

MANUAL OF BAYONET EXERCISES.

UNITED STATES ARMY.

(Provisional, 1907.)

1. The infantry soldier relies mainly on fire action to disable the enemy, but he should know that personal combat is often necessary to complete the success and he must therefore be instructed in the use of the bayonet.

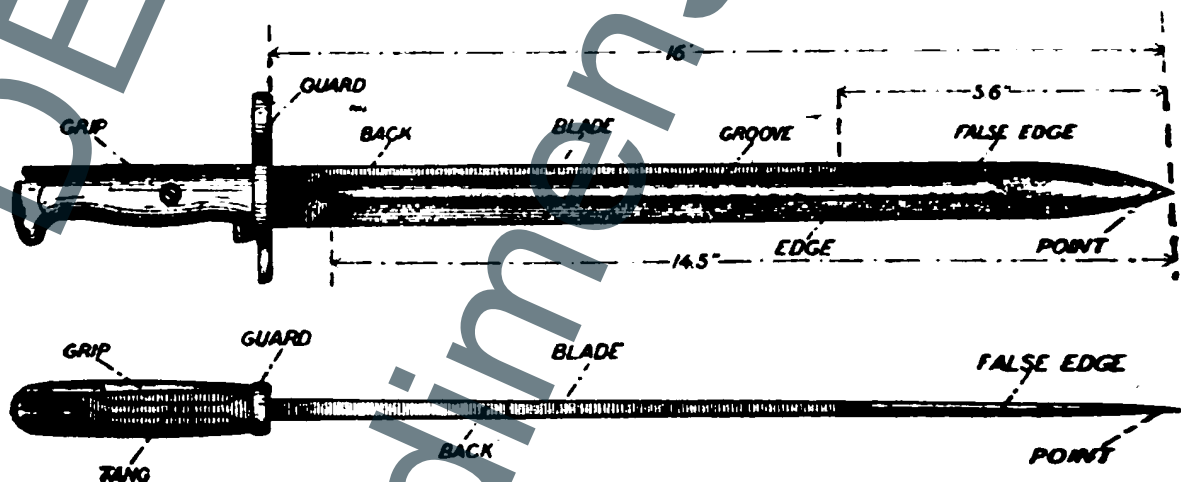
Instruction in the use of the bayonet.

2. The object of this instruction is to teach the soldier how to make effective use of the bayonet in battle; to make him quick and proficient in handling his piece; to give him confidence in the bayonet in offense and defense; to give him an accurate eye, a steady hand, and to increase his muscular development and suppleness.

THE BAYONET.

Nomenclature and description.

3. The bayonet is a cutting and thrusting weapon consisting of three principal parts, viz., the *blade*, *guard*, and *grip*.



Pls. 1 and 2, Pars. 3 and 4.

35. 1. Order, 2. ARMS.

Bring the right foot up to the left foot and resume the position of attention, at the same time bringing the rifle to the position of order arms.

36. 1. THRUST.

Pl. 4, Par. 36.

As in paragraph 31, at the same time drive the piece forcibly to the front with the right arm, barrel to the left. Butt at the height of the chin and outside right forearm. Both hands supporting the piece. Point of bayonet at height of point attacked.

39. 1. *Right low (or left low)*, 2. *PARRY*.

Pl. 6, Par. 39.

Extend the left arm and carry the point of the bayonet down until it is at the height of the right knee, moving the point of the bayonet sufficiently to the right to keep the opponent's attack clear of the point attacked. The low parries are rarely used, as an attack below the waist leaves the head and body exposed.

40. Parries must not be too wide or sweeping, but sharp, short motions finished with a jerk or quick catch.

41. The guard, parries, lunges, or thrusts can be executed to the right, left or rear by means of the volts. In executing the volts make a strong sweep with the rifle; but if there is danger of wounding a comrade the piece should be first brought to a vertical position.

42. 1. *Right (or left)*, 2. *CUT*.

Draw the bayonet slightly to the left and with a quick extension of the arms execute a cut to the right, directing the edge toward the point attacked. The cuts are especially useful against the hands or arms of an enemy. In executing left cut remember that the false,

or back edge, is only 5.6 inches long. The cuts can also be executed in connection with thrusts and lunges.

43. The guard against cavalry is similar to the guard prescribed in paragraph 34, except that the knees are almost straight and the point of the bayonet is higher.

44. The parries, thrusts, and lunges against cavalry are executed as previously explained, except that the attack and defense are higher.

45. The following are useful when fighting at close quarters and it is impossible to use the whole piece to advantage.

46. 1. *Butt*, 2. *FRONT*.



Pl. 7., Par. 46.

Raise the piece nearly vertical and bring it back, barrel in hollow of the right shoulder, straighten right leg, and bring the butt up with a strong sweep.

48. 1. Butt, 2. REAR.

Pl. 10, Par. 48.

Turn to the right on both heels. Raise the piece with both hands, barrel down, and horizontal; head and eyes to the rear, right hand opposite left of neck, strike to the rear, at the same time straighten the left leg.

49. 1. Butt, 2. LEFT.

Execute a left volt followed by butt front.

50. To thrust or lunge from a parry, first give the command for the parry, then quickly follow with the command for the thrust or lunge.

51. When the soldier is thoroughly familiar with the different foot movements, parries, thrusts, lunges, cuts, and blows, the instructor combines several of them by giving the commands in quick succession, increasing the rapidity and number of movements in combination as the men become more skillful.

52. During preliminary instruction attack and defense will be executed from guard until proficiency is attained, when they can be practiced from *any* position.

53. Good judgment of distance is essential. This will be taught