The Class A uniform is the formal dress uniform and is authorized for year-round wear. It is worn for all parades and many of the formal functions which occur on and off campus.

- **Class B**: The Class B uniform is less formal than the Class A uniform, but more formal than the Class C duty uniform.

- **Class C**: The Class C uniform including all variations is the standard duty uniform.

- **Class C Ops**: The Class C Optional or “C Ops” uniform is the same as the Class C but with the navy-blue polo shirt. No ornamentation is worn on this uniform. All cadets wear this uniform after 1600 on any given academic day.

DRESS AND APPEARANCE *(CONT.)*

- **Operational Camouflage Pattern (OCP):** These uniforms are issued for wear as utility field training uniforms and are not intended as all-purpose uniforms when other uniforms are more appropriate.

- **Bs And Ts**: This uniform consists of the OCP trousers and company tee shirts. It is authorized for special purposes as directed by the Commandant of Cadets.

- **Physical Training Uniform (PTs)**: Required for PT or PE classes, intramurals, individual sports, jogging or running including off campus, and otherwise as permitted by the Commandant of Cadets.

REGULATIONS

Cadets will present a professional image at all times and will continue to set the example in military presence, both on and off duty while enrolled at MMI.

- **Class A, B, C**: Shirts are to be tucked and ironed correctly. Leathers are to be shined and shoelaces tucked.

- **Marion Infantry Crossed Rifles**: Worn on Class A Dress Uniform 1” from center of collar to leading edge and centered top to bottom.

- **Company Tabs**: Worn centered on the epaulettes of all cadets in Class A, B, and C uniforms.

- **Marion Crest**: Metal Marion Crests are worn by all cadets in Class A, B, and C uniforms centered on the Company Tabs with the top nearest the wearer’s neck. It is also worn on the wearer’s left side of the garrison cap, 1” from the leading edge of the cover and 1” from the bottom edge to the edge of the Crest.

REGULATIONS

(CONT.)

- **Shirt-Stays**: Attached to the bottom of Class B and C shirts and secured on the socks.
- **Nametag**: Worn at the top of the right pocket flap and centered left to right.

Operational Camouflage Pattern

OCPs should be without wrinkles and cables. Boots will be bloused properly with laces tucked.

- **Name Tape**: Worn on OCPs right chest and back of patrol cover
- **Program Tape**: Worn on OCPs left chest.
- **Rank**: Worn on center of OCP blouse.

GENERAL KNOWLEDGE

MMI MOTTO

Truth, Honor, Service

HONOR CODE

I WILL NOT LIE, CHEAT, OR STEAL NOR TOLERATE THOSE WHO DO.

MMI ALMA MATER

We hail the Corps of Marion
Who stand with us today.
Each faithful, true and loyal one
Will join us as we pray.
For all of those
Who left these doors
In peaceful days
Or troubled wars,
We hail the Corps of Marion
Who stand with us today.

THE GRACE

For the food we are about to receive, we give thanks. We are grateful for our school, our families, and our nation. We honor the men and women in uniform who guard our freedom and protect us from harm every day. Let us be dedicated to Truth, Honor, and Service.

CADET CREED

I will never quit,
I will never give up,
I will finish what I started.

7 BASIC RESPONSES

- Yes Sir/Ma’am/Rank
- No Sir/Ma’am/Rank
- No Excuse Sir/Ma’am/Rank
- Sir/Ma’am/Rank I Do Not Know
- Sir/Ma’am/Rank I Do Not Understand
- Sir/Ma’am/Rank May I Ask a Question
- Sir/Ma’am/Rank May I Make a Statement

MILITARY TIME

0100 - 1am	0900-9am	1700-5pm
0200-2am	1000-10am	1800-6pm
0300-3am	1100-11am	1900-7pm
0400-4am	1200-12 noon	2000-8pm
0500-5am	1300-1pm	2100-9pm
0600-6am	1400-2pm	2200-10pm
0700-7am	1500-3pm	2300-11pm
0800-8am	1600-4pm	0000-12 Midnight

FORMATION TIMES

Monday - 1200, 1315

Tuesday - 0750, 1315

Wednesday - 1200, 1315

Thursday - 0750, 1315

Friday - 1200, 1315

PHONETIC ALPHABET

A-Alpha	**H**-Hotel	**O**-Oscar	**V**-Victor
B-Bravo	**I**-India	**P**-Papa	**W**-Whiskey
C-Charlie	**J**-Juliet	**Q**-Quebec	**X**-X-ray
D- Delta	**K**-Kilo	**R**-Romeo	**Y**-Yankee
E-Echo	**L**-Lima	**S**-Sierra	**Z**-Zulu
F-Foxtrot	**M**-Mike	**T**-Tango	
G- Golf	**N**-November	**U**-Uniform	

CHOW HALL TIMES

Monday - 0700, 1200, 1800

Tuesday - 0700, 1130, 1800

Wednesday - 0700, 1200, 1800

Thursday - 0700, 1130, 1800

Friday - 0700, 1200-1700

Saturday - 0700, 1200, 1700

Sunday - 0700, 1200, 1700

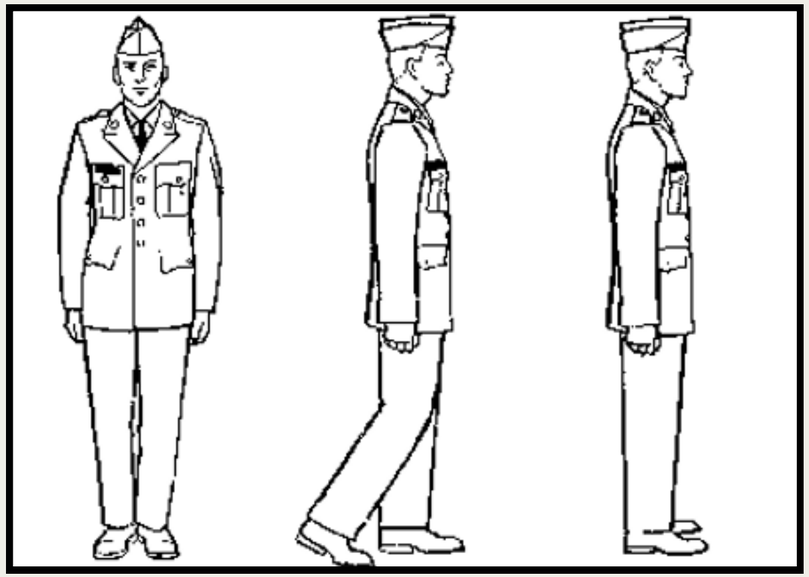
QM HOURS

0700-1900 Weekdays

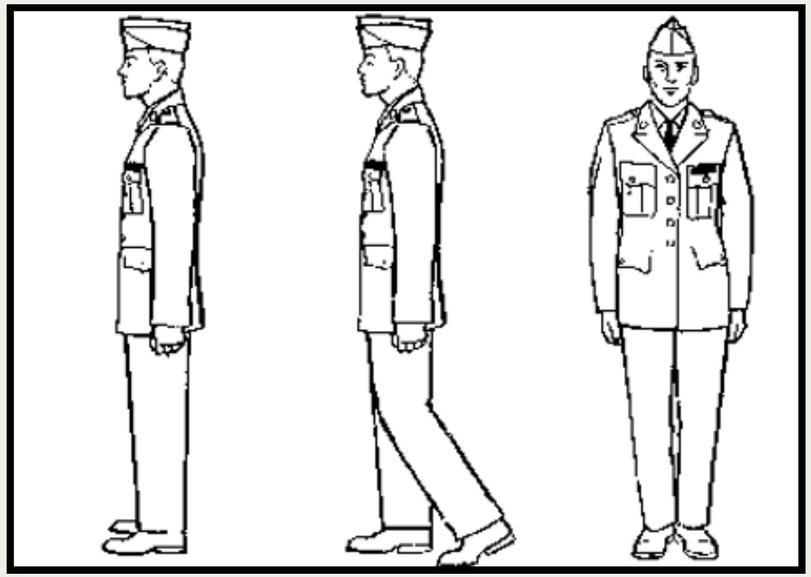
1100 – 1900 Weekends

FACING MOVEMENTS

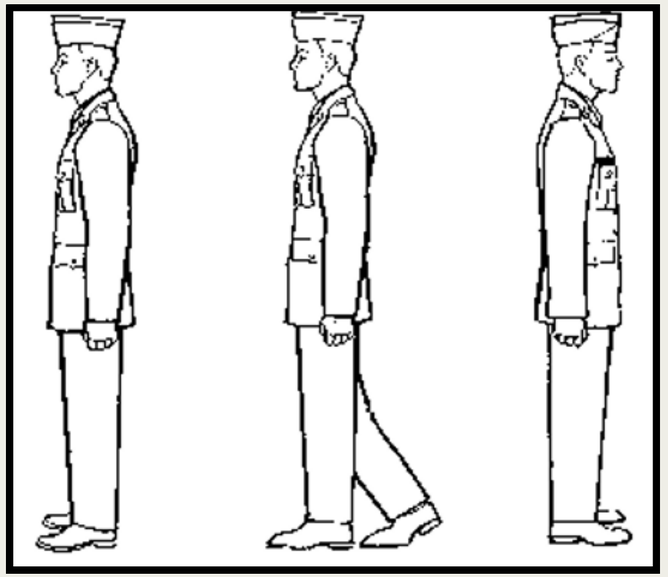
Left Face



Right Face

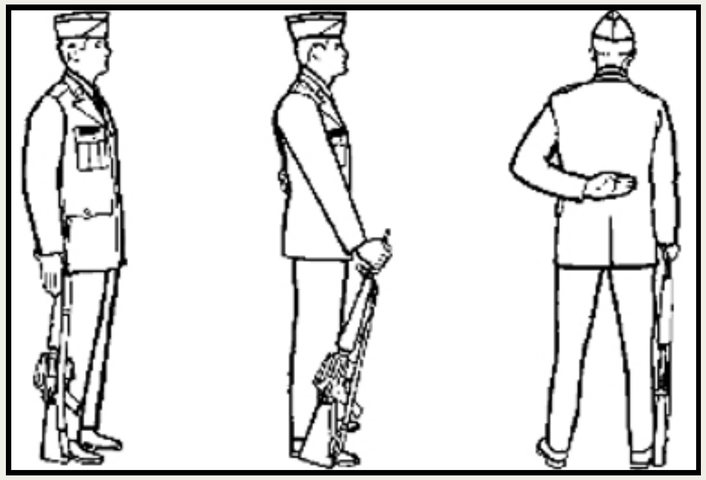


About Face

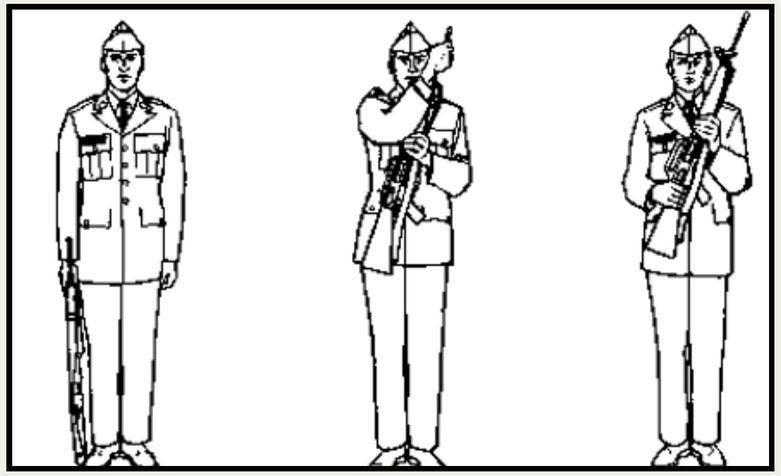


RIFLE MOVEMENTS

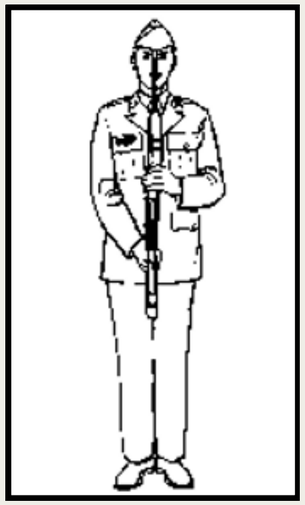
Order Arms to Parade Rest



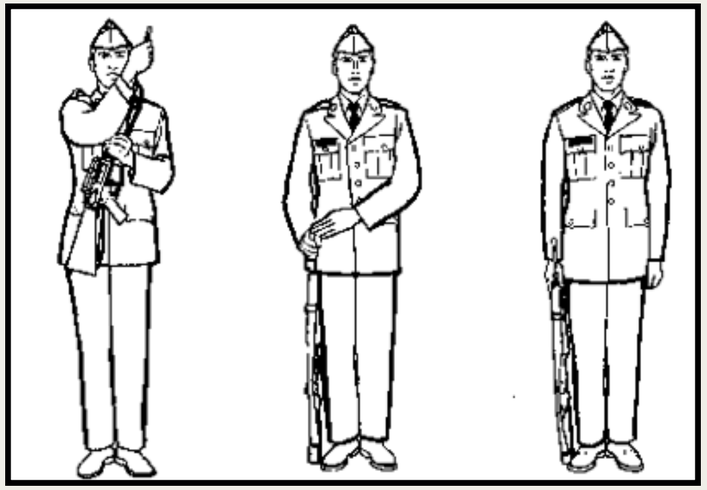
Port Arms



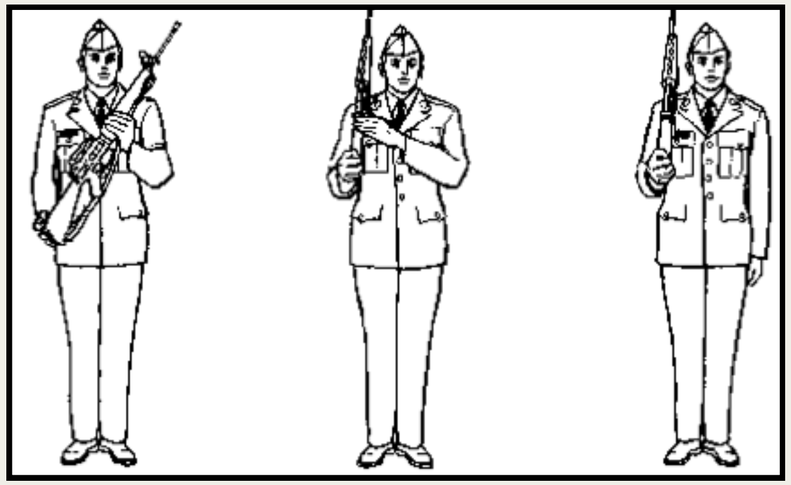
Present Arms



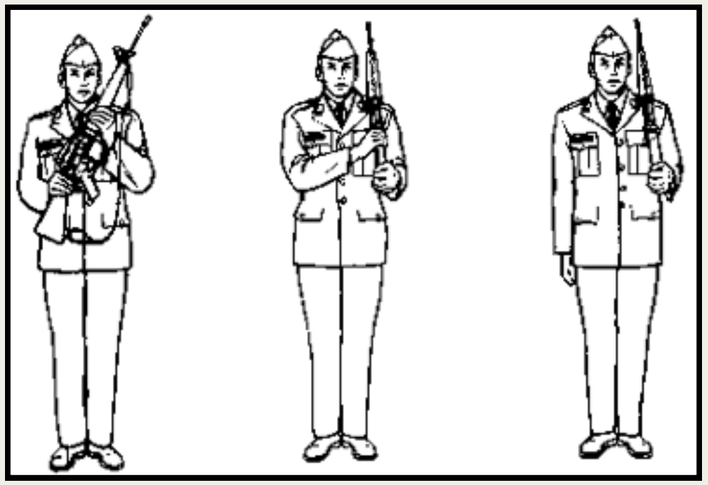
Order Arms



Right Shoulder Arms



Left Shoulder Arms



MARCHING/PASS IN REVIEW

To move as a standardized and squared away formation.
Build "esprit-de-corps" (A feeling of pride and comradery).

Mark Time - Marching in Place and keeping in step.

"Company, Halt" - Command, Step, Freeze.

Forward March - Left Foot First Always! Marching will be synchronized and look standardized. Characteristics of proper marching are as follows:

- Synchronized 30 inch steps (Stay in step with the person in front of you).
- Arm Swings opposite to the legs. 9 inch swing forward and 6 inch swing backwards.
- Hands cupped and thumbs pointed down.
- Head and Eyes to the front as if you were at the position of attention.

"Eyes Right" -

- On the Command Of, "Eyes, Right!", all Cadets in the formation except for those in the right-most file will turn their heads and eyes 45 Degrees to the right while keeping their torsos to the front and marching forward.
- The Formation Leader will render a salute.
- Upon the Command of, "Ready, Front", head and eyes will sharply snap back to the front.

CAMPUS

Headquarters
Trustees Hall

Charlie Company
Rane Hall

Alpha Company
Trustees Hall

Delta Company
Wilkerson Hall

Bravo Company
Lovelace Hall

Echo Company
Murfee Hall

Band Company
Trustees Hall



NAMED BUILDINGS

THE CHAPEL – Constructed in 1857 under the presidency of Henry Talbird, it is the centerpiece of the MMI campus. It is one of the oldest structures on campus grounds. During the American Civil War, the campus was occupied by troops of the Confederate Army. The Chapel and Lovelace Barracks were converted to a field hospital initially known as the Breckenridge Military Hospital. During the Battle of Selma, numerous soldiers, both Confederate and Union, were buried near the Chapel. Those soldiers have since been reinterred in a memorial known as “Confederate Rest” within the cemetery grounds of St. Wilfrid’s Episcopal Church in Marion. The Chapel is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

ALUMNI MEMORIAL GYMNASIUM – Constructed in 1947 under the presidency of COL James T. Murfee, II. It is named for those alumni who lost their lives during World War II.

NAMED BUILDINGS *(CONT.)*

MILDRED POPE BAER MEMORIAL LIBRARY – Constructed in 1965 during COL Paul B. Robinson's tenure, it was named in honor Mrs. Mildred Baer, MMI Librarian.

IRELAND ATHLETIC CENTER – Constructed in 1992 under the presidency of MGEN Joseph Fant, III, it is named in honor of William (Bill) Ireland, alumnus, trustee emeritus and generous benefactor who passed away in 2009.

PLAQUES AND MONUMENTS

HONOR GROUND MONUMENT – Erected by the Corps of Cadets 1923-1924 to the sacred memory of cadets Jefferson Bryant Mehang and Lawrence Christopher Olsen, who lost their lives in the burning of College Barracks, March 17, 1924. Inscription: “Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for a friend.”

WALTER COATS GIVHAN PARADE FIELD – Named in honor of Walter Coats Givhan, May 7, 1902 – February 18, 1976; state senator, alumnus, friend, and patron of MMI.

U.S. NAVY 32 POUNDER GUN – Model 1846, a standard gun on smaller Navy warships from 1846 to 1866 and was donated by the U.S. Navy.

F-84F THUNDERSTREAK – Mounted on the side of the Givhan Parade Field, the F-84 was donated by the U.S. Air Force, 31 October 1970.It is dedicated to commemorate all MMI cadets who have served their country in The United States Air Force.

PLAQUES AND MONUMENTS *(CONT.)*

CITY HALL – Built in 1832, the structure served as law offices and other functions until it was purchased by the City of Marion in 1928 to be the town's city hall. In 1968 it was placed on the National Register of Historic Places, acquired by MMI, and moved to its current location on campus. In 1988, MMI was designated by the Governor of Alabama as the custodian of the Alabama Military Hall of Honor. The old City Hall building now houses the Military Hall of Honor Museum.

KOREAN WAR MEMORIAL – The Korean War Memorial was dedicated to MMI alumni who lost their lives in the Korean conflict. There are four names inscribed on the plaque.

VIETNAM WAR MEMORIAL – The Vietnam Memorial commemorates those who died in action during that war. Twenty-two names are inscribed in the granite memorial which was dedicated in 1989.

MMI PROGRAMS

Leadership Education Program (LEP)- The Leadership Education Program at MMI was designed specifically for those students who wish to enroll at MMI without incurring a military service obligation.

Early Commissioning Program (ECP)- The Early Commissioning Program allows Military Junior College students to complete ROTC in two years and gain a commission as a Second Lieutenant in the United States Army.

Service Academy Preparatory Program (SAP)- The Service Academy Preparatory Program prepares cadets applying one or multiple of the five United States Service Academies.

Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps (AFROTC)- Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps is an educational program designed to give men and women the opportunity to become Air Force officers while completing their degrees in partnership with The University of Alabama AFROTC Det 010.

MMI PROGRAMS

(CONT.)

U.S. Marine Corps Platoon Leaders Course (PLC)- Cadets will work with the local Officer Selection Officer (OSO) to apply for PLC. If selected, cadets will attend two six-week summer training programs at the Marine Corps Officer Candidate School(OCS), located at Quantico, Virginia. Upon completion of a bachelor's degree, candidates will commission as Second Lieutenants in the United States Marine Corps.

Navy Reserve Officer Training Corps- The MMI NROTC Prep Program provides participating cadets a rigorous one year academic and military program making them competitive for the scholarship while providing them a solid academic foundation for success at their follow-on sponsoring university.

First Responder Career Program- Allows cadets to earn their certificates to pursue career fields in Firefighting, EMT, and Law Enforcement.

Aviation Program- Marion Military Institute partners with a contracted aviation provider to offer cadets an extracurricular FAA-sanctioned Flight Training Program, with several options depending on a cadet’s goal.

CADET ORGANIZATIONS

PHI THETA KAPPA – The official national honor society for students enrolled in two-year colleges, Phi Theta Kappa is the largest honor society in American higher education. To be eligible for membership, cadets must have completed a minimum of twelve hours of associate degree coursework and have a grade point average of 3.5 or higher.

HONOR GUARD – Open to all cadets, the Honor Guard performs Morning Reveille, Evening Retreat, and other formal ceremonies, where the national, state, and Institute flags are presented. The organization is dedicated to the study and preservation of flag and ceremonial traditions and honors.

SWAMP FOX – Formed in 1963, the Swamp Fox organization trains in Ranger-type military skills. Swamp Fox cadets strive to be the most physically fit, disciplined, and tactically proficient members of the Corps of Cadets.

CADET ORGANIZATIONS *(CONT.)*

MMI KNIGHTS – Established in 1950, the White Knights Precision Drill Team performs precision drill exhibitions throughout the country. They have become renowned for their skills as a team and have competed in regional and national drill competitions, and have been showcased at various national events.

LEADERS CLUB - The goal of the MMI Leaders Club is to promote cadet leadership development opportunities through community service projects, campus activities and leadership education.Cadets that are interested in gaining more leadership experience are encouraged to join. The club sponsors community service projects one Saturday during each month school is in session.

ACRONYMS

ACA	Appropriate Civilian Attire
AMCQ	Morning Call to Quarters (Quiet time for study use)
ARNG	Army National Guard
BC	Battalion Commander
BDO	Battalion Duty Officer (Cadet)
BSM	Battalion Sergeant Major (Cadet)
C1	First Year Cadet
C2	Second Year Cadet
CDO	Company Duty Officer (Cadet)
CHC	Cadet Health Center
COL	Colonel
CPL	Corporal
CPR	Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation
CPT	Captain
CSM	Command Sergeant Major (Cadet)
DO	Delinquency Order
DRC	Dinner Role Call
ECP	Early Commissioning Program
FFI	Failure to Follow Instructions
GPA	Grade Point Average
ITC	Intensive Training Cycle
LRC	Lunch Role Call
LT	Lieutenant
LTC	Lieutenant Colonel
MAJ	Major
ML	Medical Leave
MSG	Master Sergeant
NCO	Non-Commissioned Officer
NCOIC	Non-Commissioned Officer in Charge
NET	No Earlier Than
NLT	No Later Than
OC	Office in Charge (Staff Member)
OG	Officer of the Guard
PHs	Penalty Hours (Also known as Penalty Tours
PMS	Professor of Military Science
POV	Privately Owned Vehicle
PT	Physical Training
QM	Quartermaster (“Student Center”)
ROTC	Reserve Officers Training Corps
SAP	Service Academy Program
SGM	Sergeant Major
SGT	Sergeant
SMI	Saturday Morning Inspection
SOP	Standard Operating Procedure
SSG	Staff Sergeant
TAC	Trainer, Advisor, Counselor (a.k.a. Tactical Officer) (Staff Member)
XO	Executive Officer

Notes: