


Flag Detail

Part 2 Lowering the Flag




Approach

Flagpole

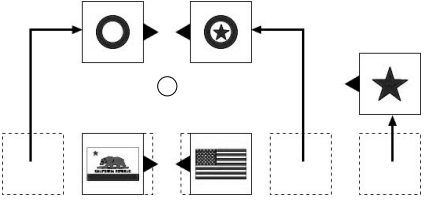


The Flag Detail is marched and positioned at the flagpole in the same manner as when raising the flag.



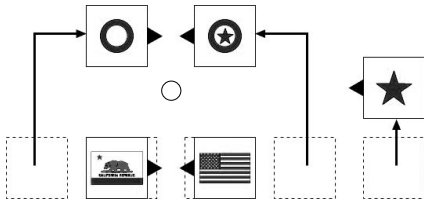
Approach

The NCOIC commands **POST**. The halyard pullers march forward and 1 step past the flagpole, perform flanks towards each other and halt together when at the pole



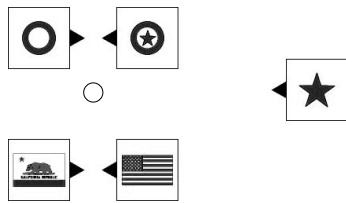
Approach

The flag handlers will also take one-half side step away from each other, and face towards each other. The NCOIC takes one step forward, halts and faces towards the flagpole



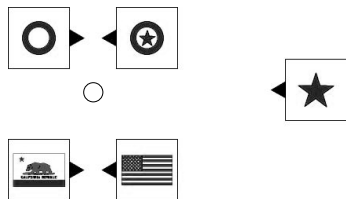
Approach

The halyard pullers carefully ensure that the halyards are free of the pole and and untangled, and then temporary re-secure them to the pole.



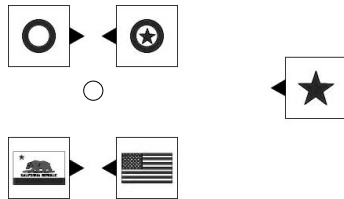
Lowering the Flag(s)

If no music is to be played, the NCOIC will ensure that the halyard pullers are ready to lower the flag(s) and then command **Present ARMS**.



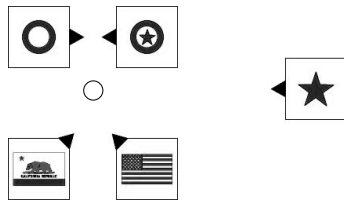
Lowering the Flag(s)

If music is to be played, then at the first note the NCOIC will command **Present, ARMS.**



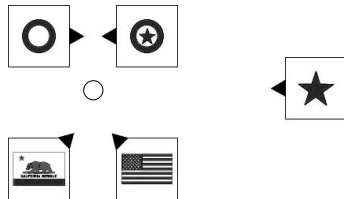
Lowering the Flag(s)

On this command the U.S. Flag Handler will perform a half right face and the California Flag Handler will perform a half left face



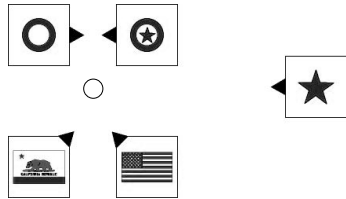
Lowering the Flag(s)

The halyard pullers will lower the flag(s) slowly and with dignity, generally at least 30 seconds in length. The NCOIC and the flag handlers will salute and follow the flag(s), lowering their heads as the flag(s) are lowered.



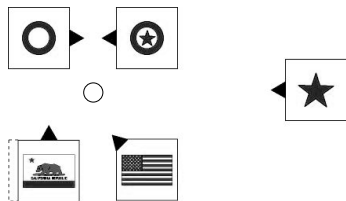
Lowering the Flag(s)

As the California Flag is lowered to within reach, the California Flag Handler will terminate the salute and move forward to secure the flag by cradling it in his arms, with the star side on the handlers left.



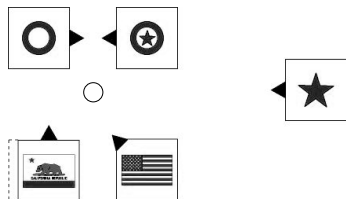
Lowering the Flag(s)

The halyard puller will assist by detaching the flag from the halyard, after which the California Flag Handler will return to the original position in line formation.



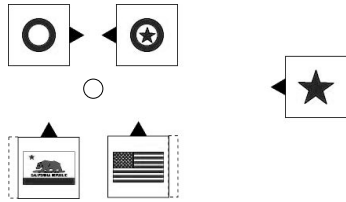
Lowering the Flag(s)

The U.S. Flag Handler will terminate the salute and move forward to secure the U.S. Flag by cradling it in his arms, with the union on the handler's right.



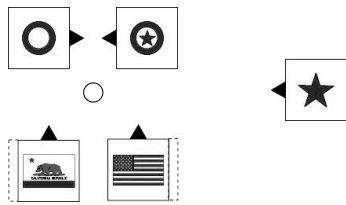
Lowering the Flag(s)

The halyard puller will assist by detaching the flag from the halyard, after which the U.S. Flag Handler will return to his original position in the line formation.



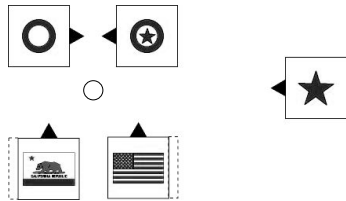
Lowering the Flag(s)

The NCOIC will terminate the salute at the last note of the music or once the U.S. Flag Handler returns to his position, whichever is later.



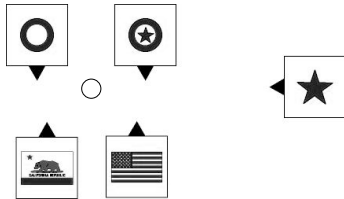
Folding the Flag(s)

Once the flags have been detached and safely recovered by the flag handlers, the halyard pullers will temporarily secure the halyard in the down position until the flags are folded.



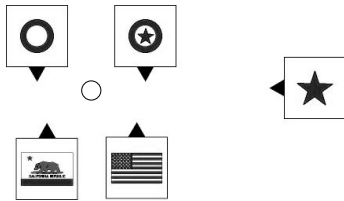
Folding the Flag(s)

The NCOIC commands **ONE**. The halyard pullers will face their respective flag handlers, move forward to retrieve the attachment header end of the flag and move back to their position.



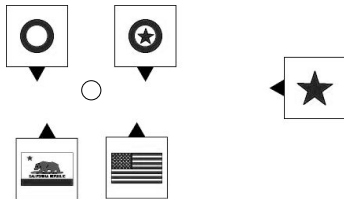
Folding the Flag(s)

The flags should be opened up and stretched between each halyard puller and the flag handler. The flags should be positioned so that they are facing upward, with the upper left corner of each flag in the left hand of each halyard puller.



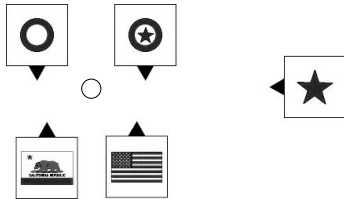
Folding the Flag(s)

The NCOIC commands **TWO**. The flags are folded lengthwise once.



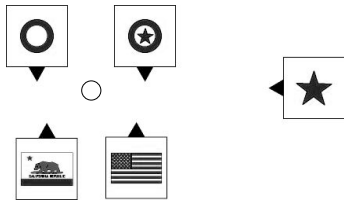
Folding the Flag(s)

The NCOIC commands **THREE**. The flags are folded lengthwise once more.



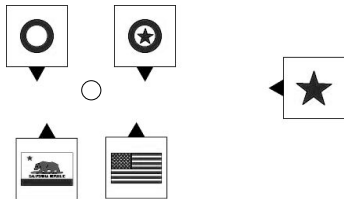
Folding the Flag(s)

The NCOIC commands **FOUR**. The flags are folded according to standard procedures, into the triangular shape for the U.S. Flag and the appropriate form for the California Flag.



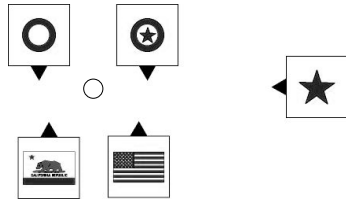
Lowering the Flag(s)

The halyard pullers will remain in position as the flag handlers move forward as necessary to complete the folding process. Flag handlers will take possession of their respective folded flag. The flag handlers will move to their original position.



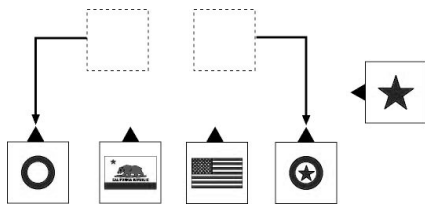
Lowering the Flag(s)

The halyard pullers will then free the halyard, raise it to the "up" position, and fasten it securely.



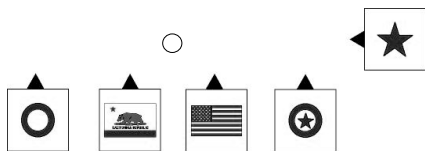
Lowering the Flag(s)

The NCOIC will command **POST**. The flag handlers will take 2 steps backward to allow the NCOIC to take possession of the U.S. Flag if necessary. The halyard pullers will return to their position in the line formation.



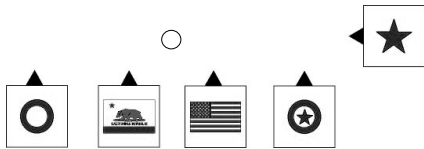
Departure

Because each site is different, the direction and manner of departure should be adjusted to accommodate local needs and layouts. At this point in the ceremony, the NCOIC is still facing the flagpole



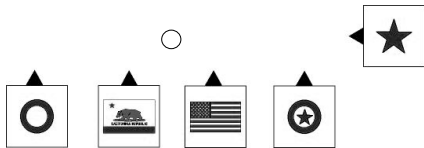
Departure

It is important to note that because the detail is now in possession of flags, the appropriate honor and respect should be accorded to the U.S. Flag as the detail departs.



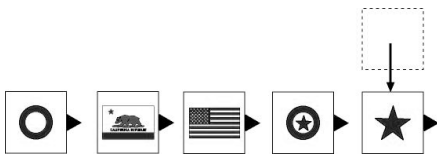
Departure

In column formation the U.S. Flag should always be carried ahead of any other flag, while in line formation the U.S. Flag should always be carried to the right of any other flags. The following directions take this into consideration.



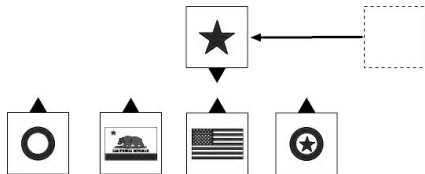
Departure

If the detail is to depart to the right, the NCOIC should resume the position on the far right of the detail. The NCOIC should command **Right, FACE,** and march the detail from the site. When appropriate, the NCOIC should then halt, face and dismiss the detail.



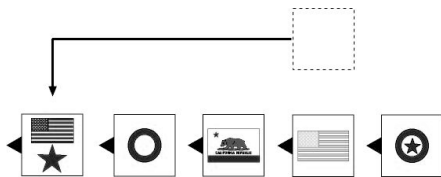
Departure

If the detail is to depart to the left, the NCOIC should first march to a position directly in front of the U.S. Flag Handler. The NCOIC will extend both hands forward and the U.S. Flag Handler will pass the U.S. Flag to the NCOIC



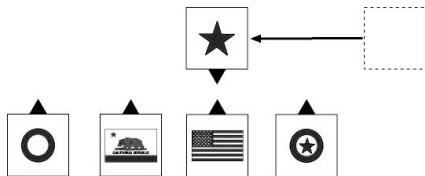
Departure

The NCOIC will command **Left, FACE**. The NCOIC should march to assume a position at the front of the column formation and march the detail from the site. When appropriate, the NCOIC should then halt, face and dismiss the detail.



Departure

If the detail is to depart to the rear, the NCOIC should first march to a position directly in front of the U.S. Flag Handler. The NCOIC will extend both hands forward and the U.S. Flag Handler will pass the U.S. Flag to the NCOIC



Departure

The NCOIC will command **About, FACE**. The NCOIC should march to assume a position on the far right and march the detail from the site. When appropriate, the NCOIC should then halt, face and dismiss the detail.

