Face in Marching

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This document is one of several documents that discuss drill problems that need improvement at COWG Encampment. The official reference for all drill and ceremonies procedures is AFMAN 36-2203, also known as the D&C Manual. The new CAP Pamphlet 60-20, CAP Drill & Ceremonies is CAP's equivalent to the Air Force Manual.

Read it, Teach it, Do it! We face a major drill problem, throughout CAP. Many cadets, teaching drill, have not read the D&C Manual. A lack of understanding or lack of knowledge of correct procedures results in incorrect instruction. This leads to the perpetuation of drill mistakes.

We will not allow this to happen at COWG Encampment. The encampment flight staff must be, or become, experts. We will require that cadet line staff obtain and read the D&C Manual thoroughly, teach procedures as described in the manual using the six-step process, and execute the maneuvers correctly. This process must begin ***before*** encampment. We will ***READ IT, TEACH IT, DO IT!***

Face In Marching - There are several instances in AFMAN 36-2203 where the term "execute a Face in Marching" appears. What is a "Face in Marching" and what does it mean?

From the D&C Manual, Paragraph 3.18:

> *"Face in Marching. The command is Right (Left) Flank, MARCH. On the command MARCH, the airman executes a 90-degree pivot on the ball of the right ~~(left)~~ foot and, at the same time, steps off with the left ~~(right)~~ foot in the new direction with coordinated arm swing. The pivot and step are executed in one count, and proper dress, cover, interval, and distance are maintained."*

There is an error in the D& C manual for this procedure.

The italicized *(left)* and *(right)* in parenthesis were erroneously ***added*** during a late edit to the manual and were not corrected before publication. In addition, there were no corrections in subsequent revisions to the manual. This information is based on the input from the Basic Military Training Standardization and Evaluation shop at Lackland AFB.

To lend additional credence to the original paragraph being in error, here is D&C Paragraph 3.9.1.

> *3.9.1. When executed from a halt, all steps and marching begin with the left foot, except right step and close march.*

Paragraph 3.9.1 is correctly stated.

Paragraph 3.9.1 directly conflicts with the original "Face in Marching" paragraph 3.18 since that paragraph erroneously states to step off with the right foot when executing a face in marching to the left.

I have corrected (by strikethrough) the incorrect wording in the original paragraph 3.18. With those strikethroughs in place, the paragraph is correct. ***We will use this corrected paragraph to train this procedure at encampment.***

It is important to note that the new CAP D&C Pamphlet, CAP Pamphlet 60-20, *CAP Drill and Ceremonies*, corrects this problem.

Simplified Version - A Face in Marching is a very simple maneuver - really just a flank from the halt - executed by executing a 90-degree pivot (with arms pinned) on the right foot and stepping off at the same time with the left foot.

Left Flank, MARCH (from a halt)

On the command of execution, each member of the flight will execute the Face in Marching by pivoting 90-degrees to the left on the ball of the right foot and stepping off in the new direction with the left foot during the pivot. The pivot and step are executed in one count, and proper dress, cover, interval, are maintained.

Right Flank, MARCH (from a halt)

On the command of execution, each member of the flight will execute the Face in Marching by pivoting 90-degrees to the right by stepping off with the left foot, crossing it OVER the right foot and pivoting on the ball of the right foot at the same time. The left foot should hit the ground to the right of your initial position with your right foot back. The pivot and step are executed in one count, and proper dress, cover, interval, are maintained.

The "Face in Marching" procedure is used in the following drill maneuvers:

Right Flank, MARCH (from a halt) – All flight members execute Face in Marching.

Left Flank, MARCH (from a halt) - All flight members execute Face in Marching.

Column Left, MARCH (from a halt) – All element leaders execute a Face in Marching to the left on the command of execution. ***A Face in Marching <u>is not</u> done when executing Column Right, MARCH from the halt!***

Column Half Left, MARCH (from a halt) – All element leaders perform a 45 degree Face in Marching to the left on the command of execution.

Column Half Right MARCH (from a halt) – ***A Face in Marching is not done.***

Column of Files Maneuvers (from a halt) – When executing a Column Left, March or Column Right, March, ***from the halt*** when simultaneously executing a Column of Files maneuver, the guide and all element leaders execute a Face in Marching as they step off at the appropriate time.

It is important to note that for **Column Left, MARCH** and **Column Right, March**, as well as the Column Half Left or Right, the element leaders and guide are the only members who must execute the Face in Marching. ***They only execute a Face in Marching when these maneuvers are executed from a Halt. All other flight members simply execute pivots at the appropriate point.***

A Face in Marching is also executed by the flight guide during some movements. The maneuver is also executed in some situations during open ranks inspections.