

# **PRIVATES' MANUAL**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649680368

Privates' Manual by James A. Moss

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.  
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

[www.triestepublishing.com](http://www.triestepublishing.com)

**JAMES A. MOSS**

**PRIVATES'  
MANUAL**



# INDEX

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>A</b></p> <p>Arms, care of, ..... 47</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>B</b></p> <p>Bayonet, care of, ..... 48A</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>C</b></p> <p>Care of—            Clothing, arms and other equip-            ment ..... 44            Health ..... 52            Shoes ..... 45            Clothing, care of, ..... 44            "Colors" and "Standards," meaning            of ..... 30            Complaints to captain ..... 42B            Cooking, individual, ..... 79</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>E</b></p> <p>Equipment, care of, ..... 44</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>F</b></p> <p>Feet, care of, ..... 56            Field service, ..... 73            First aid to sick and injured ..... 57            Forms of speech ..... 41</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>G</b></p> <p>Guard Duty—            Calling the hours ..... 11            Challenge table ..... 12            Color sentinels ..... 18            Compliments from sentinels ..... 15            Countersign ..... 10            Detached posts ..... 25            Duties of sentinels, nature of, .... 1C            Explanation of a sentinel's general            orders ..... 4A            General orders for sentinels on post ..... 3            Its importance ..... 1A            Musicians of the guard ..... 23            Night Orders ..... 8            Orders for sentinels—              At guard house ..... 11              Except those at post of guard .. 7              In charge of prisoners ..... 9              On post ..... 3            Orderly for commanding officer ..... 21            Orderlies in general ..... 22            Outpost duty ..... 24            Parole ..... 10</p>	<p>Privates of the guard ..... 2            Respect for sentinels ..... 1B            Supernumeraries ..... 19</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>I</b></p> <p>Individual cooking ..... 79</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>M</b></p> <p>Message, delivery of, ..... 43A            Military Courtesy—              Civilian salute ..... 26              "Colors" and "Standards," mean-              ing of, ..... 30              Military salute, ..... 27              National air ..... 29              Nature and origin of salutes ..... 26              Saluting colors and standards ... 30              Saluting the flag ..... 29              When and how to salute ..... 32              Whom to salute ..... 29            Military deportment and appearance . 38B</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>N</b></p> <p>Nomenclature of the rifle ..... 87</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>O</b></p> <p>Obedience ..... 38A            Office, how to enter, ..... 42A</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>P</b></p> <p>Payment, how conducted, ..... 42C            Personal cleanliness ..... 40</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>R</b></p> <p>Rifle—              Care of, ..... 47              Nomenclature of, ..... 87            Russet leather equipment ..... 50</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>S</b></p> <p>Saluting. See "Military Courtesy."            Shoes, care of, ..... 45            "Standard," meaning of, ..... 30</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>T</b></p> <p>Tan leather ..... 50B</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>W</b></p> <p>Witness, how to appear as, ..... 43B</p>
--	--



204128

7

COPYRIGHT 1910  
By J. A. MOSS



## CHAPTER I.

### GUARD DUTY

- A** Guard duty is one of the soldier's most important duties, and in all armies of the world the manner in which it is performed is an index to the discipline of the command and the manner in which other duties are performed.

Upon the guard's vigilance and readiness for action depend not only the enforcement of military law and orders, but also the safety and protection of the post and the quelling of sudden disorder, perhaps even mutiny.

The importance of guard duty is increased during times of war, when the very safety of the army depends upon the vigilance of the sentinels, who are required to watch that others may sleep and thus refresh themselves from the labors of the day. The sentinels are the guardians of the repose, quiet and safety of the camp.

#### *Respect for Sentinels.*

**B** Respect for the person and office of a sentinel is as strictly enjoined by military law as that required to be paid to an officer. As it is expressed in the Manual of Guard Duty, "All persons of whatever rank in the service are required to observe respect toward sentinels". Invested as the private soldier frequently is, while on his post, with a grave responsibility, it is proper that he should be fully protected in the discharge of his duty. To permit anyone, of whatever rank, to molest or interfere with him while thus employed, without becoming liable to severe penalty, would clearly establish a precedent highly prejudicial to the interests of the service. (*Davis' Military Law*).

#### *Duty of sentinels.*

**C** A sentinel, in respect to the duties with which he is charged, represents the superior military authority of the command to which he belongs, and whose orders he is required to enforce on or in the vicinity of his post. As such he is entitled to the respect and obedience of all persons who come within the scope of operation of the orders which he is required to carry into effect. Over military persons the authority of the sentinel is

absolute, and disobedience of his orders on the part of such persons constitutes a most serious military offence and is prejudicial in the highest degree to the interests of discipline. (*Davis' Military Law*).

#### Privates of the Guard.

*Is a member of the guard allowed to remove his accoutrements or clothing, or to leave the immediate vicinity of the guard house without permission?*

He is not.

*From whom should he get the necessary permission?*

From the commander of the guard.

*During his tour of guard duty to whose orders is a soldier subject?*

To the orders of the commanding officer, the officer of the day, the officers and noncommissioned officers of the guard only.

*If a sentinel should receive an order from an officer who is not authorized to give him orders, what should he do?*

He should at once call for the corporal of the guard and report the fact to him. If directed by the corporal to obey the order, the sentinel will do so; otherwise he will not.

*Does a member of the guard salute when not engaged in the performance of a specific duty?*

Yes, if the proper execution of a duty does not prevent it, he will salute all officers that pass.

*Whenever the guard or relief is dismissed, what does each man do with his rifle?*

He will place his rifle in the armracks and not remove it therefrom unless he requires it in the performance of some duty.

*After a private has been assigned to a relief and a post what must he take care to do?*

To remember the number of his relief and the number of his post and under no circumstances to change from one relief or post to another relief or post.

*When the guard is formed, what does a member of the guard do?*

He will fall in promptly, in his proper place, with his rifle.

*When the roll is called, what does he do?*

As his name or his number and relief are called, he answers "**Here**", and comes to order arms.

*What does a member of the guard do when his relief is formed?*

At the command "1. (Such) relief, 2. Fall in", he falls in at once,



in his proper place according to his number, 2, 4, 6, and so on in the front rank, and 1, 3, 5, and so on in the rear rank, or in the order of their respective posts from right to left, according as the relief is in double or single rank. At the command, "Call off", commencing on the right the men call off alternately rear and front rank, "one", "two", "three", etc; if in single rank they call off from right to left.

*May a soldier hire another to do his duty for him?*

No, sir; under no circumstances.

*Should a soldier be found drunk while on guard duty, what punishment will he suffer?*

This is considered a very serious offence and the offender will suffer such punishment as a courtmartial may direct.

#### ORDERS FOR SENTINELS ON POST

**A** Orders for sentinels on post are divided into two classes, **general orders** and **special orders**.

Special orders define the duties to be performed by a sentinel on a particular post, and are prescribed by the commanding officer. The number and limits of his post invariable constitute part of the special orders of every sentinel on post.

General orders are those that apply to all posts in the Army and they are prescribed by the War Department.

Sentinels are required to memorize the following:

**My general duties are:**

To take charge of this post and all Government property in view;

To walk my post in a military manner, keeping constantly on the alert, observing everything that takes place within sight or hearing;

To report every breach of orders or regulations that I am instructed to enforce;

To repeat all calls from posts more distant from the guardhouse than my own;

To quit my post only when properly relieved;

To receive, transmit, and obey all orders from and allow myself to be relieved by the commanding officer, officer of the day, an officer or noncommissioned officer of the guard only;

To hold conversation with no one except in the proper discharge of my duty;

In case of fire or disorder to give the alarm;

To allow no one to commit nuisance in the vicinity of my post;

In any case not covered by instructions, to call the corporal of the guard;

To salute all officers and colors or standards not cased;

At night to exercise the greatest vigilance. Between retreat (or — o'clock, naming the hour designated by the commanding officer) and broad daylight, (or — o'clock, naming the hour designated by the commanding officer), challenge all persons seen on or near my post, and allow no person to pass without proper authority.

In addition to the foregoing, sentinels posted at the guardhouse or guard tent will be required to memorize the following:

For the orders of a sentinel on outpost duty, see 254 A.

Between reveille and retreat, to turn out the guard for all persons entitled to the compliment, for all colors or standards not cased, and for all armed parties approaching my post, except troops at drill and reliefs or detachments of the guard.

At night, after challenging any person or party, to advance no one but call the corporal of the guard, repeating the answer to the challenge.

A *What is meant by taking charge of a post and all Government property in view?*

A sentinel on post represents the Government, and he is placed there to look after its interest. A sentinel's post is not merely the line on which he walks, but extends to the next posts on either end. Not only is the sentinel required to look after all property on his post, but he is also required to see that all Government property in the immediate neighborhood suffers no injury of any kind.

*Explain the meaning of, and the reasons for, the second general order.*

"To walk my post in a military manner", means to maintain the bearing and appearance of a soldier, keeping the uniform orderly and clean and avoiding careless or slouchy movements. The reason for this is that a sentinel on post usually occupies a position where he is generally seen by the officers and soldiers of his own organization as well as by those of others and by civilians, and under such conditions, a sentinel walking his post in a careless and slouchy manner would be an unmilitary performance that would naturally create a most unfavorable impression, even, in some cases, to the extent of bringing scorn and discredit upon the entire command.

"On the alert" means on the lookout or watch against attack or danger; ready to act, and "Keeping constantly on the alert, observing

**everything that takes place within sight or hearing**" means that the sentinel shall keep his mind all the time upon his duty and not fall into any day-dreams. In this manner he may often observe things that would otherwise pass unnoticed, and though they may seem to him to have no bearing upon his duty, yet from the answers of an alert sentinel an officer may sometimes obtain valuable information.

*What is meant by "Breach of orders or regulations"?*

A "Breach of orders or regulations" means the breaking or violating of orders or regulations.

*What is meant by "Quitting post" and by "Properly relieved"?*

"Quitting post" means to leave, to go away from a post.

"Properly relieved" means to be relieved by someone who has the authority to relieve a sentinel, that is to say, the commanding officer, the officer of the day, an officer or noncommissioned officer of the guard, only.

*What is the punishment for a sentinel leaving his post before being properly relieved?*

This is considered a very serious offence and may be punished by death or such other punishment as a court-martial may direct.

*What does "Transmit orders" mean?*

It means to turn over orders to the next sentinel.

*Explain what is meant by "Disorder"?*

A disorder is a disturbance, or breach of public order of any kind, such as loud and boisterous conduct on the part of a drunken man, or two or more men fighting or otherwise misbehaving themselves, etc.

*What is meant by "Nuisance" and by "Vicinity"?*

"Nuisance" means anything that is disagreeable or offensive or that annoys or worries, such as urinating, etc.

"Vicinity" means near or close to.

*What are "Colors" and "Standards" and when are they "Cased"?*

**Colors** are the national flag and the regimental flag carried by the Infantry and other foot troops.

**Standards** are the national flag and the regimental flag carried by the Cavalry and Field Artillery; they are smaller than those carried by the Infantry.

**Colors** and **Standards** are "Cased" when they are rolled and covered with a water-proof case.

*Explain the meaning of "To exercise the greatest vigilance".*

It means to use the greatest watchfulness, to be on the keenest lookout.

*Upon reaching the end of his post is a sentinel required to halt and*