

## CHAPTER 9

### COMPANY DRILL

#### 9-1. GENERAL

- a. A company consists of a company headquarters and two or more platoons.
- b. For close-order drill and ceremonies, company headquarters personnel may be attached to platoons without interfering with the permanent squad organization. For marches, members of the company headquarters command group are formed as directed by the company commander or higher authority.
- c. Formations used by the company are line, column (of threes, etc.), mass, extended mass, and column of platoons in line. In all these formations, the platoons which comprise the company will either be in line (each squad forming one rank) or in column (each squad forming one file). The company may also form column of twos or files in a manner similar to that prescribed for a platoon, in which case the platoons are arranged as in column, except that each platoon is in column of twos or files. Formations of the company for drills and ceremonies, to include posts of officers and key noncommissioned officers, are shown in figures 9-1 through 9-5.
  - (1) When the company commander is absent, the senior officer present with the company takes post and drills the company as prescribed for the company commander. In the absence of the first sergeant, the senior noncommissioned officer (normally the gunnery sergeant) takes post and performs the duties of first sergeant.
  - (2) When officers are not present, after the company is formed, the first sergeant, or in his/her absence, the next senior noncommissioned officer takes post and drills the company as prescribed for the company commander, and platoon sergeants take post and perform the duties of platoon commanders. This also applies when, for any reason, the company commander directs the first sergeant (or senior noncommissioned officer) to take charge of the company for purposes other than dismissing the company. When this occurs, the officers retire and the first sergeant and platoon sergeants march by the most direct route to take post as the company commander and platoon commanders, respectively.

- (3) For drill and ceremonies, the following minimum key billets within the company must be filled by applying the above rules: company commander, guidon bearer, and first sergeant in the company headquarters; and a platoon commander, platoon sergeant, and guide for each platoon, plus one squad leader per squad within each platoon. (NOTE: When officers are not present and the first sergeant and platoon sergeants are acting as company commander and platoon commanders respectively, other noncommissioned officers need not be detailed to also act as first sergeant and/or platoon sergeants.)

- (4) For drill and ceremonies, the company guidon is carried by the guidon bearer. In all formations, the guidon bearer is one pace to the rear and one pace to the left of the company commander or first sergeant, as appropriate. For marches in the field, the guidon is kept with company headquarters baggage unless otherwise directed. If carried on marches in the field, the guidon bearer takes post as described above for drill and ceremonies.

#### 9-2. RULES FOR COMPANY DRILL

- a. The platoon, rather than the company, is the basic drill unit. Only such formations are prescribed for the company as are necessary for marches, drills, and ceremonies.
- b. In company drill, if all Marines in the unit are to execute the same movement simultaneously, the platoon commanders repeat all preparatory commands of the company commander except:

- (1) When commands such as FALL OUT are given, which combine the preparatory command and command of execution.
- (2) When the preparatory command of the company commander is COMPANY, the platoon commanders give the preparatory command PLATOON.
- (3) When in mass formation, platoon commanders repeat preparatory commands only when the order will require independent movement by a platoon.
- (4) When the platoons of the company are to execute a movement in successive order, such as a column movement, the platoon commander of the first platoon to execute the movement repeats the company commander's preparatory command, and those of following platoons give an appropriate caution such as CONTINUE TO MARCH. Platoon commanders of following platoons repeat the company commander's preparatory command and command of execution at the proper time to cause their platoons to execute the movement on the same ground as the first platoon.

c. When commands involve movements of the company in which one platoon stands fast or continues the march, while one or more of the others do not, its commander commands STAND FAST or CONTINUE TO MARCH, as the case may be.

d. The company marches, executes change of direction, closes and extends intervals between squads in column, opens and closes ranks, and stacks and takes arms as in platoon drill.

e. The company executes marching in line only for minor changes in position.

f. Unless otherwise specified for the company to be at close interval, all changes in formation must be executed with files and ranks formed at normal interval and distance.

### 9-3. TO FORM THE COMPANY

a. At the command FALL IN, the company forms in line formation at normal interval and distance (see fig 9-1). If it is desired to form the company at close interval between files, the command AT CLOSE INTERVAL, FALL IN is given. In this case, the platoons form in line as shown in figure 9-1, but files within each platoon are at close interval (4 inches). The company forms at close interval only for roll calls or when space is limited. The company may be formed by its noncommissioned officers under charge of the first sergeant, or by its officers under command of the company commander, as described below.

#### b. Forming the Company by Noncommissioned Officers.

(1) The first sergeant takes post 9 paces in front of the point where the center of the company is to be, faces that point, draws sword if so armed, and commands FALL IN (AT CLOSE INTERVAL, FALL IN). At this command, the guidon bearer takes post facing the front one pace to the front and one pace to the right of the first sergeant (the first sergeant facing the company), and the company forms in line with platoons in line at normal (close) interval and 4 paces between platoons. Each platoon sergeant takes post 3 paces in front of and facing the point where the center of the platoon is to be, faces that point, and draws sword if so armed. Each platoon then forms as prescribed in paragraph 8-5, under the supervision of the platoon sergeant.

(2) Platoon sergeants then command REPORT. Remaining in position (at order arms if armed with the rifle), the squad leaders, in succession from front to rear in each platoon, salute and report, "All present," or "Private \_\_\_\_\_ absent." Platoon sergeants then command INSPECTION, ARMS; PORT, ARMS; ORDER, ARMS. If troops are armed with rifles, then face about to the front. If troops are not armed with rifles, the platoon sergeant immediately faces the front after receiving the reports of the squad leaders. (NOTE: If platoons cannot be formed in regularly organized squads prior to forming the company, the platoon sergeants command INSPECTION, ARMS; PORT, ARMS; RIGHT SHOULDER, ARMS, and call the roll. Each Marine answers "Here, and

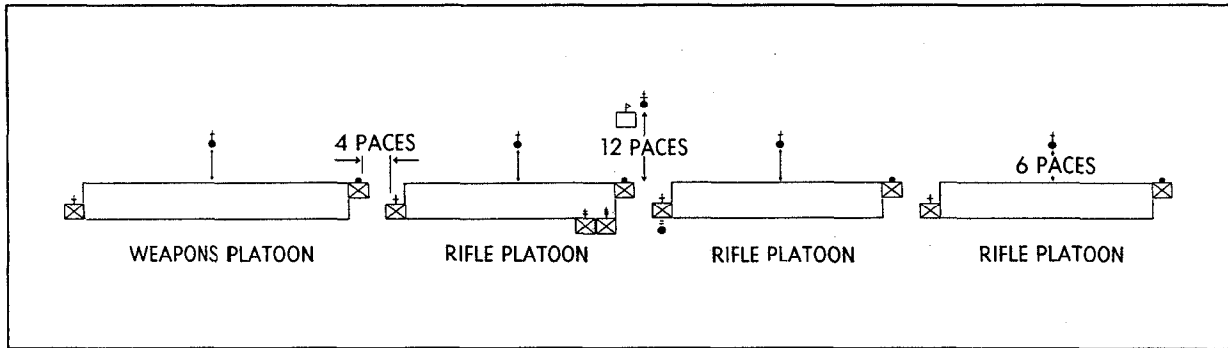


Figure 9-1. -- Rifle Company in Line.

9-4. BEING IN LINE, TO FORM COLUMN AND REFORM INTO LINE

a. Being at a halt and at the order in line, to form column, the company commander orders, **RIGHT, FACE**. After facing to the right, all officers, key non-commissioned officers, and the guidon bearer march by the most direct routes to their posts in column as shown in figure 9-2. The company commander may then cause the column to march (NOTE: As platoons and squads become inverted if the company is faced to the left, this should be done only for short movements.)

b. Being at a halt and at the order in column, to form line, the company commander commands, **LEFT, FACE**. After facing to the left, all officers, key noncommissioned officers, and the guidon bearer march by the most direct routes to their posts in line as shown in figure 9-1. (NOTE: When in column, if the company is faced to the right, platoons and squads become inverted. Therefore, to form line facing the right flank of a column, the company should first be marched by executing necessary changes in direction so that, after halting and facing to the left, line will be formed facing the desired direction.)

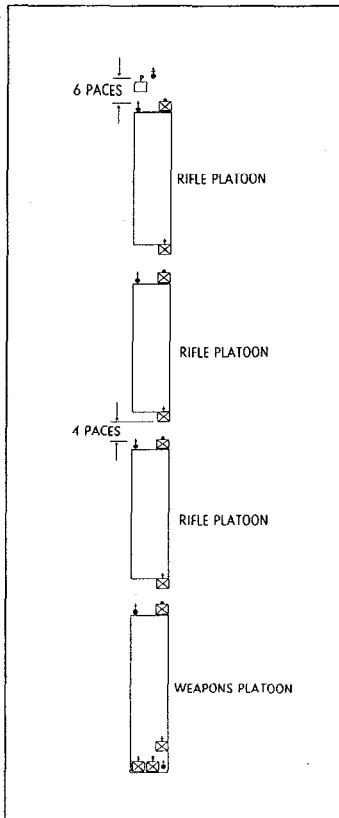


Figure 9-2.--Rifle Company in Column.

9-5. BEING IN COLUMN, TO CHANGE DIRECTION

a. Being at a halt or in march while in column, to change direction 90 degrees to the right (left), the company commander orders COLUMN RIGHT (LEFT), MARCH. On the preparatory command, platoon commanders give the following supplementary commands: leading platoon commander, COLUMN RIGHT (LEFT); and remaining platoon commanders, FORWARD, if initiated from a halt (CONTINUE THE MARCH, if initiated while marching). On the company commander's command of execution, MARCH, the leading platoon executes a column right (left). Succeeding platoons march forward and, on the commands of their platoon commanders, execute a column right (left) on the same ground as the leading platoon.

b. To execute a 45 degree change in direction, the execution is the same as above, except the command COLUMN HALF RIGHT (LEFT), MARCH is used. Platoon commanders give appropriate supplementary commands.

c. For slight changes in direction, on the command of the company commander to INCLINE TO THE RIGHT (LEFT), the guide of the leading platoon changes direction as commanded. Succeeding platoons march forward and change direction on the same ground as the leading platoon. No supplementary commands are given by the platoon commanders.

9-6. BEING IN COLUMN AT CLOSE INTERVAL, TO FORM MASS FORMATION

a. Being at a halt in column at close interval, the company commander orders COMPANY MASS LEFT (RIGHT), MARCH. On the preparatory command, platoon commanders give the following supplementary commands: leading platoon commander, STAND FAST; remaining platoon commanders command, COLUMN HALF LEFT (RIGHT). On the company commanders command of execution, MARCH, the leading platoon stands fast, and the remaining platoons simultaneously execute a column half left (right). On commands of their platoon commanders, the remaining platoons then execute a column half right (left) so as to move into positions alongside the leading platoon at 4-inch intervals. Each platoon commander causes his/her platoon to mark time 4-8 counts when its leading rank is on line with the leading rank of the platoons already on line, then each platoon commander halts his/her platoon. This forms the company in mass, with 4-inch intervals between all adjacent platoons and files as shown in figure 9-3.

b. The company being in march in column at close interval, the commands are the same as given at the halt, except that on the preparatory command the leading platoon commander commands, MARK TIME. On the company commanders command of execution, MARCH, the leading platoon marks time 4-8 counts then halts on command of its platoon commander. The commands and movements for the remaining platoons are the same as for executing the movement from a halt.

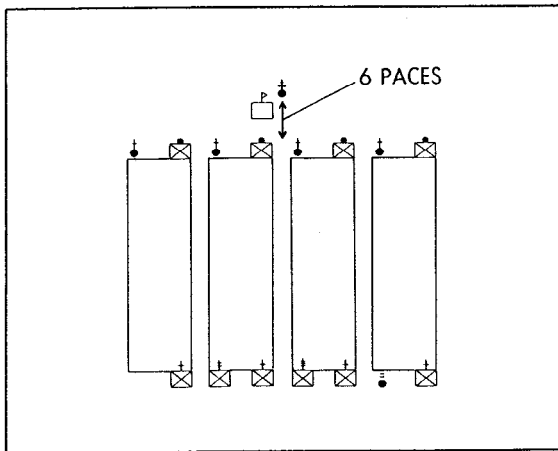


Figure 9-3.--Rifle Company in Mass Formation.

9-7. BEING IN COLUMN, TO FORM EXTENDED MASS FORMATION

At a halt or in march while in column, to form extended mass, the company commander orders COMPANY MASS (3 to 6) PACES LEFT (RIGHT), MARCH. On the preparatory command, each platoon commander gives the following supplementary commands: leading platoon commander commands, STAND FAST if initiated from a halt (MARK TIME if in march); remaining platoon commanders, COLUMN LEFT, (RIGHT). On the company commanders command of execution, MARCH, the leading platoon marks time (stands fast) 4-8 counts then is halted by its platoon commander; the remaining platoons simultaneously execute a column left (right), then, on commands of their platoon commanders, execute a column right (left). Then, when their front rank is on line with the front rank of the platoon(s) already on line, mark time 4-8 counts and halt in a manner similar to that prescribed for forming company mass in paragraph 9-6, except that the rear platoon(s) move into position abreast so as to be at 3 to 6 pace intervals, as was ordered (see fig. 9-4). This formation is used for drills and ceremonies if it is desired to increase the size of the mass in order to present a more impressive appearance. The company in this formation drills in the same manner as for mass formation, maintaining the specified interval between platoons.

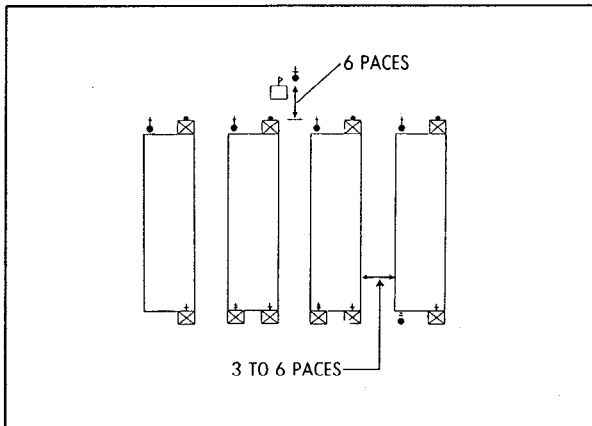


Figure 9-4.--Rifle Company in Extended Mass Formation.

9-8. BEING IN MASS OR EXTENDED MASS FORMATION, TO CHANGE DIRECTION

a. Being in mass or extended mass formation at a halt or in march, to change direction 90 degrees to the right (left), the company commander commands, RIGHT (LEFT) TURN, MARCH; FORWARD, MARCH. The right flank guide of the line of guides and platoon commanders is the pivot for this movement. At the command of execution, MARCH, for the right turn, the pivot faces to the right (left) in marching and takes up the half step. Other members of the first rank execute a right (left) oblique, advance until opposite their place in line, execute a second right (left) oblique, and upon arriving abreast of the pivot man, take up the half step. Each succeeding rank executes the movement on the same ground and in the same manner as the first rank. All take a full step at the command FORWARD, MARCH, which is given by the company commander after all members of the company have changed direction and have picked up the half step.

b. Being in mass or extended mass formation at a halt or in march, to change direction 45 degrees to the right (left), the company commander commands, HALF RIGHT (LEFT) TURN, MARCH; FORWARD, MARCH. This movement is executed in a similar manner for a right turn as described above, except that the pivot makes a half right (left) face in marching, and the members of each rank need execute only one right (left) oblique in marching.

#### 9-9. BEING IN MASS OR EXTENDED MASS FORMATION, TO FORM COLUMN

a. Being at a halt in mass or extended mass formation, to form column, the commands are COLUMN OF THREES (FOURS, ETC.), RIGHT (LEFT) PLATOON, FORWARD (COLUMN RIGHT), MARCH. On the preparatory command, the platoon commanders give the following supplementary commands: right (left) platoon commander commands, FORWARD (COLUMN RIGHT); and the remaining platoon commanders command, STAND FAST. On the company commander's command of execution, the right (left) platoon marches forward and the remaining platoons stand fast. When the leading platoon reaches an appropriate point, the next platoon, on commands of its platoon commander, executes necessary column movements so as to take up the march in column at a distance of 4 paces from the leading platoon. Remaining platoons, in succession, take up the march in column at distances of 4 paces in a similar manner.

b. Being in march in mass or extended mass formation, to form column, the company commander gives the same command as when initiated from a halt. In this case, on the preparatory command, the right (left) platoon commander commands, CONTINUE THE MARCH (COLUMN RIGHT), and the remaining platoon commanders command, MARK TIME. On the company commander's command of execution, the right (left) platoon continues the march (executes a column right) and the remaining platoons mark time. The platoon commanders of the remaining platoons cause their platoons to execute necessary column movements so as to follow in column behind the leading platoon at 4 pace distances in a similar manner as when the movement is initiated from a halt.

#### 9-10. BEING IN COLUMN, TO FORM COLUMN OF PLATOONS IN LINE

a. Being at a halt and at the order in column, to form column of platoons in line the company commander commands, COLUMN OF PLATOONS IN LINE, MARCH; LEFT, FACE. On the first preparatory command, platoon commanders give the following supplementary commands: leading platoon commander, STAND FAST; second platoon commander, COLUMN RIGHT; and all other platoon commanders, FORWARD. On the company commander's command of execution, MARCH, the leading platoon stands fast, the second platoon executes a column right and marches 12 paces past the right file of the leading platoon, then, on command of its platoon commander, executes a column left, and marches forward until its front rank is on line with the front rank of the leading platoon (now on its left), marks time 4-8 counts, and halts. Succeeding platoons march forward, executing a column right on the same ground as the leading platoon, then a column left, and finally marking time 4-8 counts and halting on line on commands of their platoon commanders so as to be at 12 pace intervals. When all platoons are halted on line, the company commander commands LEFT, FACE. All platoons execute a left face with each platoon commander moving by the most direct route to his/her post 6 paces front and center of the platoon, and each platoon guide takes post on the right of the front rank of each platoon; the company is then formed in column of platoons in line with 12 pace distances between platoons as shown in figure 9-5. The formation may be used for inspections and for the display of equipment.

b. Being in march in column, to form column of platoons in line, the commands are COLUMN OF PLATOONS IN LINE, LEADING PLATOON BY THE LEFT FLANK, MARCH. On the preparatory command, platoon commanders give the following supplementary commands: the leading platoon commander commands, BY THE LEFT FLANK; the remaining platoon commanders command, CONTINUE THE MARCH. Simultaneously, on the preparatory command, all platoon commanders incline to the left from their posts in column and half step so as to be as near as possible to a position 6 paces from and centered on the left file of their platoons prior to the company commander's command of execution, MARCH. At that command, the leading platoon executes a left flank march, its guide moving abreast of the front rank as rapidly as possible; succeeding platoons continue the march forward and, on commands of their platoon commanders, execute a left flank on the same ground and in the same manner as the leading platoon. Each platoon commander, after executing a left flank march, marches at a position 6 paces front and center of the platoon, and the company commander, guidon bearer, and company staff march in positions as shown in figure 9-5. In this formation which may be used for passing in review during ceremonies, the company marches in column of platoons in line, with the distance between each platoon equal to the length of each platoon plus four paces.

(NOTE: In forming column of platoons in line from a halt or in march, movements should always be made in the directions indicated above, otherwise platoons and squads become inverted.)

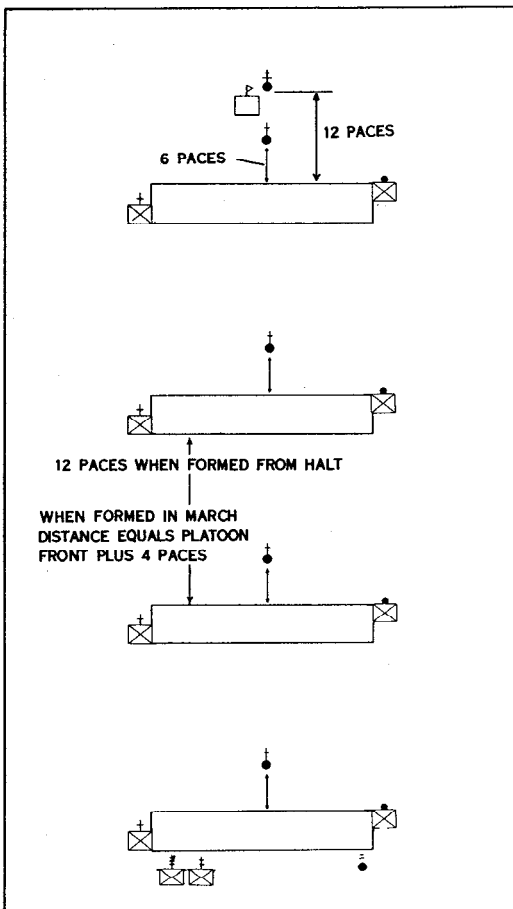


Figure 9-5. Rifle Company in Column of Platoons in Line (With Ranks Closed).



9-11. BEING IN COLUMN OF PLATOONS IN LINE, TO FORM COLUMN.

a. Being at the halt and at the order in column of platoons in line, to form column, the company commander commands, RIGHT, FACE, at which time all platoons face to the right with platoon commanders and guides taking posts at the head of the left and right files respectively of their platoons. Next, the company commander orders, COLUMN OF THREES (FOURS, ETC.), LEFT PLATOON, FORWARD (COLUMN LEFT), MARCH. Thereafter, commands and procedures for executing this movement are the same as prescribed for forming column from mass or extended mass formation at the halt in paragraph 9-9.

b. Being in march in column of platoons in line, to form column, the commands are, COLUMN OF THREES (FOURS, ETC.), LEADING PLATOON, BY THE RIGHT FLANK, MARCH, or COLUMN OF THREES (FOURS, ETC.), LEADING PLATOON BY THE RIGHT FLANK, COLUMN LEFT, MARCH. On the preparatory command, platoon commanders give the following supplementary commands: lead platoon commander commands, BY THE RIGHT FLANK (BY THE RIGHT FLANK, COLUMN LEFT); remaining platoon commanders command, CONTINUE THE MARCH. On the company commander's command of execution, MARCH, the leading platoon executes a right flank (right flank, column left). Succeeding platoons continue the march forward, each, on the command of its platoon commander, executing a right flank (right flank, column left) on the same ground as the leading platoon, then following in trace of the leading platoon in column at 4 pace distances (see fig. 9-2). Officers, key noncommissioned officers, and the company guidon move by the most direct routes to their proper positions in column.

(NOTE: In forming column from column of platoons in line at a halt or while marching, movements should always be made in the directions indicated above, otherwise platoons and squads become inverted.)

9-12. BEING IN COLUMN, TO FORM COLUMN OF TWOS OR FILES AND REFORM

a. Being at a halt in column, to form column of twos (files), the company commander commands, COLUMN OF TWOS (FILES) FROM THE RIGHT (LEFT), MARCH. On the preparatory command, platoon commanders and squad leaders give the following supplementary commands: leading platoon commander commands, COLUMN OF TWOS (FILES) FROM THE RIGHT (LEFT), after which the squad leaders of the leading platoon give appropriate supplementary commands to form the movement required as prescribed in paragraph 8-18; the remaining platoon commanders command, STAND FAST. On the company commander's command of execution, MARCH, the leading platoon marches forward in column of twos (files) as prescribed in platoon drill. Succeeding platoons march forward in column of twos (files) on the commands of their platoon commanders and squad leaders in the same manner as the leading platoon so as to follow the leading platoon in column at 4 pace distances.

b. Being at a halt in column of twos (files), to reform column (i.e., column of threes, etc.), the company commander commands, COLUMN OF THREES (FOURS, ETC.) TO THE LEFT (RIGHT), MARCH. On the preparatory command, the platoon commanders and squad leaders give the following supplementary commands: leading platoon commander commands, COLUMN OF THREES (FOURS, ETC.) TO THE LEFT (RIGHT), after which the squad leaders of the leading platoon give appropriate supplementary commands as prescribed in paragraph 8-18; the remaining platoon commanders command, STAND FAST. On the company commanders command of execution, MARCH, the leading platoon marches forward in column (of threes, etc.) as prescribed in platoon drill. Succeeding platoons march forward in column (of threes) on the commands of their platoon commanders and squad leaders in the same manner as the leading platoon so as to follow the leading platoon in column at 4 pace distances.

#### 9-13. TO ALIGN THE COMPANY

a. To align the company when in line at a halt, the company commander commands, DRESS RIGHT (CENTER, LEFT). At the command DRESS RIGHT, the platoon commander of the base platoon aligns his platoon immediately by the commands DRESS RIGHT, DRESS; READY FRONT; COVER. After the platoon commander of the base platoon gives the command to align the platoon, the remaining platoon commanders will align their platoons in successive order. When DRESS CENTER is given, the commander of the center platoon, which is the base platoon for this movement, aligns the platoon to the center of the company. The base platoon for this movement is the second platoon in both three and four platoon companies. After the base platoon commander has aligned the platoon, the remaining platoon commanders will align their respective platoons on the base platoon by executing DRESS RIGHT (LEFT), READY FRONT, and COVER.

b. To align the company when in mass formation at a halt, the company commander commands AT CLOSE INTERVAL, DRESS RIGHT (LEFT), DRESS; READY, FRONT; COVER. At the command DRESS, the alignment of each rank is verified promptly by the platoon commander of the base platoon. When the platoon commander resumes his post, the company commander commands, READY, FRONT; COVER.

c. To align the company when in column, the command is COVER. At that command, the second and following platoons obtain the proper 4-pace distances between platoons and cover on the files of the leading platoon. Each platoon aligns internally as prescribed in paragraph 8-7.

d. To align the company when in column of platoons in line at halt, the company commander commands, DRESS RIGHT. At this command, the leading platoon (which is the base platoon) is immediately aligned by its commander who commands, DRESS RIGHT, DRESS; READY, FRONT; COVER. After the platoon commander of the base platoon has given the command to align the platoon, the remaining platoon commanders in succession from front to rear give the command to align their platoons. Platoon commanders follow the procedures prescribed in paragraph 8-7, and ensure that the guides are covered on the guide of the leading platoon.

#### 9-14. TO DISMISS THE COMPANY

a. The commands are FIRST SERGEANT, DISMISS THE COMPANY. The company being in line at a halt, at the command FIRST SERGEANT, the first sergeant moves by the most direct route to a point 3 paces from the company commander (9 paces in front of the center of the company), halts, and salutes. The company commander returns the salute and commands, DISMISS THE COMPANY. The first sergeant salutes; the company commander returns the salute, returns sword, if so armed, and falls out. Other officers of the company return sword, if so armed, and fall out at the same time. The platoon sergeants take their posts 3 paces in front of the centers of their platoons. The first sergeant, when his salute is returned by the company commander, executes about face. When the platoon sergeants have taken their positions, he commands INSPECTION, ARMS; PORT, ARMS; DISMISSED.

b. The company being in line at a halt, dismissal may also be ordered by the command DISMISS YOUR PLATOONS. The platoon commanders salute; the company commander returns the salute and falls out. The platoon commanders execute about face and command, PLATOON SERGEANT, DISMISS THE PLATOON. The platoon sergeant takes his post 3 paces in front of the center of his platoon and executes the commands as prescribed for the first sergeant when dismissing the company.

c. The first sergeant may cause platoons to be dismissed by the platoon sergeants by commanding DISMISS YOUR PLATOONS. The platoon sergeants salute; the first sergeant returns the salute and falls out. The platoon sergeants then execute about face and dismiss their platoons as prescribed in paragraph 8-6.

## CHAPTER 10

### FORMATIONS OF THE BATTALION

#### 10-1. GENERAL

- a. The formations described in this chapter pertain to the infantry battalion. Using them as a guide, other units of corresponding size conform as appropriate.
- b. When practicable, the formation and movement of the subdivisions of the battalion should be made clear to subordinate commanders before starting the movement.
- c. The battalion drills by command for ceremonies where units of the battalion execute the manual, facings, and marching as one body at the command of execution of the battalion commander. These movements are executed by the battalion in a manner similar to that prescribed for the company.
- d. To assume any formation, the battalion commander indicates the formation desired, the point where the right (left) of the battalion is to be, and the direction in which the line or column is to face. Formations should be such that, in approaching the line on which the battalion forms, columns and lines are either perpendicular or parallel to the front. Each company commander marches his company to its position in the most convenient manner.
- e. Upon completing the movement ordered by the battalion commander, companies may be given AT EASE until another movement is ordered. After a ceremony has started, units remain at attention until ordered to stand at parade rest or at ease by the battalion commander or adjutant.
- f. After a battalion is halted, its subdivisions make no movement to correct alignment or position unless so directed by the battalion commander.
- g. When the battalion is presented to its commander or to a reviewing officer, the officer who makes the presentation faces the battalion and commands, PRESENT, ARMS. When all elements of his unit are at present arms, he faces the front and salutes. Members of his staff salute and terminate the salute with him.
- h. When the battalion commander does not take the formation, the executive officer (or in his absence, the next senior officer) is commander of troops. The commander of troops takes post, gives all commands, and receives all salutes prescribed for the battalion commander.

#### 10-2. COMMANDS AND ORDERS

- a. The commands or orders of the battalion commander are given by voice, by bugle, by signal, or by means of staff officers or messengers who communicate them to commanders concerned.
- b. Company commanders and platoon commanders give supplementary commands in the same manner as prescribed for company drill (paragraph 9-2).

#### 10-3. STAFF

- a. The staff of a commander forms 2 paces to his rear in one rank. Enlisted personnel form 2 paces in rear of the commissioned staff. If only one staff officer is present, he is posted 1 pace to the right and 2 paces to the rear of the commander. Staff officers usually are arranged with the adjutant on the right and the S-2, S-3, and S-4 on his left in that order, but the commander may cause them to be arranged in any order he desires. Enlisted personnel forming with the staff ordinarily are posted in order of rank from right to left.

b. When necessary to reduce the front of the staff while marching, it forms a column of twos under the direction of the senior staff officer and follows the commander.

c. When it is prescribed that the staff change its position in order to place itself in rear of the battalion commander (who has faced about, as when the battalion commander, having formed his battalion, faces the reviewing officer by facing about), the senior staff officer, by appropriate commands, causes the staff to execute left face, change direction to the right twice (column right), halt, and face to the right, placing it in its correct position.

d. When the battalion commander faces to the right (left) and marches off, the staff conforms by making a turn. The guide for the staff is right, except while a turn is in progress, during which time the guide is in the direction of the turn.

#### 10-4. FORMATIONS

a. Formations for the battalion are shown in figures 10-1 to 10-5.

b. The color guard is posted to the left of the color company when the company is in line and in rear when the company is in column. The color company is posted in the battalion formation so that the color guard is in the approximate center of the formation (right or forward of center, if this is impossible).

c. The band is posted by the adjutant as indicated in figures 10-2, 10-3, and 10-5.

d. Attached units take position as directed by the battalion commander and conform to the formation and movements of the battalion.

e. In whatever direction the battalion faces, the companies are designated numerically from right to left in line and from head to rear in column; that is, first company, second company, third company, etc.

f. The terms "right" and "left" apply to actual right and left as the troops face.

g. The designation "center company" indicates the right center or the actual center company, according to whether the number of companies is even or odd.

h. Personnel of the battalion headquarters and service company may be attached to other companies of the battalion for ceremonies.

i. The battalion commander supervises the formation from such positions as will best enable him to correct alignments, intervals, and distances. With his staff (less the adjutant), he takes post in time to receive the report.

j. Any formation or combination of formations may be employed to meet existing conditions of space or purpose.

#### 10-5. TO FORM FOR INSPECTIONS, DRILLS, MARCHES, OR PRIOR TO PARTICIPATION IN LARGER UNIT MARCHES OR CEREMONIES

a. At "Assembly" the companies are formed by their NCO's and officers at their designated locations as prescribed for company drill (paragraph 9-3). Company commanders then position their companies in the prescribed formation where the battalion is to form. If the colors are to be carried, the color guard and color company first receive the battalion colors (paragraph 16-5), then take position.

b. The adjutant takes post 5 paces to the right of and facing where the right flank of the battalion will rest when forming in line (or 6 paces in front of and facing the leading guide of the leading company in column), draws sword if so armed, and supervises the positioning of the companies.

(1) If a band or field music is not present at the time for "Adjutant's Call", the adjutant marches by the most direct route to a position midway between the line of company commanders and battalion commander when in line (or midway between the leading company commander and battalion commander in column), faces the battalion, and commands, BATTALION, ATTENTION. The adjutant then faces the battalion commander, salutes and reports, "Sir, the battalion is formed." The battalion commander returns the salute and orders TAKE YOUR POST, SIR. The adjutant passes to the battalion commander's right and takes his post in the staff. The battalion commander and staff then draw swords, if so armed. Then appropriate commands are given to conduct the inspection, drill, or march. (If forming prior to participation in regimental/larger marches or ceremonies, the battalion awaits the second, or regimental "Adjutant's Call".

(2) If a band or field music is present, in lieu of bringing the battalion to attention by voice command, the adjutant may direct SOUND ATTENTION. After "Attention" is sounded, the companies are brought to attention in succession from right to left when in line (front to rear in column), but remain at the order. Next, the adjutant orders, SOUND ADJUTANT'S CALL. Companies stand fast while "Adjutant's Call" is sounded. The adjutant then takes post midway between the line of company commanders and battalion commander when in line (midway between the drum major and battalion commander when in column) and reports that the battalion is formed.

#### 10-6. TO FORM IN LINE WITH COMPANIES IN LINE FOR BATTALION CEREMONIES

a. At "Assembly" the companies are formed by their NCO's and officers at their designated locations as prescribed in company drill (see paragraph 9-3). The color guard and color company, after forming, receive the battalion colors (see paragraph 16-5). The companies remain at their locations for assembly, or if directed by the battalion commander, move to positions closer to the battalion parade ground and await "Adjutant's Call" to form the battalion for the ceremony.

(1) The adjutant indicates the line on which the battalion is to form with two flags, one on each flank. He takes post on the line 6 paces from and facing where the right flank of the battalion will rest, and draws sword if so armed. When the band is present, at the designated time the adjutant orders the band: SOUND ATTENTION. At the sounding of attention, the companies are brought to attention and to right shoulder arms from front to rear or from right to left. After the entire battalion is at attention and at right shoulder arms, the adjutant orders the band: SOUND ADJUTANT'S CALL.

(2) Companies are marched from the left flank in column of threes (or fours) so as to arrive at positions parallel to and in rear of the line successively from right to left. The command of execution for their movement is so timed that they will step off at the first note of the march following adjutant's call. The line of march is sufficiently off the line on which the battalion is to form to permit the expeditious alignment of guides of the right company by the adjutant. As each company arrives in rear of its position, it is halted and faced to the left. The company commander then commands GUIDES ON LINE. At that command, the guide of each platoon moves out at double time (at port arms) to his position on the line indicated by the flags and faces the adjutant. The adjutant aligns the guides of the right company; the guides of other companies cover the guides already on the line. As soon as the guides have established themselves on the line, each company marches forward to its position and is aligned as prescribed in paragraph 9-13. The right man of the front rank places himself so the center of his chest touches the guide's arm.

(3) When all units have reached their position on the line, the band stops playing, and the adjutant moves by the most direct route to a position midway between the line of company commanders and the battalion commander and faces the battalion. When all units are dressed, the adjutant commands GUIDES, POSTS. At the command POSTS, the guides move to their normal positions in ranks. To do this, the guides take 1 step forward, face to the right in marching, halt, and about face. If prescribed for the ceremony, the adjutant next commands FIX, BAYONETS. After fixing bayonets, or after posting the guides if bayonets are not fixed, the ceremony proceeds as for a review in paragraph 13-5a(1), for a parade as in paragraph 15-2b(2), or for a formation as in paragraph 15-5, as appropriate.

b. If space or circumstances require, after forming at "Assembly", the companies may be directed to take their positions on the line of troops prior to "Adjutant's Call". In this case, procedures are as described above, except when "Attention" is sounded companies remain at order arms after being brought to attention, and at "Adjutant's Call" the companies stand fast (guides are not put on line). The adjutant then marches from the right of the line to his post front and center of, and facing the battalion. He causes the companies to dress to the right, fix bayonets (if prescribed), and the ceremony to proceed according to the type being conducted.

#### 10-7. TO FORM IN LINE WITH COMPANIES IN MASS FORMATION FOR BATTALION CEREMONIES

a. The procedure is the same as in forming in line except that when marching on at "Adjutant's Call":

(1) Companies are marched from either flank in mass formation to their positions in line, the line of march being well in rear of the line on which the battalion is to form. When opposite its place in line, each company executes LEFT (RIGHT) TURN. As soon as this turn has been initiated, the company commander commands GUIDE OF RIGHT PLATOON ON LINE. At this command, the guide of the right platoon moves out at double time (at port arms) to the line indicated by the flags, halts, comes to order arms, and faces the adjutant. The guide indicates the right of the company.

(2) When all units are dressed, the adjutant commands GUIDES, POSTS. At the command POSTS, the guides move to their normal positions. To do this, the guides face to the left, take one step forward, and halt.

b. Companies may be marched to positions in column of threes (or fours) instead of in mass formation as above. The procedure is the same as above except that:

(1) As soon as the column movement has been initiated, the company commander orders GUIDE OF LEADING PLATOON ON LINE. The guide moves out to his position on the line, the company commander commands COMPANY MASS LEFT (COMPANY MASSES 3 to 6 PACES LEFT), MARCH, the command of execution being so timed that the leading platoon will halt just short of the line of guides. The remaining platoons successively move into position on the left of the leading platoon at the designated interval.

(2) At the command GUIDES, POSTS, the guides move to their normal positions in the manner stated in paragraph 10-7 a (2).

#### 10-8. TO FORM BATTALION IN MASS

The procedure is the same as in forming in line except that companies are marched from either flank in column of threes (or fours) at close interval without distance between platoons, the line of march being well in rear of the line on which the battalion is to form. When opposite its place in line, each company commander executes column left (right). As soon as this column movement has been initiated, the company commander commands GUIDE OF LEADING PLATOON ON LINE. The guide moves out at double time (at port arms), the company is halted, and guides take their posts as described in paragraph 10-7.

#### 10-9. TO DISMISS THE BATTALION

a. The battalion commander commands DISMISS YOUR COMPANIES. At this command, each company commander salutes the battalion commander. He returns the salutes. Each company commander marches his company to the place for dismissal and dismisses it as prescribed in paragraph 9-14. If colors were carried, the color company and color guard first return the colors in accordance with paragraph 16-5 before being dismissed.

b. The companies having marched off, the battalion commander dismisses his staff.

c. In case the battalion commander desires to release companies to their commanders, without prescribing that the companies promptly be dismissed, he commands TAKE CHARGE OF YOUR COMPANIES. Company commanders salute and the battalion commander returns the salute. The company commanders then take charge of their companies.

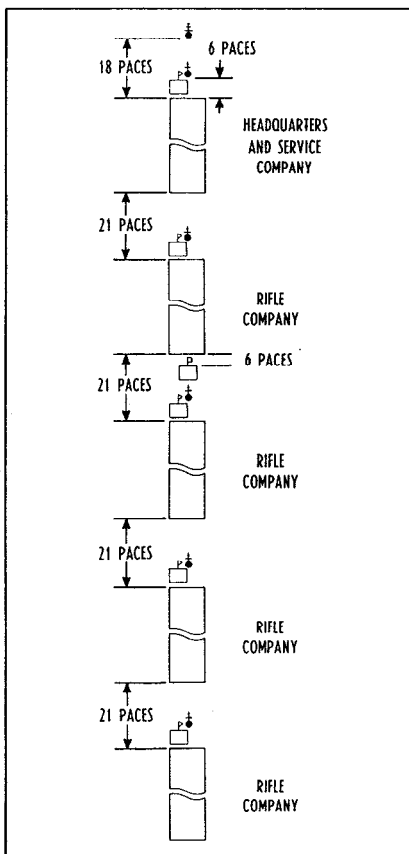


Figure 10-1. --Battalion in Column with Companies in Column.

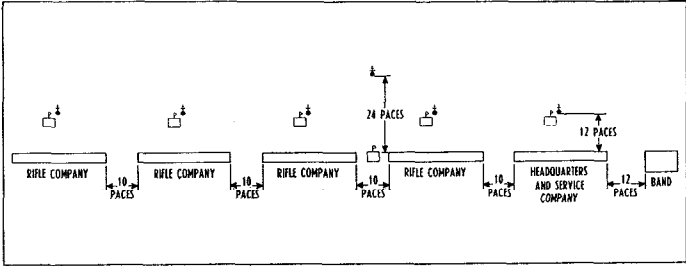


Figure 10-2. --Battalion in Line with Companies in Line.

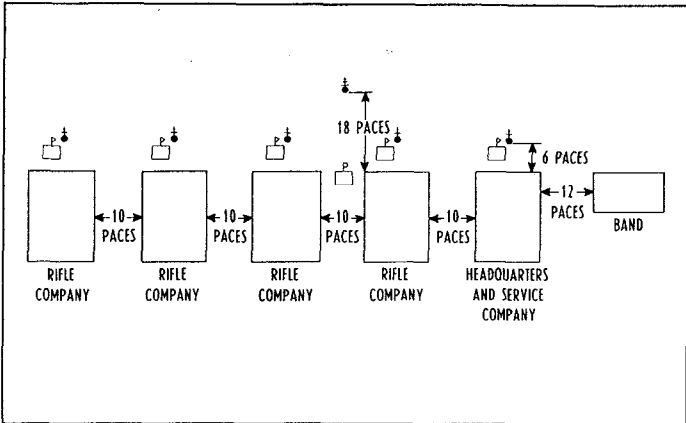


Figure 10-3. --Battalion in Line with Companies in Mass Formation.



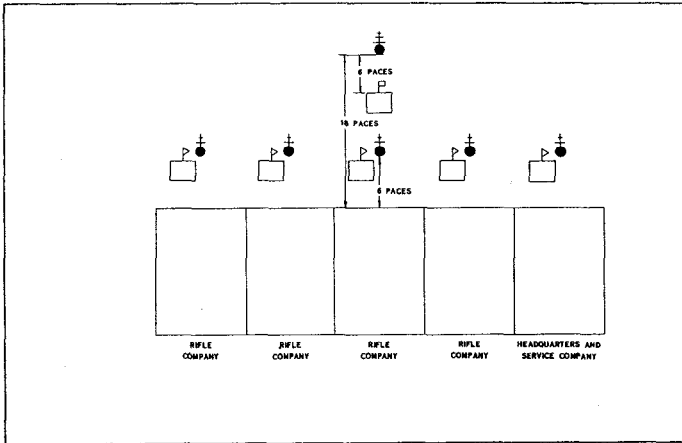


Figure 10-4.--Battalion in Mass Formation.

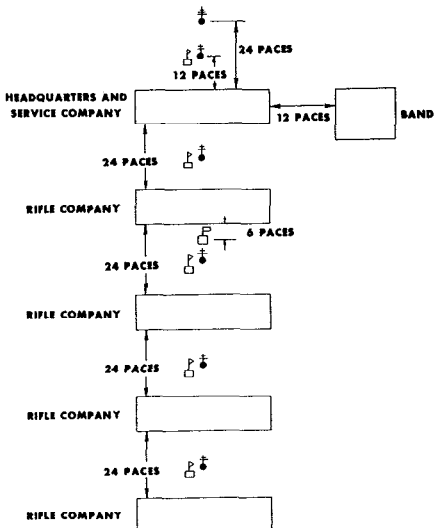


Figure 10-5.--Battalion in Column of Companies with Companies in Line.

## CHAPTER 11

### FORMATIONS OF THE REGIMENT

#### 11-1. TO FORM THE REGIMENT

a. The regiment does not drill by command. Its battalions form and march as directed by the regimental commander. When practicable, the formation and movement of the subdivisions of the regiment should be made clear to subordinate commanders before starting the movement.

b. The regimental commander prescribes the formation, the uniform, individual and unit equipment, the place where the regiment is to form, the direction in which it will face, the hour of forming, location of the head of the column (or right of the line), and the order in column or line of the headquarters, band, battalions, special and attached units, and trains.

c. The regimental commander gives his orders by voice, by bugle, by signal, or in writing. They may be given directly to the officers concerned or communicated to them through his staff.

d. Before the regiment is formed, the regimental commander may cause the positions which are to be taken by the larger elements to be indicated by markers.

e. Upon completing a movement ordered by the regimental commander, battalions and independent companies may be given REST until another movement is ordered. After a ceremony has started, however, units remain at attention until ordered to stand at parade rest or at ease by the regimental commander or adjutant.

f. Prior to forming the regiment for any purpose, at the locations designated, each independent company forms at "Assembly" (see paragraph 9-3), and each battalion forms without its colors at the first, or its own, battalion "Adjutant's Call" (see paragraph 10-5). The color guard and color battalion, after forming, receive the regimental colors (see paragraph 16-5) prior to ceremonies or other prescribed occasions. All units then await the second or regimental "Adjutant's Call" to form the regiment.

g. To form for regimental ceremonies, the procedures described for forming battalions in line in paragraphs 10-6 and 10-7 or battalions in mass formation in paragraph 10-8 are followed, except as indicated below:

(1) The regimental adjutant takes post 8 paces from where the right flank of the regiment will rest, faces down the line, and draws sword if so armed. At the sounding of regimental "Adjutant's Call", the battalion adjutants take post on the line on which the regiment forms, each taking position so as to be 6 paces from and facing where the right flank of his battalion will rest. When all companies of a battalion are on line, its adjutant marches by the most direct route and takes post in the battalion staff.

(2) When all units of the regiment are on line, the regimental adjutant marches by the most direct route to a position midway between the line of battalion commanders and the regimental commander, and faces the regiment. After all units have completed dressing to the right, the regimental adjutant causes the guides to post (if units marched on at "Adjutant's Call") and bayonets to be fixed (if so prescribed). The ceremony then proceeds as for a review in paragraph 13-5a, as for a parade in paragraph 15-3, or as for a formation in paragraph 15-5, as appropriate.

h. To form for marches, or prior to participation in a larger unit ceremony, the regiment forms at its designated location at regimental "Adjutant's Call" (which may be by voice command or by music) according to the same procedures set forth for a battalion in paragraph 10-5, except commanders of battalions and independent companies report their arrival in the regimental formation to the regimental adjutant.

i. When the regimental commander or adjutant gives commands for drill movements to be executed by the troops, the command is given in a voice just loud enough to be distinctly heard by subordinate commanders and in a manner so as not to cause execution by the troops. Subordinate battalion and independent company commanders, in succession from right to left in line or front to rear in column, then give the necessary preparatory command and command of execution for the movement. For example, the regimental adjutant orders **PRESENT ARMS** in a manner which does not demand execution by the troops. Each subordinate battalion and independent company, in succession, executes the movement only when the command **PRESENT, ARMS** is given by its commander.

j. The color guard and color battalion are posted within the regimental formation in a similar manner to the posting of the color guard and color company within a battalion formation (paragraph 10-4b).

#### 11-2. STAFF

The regimental staff forms, changes position, and marches in a manner similar to that prescribed for the battalion staff (see par. 10-3).

#### 11-3. TO DISMISS THE REGIMENT

To dismiss the regiment, the regimental commander orders the battalion commanders to dismiss their organizations.

#### 11-4. FORMATIONS

For formations of the regiment, see figures 11-1 through 11-4.

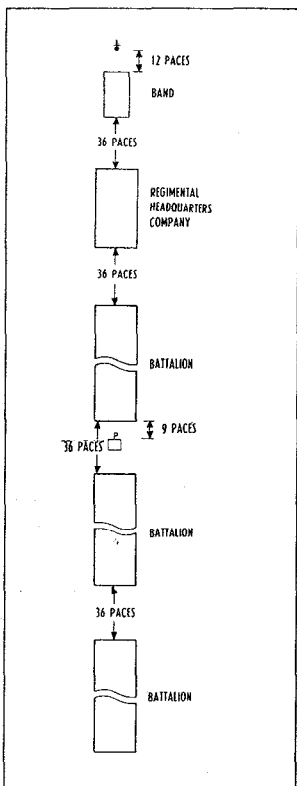


Figure 11-1.--Regiment in Column with Battalions in Column; Companies in Mass.

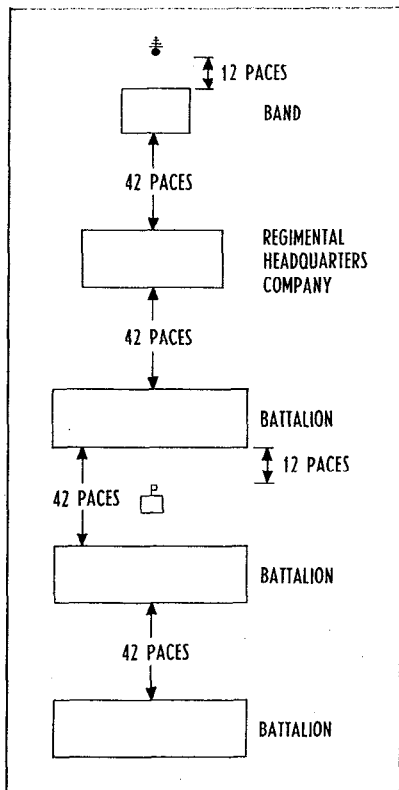


Figure 11-2.--Regiment in Column with Battalions in Mass Formation.

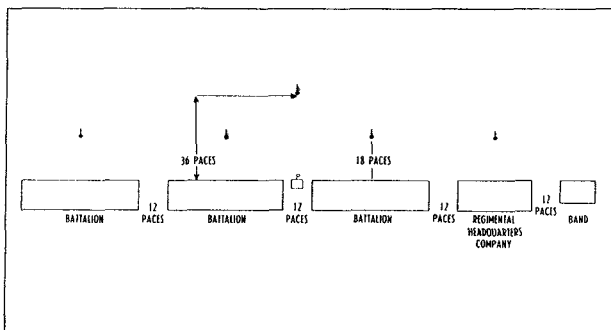


Figure 11-3.--Regiment in Line with Battalions in Mass Formation.

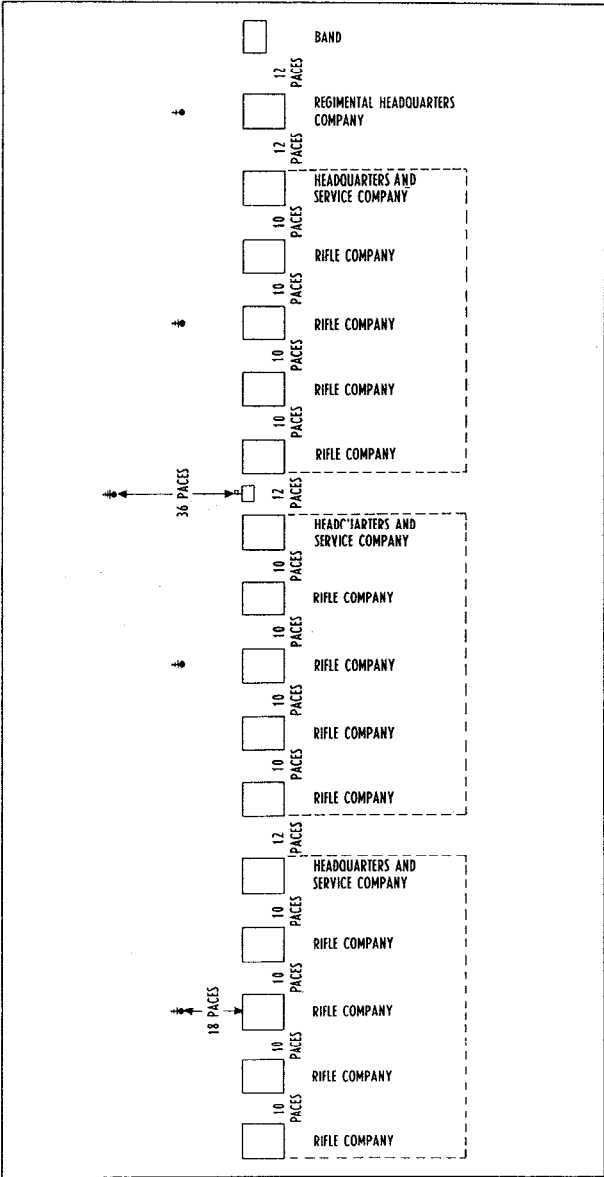


Figure 11-4.--Regiment in Line with Companies in Mass Formation.