

VI. RECEPTION OF THE UNITED STATES COLORS

Tactics and Manual of Asylum Ceremonies, Grand Commandery of Missouri
Last Revised 1961, Last Reprinted 1966, Text appearing on pages 34 - 35

The Colors are placed in the Commander's Apartments before the Commander and his staff retire for his reception.

The Color Guard, consisting of the Color Bearer and two Guards, together with the Captain of the Color Guard forms on the north side of the Asylum, facing south three to six paces from the East, when the lines are formed for the reception of the Eminent Commander.

The C.G., after commanding the S.W. to form the lines for the reception of the E.Com., commands: **S.Kgt. C.Col.Gd. (H.S.) Form the Color Guard.** C.Col.Gd. draws sword and (S.S.) C.G. (S.S.).

C.Col.Gd.: **Color Guard, FALL IN, Draw, Swords.**

The two Guards fall in facing the front, the Col.B. in the center. Col.B. does not draw sword, he hooks up. C.Col.Gd. places himself two paces in front of the Col.Gd.

The E.Com. is received according to the Tactics.

When the E.Com. reaches his station he draws sword and commands: **S.Kgts., Carry, Swords; S.Kgt. C.Col.Gd.; Retire with the Color Guard and escort the United States Flag into the Asylum.** C.Col.Gd. (S.S.) E.Com. (S.S.).

C.Col.Gd.: **Col.Gd., Right Wheel, MARCH.** (He places himself on the left of the Col.Gd., and retires with the Col.Gd. through the inner door.) (When they reach the E.Com.'s Apt. he halts the Col.Gd. facing the Flag.) **Col.Gd. HALT, Present, SWORDS.** (The Col.B. steps forward, salutes the Flag (H.S.), takes up Flag, resumes his position in center of Col.Gd. facing the rear of Col.Gd.) **Carry SWORDS; About, FACE.** (The Col.B. does not execute about face when carrying the Flag.) **Forward, MARCH.** (The Col.Gd. is marched into the Asy. and is halted inside of the inner door.) **Col.Gd., HALT.**

When the Col.Gd. is halted inside the door the W. announces: **THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.**

E.Com.: **Commandery, ATTENTION; Present, SWORDS.** (SKgts. not in line execute H.S.).

After the Commandery is at present swords, the C.Col.Gd. commands: **Col.Gd.; Forward, MARCH.** (The Col.Gd. is marched to the center of the Asy. or to the East, three to six paces from the dais, and halted.) C.Col.Gd.: **Col.Gd., HALT; Present, SWORDS.**

The National Anthem is then played or sung.

After the National Anthem, the Col.Gd. will be marched to a point in front of the position of the Flag, the Col.B. will step forward and place the Flag in position on the extreme right of the dais. (The Col.Gd. is brought to carry swords after the National Anthem, and is brought to present swords as the Flag is placed.) After the Col.B. has placed the Flag he will salute the Flag (H.S.), and return to his position in the Col.Gd., facing front.

E.Com.: **Carry, SWORDS; S.Kgts. not in line, Be seated; S.Kgt. C.Col.Gd.; Dismiss the Color Guard.** C.Col.Gd. (S.S.), E.Com. (S.S.).

The C.Col.Gd. marches the Col.Gd. to the west of the Asy. and dismisses it, and the E.Com. proceeds with the opening according to the Tactics.