

**“After the Battle: Fredericksburg 2008” Picket Event
November 14-16, 2008, Fredericksburg Battlefield
(Civil War Preservation Trust “Slaughter Pen” Site), Virginia**

General Orders No. 1, Standing Field Orders

Hdqrs. Eleventh New Jersey Vols. (re-created)
December 23, 2007
Hamburg, N.Y.

The following General Orders No. 1 shall be published and disseminated to all troops of the detachment. These Orders shall be adhered to by all troops of the detachment throughout the event. The Captain commanding extends his thanks to Dominic Dal Bello of the Army of the Pacific for the template for these Orders.

By Order Of:

Kevin O’Beirne
Acting Captain,
Commanding Detachment,
Re-created Eleventh New Jersey, Cos. D and I

FIELD ORDERS

When in the field, the officers and men of the **re-created Eleventh New Jersey Volunteers** shall follow the Field Orders set forth below. Military organization and duties are vital to the efficient functioning, safety and tactical superiority of the detachment. Other guidelines will be published as needed.

I. Camp Duties

Companies are expected to share in required duties. The Commanding Officer of the Detachment will ensure that the duties are fairly divided among the companies. Companies will provide details when necessary for:

1. Pickets (guard will generally be maintained all night);
2. Details and Patrols;
3. Fatigues;
4. Other duties necessary for the safety or functioning of the detachment.

Commissioned and non-commissioned officers are expected to be familiar and functional in guard duty, picket duty, guard mounting ceremony, and general duties of sentinels. Such may be found in the U.S. Army *Regulations* of 1861, August Kautz’s *Customs of Service* handbooks,

Daniel Butterfield's *Camp and Outpost*, other references of the period, and Dal Bello's excellent reenactor handbook, *Instructions for Guards and Pickets*.

II. Camp Life

1. Reveille will not be sounded because the impression is that of troops on picket in the aftermath of a large battle. Wake-up time will be determined by the officer commanding the detachment. Orderly sergeants will call the roll at their respective outpost, while avoiding presenting "targets of opportunity" for the enemy. At least one company officer shall be present at each roll call.
2. There should be at least three roll calls per day, corresponding to the traditional hours of Reveille, Retreat, Tattoo.
3. From Kautz, *COS/NCO&S*:

427. ... If the company is forming without arms, the men fall in and take the position of parade rest, 428. They should fall in in two ranks, whether with or without arms. With arms they fall in at a shoulder arms ... The company is formed between the musician's call and the last note of the assembly [Reveille]. 429. When the music has ceased, the first sergeant commands, "**Attention!**" ... and if with arms ... "**Support Arms.**" The roll is then called As each name is called, they answer, "Here," and if at a support, they come to a "shoulder," and finally to "order arms," immediately after answering.
4. Each Orderly (First) Sergeant shall prepare his Morning Report, have his Company Commander sign it, and turn it into to the Commanding Officer of the Guard (or his delegee') by 7:30 a.m., or other time specified by the Officer of the Guard. Other reports shall be submitted as required. All necessary forms will be provided by the Officer of the Day or Officer Commanding the Detachment.
5. There may be one dress parade on Sunday.
6. On all duties, except fatigues, troops will appear with trousers unbloused, and all buttons buttoned, unless directed/permitted otherwise (the *Regulations* say that the coat is to be "hooked and buttoned," — this must be more than just the "top button").
7. Officers and men are expected to be with the detachment at all times, unless excused. Company officers will inform the Officer of the Guard when they are absent from their commands, and who in the company is in charge during their absence.
8. All men and company officers shall be equipped with shelter halves. Unless weather is foul, it is unlikely that shelter will be pitched due to the campaign nature of the event.
9. Quiet will be observed in the camp at 11:00 p.m. on Friday and 10:00 p.m. on Saturday, or other time specified by the Officer Commanding the Detachment.
10. If cheering, please cheer "Hurrah!" Research done by Dominic Dal Bello and Bob Braun indicates that "Hurrah!" was much more used than "Huzzah." ("Our Union forever, Hurrah, boys, Hurrah!" See Dal Bello's article, "Three Cheers and a Tiger", published in *Camp Chase Gazette*, July?, 1995).

III. Drill

The detachment is expected to drill and maneuver well on the field. This requires study on the part of the commissioned officers and sergeants. It is upon these men that the success of the detachment's movements rests. Do not expect to learn/see the drill maneuvers for the first time in the field at this event; study beforehand.

The importance of drill is to enable the men to work together, provide discipline and safety, and empower the detachment to function on the battlefield as an effective force. The Officer Commanding the Detachment will attempt to command the battalion relative to drill as efficiently as possible. None of us wants to be embarrassed, and we do not want the men to be standing around waiting for the "big bugs" to figure out what they are doing. Please note that the picket duty nature of this event means virtually no opportunity for drill before the event "goes live"; on the other hand, the number of maneuvers with which officers and sergeants must be familiar is fairly small.

Important Maneuvers to Study (drill manual for this event: *Infantry Tactics* by Silas Casey, supported by *Parade, Inspection, and Basic Evolutions of the Infantry Battalion* (PIE) by Dominic Dal Bello):

1. Forming the battalion (see PIE).
2. Breaking from line into column of companies. Wheeling, By the right of companies to the rear, by the flank.
3. Deploying into line. On the right into line, deploying from a column into line per Casey's *Tactics*.
4. Marching by the flank (left and right flanks).
5. Skirmishing
6. Picket duty.
7. School of the Soldier and School of the Company.

IV. Drill Bits

1. The re-created Eleventh New Jersey Volunteers shall drill per the manuals specified above and in the event standards. Shouldered Arms shall be per the light infantry drill.
2. All men shall be drilled in properly and safely loading their weapon, and commissioned and non-commissioned officers shall not take it for granted that the men know this properly. First pour the powder down the barrel and *then* lift the hammer and replace the percussion cap. Safety IS written into the tactics; if the percussion cap is removed first, air will enter the vent and potentially keep sparks "alive" in the barrel. Do not place paper in the muzzle – remember, there will be people downrange of you at this event. Half-cock is safer than letting the hammer down on the percussion cap.
3. **Arms shall be stacked per Casey's *Infantry Tactics*, SoS, Para. 425** for the rifled-musket. While the "Ellsworth (Kentucky) Swing" was used by some Federal units, the musket stack is the only one authorized for the shank-bayonet by the Commanding Officer.

4. Parade Rest **shall be per Casey's (across the body)**, That given in the U.S. Army *Regulations* shall not be used.
5. There will be **NO echoing of commands**, unless specifically called for in the drill manual. If the Commanding Officer can be heard, there is no reason to echo him and potentially “step on” his next command. Plus, it looks/sounds ridiculous because the enemy can hear you. According to Casey’s School of the Battalion, the only commands that are repeated are those of “March” and “Halt” (by Company Commanders) and only in a column of companies, so that they move and halt at the same time (to preserve wheeling distance), and certain maneuvers in “platoon drill” in School of the Company. Of course, in battle, and on the skirmish/picket line, it becomes necessary to repeat commands that are not heard because of noise/distance. At times the Company Commander must give a preparatory command to his company, or caution it to make some movement. In general, **DO NOT ECHO COMMANDS**. For now, if the Commanding Officer cannot be heard, commands will be repeated by Company Commanders, and that’s it.
6. **No gesturing of officers' swords is necessary or desired**, unless on the skirmish/picket line. The Commanding Officer may use gestures needed to maneuver and align the detachment (to indicate points, &c). Line officers will not use their swords to signal marching movements or arms movements, because they are not Drum-Majors. Commissioned officers should carry their sword at the Carry (shoulder) while at drill or on the march; or at their pleasure (in the scabbard is fine) while at the route step. At the double quick march, the sword should be angled to the left, the tip in front of the left shoulder. See Geoff Walden’s “A Manual of the Sword for Foot Officers” published in *Camp Chase Gazette*, Vol. 24, No. 1, October 1996, pp. 34-39, or **Dal Bello’s “Manual of the Sword”, which is available from the Officer Commanding Detachment.**
7. **File closers need not remain constantly at Shoulder Arms**. File closers, including the Orderly Sergeant., shall follow the commands for arms movements the same as the men in the ranks.
8. On the march (when the detachment is marching to the step), the Commanding Officer will generally indicate to the leading Company Commander that, “You may change arms positions at your discretion, Mr. _____”. After the first company changes arms positions, the second company will follow suit, &c. Thus, arms will be changed in a “rippling manner”. This is the same idea from when the battalion is on at dress parade, viz., the companies come to Parade Rest from right to left.
9. During each significant halt on the march, and after every battle, Orderly Sergeants shall call the roll and all men shall be accounted for.
10. In drill, and in the field (unless under fire), markers, company guides, and general guides will be utilized. Thus, **SERGEANTS AND OFFICERS MUST KNOW (at least STUDY) THEIR DRILL.**
11. It is unlikely that a charge will be made at this event. If it is done, however, the detachment will first **come to Arms-Porte**, per research by Dominic Dal Bello (see Scott’s 1830 Abstract of Infantry Tactics and 1860s images of lines closing). The front/rear rank will not go to “charge bayonet”/right shoulder shift. For safety, the front rank will remain at Arms Port if the detachment actually come into contact with the “enemy” (in reality, it is when the lines meet that the front rank comes to charge bayonet;

the rear rank remains ready at Arms-Porte to assist the front rank as needed). Such a charge should take place only when closing with the enemy is expected. See the figure entitled “The Charge” in Kelton’s 1862 *Manual for the Bayonet*. The actual commands to charge (per Kelton) shall be, “**Prepare to Charge**” (at which all men in the detachment shall come to Arms-Porte), “**Double Quick, March!**” (at which the troops will advance on the charge at the double quick). At the command “**Halt!**” or upon meeting the enemy, the troops *shall remain at Arms-Porte* unless the line is at least ten yards from the “enemy” in which case, upon the command “Halt”, the front rank will assume the position of Charge Bayonet.

12. When Counting Off: Use the following, “In each rank count – TWOS”; the men do not need to yell, but state their number in a firm voice. The enemy can hear too many reenacting units counting off. The event site is only 205 acres in size, so noise counts.
13. **Casualties.** “Battle” in two-rank lines is unlikely at this event; however, “Files having been formed, as often as a front ... rank man falls or steps out of his rank, he will be immediately replaced, for the time, by his coverer in the next rank,” [Scott, 1835, Vol. I, SoS, Para. 16]. If there is a casualty, step up. This 1) Keeps the front rank men from crossing in front of the rear rank (safety), 2) Retains the numbers (temporarily; a fortuitous result as doubling was not in Scott’s), and 3) The battalion keeps its length in the line (and distance between battalions). If large gaps are created, the file closers should see that they are filled.
14. It’s “By file right (left),” *not* “By files...”
15. Presenting the piece for Inspection will be per Baxter’s 1861 *The Volunteer’s Manual*, and Caesy’s *Tactics*.

[END OF GENERAL ORDERS NO. 1]