Parsons Mounted Cavalry Cadet Handbook

2018-2019

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TRAINING

<u>SOPHOMORE</u>

Syllabus for Sophomore Training:

WEEK 1

Block 1

Introduction to the Green

- Location of equipment
- Location of buildings
- Proper way to close gates
- Proper stall maintenance

Block 2

Horse identification and grooming

WEEK 2

Block 1

Haltering, catching and leading a horse

Block 2

Tying, releasing, loading on a trailer, and cooling down the horses

WEEK 3

Block 1

Saddle maintenance

- Proper way to clean, oil, and shine tack
- · Organization of tack room

Block 2

Tacking up a horse

- · Hoof picking the front and rear hooves
- Proper saddle and blanket position

WEEK 4

Block 1

Introduction to the cannon

- Loading and unloading
- Preparing cannon for events
- Safe shell handling

Block 2

Tacking up the cannon team

WEEK 5

Block 1

Introduction to the wagon

- Loading and unloading
- Preparing wagon for events

Block 2

Tacking up mule team

WEEK 6

Block 1

Trailer safety

- Hooking and unhooking trailers
- Safe hay hauling methods

Block 2

Safety course

- Safety on and around a tractor

• Truck and trailer safety

WEEK 7

Block 1 Equestrian first aid

Block 2

Leather work and construction of tack

WEEK 8

Block 1 Hoof trimming skills

Block 2 Metal work

WEEK 9

Block 1 Assembly of bridle and bit identification Block 2 Assembly of a saddle

WEEK 10

Block 1 Horse anatomy and physiology

Block 2 Introduction to natural horsemanship

WEEK 11

Block 1

Leading, catching, and controlling a horse using natural horsemanship training

Block 2

Disengaging a horse and improving lateral flexion

WEEK 12

Block 1 Lunging a horse at slow gaits

Block 2 Lunging a horse at faster gaits

WEEK 13

Block 1 Review of twelve week course

Block 2

Continue review of twelve week course to ensure sophomores are ready for riding class fall semester

Office of the Commandant Texas A&M University College Station, Texas

SYLLABUS PMC Sophomore Training Fall 2018

August 28 – December 13Monday 1600-1700Friday times varyThe GreenInstructors as assigned

The purpose of this class is to make the student aware of skills necessary for efficient and safe operations of horses, equipment, and activities associated with Parsons Mounted Cavalry.

Americans with Disabilities Act

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other thing this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring accommodation, please contact the Office of Support Services for Students with Disabilities in Room 126 of the Student Services Building or call (979) 845-1637.

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Prerequisite / Grades

Participants must have completed their freshman year in the Corps of Cadets and be in good standing with the Corps and Texas A&M University. Participants must have on file with the Site Manager signed PMC Policies Manual and Hold Harmless Agreement.

Copyright Statement

The handouts used in this course, including web-based files, are copyrighted. All materials generated or modified for this class, which include but are not limited to syllabi, quizzes, exams, lab problems, in-class materials, review sheets, and additional problem sets are considered "handouts". Because these materials are copyrighted, you do not have the right to copy the handouts, unless permission is expressly granted.

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"An Aggie does not lie, cheat, or steal or tolerate those who do."

Upon accepting admission to Texas A&M University, a student immediately assumes a commitment to uphold the Honor Code, to accept responsibility for learning, and to follow the philosophy and rules of the Honor System. Students will be required to state their commitment on examinations, research papers, and other academic work. Ignorance of the rules does not exclude any member of the TAMU community from the requirements or the processes of the Honor System. For additional information visit: www.tamu.edu/aggiehonor

On all course work, assignments, or examinations at Texas A&M University, the following Honor Pledge shall be pre-printed and signed by the student:

"On my honor, as an Aggie, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid on this academic work."

WEEK 1				Completion Date
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	Block 2	Horse identification and grooming		
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WEEK 2				
	Block 1	Haltering, catching, and leading a horse		
	Block 2	 Tying, releasing, loading horses on a trailer, and cooling down horses Safety precautions 		
WEEK 3				
	Block 1	 Saddle maintenance Proper way to clean, oil, and shine tack Organization of tack room 		
	Block 2	 Tacking up a horse Hoof picking the front and rear hooves Proper saddle and blanket positions Proper bridling procedure 		
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WEEK 5				
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	Block 2	Tacking up the mule team		
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	Block 1	Trailer safetyHooking and unhooking trailersSafe hay hauling methods	
	Block 2	 Safety course Safety on and around a tractor Truck and trailer safety 	
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	Block 2	Continue review of twelve week course to ensure sophomores are ready for riding class second semester	

SOPHOMORE STUDY GUIDE

TASK 24: INDENTIFICATION OF BITS

CONDITIONS: Given a various assortment of basic bits on hand (snaffle, cub, and pelham), and with explanations of other bits available for use, you will learn to identify and name different bits and the effect of each one.

STANDARDS: Identify the different types of bits used, describe the method of cleaning them, and give the effects each one has on the animal's mouth when used in a complete bridle.

REFERENCE: Trooper Study Guide & Bit by Bit (Guide to Equine Bits)

PERFORMANCE MEASURES:

- 1. Name the example bits on hand, the curb, snaffle, and the pelham bit, either on the headstall (complete bridle) or individually.
- 2. Inspect each type of bit for defects such as: cracks, wear or sharp points on any part of the mouth piece, and any abnormal shape or bend of the shank and mouth piece.
- 3. Explain what you use to clean the bit
- 4. Explain the effects each mouth piece has on the animal's mouth when used in a complete bridle with curb chain.
 - a. Snaffle Bit effect is very mild because it works more on the lips than on the bars of the horse's mouth. It relaxes the jaw by means of vibration.
 - b. Curb Bit effect is more severe than the snaffle. It works mostly on the bars of the mouth. The tongue and lips absorb some of the pressure.
 <u>NOTE</u>: Continuous pressure with the curb bit can deaden the sensation, and with the curb chain stopping circulation, can cause the horse to fail to respond to the action.
 - c. Pelham Bit effect is a combination of both the snaffle and cub. It can be used with a curb effect using the curb chain and the rein attached to the bottom ring of the shank, or as a snaffle if the rein is attached to the Pelham part (upper large ring) of the bit.

TASK 25: SADDLING AND ADJUSTMENT (McClellan)

CONDITIONS: Given a groomed horse, an 1885 McClellan Saddle with adjustable quarter straps, and saddle pad, put on the pad and saddle and make required adjustments.

STANDARDS: Complete all steps trained to saddle and unsaddle a horse without leaving any item (tack) off. Properly position the pad and saddle, make all appropriate adjustments of equipment to prevent injury to the horse or rider, use caution when working around animal.

REFERENCE: Elementary Mounted Instruction Manual

- 1. Use caution when working with and around an animal.
- 2. Make sure the horse accepts the pad before beginning the saddling task.

- 3. Working on the near side, place the saddle pad on the horses back by sliding it to the rear once or twice from front to rear smoothing the hair. Remove the locks of mane hair from under the pad. Make sure the pad/blanket is centered on the horse's back and with at least one hand width (4+ inches) forward of the shoulder blade.
- 4. With stirrups crossed over saddle, right stirrup first, hold the pommel in your left hand and the cantle in your right hand; approach the horse on the near side.
- 5. Standing just behind the near side shoulder, place the saddle in approx three finger widths behind the point of the shoulder blade and about one hand width back from the front edge of the pad.
- 6. Raise the pad under the pommel arch so the withers are not pinched or compressed.
- 7. Lower the cinch on the off side. Holding the cinch strap in your right hand facing the rear, reach under the horse and grab the cinch ring with the left hand.
- 8. Pass the cinch strap through the ring no less than two times (inside to outside) and pull the cinch strap snug to temporarily secure the saddle.
- 9. Take the breast collar neck strap and secure it on the near side of the neck.
- 10. Secure the beast collar straps to the near and off side safe rings to where you can put one hand flat between breast and collar.
- 11. Adjust the cinch so you can put the flat of your hand between the horse and the cinch.
- 12. Time the cinch strap off in a cinch/girth knot.

NOTE: If a saber is used, position saber with scabbard under the near stirrup strap, attach upper scabbard ring to pommel saber strap, and center scabbard ring to cantle saber strap. Hanging position should be at approx 45 degree angle.

UNSADDLE: Remove breast collar, saddle, and pad in reverse order that you put the items on the horse, being careful not to scare the animal.

TASK 26: BRIDLING & ADJUSTMENT:

CONDITIONS: Given a full bridle and a groomed horse tied to the rail, remove the halter, pout on a bridle, and make proper adjustments.

STANDARDS: Complete the task using each step in order without causing the animal any fretfulness or injury to you. Make all correct adjustments to the bridle as instructed. Re-install halter and tie animal to the rail.

REFERENCE: Elementary Mounted Instruction Manual & Trooper Study Guide

- 1. If the animal is tied to a rail or any object, at any location, approach with caution from the near (left) side, warn them of your approach.
- 2. Hold the bridle with the reins in the right hand, crown piece in the left hand.
- 3. Slip the reins over the horse's head and let them rest on the neck.
- 4. Unbuckle the halter; place it loose around the animal's neck.
- 5. Take the crown piece in the right hand and the bit in the left hand.
- 6. Bring the crownpiece in front of the ears and slightly below its normal position.

- 7. Insert the left thumb into the side of the horse's mouth above the canine tooth and press upon the lower jaw so as to cause the animal to open the mouth.
- 8. Insert the bit with your left hand by pulling up on the crown piece with your right hand.
- 9. With the left hand, quietly insert the ears under the crownpiece and fasten the throat latch. Make sure there is a four fingers vertical gap between the throat latch and the throat.
- 10. Adjust the curb chain to allow for two fingers vertical gap between curb chain and lower jaw.
- 11. Check for adjustment of the bit; the bit should lightly touch the upper corners of the lips (slightly causing a wrinkle), and not so loose to where it touches the canines, causing fretfulness in the animal.

NOTE: To unbridle, standing on the near side of the animal, secure the halter loose around the neck. Move the reins off over the animal's head, placing them in the bend of your arm. Unbuckle the throat latch, grasp the crownpiece in the right hand, assisting with the left hand, and disengage the ears. Lower the crownpiece with the right hand and remove the bit from the animal's mouth with the left hand, being careful not to allow the bit to contact or hit the teeth. Holding the bridle in the left hand put the halter back on the animal with both hands.

TASK 28: IDENTIFY & ADJUSTMENT OF NOSEBANDS

CONDITIONS: Given two basic types of nosebands used at the Horse Detachment, a Drop Noseband, a Caveson, a bridle, and a horse.

STANDARDS: Identify a Drop Noseband and a Caveson. Install each noseband separately and correct on the subject animal. Ensure the drop noseband strap is adjusted to allow two fingers vertical between bottom jaw and strap, and short enough to keep the bit in place. And a two finger width flat between the cheek bone and the Caveson, and two finger vertical between the jaw and strap.

REFERENCE: Trooper Study Guide

- 1. Identify and secure the drop noseband as a single item.
 - a. Install the drop noseband onto the headstall.
 - b. Bridle the horse; place the drop noseband over the horse's nose and the lower jaw/curb area.
 - c. Position noseband on the horse's nose just below the bit.
 - d. Adjust the noseband so two fingers vertical can be placed between the jaw and the strap.
 - e. Adjust the crownpiece strap so there is no slack between the bit and the drop noseband.
- 2. Identify and secure the Caveson as a single item.
 - a. Position the Caveson over the horse's nose and lower jaw; place the crown strap over both ears.

- b. Adjust the crown strap so you can place two fingers flat between the nose strap and jaw plate.
- c. Adjust the Caveson strap so two fingers vertical can be placed between the cheek plate and the strap.
- d. Bridle the horse and make adjustments as needed.

NOTE: Both the Drop Noseband and Caveson can be used as a single item or fixed on the bridle (headstall). They are used to keep the animal from escaping the effects of the bit.

TASK 29: MOUNTING AND DISMOUNTING McCLELLAN SADDLE

CONDITIONS: Given a horse saddled and bridled, preparing for drill or training, on command, you will mount and dismount a horse.

STANDARDS: On the command of "MOUNT", mount or dismount a saddled horse without difficulty, using precision and stability. Maintain control of your mount and do not cause the animal to lose its balance by hanging your weight on the side of the saddle.

REFERENCE: Elementary Mounted Instruction Manual

PERFORMANCE MEASURES:

- 1. Position yourself close to the horse on the near side, facing 45 degrees to the front. Place your left hand on the neck, with reins in hand, adjusted so you can feel light contact with the horse's mouth.
- 2. Place your left foot in into the stirrup, assist with the right hand if necessary; keep your left knee bent and lightly pressed against the saddle.
- 3. Simultaneously, place your right hand on the pommel.
- 4. At the command "MOUNT", spring up front the right foot keeping your hands firmly in place, and left knee slightly bent. Pass the right leg, knee bent, over the croup (NOTE: over the carbine or bedroll without touching either, and sit down lightly in the saddle).
- 5. Insert the right foot into the stirrup.
- 6. Take the reins in both hands, or as otherwise directed.

TO DISMOUNT: Execute all mounting movements in reverse order. Example: Your right foot was placed in the stirrup last during mounting, at the dismount, it is removed first at the command of "DIS" mount.

HCD TRAINING TASKS, CONDITIONS, & STANDARDS C" MINUS GROUP LEVEL 30 DAY TASKS

BULLET SAFETY STATEMENTS AND CAUTION NOTES:

- 1. Anytime you're working with or around a horse or mule, use extreme safety measures, to avoid getting kicked, bitten, or stepped on. All horses or mules are subject to kick at any time without warning.
- 2. ALL weapons are operated using the RIGHT hand.
- 3. Anytime you are handling a weapon (carbine or revolver), first clear it when it's handed to you. Be safe around personnel and animals, and never take for granted the weapon is unloaded.
- 4. When handling the saber, make sure you are comfortable using it, that you can physically control it, and that you can return it back into the scabbard while at the halt or on the move, without injury to yourself or your mount.

NOTE: Always draw the saber over the left wrist and rein hand, to prevent injury to yourself or your mount.

TASK 1: STABLE CLEANING AND MAINTENANCE

CONDITIONS: Given an assigned stall, wheel burrow, fork, rake, water hose, and scrub brush you are instructed to clean a stall and paddock, feeder, and water trough.

STANDARDS: Clean hard stall area, paddock, feeder, and water trough in order to maintain a sanitary stabling condition. Do not put left over clean hay in the feeder; leave it on the ground.

REFERENCES: Horsemanship Manual VOL II, Part III

PERFORMANCE MEASURES:

- 1. Dump water trough and scrub dirt and green film (algae) with scrub brush, refill with fresh water. Troughs will be dumped and cleaned at a minimum of once weekly or as directed.
- 2. Clean feeder of old grain products, rocks, dirt, or any other matter which is not a feed product.
- 3. Salt block should be available at free choice.
- 4. Using a pitch (stall) fork, clean stall free of manure, old hay, or any object not part of the stall or a non-prescribed feed product. Wet spots, holes (urine pockets) will be cleaned out and leveled with fresh dirt or sand. After heavy rains, any standing water will be drained from stall as much as possible.
- 5. All large (foot bruiser) rocks will be removed.
- 6. Check gate and metal feeder for any damage that can be a health threat to the animal.

TASK 2: FEEDING AND WATERING ANIMALS

CONDITIONS: You are on duty as Charge of Quarters (CQ), a supply of hay, grain, and water is available; you will feed all animals.

STANDARDS: Feed animals the prescribed amount indicated on feed chart. Make sure hay is not moldy or wet; check for evidence of moisture on grain bags. Check for excess (left over) hay; do not waste hay. Feed IAW CQ instructed scheduled times; feed hay in a corner on the ground.

REFERENCE: Current Feed Chart & Horsemanship Manual VOL II, Part III

PERFORMANCE MEASURES:

- 1. Follow ration chart on stall wall. Overfeeding or being underfed for their needs can cause a health condition. Check hay for mold (a moldy smell or discoloration), excess dust, or for trash prior to feeding. Feed hay in the stall corner on the ground.
- 2. Check grain for moldy smell (gray or blue chunks) before feeding.
- 3. Check feeders for cleanliness before pouring grain and for excess wasted hay on the ground before pouring flakes in the stall.
- 4. Grain is fed in measure of 3 lb coffee can, hay in flakes, one brick of hay considered a flake. Follow feed chart for specified amounts of grain, hay, or supplements.
- 5. Fresh water supply should be available at all times. Salt brick is available in the feeder all the time. Feeding schedule is in accordance with SOP or as desired.

TASK 3: HALTERING HORSE OR MULE (STALLED)

CONDITIONS: Given a halter with lead line, a designated stalled animal, you are instructed to bring the horse or mule to the tie rail.

STANDARDS: Using safety awareness and common sense enter stall without startling the animal; halter the horse or mule, making proper halter adjustment, open gate wide enough, lead out, and close the stall gate.

REFERENCE: IAW Internal Instructions

- 1. Inspect halter and lead line for tears, frayed strap, or cracked buckles and snaps.
- 2. Observe animal's actions before entering the stall. Have halter with lead line ready in hand before entering the stall (never startle an animal with loud noises).
- 3. When you enter a stall or approach from the rear, speak gently and make the animal aware of your presence. Approach from the near (left) side while saying "whoa" or "stand". An indication of an animal knowing you're around is by the turn of their head or rising of the ears. A sure indication they know you're present is when they face you.
- 4. With halter and lead line in left hand, put right arm around the neck, grab halter strap with right hand, buckle in left hand, slip noseband over the nostrils and muzzle by pulling upward, bring halter strap over the poll (behind the ears), and buckle halter. Adjust strap tight enough so the nose strap sets approx four fingers width above the nostrils.

TASK 4: CATCH AND HALTER PASTURED ANIMAL

CONDITIONS: Given a halter with lead line, you are directed to catch a designated (named) animal turned out in a pasture.

STANDARDS: Enter pasture; safely approach an animal without causing an excessive amount of disturbance of others or individual animal if pastured alone. Put halter on and adjust halter as instructed, lead-out and tie in with a limited amount of time (approx 10 minutes).

REFERENCE: IAW Internal Instructions

PERFORMANCE MEASURES:

- 1. With halter and lead line, enter pasture with the intent to catch a designated animal.
- 2. Approach from the left (near) side, making sure your presence is known by saying "whoa" or "stand". Do not try to sneak up on an animal from a blind side. If they make visual contact, move at a normal pace; don't slow down or present yourself as a predator-they will feel like prey.
- 3. If the subject animal is among a group, move towards the group with the least amount of commotion as possible so not to stir the herd/group.
- 4. Be aware of the distance from other animals' hind feet.
- 5. Approach animal with halter and lad line in left hand.
- 6. Put right arm around neck.
- 7. Grab halter strap with right hand, buckle in left hand, slip noseband opening over the nostrils and muzzle by pulling upward.
- 8. Bring halter strap over the poll (behind the ears) and buckle halter. Adjust strap tight enough so the nose strap sets approx four finger widths above the nostrils. A loose fitting halter can allow an animal to get free if they pull backward.

TASK 5: UN-HALTERING AND RELEASING ANIMAL

CONDITIONS: Given a horse or mule haltered with lead line, and ready to be released out to pasture.

STANDARDS: Properly lead an animal to pasture, enter through the gate opening, and use the correct release steps without incident.

REFERENCE: IAW Internal Instructions

- 1. When leading a horse or mule, be aware of the animal's behavior, particularly after having been stalled for a period without any type of exercise activity.
- 2. If animal appears high tempered or jumpy, circle or lounge them to take the edge of prior to being released.
- 3. Open the gate inward, lead animal completely through the opening and close the gate.
- 4. Walk a few paces from the fence, another animal, or person before removing the halter.

- 5. Turn animal facing towards you, at approx 90 degree angle.
- 6. Standing on the near side at the animal's neck area, place the lead line around the neck from the near side to the off side.
- 7. Holding the lead line above the snap in the left hand and the extra (tail) in the right hand, unbuckle the halter and completely remove it from the horse or mule.
- 8. Release the lead line from around the neck and step away from the animal, watching the rear feet in case they turn and strike out at you.

CAUTION: Never just lead an animal to a spot and unbuckle the halter without taking proper precaution steps. Never stay positioned parallel with the animal with your back to their rear feet when turning them loose. If they bolt forward once released before you can react, it is possible you will get kicked as they take off.

TASK 6: LEADING OUT

CONDITIONS: Given a haltered horse or mule, with lead line, you will lead a horse out to a designated tie rail or substituted point.

STANDARDS: With your back toward the animal as you are walking forward, lead to a designated area at the walk, unless instructed otherwise. Keep animal a safe distance behind you and off your heels.

REFERENCE: Horsemanship Manual VOL I, Part II

PERFORMANCE MEASURES:

- 1. Grasp the lead line with your right hand approx 12 inches positioned below the lead line snap, left hand holding the extra part of the lead line (shank).
- 2. Lead the animal without looking at him to the designated area.
- 3. The preferred trained distance at a walk, at a normal pace (36 inch step), is keeping the animal behind you and off your heels.
- 4. Animal should not step forward of your position further than a head length, with you maintaining control.

TASK 7: TIE TO RAIL

CONDITIONS: Given a haltered horse or mule with a lead line of approx six feet long and instructions to tie animal to a rail.

STANDARDS: Tie to secure object, in safe area using the overhand/clove hitch knot, with enough freedom of movement of their head.

REFERENCE: Elementary Mounted Instruction Manual

PERFORMANCE MEASURES:

- 1. Ensure object you tie off is safe and sturdy enough to restrain an animal.
- 2. Be aware that the animal you tie next to is not a trouble maker (kicker).
- 3. Tie animal with approx 18-24 inches between the rail and nose when tying off.
- 4. Never snub (short tie) an animal, this can cause one to panic (lay back on the lead line). Quick movements around their head should be avoided.
- 5. Use an overhand knot with quick release (also called a clove hitch knot).

TASK 8: ANATOMY IDENTIFICATION

CONDITIONS: Given a groomed horse or mule unsaddled, haltered, and tied to rail.

STANDARDS: Identify the 46 regions or points of anatomy for a horse or mule, in accordance with the current study guide without missing one.

REFERENCE: Horsemanship Manual Vol II, Part III & Trooper Study Guide

PERFORMANCE MEASURES:

- 1. Be aware of the animal's reaction or behavior anytime you are around them.
- 2. Starting at the nose of the animal, identify the region pointed out and give the correct name. There are 46 anatomy points or regions, as illustrated in the most current trooper study guide.
- 3. Check for injuries, blemishes, or marks within each area.

TASK 9: TACK BOX & EQUIPMENT IDENTIFICATION

CONDITIONS: Given a tack box with assigned grooming equipment, instructions to identify each item, and the use of each item.

STANDARDS: Identify all grooming equipment, describe the proper use of each one, inspect for serviceability and cleanliness.

REFERENCE: IAW Internal Instruction & Trooper Study Guide

- 1. Every tack box should be equipped with a minimum of a currycomb (round spring type), body brush, rubber massage/curry, mane and tail comb, hoof pick, shedding blade, sweat scrape blade, and grooming cloth.
- 2. Hoof pick (hook) used to clean out the feet.
- 3. Spring (metal) currycomb used to loosen caked dirt and scurf. Use only enough pressure to loosen the dirt and scurf.
- 4. Horse (body) brush is used as the main part of grooming and can be used with vigorous application to all parts of the body.
- 5. Rubber curry can be used with moderate circular motion as if to massage the hair and skin, loosening the dirt and scurf.

- 6. Main and tail comb used for the forelock, mane, and tail.
- 7. Shedding blade commonly used to remove excess hair, normally after the winter hair coat.
- 8. Sweat scraper blade used to remove lather, sweat, or excess water after washing an animal.
- 9. Grooming cloth used to finish a grooming job, to clean the face area, eyes, nostrils, dock, or any area where the skin is soft.

NOTE: All grooming equipment should be frequently washed in warm, soapy water as a precaution to prevent the spreading of skin disease.

TASK 10: GROOMING METHOD

CONDITIONS: Given a complete grooming box with equipment, a horse or mule, and ten minutes, conduct grooming exercise.

STANDARDS: Groom animal using the proper equipment for specific area, insure a systematic and thorough grooming method has been conducted, using the minimum amount of time. No line of gray dust or scurf should show when a hand is run against the lay of the hair and name and tail should be free of tangled hair. Feet should be cleaned and moisturizer applied if necessary.

NOTE: Never use the metal curry comb from the knee or hock down, the face, head, or any bony area of the animal. The object of grooming is for general health, cleanliness, prevention of disease, condition and appearance.

REFERENCE: Horsemanship Manual Vol II, Part III & Trooper Study Guide

- 1. With the hoof pick in hand, work from the heel to the toe, clean between the frog and the bars, the cleft or the area at the back of the frog being careful not to use pressure injuring the tissue. Inspect the foot for any damage or thrush between the frog and bars, loose and missing horseshoe nails and/or shoe.
- 2. With the horse (body) brush in left hand, currycomb in right hand, begin brushing the neck, breast, withers, shoulders, and foreleg down to the hoof. Then the back, side, belly, loin, flank, croup, and near hind leg down to the hoof. Change brush to the right hand and curry to the left and repeat the procedure on the off (right) side in the same manner.
- 3. After every few strokes, clean the dust from the brush and currycomb. To clean the currycomb, strike lightly against the rail or the heel of your boot.
- 4. With grooming cloth, wipe the face, nostrils, around the eyes, ears, and under the dock. Give an overall final polish, paying particular attention to the soft skin parts of the body.
- 5. Using the mane and tail comb, work from the end of the hair to the root to remove any tangled hair.

TASK 11&12: HANDLING FRONT AND REAR FEET

CONDITIONS: Given a horse or mule haltered and tied to a rail, in a dry, natural ground condition environment, to lift and examine front & rear foot.

STANDARDS: Approach animal without startling him, using proper body position to pick up and handle four feet without getting the horse or mule off balance.

REFERENCE: Elementary Mounted Instruction Manual

PERFORMANCE MEASURES FOR FRONT FEET:

- 1. Approach the animal quietly but in a firm manner to examine or clean his front feet.
- 2. Starting on near (left) side at the shoulder area, facing the rear and close to the animal, run the left hand down the back of the leg from forearm to fetlock.
- 3. Run your hand down from the knee towards the fetlock area, giving a light squeeze, indicating to the animal to pick up his foot.
- 4. Pick foot up, holding it in palm of left hand. Hold hoof pick with right hand to clean the foot. Examine for any damage or loose shoe. Keep foot (forearm) close to animal; try not to get animal unbalanced.
- 5. Proceed to off (right) side using same method to handle the right foot.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES FOR REAR FEET:

- 1. Approach animal to examine or clean the rear/hind feet in a quiet but firm manner.
- 2. Standing at the near (left) side by the flank, facing to the ear of the animal, place your left hand on the haunch.
- 3. Run the right hand down the outside of the leg from haunch area to pastern.
- 4. With both knees slightly bent, lift the foot while stepping in with animal's leg resting on your left leg/knee. When you feel the animal relax, slowly step forward, extending the leg to the rear.
- 5. Using the left hand to help support or control leg, use right to clean foot. Once finished, return leg back to start position supporting with hand until it contacts the ground.
- 6. Proceed to the off (right) side, switch hands using the same method to handle the right foot.

TASK 13: WASHING OR RINSING A HORSE OR MULE

CONDITIONS: Given an animal, warm weather, temperature above 70 degrees or higher, or an animal completing a workout and properly cooled down, a wash area with water, hose and soap (if required), prepare to wash animal.

STANDARDS: Wash, rinse, and properly dry and groom an animal before being stalled or turned out to pasture. Improper cool down or drying of an animal can cause sickness conditions.

NOTE: No animal should be washed in cold weather below 65 degrees without the proper facilities, i.e.: warm water and/or indoors, or the proper supervision.

REFERENCE: Horsemanship Manual Vol II, Part III

PERFORMANCE MEASURES:

- 1. Washing or rinsing (splash bath) of animals will be done only when necessary and directed by someone in charge i.e.: supervisor or trainer.
- 2. Animals may be rinsed with a garden hose and cool from a hydrant during warm or hot summer months; after a workout which caused them to get sweaty more than normal (white foamy film dripping wet); only after proper cool down.
- 3. Occasionally it is necessary to bath an animal with mild soap or equine shampoo, or medicated shampoo for an identified skin condition, depending on the circumstance. Excess washing of an animal can remove the natural oils from their skin.

TASK 14: CLEANING THE SHEATH (GELDINGS)

CONDITIONS: A male (gelded) horse or mule has been identified as having a dirty, foul sheath and symptoms of having problems during urination.

STANDARDS: Using all safety precautions, properly clean the sheath and remove any waxy accumulation known as the "bean", without getting hurt or causing the animal unnecessary discomfort.

REFERENCE: Horsemanship Manual, Vol II, Part III

- Using a clean bucket of warm water or tab (faucet) water and hose, mild dishwashing or castile soap, and a sponge or non-abrasive cloth. You may use surgical gloves if available. NOTE: Make sure your fingernails are cut short and smooth and remove any jewelry that might interfere prior to beginning this task.
- 2. Some animals will not be co-operative with this treatment. This will raise their left hind foot in an attempt to kick you or try to move in different directions to escape you.
- 3. Stand on the near (left) side close to the animal at the barrel, facing to the ear towards the hip area while performing this task.
- 4. Using the hose, thoroughly rinse the inside of the sheath. Form a lather with the sponge or cloth and thoroughly clean and remove the accumulated secretion from around the penis and from inside the sheath area.
- 5. An accumulation of waxy secretion which can form into a hard ball of wax called a "bean" will collect in a depression (known as the urethra) in the head of the penis at the urinary opening. A bean can cause pain for the animal and interfere with urination.
- 6. Remove the bean with your finger being careful not to scratch or injure the inside of the urethra (opening) of the penis.
- 7. Some animals will not be cooperative with this treatment. They will raise their left hind foot in an attempt to kick you. Stand close to the animal at the barrel facing to the rear towards the hip area while performing this task.

TASK 15: COOL DOWN AFTER WORK

CONDITIONS: Weather temperature is above 70 degrees, you have completed training exercise, animal is hot; breathing is faster than normal, body is wet or lathered slightly about the neck and chest area. Prepare animal to be returned to the stall.

STANDARDS: Animals breathing rate is normal, body is dry (if wet or lathered) after an exercise, and groomed prior to being returned to the stall.

REFERENCE: IAW Internal Instruction

- 1. Walk animal until breathing rate is normal (10 to 30 breaths per minute).
- Down tack (remove saddle and bridle), and re-halter mount. NOTE: If temperature is below 60 degrees and animal is wet, allow to dry before removing the saddle. This will help prevent any cold condition (sickness) an animal can get.
- 3. Allow hair to dry before grooming.
- 4. Touch area around he chest, between the front legs (breast area), and flank area. It should feel dry to the touch.
- 5. Complete the basic grooming steps and return animal back to the appropriate stabling location (pasture or stall).

PMC Sophomore Evaluation	Evaluator:
Name: Date: Unit: Major: Position Sought:	
SCORE CRITERIA SCALE Interview Appearance	COMMENT 0=poor 5=excellent
Information Form	0=late/incomplete
Cumulative GPA Expected Fall GPA	5=on time/complete Below 2.0 (-10) 2.0-2.5 (+1) 2.51-3.0 (+3) 3.0 or above (+5)
Corps Discipline	10=extensive
	5=no discipline record
Cav Leadership excellent	1=poor 10=always
excenent	Leadership
Observed Work Ethic	1=needs constant
direction	10=self starter
Skill Test skill	1=poor 10=superior
QUESTIONS/ANSWERS	1=poor response 5=quality response
2	
3.	
4	
5.	

 6	
 Overall Impression 20=excellent impression	1=poor impression
 TOTAL SCORE	

JUNIOR TRAINING

	JUNIOK IKAININ		-
	Торіс	Assigned Instructor	Completion Date
WEEK 1			
WEERI	Ground Work: Ch 9, pg 91		
	 Desensitization 		
	Yielding		
	Following		
	Hindquarters		
	Flexing the neck		
	Obstacles		
	Distractions		
	"The horse seeks the level of the		
	rider"		
WEEK 2			
WLLK Z	Barahady, Ch.O. ng 91		
	Bareback: Ch 9, pg 81		
	Mounting		
	Exercises		
	1 rein stop		
	"Ride your horse with your whole		
	body, not just your arms and legs"		
WEEK 3			
	Equitation: Ch 7, pg 71		
	Mounting		
	Dismounting		
	 Seat exercises 		
	"The horse is <u>never</u> wrong"		
WEEK 4			
	Basic Flexibility Exercise: Ch 15		
	Lateral flexion		
	 Control the hindquarters 		
	Control the forehand		
	"Be as gentle as possible and as firm		
	as necessary"		
WEEK 5			
	Forward Movement and Collection:		
	Ch 16, pg 165		
	 N, S, E, W exercise 		
	 Direct rein hand and leg 		
	coordination		
	147 -		
	weaving		
	"To control the hindquarters is to		
	control the horse's engine"		
		1	1

WEEK 6	Cide Dessing and Callesting. Ch. 10, an	
	Side Passing and Collection: Ch 16, pg	
	165	
	"The way you ride today constitutes the	
	kind of horse you'll ride tomorrow"	
WEEK 7		
	Circles & Lead Changes: Ch 17, pg 177	
	Performing perfect circles	
	Lead departures	
	Lead changes	
	D exercises/ figure 8 exercises	
	"Take the time it takes"	
WEEK 8		
	Stop & Back Up: Ch 18, pg 185	
	Develop the stop	
	"Notice the smallest change and the	
	slightest try and reward your horse"	
WEEK 9	Washing of Lindoustase Disets	
	Working of Hindquarters-Pivots,	
	Rollbacks, & Spins: Ch 19, pg 195	
	"If you don't remember anything else,	
	remember to go slowly"	
WEEK 10		
WEEK IU	Working Off the Hindquarters continued:	
	Ch 19	
	"Feel what your horse is feeling, and	
	operate from where your horse is"	
WEEK 11		
	Longe-Line Techniques: Ch 12, pg 121	
	Change directions	
	Longing in motion back and forth	
	Lateral movement	
	Obstacles	
	"The better your horse is on the ground,	
	the better he'll be when you ride"	
WEEK 12		
	Leading and Advanced Leading: Ch 10,	
	pg 103	
	Hobble Breaking: Ch 11, pg 113	
	"It's like a dance-there's a leader and a	
	follower"	
WEEK 13	Level 2 Chill Testing	
	Level 2-Skill Testing	

JUNIOR TRAINING REFERENCE

Cameron, Craig. Western Horseman: Ride Smart. Colorado Springs: Western Horseman Magazine, 2005.

PMC WEEKLY TRAINING PLAN:

WEEK #____ WEEK OF_____ OBJECTIVE:_____

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	<u>WEDNESDAY</u>	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	<u>SUNDAY</u>

Must Do This Week:

1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	
6.	

Could Do This Week:

PMC DAILY TRAINING SCHEDULE:

 WEEK #_____
 DATE:______
 Sunday/Monday/Tuesday/Wed/Thursday/Friday/Saturday

GREEN TEAM:	BLUE TEAM:	YELLOW TEAM:
A.M/Formation/PT	A.M/Formation/PT	A.M/Formation/PT

TIME:	TIME:	TIME:
Training/Work Objective:	Training/Work Objective:	Training/Work Objective:
Activity:	Activity:	Activity:
Reference (manual, etc):	Reference (manual, etc):	Reference (manual, etc):
Resources or Material Required:	Resources or Material Required:	Resources or Material Required:
Lead Instructor:	Lead Instructor:	Lead Instructor:
Other Staff:	Other Staff:	Other Staff:

PMC ACTION LIST:

WEEK OF:_____

MUST DO: 1.	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	FOLLOW UP
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		
SHOULD DO:	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	FOLLOW UP
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		
COULD DO: 1.	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	FOLLOW UP
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		

SENIOR SABER TRAINING



The weight should hang low in the support to make it more stable. When the dummy is used outside, iron pins with L-shaped heads may be driven into the ground with the projection over the support to prevent it from being knocked down. In the hall it will occasionally be upset. The supports cannot be made longer or the horses will step on them. An ordinary sack filled with straw makes a good prone dummy. An old blouse and breeches should be put on it to accustom the horses to go steadily among men. Rings or other targets which offer no resistance to the saber should not be used. Dummies made by suspending sacks from above are unsat-isfactory as they swing up instead of down when struck.

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This booklet is a true reproduction of the Saber Exercise Manual – 1914 published on 23 March 1914 by the Office of the Chief of Staff, War Department.

The manual was written by Master of the Sword, Lt. George S. Patton, Jr. for use with the Model 1913 Cavalry Saber which was designed by Lt. Patton.

The drawings in this booklet are exact reproduc-tions of the originals.

Charl Al. Coming

Charles M. Province The Patton Society 3116 Thorn Street San Diego CA 92104-4618



NATIONAL WAR COLLEGE

Construction of dummies.

45. As nearly all the mounted work with the saber is carried on against dummies it is necessary to have suitable ones. The resistance should be approximate that offered by a human body, and the dummy should be constructed so as to give way in about the same manner as a human body in combat, without hurting the trooper or frightening his horse.



A dummy constructed on the following lines seems to answer the purpose. It can be made out of old material, at small cost, by anyone who can use tools.

The dummy itself is a cylinder of burlap or sacking 10 inches in diameter and 20 inches long. The upper end may be fastened with a string or sewed. The lower end is tacked to the frustum of a right cone 10 inches in diameter at the upper section and 6 or 7 inches at the lower. The frustum is from 3 to 4 inches thick. The sack or cylinder of burlap is stuffed as tightly as possible with straw. A strip of leather nailed around the bottom of the sack where it joins the wooden base keeps the burlap from tearing out.

The wooden support is made as shown in the diagram. The basin at the top in which the dummy moves is made by cutting holes of suitable diameter in two or three 1-inch boards and nailing them together. The diameter of the basin should be 3 inches greater than that of the base of the dummy.

The weight, a bag of sand, should weigh about 40 pounds. It can be changed to vary the stiffness of the dummy. War Department, Document No. 463. Office of the Chief of Staff War Department Office of the Chief of Staff Washington, March 23, 1914

The following Saber Exercise, prepared by Second Lieutenant George S. Patton, Jr., Fifteenth Cavalry, Master of the Sword at the Mounted Service School, and revised by the Cavalry Board, is approved and issued for the information and government of the Regular Army and the Organized Militia of the United States.

By order of the Secretary of War:

Leonard Wood Major-General, Chief of Staff If in the above case both touches are of equal value each man is given zero.

If no touch is made in the time allowed each is given minus one. When one man clearly runs away and the other is unable to catch him, the man who runs is given minus one, the other zero.

Each organization must enter the same number of contestants; the one with the largest algebraic sum at the end wins. Or the combat can be to determine individual championship, in which case each contestant must fight every other contestant; the one losing the smallest number of bouts wins. If several lose the same number they must fight off the tie.

Combat by Groups. Place two groups of four troopers each in line with 6 yard intervals facing each other 50 yards apart. At a signal the troopers gallop toward each other in the position of guard, each trooper passing to the right of the one facing him. When the lines have passed the troopers turn about individually and attack any one of the opponents they please. The signal is given and the bout stops when all the members of one group have been touched, or at the end of one minute.

The following rules must be observed: 1. A man who is fairly touched must hold up his saber and gallop

from the enclosure.

A man must not touch another if he himself is touched.

3. A man striking his own or another horse is counted as touched.

4. A man using the edge is counted as touched.

A man going slower than a gallop or who is forced from the enclosure is counted as touched.

6. A man guilty of dangerous riding is counted as touched.

7. The individual combat should be conducted in some sort of marked off space 50 yards square; the combat by groups in a similar enclosure. The above seven rules apply to both individual combat and combat

by groups. If the combat by groups is part of a competition the following rules

for scoring hold:

That side wins which has the most men left at the end of a minute. It is scored plus one, the losing side minus one. If each side loses the same number of men, the one first losing

If each side loses the same number of men, the one first losing them is scored minus one and the other plus one. If each side loses the same number in the same time, each is given

zero. If a man fails to admit a touch, his side is given minus one.

If neither side loses a man, each is given minus one.

The groups are not allowed to charge each other as, to avoid accidents, they would have to pull up or charge with intervals; in neither case could the effect of the charge demonstrated. Third Example. Jump the hurdle at the guard, attack dummy No.1 at charge saber, No. with a lunge to the right; Jump the second hurdle at the guard, attacking No.3 to the left while in the air; take a broad Jump, or two hurdles fixed to simulate one, and attack No.4 to the right front in the air.

These examples can be practiced either in a hall or on the drill ground. In addition, dummles may be made of sacks filled with straw and either tied to posts or hung from trees and placed on varied ground. Dummles must always be attacked at the gallop and hence not placed where this gait is impossible.

(g) Exercise in pursuit.

43. This exercise should be carried on in a riding hall, or in some place with clearly marked limits, so that the pursued will have to stay within these limits and hence dodge. Besides being an exercise in riding and handling the horse, it is also most excellent in teaching a man to keep his left rear guard covered.

Example. — Fasten a knot of ribbon or paper to the left shoulder of a trooper. Give him a start of a few yards and then have a second man pursue him and try to snatch the ribbon. If, at the end of two minutes, the ribbon is still secure, send out a second man and let the two continue the chase for an additional minute. Obstacles should be placed to ald the trooper in dodging, and at the same time practice him in jumping.

(h) Exercise in combat.

44. Only troopers who have shown marked proficiency in all the previous exercises, and who in addition have sufficient intelligence and discipline to abide absolutely by the rules, should be allowed to participate in this exercise. And even with these precautions the exercise has such a tendency to make men slow up and to frighten horses that it should not be frequently indulged in, and never without an officer as judge.

Individual Combat. Place two troopers armed with masks and exercise sabers facing each other at a distance of 50 yards. At a signal they approach each other at the gallop in the position of guard. Each tries to touch. When one touch is made, or at the end of 30 seconds if no touch is made, a signal is given and the bout stopped. If the bout is part of a competition the scoring is as follows:

Plus one for the man making the touch.

Minus one for the man touched.

If both touches occur at the same moment the man who in the opinion of the judge makes the most serious touch is given plus one and the other man minus one.

SABER EXERCISE

For military purposes the nomenclature of the saber is as follows;
 Blade and hilt.

The blade is divided into the **forte**, the 18 inches nearest the hilt; and the point, the rest of the blade. The saber, Model 1913, is two-edged. All the front edge, and half the back edge, is sharp, so that it may be more easily withdrawn from a body, and also, on rare occasions, used to cut. Throughout the text the word **edge** when used alone will mean front edge.

The hilt is divided into the guard, which protects the hand; the grip, which the hand holds, and the pommel, the lower end of the grip, used to strike with in close fight.

2. The saber is solely a weapon of offense and is used in conjunction with the other offensive weapon, the horse, In all the training, the idea of speed must be conserved. No direct parries are taught, because at the completion of a parry the enemy is already beyond reach of an attack. The surest parry is a disabled opponent.

In the charge and in the melee, the trooper must remember that on the speed of his horse in attack, and on his own offensive spirit, rest nine-tenths of his chances of success.

3. Instruction is divided into: Instruction on foot, and Instruction mounted.

Instruction on foot teaches the mechanism of the use of the saber without embarrassing the trooper with the control of a horse. It's chief purpose is to increase the reach, teach accuracy and quickness, and above all, to make the thrust instinctive.

GENERAL PLAN FOR DISMOUNTED INSTRUCTION.

 ${\bf 4.}$ (a) The normal guard; the other guards (four). Practice in assuming the various guards.

(b) The five points (thrusts). Practice in pointing,

(c) Thrusts of precision against instructor.
 (d) Increase of distance so as to cause the trooper to take the lunge

naturally.

(e) The lung at the right moment.

(f) Exercises to develop the initiative of the trooper.

(g) Replying to attack. (h) Combat exercises.

(i) Instruction in parrying the lance.

After the trooper, using the exercise saber, has mastered (a) to (d), the last part of the instruction each day should be with the regulation saber, making points and lunges at command, thus developing the muscles and making the trooper familiar with his weapon. APPLICATION OF THE GENERAL PLAN FOR DISMOUNTED INSTRUCTION.

5. Grasping the saber. Grasp the grip with all the fingers of the hand, the thumb extending along the back of the grip so as to occupy the lower half of the thumb groove, i.e., the part nearest the pommel. If the thumb occupies the entire groove it will be so near the guard that it may be bruised if the point encounters a strong resistance.



6. The normal guard, or guard to the right front. At the command GUARD, carry the right foot about 24 inches to the right and bend the knees to simulate the position mounted. Incline the body to the front from the waist (not the hips). Let the blade fall to the front to a position near the horizontal, elbow well away from the body, forearm and saber forming one straight line, edge of the blade to the right, point at height of adversary's breast, at the same time placing the left hand, closed, 6 inches in front of the belt buckle to simulate the position of the bride hand. This is the position of guard, dismounted. It is usually taught from the carry, but may be assumed from any position at the command guard. The other guard positions are taught from the normal guard.

In all guards, lunges, etc., the left hand should be kept steady and in place to as to form the habit of not jerking the horse's mouth when exercising mounted.



7. 1. Left front, 2. GUARD. Carry the right hand to the left so that it is above and slightly in front of the left hand. The saber is held as before except that the wrist is bent slightly to the right so as to decrease the angle between the blade and the neck of the horse. If the wrist is not use the charge saber and accentuate the leaning to the front. Against broken infantry or men lying down attack from the guard.



First example. Attack No. 1 at charge saber, then, still keeping the gallop, attack the other four dummies in any suitable order as long as two are attacked to the right or right front and two to the left or left front.



Second example. Attack dummy No.1 at charge saber, No.2 with a lunge to the left front, No. 3 with a lunge to the left, No. 4 with a lunge to the right, No. 5 with a lunge to the left front, and No. 6 (a prone figure) with a lunge to the right front low.



to the right and left. After charge saber or lunge to the right front, the saber will usually have penetrated deeply. The trooper in withdrawing it should give a decided pull to the rear as he rotates his wrist to the right. This does not remove the saber, but the movement tightens the muscles of the forearm and prevents the wrist from bending and being hurt. There must be no thought of withdrawing the saber until it has gone well home in the dummy.

After lunge to the left front there is a tendency to let the hand come over the head in withdrawing the saber. This is dangerous, as a slip may cut the face. As soon as the blade has gone well home force the hand down, keeping the elbow stiff, straighten the body to the guard position, at the same time the back of the hand will come against the body near the belt and the movement of the horse will easily withdraw the saber.

Place a hurdle or low fence so as to form a barrier between the trooper and the dummy and about 5 feet from the dummy. Cause the trooper at guard to pass this on his right hand and lunge to the right as he passes, then turn and taking guard to the left front, lunge to the left front as he passes. The only use of the barrier is to keep the troopers from riding too close to the dummy; if this can be done without the barrier, the latter may be omitted.

(f) Varied work against dummies.

42. The preceding exercises should be practiced until the trooper has accuracy and confidence. As the charge is the chief feature of combat, the first dummy should always be attacked from the charge saber. If a trooper gets careless or flinches, he must go back to (e).

The object of the following exercises is to simulate combat, to develop bold riding, and increase confidence. The exercises given below are examples of what may be done; the difficulty must be proportionate to the ability of the trooper as a horseman. It must be remembered that in all attacks against a dummy from

It must be remembered that in all attacks against a dummy from charge saber, the trooper is supposed to be in the front rank of a line charging in close order. His horse is jammed in the press of horses and can only move to the front. If a horse at drill continually avoids a dummy when his rider is at the charge, he should be put in a chute or in some other way made to move straight to the front. When the dummies are attacked from a guard position the trooper is supposed to be in a melee or in line in extended formation. When attacking from guard to the right front or left front the lunge must always be at the right moment; there must be no short lunges or poking. The saber is fully extended in time for the speed of the horse to do the penetrating. In lunges or points to the right or left it is, on the other hand, the power of the man, not the speed of the horse, which causes penetration. Against infantry in line bent the blade points too much to the left.

In all movements of the saber from one side to the other raise the saber slightly when passing over the horse's head so as not to scare him. This movement should be insisted on dismounted so as to form the habit.



8. 1. Right, 2. GUARD. Carry the hand, elbow bent and well away from the body, 90 degrees to the right, forearm and blade nearly horizontal and pointing to the right, point at height of breast of adversary, edge to the rear, finger nails down, head and eyes to the right or in the direction of the point; at the same time straighten the body on the hips so that, if mounted, the trooper would be sitting erect.



9. 1. Left, 2. CUARD. Carry the hand in front of the left breast, fingernails down, elbow well away from the body, forearm and blade nearly horizontal and pointing to the left, point at height of adversary, edge to the front, head and eyes in the direction of the point; at the same time straighten the body on the hips so that, if mounted, the trooper would sit erect.



10. 1. Right rear, 2. GUARD. Carry the hand well to the right rear, fingernalis down, blade pointing downward making an angle of about 45 degrees with the ground, body erect and twisted to the right rear at the waist, head and eves in the direction of the point.

11. In teaching the guards, as in all subsequent instruction, care must be exercised not to teach the movements "by the numbers," as it has been in great measure due to this tendency that, with the former regulations, the idea of the saber as a weapon largely disappeared from the mind of the trooper.

The manual of the saber (that is, the carry, present, etc.) is the only part that should be exact. The guards, lunges, etc., with the saber are to it what range practice is to the rifle. Results are what count, not useless uniformity at drill. This does not mean that details should be slighted, but it does mean that there should be no idea of cadence.

When the various positions of guard, as taught from the normal guard, have been mastered, they should be taken from any guard, from rest, or from any position whatever at the appropriate command.



12. Being on guard: 1. Right front, 2. POINT. Without moving the body extend the saber in the direction in which it is pointing with maximum force and rapidity, rotating the wrist slightly to the left at the same time, so that edge will be up and to the right; resume the guard at once. In drawing back the hand, rotate the wrist to the right until the fingernalis are up; when the guard is reached, turn the fingernalis down and resume guard as prescribed. The object of this rotation is to give a more secure hold in withdrawing the saber from a body. It must be insisted upon at all times in points and lunges to the right front and in charge saber.



When the horses cease being excited, have the troopers strike the flats of their exercise sabers together as they halt opposite each other, and then pass on. Later, strike sabers without halting.

Place the troopers on concentric circles on opposite hands and have them strike the flats of their sabers as they pass.

Finally, lines of troopers with intervals should pass through each other at a gallop, striking their exercise sabers as they pass, exciting the horses as little as possible.

(d) Passing among dummies.

 Dummies should be movable and not always set up in the same place.

Arrange five or six dummies on a rectangle at varied intervals. Have the instructor on a trained horse lead the column of troopers through the dummies at all gaits. When the horses go fairly well, the troopers should begin thrusting at the dummies and striking their sabers against the supports. Put the nervous horses at the rear of the column.



41. Place the dummies in a row with about 10 yard intervals. Have the troopers attack them to the right front in the position of charge saber, at the walk, trot, and school gallop. Insist that the trooper does not flinch, but keeps his full extension until the point has entered the dummy, and the instantly withdraws it and assumes guard with the rotation to the right described in point to the right front. When the trooper is proficient, place a second row of dummies 10 yards behind the first and cause the troopers to attack the first row as before and the second from guard. In the second attack be sure that they make full lunges at the right moment and not too late, as is the usual tendency. After both attacks the guard must be instantly resumed.

There is no trouble in withdrawing the saber from dummies in lunges

consulting the figures.

The lunges should be made very slowly at first, so as not to frighten the horses; when the horses have become accustomed to the movements, snap and vigor must be insisted on.

When using the lunge to the rear in combat, the only way for the man in front to reach his pursuer suddenly to attack him, is to check his horse quickly at the moment of making his lunge to the rear. To do this he closes his legs forcibly behind the girth and increases the pull on the reins, momentarily supporting his weight by them as he lunges and resumes the guard.

At drill, however, the trooper does not make this sudden half halt, on account of the danger of punishing the horse's mouth, but on executing the lunge to the rear allows the reins to slip through the fingers of the left hand, supporting himself by these fingers on the pommel of the saddle.

(b) Guards, points, and lunges at the various gaits.

38. When lunges are first made on a horse he will frequently swerve from his course or change his gait. These tendencies must be overcome.

Place the troopers in formations such as columns of troopers on a circle or on the track with a distance of two horse lengths between horses. Or, being in column of troopers on the track, as the head of the column crosses the short end of the rectangle, have the leading three or four troopers move by the flank straight down the length of the rectangle, each succeeding three or four to follow the first.

Being in such formation commence at the walk and cause the troopers to execute guards, points, lunges, and charge saber at command. See that full and accurate extensions are made and that horses do not change gait or direction. Do not increase gait until troopers and horses go well. Combat the tendency to make only partial extensions. Have charge saber held for considerable periods. The work should be carried on in the vicinity of dummies so that the horses may gradually become used to them.

(c) To accustom the horse to the saber.

39. When handling horses that have not become used to the sight of the saber at drill, it is best to use the exercise saber. Let the trooper carry it and execute the movements under (b) at a walk.

Arrange the troopers with intervals in two parallel lines and cause them to advance as if to pass through the intervals, first at guard and later at charge saber. When the troopers are opposite each other have them halt and raise their sabers, all the while soothing their horses; then resume the guard and continue the march. 13. Being on guard to the left front: 1. Left front, 2. POINT. Extend the saber in the direction in which it is pointing with maximum force and rapidity, rotating the hand to the left so that the edge of the blade is up; twist the body slightly to the left at the walst; resume the guard at once. Care must be taken not to move the bridle hand.



14. Being on guard to the right: 1. Right, 2. POINT. Without moving the body, extend the saber to the right with maximum force and rapidity; resume the guard at once.



15. Being on guard to the left: 1. Left, 2. POINT. Extend the saber in the direction in which it is pointing with maximum force and rapidity, rotating the wrist to the rear so that the edge of the extended blade will be up; twist the body slightly to the left at the waist; resume the guard at once. Do not derange the bridle hand.



16. Being on guard to the right rear: 1. Right rear, 2. POINT. Raise the hand until the forearm and blade are nearly horizontal; then extend the arm to the right rear with maximum force and rapidity, rotating the wrist to the right at the same time, so that when the full extension is reached toe fingernails will be up and the edge of the blade to the right; resume the guard at once.



A momentary pause at the horizontal position is necessary in order to get the saber in the desired direction.

17. The points are explained from their respective guards for simplicity. When they have been mastered they should be executed from any other guard as well as from the appropriate one; also two or more points should be made at one command. Examples, being in any guard: 1. Right front and left front; or, 1. Right front and right, or etc., 2. POINT. Point in the directions named with the utmost rapidity and then return to the guard from which the movement started. Or, being in any guard: 1. Right front (left front, or right), 2. Two times, 3. POINT. Point twice in the direction named and resume the guard from which the movement started.

Example of going from one guard to a different point: Being on guard to the left front, 1. **Right front**, 2. **POINT**. Lift the saber so as not to strike the horse's head and execute right front point, merely sliding through the normal guard and returning from the extension to the left front guard by the shortest line.

In all the points the eye follows the point.

(c) Thrusts of precision.

18. The trooper uses an exercise saber. The instructor wearing a plastron and mask, but without a saber, approaches him on his right front and causes him to take the position of guard. The instructor verifies the position accurately and in the same way causes him to take the other four guards. He next moves around the trooper, causing the latter to follow him with his point, thus passing naturally from one guard to another.

In this and in all succeeding exercises where men oppose each other dismounted, care must be taken that they do not exactly face each other when practicing combat to the front. If mounted this would be impossible as horses will not run into each other head-on if they can avoid it. Hence if "A," facing north, is attacked by "B," to the right front, "B" will



37. The points and lunges are executed as has been explained dismounted. Care must be taken that the legs remain in place and do not fly to the rear. In making the extension in the lunges to the front and in charge saber, the left hand supports part of the weight on the neck of the horse, and the left forearm rests on the horse's left shoulder.

The positions are simple and natural and can be best understood by

Lunge to the Front



face south, and a zone of indefinite length running from north to south and at least one foot wide will separate, at all times, the lines of advance of the right feet of the combatants.



If "A" is attacked by "B" to the right, they would face as above, but the separating zone would be wider and "B" would be opposite "A." Similar conventions must be maintained in attacks from left front

Similar conventions must be maintained in attacks from left from and left, and from the right rear.

Conditions where men cross each other diagonally will arise in combat and may be practiced mounted; but, dismounted, they cannot be even approximately represented.

Also, in combat troopers should ride down opponents, striking them head-on in the flank, but this cannot be practiced.

When the trooper has gone through all the guards accurately the instructor will begin at the right front, placing himself in the position described and at such a distance the trooper may reach him easily. He will indicate with his finger various places on his body, give the command **POINT**, and cause the trooper to point rapidly at them and resume the guard quickly each time. He will not advance to a new guard until the trooper is accurate in the one he is in.

This same practice should be carried on with the service sabers against a bag of bran or sand fixed at the height of a man's chest, the instructor using a wire circle 3 inches in diameter on the end of a stick to indicate the spot and cause the trooper to point through it.

(d) Practice with increased distance.

19. When the trooper is accurate at (c) the instructor directs him to take the position of guard and to point at him, gradually increasing the distance to that the trooper must lean farther and farther to the front to touch him.

As the trooper extends his arm and body to the utmost he should

rotate his hand to the left so that when fully extended the edge of the saber will be up and the fingernails to the right. The blade should be at the height of the eye, the line of sight parallel to the direction of the blade. The body should be bent forward so as to be nearly horizontal, the trooper making every effort to reach as far to the front as possible.



This is the position of Lunge to the right front, also the position of

Charge Saber. 20. Being at any guard: 1. To the right front, 2. LUNGE. The above position is taken, making the extension with maximum force and

At the command: 1. Charge, 2. SABER, the above position is taken and held until changed by some appropriate command, such as: Guard, Carry Saber, etc. In returning to any guard or other position from the right front lunge or charge saber, the same rotation of the wrist to the right is made as in returning from the right front point.

21. The instructor now causes the extension to the left front to be taken in the same way. When the extension is completed, the blade should be at the height of the eye and parallel to the line of sight, the edge of the blade up and slightly to the left; the body bent well to the left front so as to be nearly horizontal, left shoulder carried forcibly to the rear so as to be covered by the extended saber. It is taken from any guard at the command: 1. To the left front, 2. LUNGE.



1. Right rear, 2. GUARD. The right hand, nails down, is rested on the cantle near the center, or may be held in the air near this position; otherwise as explained dismounted. This guard will only be taken in cases of emergency. It is always preferable to circle and receive the attacker on the right or right front.







 Right (or left), 2. CUARD. The toe on the side of the guard naturally turns out a little, otherwise the position is as described dismounted.



22. The instructor causes the lunges to the right and left to be taken in the same way. These two lunges differ only from the corresponding points in having the foot on the side away from the lunge lifted slightly, so as to give the maximum reach, and the foot on the side of the lunge turned slightly out as would naturally be the case in the same lunge mounted. They are taken from any guard at the command: 1. To the right (left), 2. LUNCE.



23. The lunge to the right rear cannot be taken gradually on foot. Being at the right rear guard: 1. To the right rear, 2. LUNGE. Cause the trooper to raise the forearm and blade to the horizontal, as in the right rear point, and then to extend the saber forcibly to the rear, rotating the hand during the extension, so that at it's completion, fingernalis will be up and edge to the right (outside); and at the same time keep the eyes to the rear and bend the body vigorously to the rear from the hips. This lunge may be executed from any guard after it is mastered.

(e) The lunge at the right moment.

24. In the charge the trooper is merely a projectile, the saber it's point. He is a unit in a line rushing on the enemy with the one idea of riding him down and transfixing him with his rigid saber, held at the position of charge saber. In the mêlée, the trooper still goes at speed, riding down his opponent, but here the ranks are broken, and both he and his opponent have more room. In this case should he maintain the position of charge saber, he would have less control of his horse and might easily be attacked from either flank or from the rear, and he would be helpless except against attack in front. Hence, he takes the position of guard toward his nearest enemy, crouching slightly in his saddle and versary and makes a lunge to the right front or left front when he esti-

mates that the point of his saber will reach it's full extension about 6 inches before touching the breast of his adversary. If the trooper does this accurately his enemy will have no time to parry and the speed of approach of the two horses will instantly transfix him. This is called the thrust at the right moment.



25. In teaching this the trooper and instructor face each other at the guard to the right (left) front. The instructor causes the trooper to lunge at him at command: First, too soon, thus losing the advantage of his alert position by lunging at too early a moment; then too late, thus sacrificing his reach and running the danger of letting his adversary beat him to the touch; then at the right moment, so that the saber will reach the extended position when the instructor is about 6 inches from it's point. When the trooper understands what the right moment is, the practice should be continued with the trooper using his own judgment



as to when to lunge. This exercise should be practiced to the right front and left front, and much less frequently to the right rear, in the follow-



GENERAL PLAN OF MOUNTED INSTRUCTION.

34. (a) Without arms, and then with arms, at a halt, require the troopers to take all the positions of guard and to make all the lunges, extending slowly.

(b) Make lunges from various guards at command at the walk, trot, and school gallop. Conduct the exercises near dummies to accustom the horses to them.

(c) Accustom the horses to the sight and sound of sabers.

(d) Pass among dummies with sabers.

(e) Preliminary work against dummies.

(f) Varied work against dummies.

(g) Exercise in pursuit.(h) Exercises in combat.

APPLICATION OF GENERAL PLAN OF MOUNTED INSTRUCTION.

35. Being mounted and in any position: GUARD. Instantly assume the position of guard as explained in the instruction dismounted, drawing the saber if not already drawn.

Being mounted and in any position: CHARGE SABER. Assume and hold the position of lunge to the right front, at the same time taking the gallop straight to the front unless some other gait and direction are indicated. At the command guard, resume the normal guard. In returning to the guard from charge saber or from the lunge to the right front, the rotation of the wrist to the right is as described in point to the right front. When at charge saber and difficult going is encountered, resume the guard, taking charge saber again when the ground permits.

Never jerk the horse's mouth while making any of the movements with the saber.

(a). Exercises without arms; exercises with arms, at a halt.

36. The troopers being mounted, without arms, and then with arms, in any suitable extended formation at a halt, cause them to take the various guards they have learned dismounted, using the same commands. The general principles of the dismounted instruction apply.

GUARD. Thrust the feet home in the stirrups and crouch slightly in the saddle, bending forward from the waist. The left hand, near the base of the neck, grasps the reins so as to feel the horse's mouth. Otherwise as explained dismounted.



(i) Parrying the lance

32. In attacking a lancer, rapid approach is even more important than against a swordsman. The only moment of danger is when the point of the lance comes within the first reach of the fully extended saber. If, at that moment, the swordsman lunges, forcing the lance to the outside, he is safe and the lancer is at his mercy. The same is true of the charging position, which is a lunge, but as the effect cannot be seen dismounted, it will be explained mounted.

To teach the swordsman to meet a lancer, place the trooper on guard and have a graduate instructor armed with a dummy lance approach him from the right front. As soon as the point of the lance comes within the utmost limit of his reach the trooper should lunge to the front, forcing the lance to the outside and, letting his saber slide the length of the shaft, aim at the body of the lancer. The same exercise is repeated to the eith front. A lancer has more control of his weapon to the left front, hence whenever possible he should be attacked on his right front. Exercises with the lance should be taught only by graduate instructors trained in it's use.

33. There is no guard taught to the left rear, for if a trooper is attacked from that direction his arm is in the position giving the least reach, while his opponent has the longest reach possible. Hence, whenever attacked from the left rear, incline slightly to the left, then circle to the right on a large radius so as to bring the pursuer to the right rear or right. A trooper should occasionally be attacked from the left rear and then always be required to circle as described. He should attack instructors on their left rear so as to fully appreciate the advantages of that position. Against a lancer the case is different. His left rear is a much stronger position for him than his right rear, so he should be attacked on his right rear.

ing sequence: Trooper stationary, instructor walking; trooper stationary, instructor at double time; trooper walking, instructor stationary; trooper at double time, instructor stationary; both walking; and both at double time. This exercise is very important.

(f) Exercises to develop initiative.

26. As the trooper is unaccustomed to the use of the saber, should he fall to touch on his first attempt, he will often stay in the position of lunge staring at his enemy while the latter either sticks him or escapes. To overcome this tendency and to develop initiative, commence as in the exercise of the lunge to the right moment, but have the instructor avoid the first lunge by ducking, swaying his body, or suddenly changing his direction and continuing his course either toward or past the trooper. The latter must immediately resume the guard and instantly lunge or point at his adversary in new directions until he has touched him or until he is out of reach. No matter how often he may have to try, he must come to a guard after each attempt, to assure an accurate aim and sufficient "punch" to stick his opponent. In this case the necessity of the lunges to the right and left becomes a marrent

the lunges to the right and left becomes apparent. These exercises are important and should be practiced in the same sequence as under (e).

(g) Replying to attack.

27. Up to this point the instructor has not carried a saber. In order to five the trooper confidence and to teach him to disregard everything and lunge at the body of his adversary, the instructor now takes a saber and causes the trooper to reply to attacks. The trooper comes on guard to the right (left) front; the instructor

The trooper comes on guard to the right (left) front; the instructor attacks him, making faulty attacks, such as cuts, high points, low points, or inaccurate points. To all of these he causes the trooper to reply with a lunge at the right moment, disregarding the saber of the instructor and fixing his full attention on touching him in the body with his point. Should he in so doing encounter the saber of the instructor, he will, simply by the power of his extension, force it to the outside and go on to the touch.

28. In this exercise two things require special attention:

Ist; it is a serious error to seek the blade of the adversary instead of disregarding it and seeking the touch, brushing the blade aside as a secondary consideration should it interfere. There is a strong tendency toward this seeking of the blade among men who have fenced under the old rules. It must be prohibited. On foot, at the walk, it is quite possible to make this sort of a parry and still have time to touch; but, mounted, at a gallop, a man who seeks the blade of his foe and parties it may escape uninjured, but so will the other man. The speed of the horses is such that the enemy will be out of reach before the trooper can make an effective lunge at him, whereas if he disregards the other's saber and lunges at his body, he will, in so doing, force his adversary's saber aside and transfix him. Moreover, the very idea of seeking the saber so as to parry it is taking a defensive frame of mind and is contrary to offensive cavalry spirit.

2nd; The instructor who attacks with the cut must carefully avoid hitting the trooper after he had himself been touched. With the exercise saber the touch with the point is hardly perceptible and would not weaken the instructor's cut. In combat, however, the difference in time between a touch with the point and a cut with the adverse edge will usually be sufficient for the spasmodic contraction caused by the engards this fact, he will get the trooper to parrying, and spoil him as an offensive swordsman. The same is true if the instructor, taking advantage of his superior skill, continually touches the trooper with the point; he will ruin his confidence. These exercises are to instruct the man, not to glorify the instructor. They should be carried on in the same sequence as the exercises under (e) and (f).

(h) Combat exercises.

29. In teaching the combat dismounted, every effort must be made to preserve the idea of combat mounted. The troopers must move either on straight lines or large curves; and they must never halt during an attack.

In dismounted work it is not permitted to give any of the exercises of attack or of combat from the position of charge saber, for the charge is an extended position deriving all it's great effect from the momentum of the horse. On foot it is impossible to impart this momentum, hence the use of the charging position dismounted would produce incorrect ideas. The position of charge saber should be learned accurately on foot; and then, when mounted exercises are begun, the charge assumes it's true place and should be practiced as much as all the guard positions combined. This must be carefully noted or else, the charge being less interesting, will be slighted.

30. First Exercise. Place the trooper on guard. Place around him three assistant instructors, one to the right front, one to the left front, and one to the right rear, each at a distance of 25 feet from the trooper (fig. 2).

The instructor takes his place to the left rear where the trooper cannot see him. He then signals for first one and then another of the assistants to attack the trooper, indicating by a prearranged signal whether they are to use a cut or a thrust.

The trooper replies in all cases with a lunge at the right moment, care being taken that he does not shorten his extension. As the trooper becomes accustomed to rapid changes of guard the instructor may decrease the intervals between attacks and cause the assistants to attack at double time.



In order to preserve the trooper's confidence, the attacks of the assistants should usually be faulty, especially at first. The attacks must never be so difficult or rapid that the trooper cannot reply to them, as this is a situation that could not occur in combat owing to the unrullness of excited horses, and to represent it on foot would destroy the trooper's confidence. The men acting as assistants must either be trained assistants or, if such are not available, trustworthy noncommissioned officers who will enter into the spirit of the exercise.

31. Second Exercise. Place the trooper on guard. Place two columns of assistants to face him, the head of one column to his right front, the other to his left front (fig. 3).

At the command of the instructor the two columns advance on the trooper at the gait indicated (slow walk, fast walk, or double time), keeping their relative positions and attacking the trooper successively with various attacks.

These attacks may be prearranged by the instructor at first, and later left to the discretion of the assistants. The trooper in all cases replies to the attacks with lunges at the right moment either to the right or left front. Care must be taken that the assistants do not get out of position so that two attack at once. They must stay as in the diagram so as to attack successively. The same cautions apply to this as to the first exercise. Later the exercise should be conducted in the same sequence as under (e) and (f).