

WAR DEPARTMENT

**AIR CORPS
FIELD MANUAL**

REVIEWS AND INSPECTIONS

April 4, 1941

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AIR CORPS FIELD MANUAL



REVIEWS AND INSPECTIONS

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BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF WAR:

G. C. MARSHALL,

Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

E. S. ADAMS,

Major General,

The Adjutant General.

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(This manual supersedes TR 440-25, December 31, 1927.)

SECTION I

GENERAL

- 1. CEREMONIES.—The only ceremony prescribed for Air Corps troops is the aerial review.
- 2. INSPECTIONS.—An inspection is not a ceremony. A tactical inspection may or may not be combined with an aerial review.
- 3. INFANTRY FORMATIONS.—For training and ceremonial purposes infantry formations, such as dismounted drills, parades, reviews, and inspections, may be used extensively by Air Corps troops at replacement centers and at Air Corps training centers, as well as occasionally by air base units and by the ground echelons of Air Corps tactical units. When infantry formations are used, the procedure outlined in FM 22-5 as modified to suit the equipment of the unit will be used. Squadrons are organized into squads, platoons, and, if the size of the squadron requires, into companies for this purpose.

SECTION II

AERIAL REVIEWS

- 4. PURPOSE.—The purpose of aerial reviews may be one of the following:
 - a. To test and determine the state of proficiency and training of an Air Corps command and the condition of its equipment.
 - b. To promote esprit de corps and morale.
 - c. To preserve tradition.
 - d. To render honors to military or civil officials or to foreign dignitaries entitled to such honors.

- 5. COMPOSITION AND ELEMENTS OF AN AERIAL REVIEW.—a. *Composition.*—A squadron is the smallest unit which may be designated to perform an aerial review. A group aerial review is described in this manual. For higher or lower units the procedure herein stated will be followed and modification made as needed.

b. Elements.—An aerial review consists of four parts:

- (1) Formation of airplanes and crews on the flying line.
- (2) Presentation and honors.
- (3) Ceremonial inspection by reviewing officer.
- (4) Aerial pass in review.

■ **6. TACTICAL INSPECTION COMBINED WITH AERIAL REVIEW.**—When a tactical inspection is combined with an aerial review, the third part of the aerial review, that is, the ceremonial inspection, will be omitted, and the tactical inspection will be substituted in the same chronological sequence.

■ **7. COMMANDING OFFICER OF TROOPS.**—The local Air Corps commander is the commanding officer of troops for an aerial review of his command. However, the local commander may designate from his command an officer junior to him, but senior to all of the troops participating, to act as commanding officer of troops. In the latter case the local commander is thus enabled to accompany a visiting dignitary and receive the aerial review with him in the event that the aerial review is given as a ceremonial honor, or to examine the state of training of the command when the aerial review is given as a test of proficiency.

■ **8. PREPARATION FOR AERIAL REVIEW.**—Prior to each aerial review, a directive will be issued by the appropriate headquarters to coordinate all details and special arrangements consistent with local requirements.

a. The post of the reviewing officer will be marked with a flag, which will be placed opposite the center of the flying line when practicable.

b. Only those airplanes participating in the aerial pass in review will be parked on the flying line. Spare airplanes and all other aircraft will be disposed of as directed by the commanding officer of troops. Aircraft armament will not be installed for an aerial review, except when the purpose of the review requires the test of equipment prepared for action. In no case will ammunition, bombs, or chemicals be installed.

c. Parachutes and flying equipment not part of the designated uniform for participating troops during formation of airplanes and crews on the flying line will be placed in the airplanes

d. Airplane combat crews and maintenance crews will take position for the formation of airplanes and crews on the flying line as shown in figure 1. Maintenance crews will be reduced to the minimum necessary for starting motors and assisting airplanes in their movement from their positions on the flying line to take-off positions.

e. If a band or field music is present it will take post normally 25 yards to the left of and 5 yards in the rear of the reviewing officer. If this is not feasible due to local conditions, it will take post in position as directed by the commanding officer of troops.

■ 9. CONDUCT OF AERIAL REVIEW.—a. *Formation of airplanes with crews on flying line.*—(1) Normally the airplanes of a group will be arranged on a flying line in conformance with one of the three group formations outlined in figure 2; however, the arrangement of airplanes may be modified to suit local conditions. Diagram A, figure 2, represents a formation of a line of squadrons in line; diagram B, a line of squadrons in column; and diagram C, a column of squadrons in line.

(2) The interval between airplanes parked on the flying line should be uniform throughout the formation and will be as announced in the directive for the particular case.

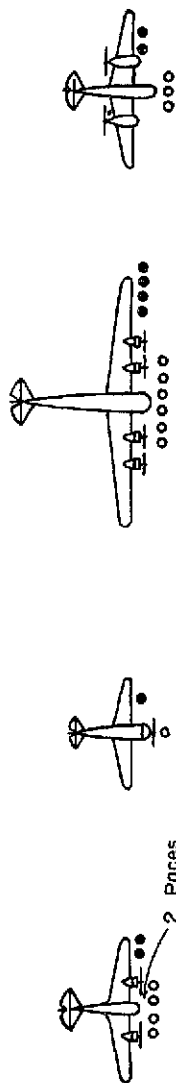
(3) The interval between squadrons will be uniform throughout the formation and will be at least the width of one airplane.

(4) In general, airplanes will be arranged so that engines may be warmed up and airplanes taxied out for take-off in the proper order.

(5) The commanding officer of troops and his staff take position normally in front of the center of the group formation opposite the position of the reviewing officer and midway between the line of the squadron commanders and the post of the reviewing officer.

b. *Reviewing party.*—(1) The military or civil officials or foreign dignitaries in whose honor the aerial review is being tendered, or the local commander if the ceremony is being performed as a test of proficiency, is hereinafter designated as the reviewing officer.

(2) At the appointed time the reviewing officer, with his staff and orderlies, will move to the post of the reviewing officer, previously marked with a flag.



○ Combat Crew

● Maintenance Crew

FIGURE 1.—Position of airplane combat crews and maintenance crews.

(3) The reviewing party as a whole may consist of all or component parts of the following:

(a) Reviewing officer with his commissioned and enlisted staff, flag, and orderlies.

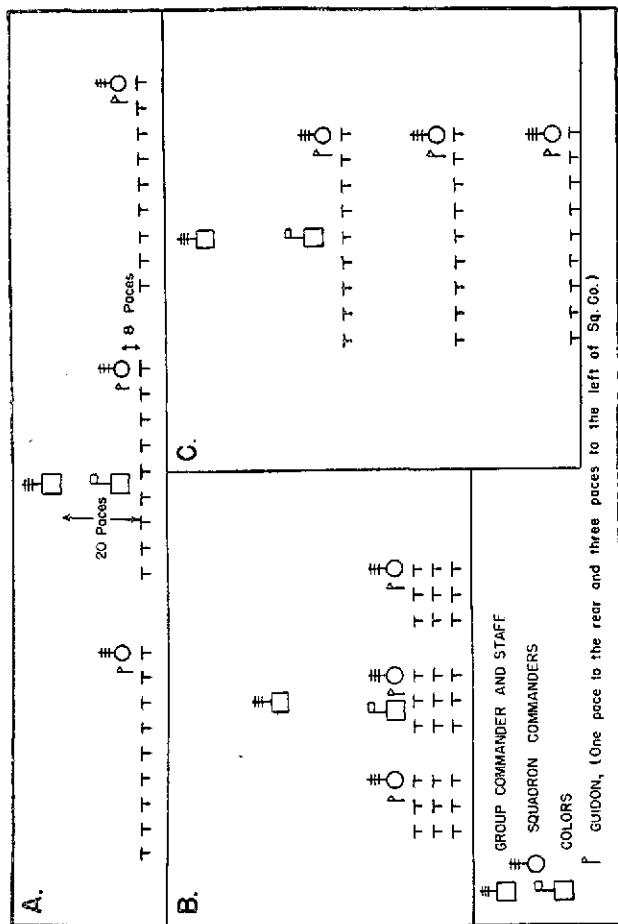


FIGURE 2.—Group formations.

(b) The local commander with his commissioned and enlisted staff, flag, and orderlies.

(c) Distinguished civilian guests.

(4) The reviewing party takes position normally as illustrated in figure 3, with 2 paces between ranks, facing the commanding officer of troops.

c. Presentation and honors.—(1) As the reviewing officer moves to his position the commanding officer of troops brings his command to attention by giving the command: **GROUP ATTENTION**. At this command the squadron commanders, in turn, bring their respective squadrons to attention by giving the command: 1. **SQUADRON**, 2. **ATTENTION**.

(2) Troops execute all commands when and as given by their squadron commanders.

(3) When the reviewing officer is in position, the commanding officer of troops faces his troops and gives the command: **PRESENT ARMS**. (See FM 22-5, especially pertinent paragraphs in reference to the salute with the hand, manual of the pistol, manual of the guidon, and manual of the color and standard.) At this command, the squadron commanders in turn face their squadrons and for their respective squadrons in turn give the command: 1. **PRESENT**, 2. **ARMS**. At the command of execution, officers of the squadron execute and hold the first movement of the hand salute; enlisted men in ranks armed with the pistol or unarmed execute and hold the first movement of the hand salute. When the squadrons have come to present arms, squadron commanders face the front and execute and hold the first movement of the hand salute.

(4) The group standard (or color) will salute and execute all other commands at the command of the squadron commander of the previously designated color squadron.

(5) The commanding officer of troops, when all squadrons have executed **PRESENT ARMS** as outlined above, faces the reviewing officer and executes and holds the first movement of the hand salute. His staff and orderlies salute with him.

(6) At this time appropriate honors are rendered by the band or field music, if present.

(7) When the honors are completed and/or the salute is acknowledged by the reviewing officer, the commanding officer of troops terminates his salute (his staff conforming), faces the troops, and gives the command: **ORDER ARMS**. The squadron commanders terminate their salutes and face about and command their respective squadrons: 1. **ORDER**, 2. **ARMS**. At the command of execution, officers of the squadron and enlisted men in ranks armed with the pistol or unarmed

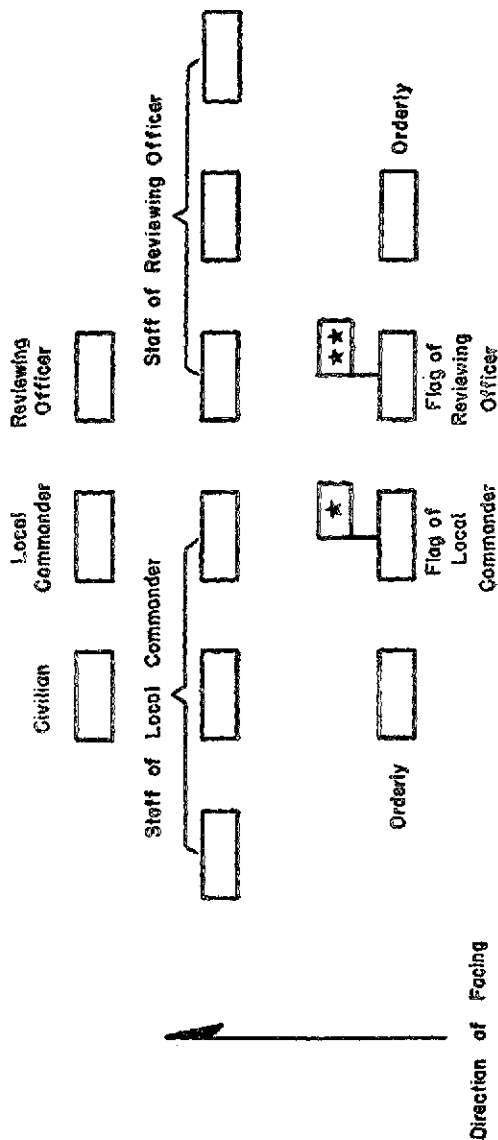


FIGURE 3.—Position of reviewing party.

execute the second movement of the hand salute and resume the position of attention.

(8) The commanding officer of troops then gives the command: **AT EASE**. The squadron commanders command their respective squadrons **AT EASE** in a manner similar to the above.

d. Ceremonial inspection by reviewing officer.—The ceremonial inspection may be omitted if the reviewing officer so desires. If a ceremonial inspection is included, the procedure will be as follows:

(1) The reviewing officer and his party move forward to the commanding officer of troops. The two exchange salutes (staffs do not salute). The commanding officer of troops then conducts the reviewing party upon a ceremonial inspection around the formation, beginning with the squadron on the right of the line. Normally the reviewing officer will be conducted so as to pass in front of each line of airplanes of each squadron in turn. While passing around the troops the reviewing officer may direct that his staff, flag, and orderlies remain at the reviewing post or that only his personal staff and flag accompany him. The commanding officer of troops and the local commander accompany the reviewing officer while he passes around the troops and they march on that side of the reviewing officer which is away from the troops. The staffs of the commanding officer of troops and the reviewing officer follow, each staff following its own commander in column of files. In passing around the troops the staffs maintain the formation in which they commenced their march. If the inspection is to be made in motor vehicles, the reviewing party enters cars which drive up to the post of the reviewing officer after the completion of the presentation and honors. One seat in each car on the side away from the troops is left vacant. The cars move to the post of the commanding officer of troops. The commanding officer of troops enters the car with the reviewing officer; a staff officer from the staff of the commanding officer of troops enters each of the other cars. Orderlies and flags remain at their post.

(2) The reviewing officer makes such general inspection of the command as he may desire while passing around the troops. A detailed inspection is not a part of the ceremony of an aerial review.

(3) Each squadron is brought to attention by its squadron commander as the reviewing officer approaches. Squadron, flight, and individual airplane commanders will salute when the reviewing officer arrives opposite them, and, if the reviewing officer is making his inspection dismounted, squadron and flight commanders will announce their command in a manner similar to the following: "Major Doe, commanding the First Pursuit Squadron."

(4) If a band or field music is present, it will play while the reviewing officer is conducting his ceremonial inspection.

(5) Upon completion of the ceremonial inspection by the reviewing officer, the commanding officer of troops salutes the reviewing officer and, leaving the reviewing party, dispatches his staff to their airplanes and proceeds to his airplane. The reviewing party proceeds to its original post.

e. Aerial pass in review.—(1) Upon arriving at a position in front of his airplane, the commanding officer of troops calls the group to attention and gives the command: **PASS IN REVIEW**, immediately followed by the command: **START ENGINES** (OR AT MY SIGNAL, **START ENGINES** if a signal for the simultaneous starting of engines has been prearranged). Squadron commanders will repeat this command, each squadron executing the command upon its squadron commander's order.

(2) At this time combat crews take their places in the airplanes, engines are started, and airplanes are taxied for take-off in the order and manner prescribed.

(3) As soon as engines are started, maintenance crews form on their squadron guidons and march off the field by the most direct route.

(4) The conduct of the aerial pass in review, from take-off to landing, will be carried out in accordance with the directive issued by appropriate headquarters for the particular aerial review.

(5) Normally the reviewing officer and party will remain at their post until all airplanes participating in the aerial review have landed at the termination thereof. However, when the aerial review is being tendered for the purpose of rendering honors to military or civil officials or to foreign dignitaries, it is permissible for the reviewing party to leave their post immediately after the last airplane or formation passes in review, thus terminating the ceremony.

SECTION III

INSPECTIONS

■ 10. **PURPOSE.**—The purpose of any inspection of troops is to determine the state of training of the command and the condition of its equipment with the ultimate view of improvement in order better to fit the command to fulfill its mission.

■ 11. **TYPES OF INSPECTIONS.**—Air Corps units may be subjected to any one of the following types of inspections:

- a. Tactical inspection.
- b. Technical inspection.
- c. Inspection of personnel, clothing, and barracks.

■ 12. **TACTICAL INSPECTION.**—*a.* Tactical inspections are held in accordance with AR 265-10 and normally they will include the following:

(1) Test of the Air Corps unit upon a tactical mission appropriate to the unit and its equipment.

(2) Inspection on the ground of the airplanes, equipment, armament, ammunition, bombs, chemicals, pyrotechnics, combat crews, and maintenance crews.

b. Inasmuch as the inspecting officer is usually of such rank as to entitle him to be tendered an aerial review, it is normal to include that part of the tactical inspection embracing the inspection of airplanes and crews on the flying line in conjunction with the aerial review. (See par. 5.) In such a case ammunition, bombs, and chemicals, if required to be loaded in the airplanes for the tactical inspection, will be unloaded prior to the aerial pass in review.

c. Prior to each tactical inspection a directive will be issued by the inspecting officer to the unit to be inspected, outlining in detail the requirements of the inspection. This directive will form the basis for the unit commander's orders outlining the details of the inspection and special arrangements, consistent with local requirements, to be followed by the unit.

■ 13. **TECHNICAL INSPECTION.**—Technical inspections are informal and will be conducted in accordance with the requirements of the technical supervisor. Normally airplanes and equipment therefor are inspected by the technical supervisor in the hangars.

■ 14. **INSPECTION OF PERSONNEL, CLOTHING, AND BARRACKS.**—*a.* Inspection of Air Corps personnel, their clothing and indi-

vidual equipment (other than flying clothing and equipment), and their barracks or other living quarters will be made from time to time in accordance with directives published by appropriate headquarters. Normally for such inspections personnel of Air Corps units will be formed and inspected in the area of barracks. Inspections of barracks or other living quarters may or may not require the presence of personnel, and this will be indicated in the directive ordering such inspection.

b. For type and amount of clothing and individual equipment issued to Air Corps troops, see T/BA 1. For the prescribed methods of wearing, packing, and display for inspection of clothing and individual equipment and for the care thereof, see FM 21-15.

