APPENDIX C

SKI DRILL

Section I. INDIVIDUAL DRILL

C-1. General

Ski drill and ski training should be given concurrently. Ski drill is kept to the minimum necessary for assembly, organization, instruction, and speedy reaction to commands. Only those infantry drill movements in FM 22-5 which are easily performed on skis are used. If weapon is included, it is either carried across the back with the sling over the left shoulder, butt at the right side, or attached to the rucksack, if used. Before falling in for drill, skis are strapped with running surfaces together, tip to tip, using one strap to secure them tightly together between the toe and heel section of the bindings. Poles are interlaced by drawing the shaft of one through the basket of the other.

C-2. Fall In

The command is FALL IN. A normal interval, 100 cm (40"), is taken and skis are held in the position of Order Skis.

C-3. Order Skis (fig. C-1)

This is the position of attention with skis, except during Inspection of Skis. The skis are grasped with the right hand between the toe and heel section of the binding and held in a vertical position with the edges to the front. The tips of the skis rest cm the ground, on line with and touching the toe of the right boot. The poles are held by placing the left hand through both wrist straps and grasping both handgrips. They are placed in a vertical position with the baskets on line with and touching the left boot. Both elbows are held close to the body.

C-4. At Ease and Rest

The same procedure is followed as in FM AGO 8641A



Figure C-1. Position of Order Skis.

22-5, except that the skis take the place of the rifle.

C-5. Facings

Facings are executed as prescribed in FM 22-5 except that the skis take the place of the rifle. The ski poles are held in the left hand.

C-6 Hand Salute, Dismounted

At the position of Order or Right Shoulder Skis, the salute is rendered in the same manner as the rifle salute. To accomplish this, release the grip on the ski poles with the left hand allowing the poles to hang from the wrist while the salute is executed. Regrasp the pole handles after execution of the salute.

C-7. Right Shoulder Skis (fig. C-2)

This is a four count movement. Being at the position of Order Skis, the command is RIGHT SHOULDER SKIS. At the command SKIS, the skis are lifted vertically until, the upper right arm is horizontal. At the same time, the left hand grasps the skis over the front edges and approximately 30 cm (1') below the front of the toe section of the binding. The ski poles remain on the left wrist as the movement is executed. (TWO) The right hand moves down and grasps the skis over the front edges, midway between the ski tips and the front of the toe section of the binding. (THREE) Skis are lowered so that the balance point rests on the shoulder and the skis are at an angle of approximately 45° to the horizontal, with the right elbow close to the side. (FOUR) The left arm is cut smartly back to the side and the grip on the ski poles resumed.

C-8. Order Skis from Right Shoulder Skis

This is a four count movement. The command is ORDER SKIS. At the command SKIS, the left hand grasps the skis midway between the toe section of the binding and the right hand. The poles hang from the wrist by the straps. (TWO) The skis are brought down until they are in a vertical position approximately 45 cm (18") from the ground. (THREE) The right hand grasps the skis over the rear edges between the toe and heel section of the bindings. (FOUR) The skis are lowered gently to the ground. At the same



Figure C-2. Position of right shoulder skis.

time, the left hand grasps the handgrips of the poles and is brought back to the left side.

C-9. Open and Close Ranks

Same as FM 22-5 except that each rank takes double the distance.

For example:

- a. Front rank takes 4 steps forward.
- b. Second rank takes 2 steps forward.

- c. Third rank stands fast.
- d. Fourth rank takes 4 steps backwards.

C-10. Inspection Skis

Being at Order Skis, the command is IN-SPECTION SKIS (fig. C-3). At the command SKIS, the skis are unstrapped with the left hand and the loose strap placed in the pocket. The skis are separated and the position of attention assumed, holding one ski in each hand between the toe and heel section of the bindings, running surfaces to the front and the tip of each ski in line with and approximately 8 cm (3") outside the toe of the corresponding boot. The ski poles are placed in the snow beside the left foot. After the inspecting officer has examined the running surfaces, the skis are rotated 180° to display the top surface. When the inspecting officer has passed, the skis are refastened and the position of Order Skis resumed.

C-11. Ground Skis

This movement is done in 3 counts. Being at Order Skis, the command is GROUND SKIS. At the command SKIS, take two steps to the rear, leaving the ski tips in place. Lower the skis partially to the ground by sliding the right hand toward the heels of the skis. (TWO) The skis are then placed on the ground, on edge. (THREE) A position is taken driectly to the left of the ski bindings, facing the tips of the skis. The poles are placed on the left, parallel to the skis, baskets to the rear, midpoint of the shafts even with and close to the left boot, The position of attention is then assumed.

C-12. Take Skis From Ground Skis

The command is TAKE SKIS. At the command SKIS secure ski poles, reverse the three movements of Ground Skis, and assume the position of Order Skis.

C-13. Stack Skis

(fig. C-4)

This movement is done in four counts. The command is STACK SKIS. At the command SKIS, the first two movements of Ground Skis are executed. (THREE) The ski poles are sep-



Figure C-3. Position of inspection skis.

arated and the points placed in the ground on each side of the ski heels, approximately 1 meter (3') apart. A V is made of the handgrips by interlacing each wrist strap over the opposite handgrip and crossing the right pole in front of the left. The poles are then grasped with the right hand at the point where they intersect. (FOUR) The heels of the skis are pcked up with the left hand and placed, edges

up, running surfaces together, into the V-formed by the handgrips. At the same time, the poles are tilted forward so that they are approximately 45 cm (18") from the ski heels. This increases support. A position of attention is then assumed beside the ski bindings, with the stack to the right.

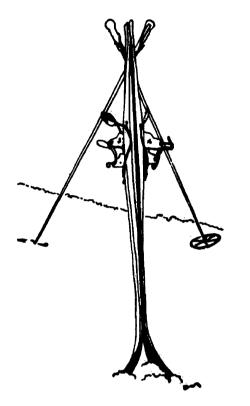


Figure C-4. Position of skis in stack skis.

C-14. Take Skis from Stack Skis

The command is TAKE SKIS. At the command SKIS, the movements of Stack Skis are reversed and the position of Order Skis assumed.

C-15. Stack Equipment

With skis stacked, the command is STACK EQUIPMENT. At the command EQUIPMENT, the pack is hung over the heels of the skis by both shoulder straps with the body of the pack to the right of the individual as he faces to the rear. The rifle remains attached to the pack when applicable or, when unattached, it is also hung to the right, vertically and with the receiver down. Any additional equipment is hung in a similar manner.

C-16. Take Equipment

The command is TAKE EQUIPMENT. At the command EQUIPMENT, the rifle, pack, and equipment are removed and a position of attention resumed beside the skis.

C-17. Mount Skis

This movement is done in 5 counts. Being in line at open ranks, the command is MOUNT SKIS. At the command SKIS, the first three movements of Ground Skis are executed. (FOUR) The skis are straddled. (FIVE) The ski's are separated (from each other) placed on the ground axial the boots are secured to the bindings. Poles are then separated and grasped with the left hand. The right hand is inserted up through the wrist strap from underneath so that the wrist strap is around the back of the wrist. Then the handgrip is grasped. This procedure is repeated with the left hand and the position of attention is assumed. On skis this is as follows (fig. C-5):

- a. Skis are parallel and approximately 8 cm (3") apart, with the weight of the body evenly on both skis.
- b. Poles are placed vertically with each basket in line with, and touching the toe of, the corresponding boot.
- c. Elbows are close to the body, with the position of the hands dependent on the length of the pole.

C-18. Dismount Skis

The command is DISMOUNT SKIS. At the command SKIS, the movements of Mount Skis are reversed and the position on Order Skis assumed.

C-19. At Ease and Rest, Skis Mounted

When mounted on skis, the right ski must be left in place when At Ease is given. At Rest, both skis may be moved.

C-20. Hand Salute, Skis Mounted (fig. C-6)

When mounted on skis, the hand salute is rendered the same as prescribed in FM 22-5. The right hand is removed from the wrist strap if time permits. If time does not permit,



Figure C-5. Position of attention, skis mounted.

the pole hangs from the wrist by the strap until after the salute is executed.

C-21. Ski Interval

(fig. C-7)

Maneuvers on skis are done at ski interval. If skis are already mounted, ski interval will be taken by each individual when falling in, unless otherwise specified. The ski interval is approximately 3 meters (9') and is measured by extending both the right arm and right-ski pole and the left arm with the left pole hanging from theorist. When skis are mounted in ranks while at normal interval, the command is TAKE SKI INTERVAL TO THE RIGHT (LEFT). On this command, interval is taken as described in FM 22-5, except that the step turn to the left is executed rather



Figure C-6. The hand salute, skis mounted.

than a face to the left in marching. The interval is measured as described above. If it is desired to straighten the ranks after ski interval has been taken, the command AT SKI INTERVAL, DRESS RIGHT DRESS is given.

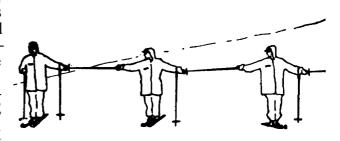


Figure C-7. Taking ski interval.

C-22. Right or Left Face

When mounted on skis, this movement is executed in four counts. The command is RIGHT FACE. At the command FACE, the right ski is raised slightly and rotated 45° to the right, using its heel as a pivot. (TWO). The left ski is moved alongside the right ski. (THREE) The first movement is repeated. (FOUR) The second movement is repeated. Each ski pole is raised, moved, and placed with the corresponding ski. Left Face is executed in the same manner except the 450 movement is made to the left with the left ski.

C-23. About Face

This movement is executed in four counts.

The command is ABOUT FACE. At the command FACE, the left pole is placed alongside the left ski approximately 45 to 60 cm (18" to 24") in front of the toe. At the same time, the right pole is placed alongside the right ski approximate y 45 to 60 cm (18" to 24") in the rear of the toe. (TWO) The right ski is raised until it is perpendicular, with its heel alongside the tip of the left ski. (THREE) Using the heel as a pivot, the right ski is rotated and placed alongside the right pole and pointing in the opposite direction. (FOUR) The left ski and ski pole are then brought around simultaneously and the left ski placed in the new direction alongside the right ski, with the left ski pole placed by the toe of the left foot.

Section II. UNIT DRILL

C-24. Moving at Right Shoulder Skis

a. Drill. To move men out at right shoulder skis, the preparatory command FORWARD is given with sufficient pause before the command of execution MARCH to allow the men to bring their poles up onto the left shoulder and placed with baskets to the rear under the skis (1, fig. C–8). To move from Right Shoulder Skis to Order Skis after halting, the preparatory command ORDER is given with sufficient pause before the command of execution SKIS to allow the men to bring their poles down to the left side.

b. Marches. There are three methods of carrying skis which may be used in marching, their use depending on the length of march and the type of terrain. If the march is relatively short, at the command ROUTE STEP the poles may be removed from under the skis and brought down to the side at the discretion of the individual. This enables him to rest or warm his arm and hand or to use the poles for support when climbing a slope. Skis may also be alternately shifted from shoulder to shoulder to reduce fatigue. At the command SQUAD, PLATOON, or COMPANY ATTEN-TION, the position of Right Shoulder Skis is resumed with poles under the skis. Allow sufficient time between the preparatory command and the command of execution for individuals to place the skis and poles in proper position. For longer marches where the terrain is flat or rolling, the poles may be strapped to the skis with the baskets over the tips and the skis alternated between the right and left shoulder to avoid fatigue (2, fig. C-8). This method is valuable in cold weather, as it enables the individual to alternate warming of each hand by swinging it or placing it under his outer clothing. For longer marches, especially over steep terrain, the skis may be tied to the rucksack. One is tied on each side with the tips up and strapped together at the top to form an A-shape (3, fig. C–8). This method allows the individual to use the poles for additional support either together, in one hand, or separately, one in each hand.

C-25. Flanking Movement From Normal Interval

This movement is used when it is desired to move men to the flanks when mounted on skis at normal interval. The movement is done in 4 counts. The commands are to the RIGHT (LEFT) FLANK AT INTERVAL, MARCH. At the command MARCH, the right flank man pivots on the heel of his right ski 45° to the right and slides slightly forward on it. (TWO) The left ski is brought up parallel to the right ski, allowing this ski also to slide slightly forward. (THREE) The first movement is repeated. (FOUR) The second movement is repeated and a normal pace taken in the new direction. As the right flank man takes his





Using the ski poles for support
Skis and poles strapped together to leave hands free
Figure C-8. Various methods of carrying skis.

third step, the next man starts his first step. This procedure is followed by each man in line. When the last man has finished this movement, the unit will be marching in the new direction at ski intervals. Flanking to the left is executed in the same manner, except that the left flank man starts the movement with his left foot.

C-26. Flanking Movement From Ski Interval

This movement is made by first commanding RIGHT or LEFT FACE. When this facing

has been completed the command FORWARD MARCH is given.

C-27. Column Movement

When mounted on skis, the commands are COLUMN RIGHT (LEFT), MARCH. At the command MARCH, the leading man takes a full step forward, then turns as in facing on skis, except that at each step a short slide forward is made. The fourth step is of full length in the new direction. Succeeding men follow in his trace. For COLUMN HALF



3 A-frame method Figure C-8—Continued.

RIGHT (HALF LEFT) the same procedure is followed except that the second step is of full length in the new direction.

C-28. To March to the Rear

For this movement, when mounted on skis, three separate commands are given, allowing each movement to be completed before the next command is given. These commands in order are HALT, ABOUT FACE, FORWARD MARCH. The about face is executed as described in paragraph C-23.