

RULES OF CONDUCT
FOR
BASIC CADETS

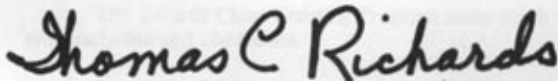
The Air Force Cadet Wing
United States Air Force Academy

PURPOSE

The purpose of this booklet is to delineate the Rules of Conduct for Basic Cadets and to give you an insight into the objectives of Basic Cadet Training.

The Rules of Conduct are designed to test your physical and emotional stability and to instill the habit of obedience to authority—the necessary qualities of an effective Air Force officer. They are not degrading to your dignity as men, but they are the first step in your development as career Air Force Officers.

There are approximately 1400 other Basic Cadets in your class from varied walks of life, all of above average intelligence. It is the intent of the Rules of Conduct and of the Basic Cadet Detail to place all of you on common ground and develop this intelligence in a military vein. You must learn a sense of discipline, cooperation among yourselves, and the ability to retain a sense of humor.



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CHAPTER I

TRAINING OF BASIC CADETS AND FOURTH CLASSMEN

1. General. Basic Cadets and Fourth Classmen are required to observe all regulations, Basic Cadet and Fourth Class Customs, and Cadet Wing procedures. They will be held responsible for all training and instruction received. Performance must be characterized by a desire for excellence, and not a mere attainment of a minimum degree of satisfactory performance. Not all individuals can progress at the same rate. All will require constructive correction and assistance to meet the high standards of the Cadet Wing.

2. Objectives. It is essential that the objectives of the Fourth Class Training Program be constantly in mind and well understood. The objectives of the Program support the mission of the Air Force Academy. The following are the objectives:

a. The Fourth Class Training Program must teach self-discipline and obedience.

b. It must build the cadet's confidence in himself, the Academy, and the Air Force.

c. It must build individual character and sense of pride and achievement.

- d. It must present a true challenge to every cadet.
- e. A competitive spirit is to be encouraged in each individual.
- f. A strong sense of loyalty to the Cadet Wing and the Air Force must be fostered.
- g. The cadet must be constantly aware that he is preparing for a career of service to his nation.
- h. The training received during the Fourth Class year is to be a foundation of character and abilities that will be required throughout one's cadet and officer careers.

3. **Glossary.** The following glossary of terms applies to the basic Cadet and Fourth Class Training Program:

a. **Attention.** The Fourth Class position of attention is a rigid military position of attention with erect body and head, shoulders back, arms straight at the sides with thumbs along trouser seams and eyes fixed straight ahead. The weight will be on the heels, buttocks rolled under, slight break forward at the waist, shoulders back, hands and elbows rolled into sides hands cupped naturally, thumb aligned with trouser seam, stand as tall as possible, and chin tucked in.

b. **At Ease.** When given "at ease," Fourth

Classmen will maintain good posture and not speak unless spoken to by a superior. The eyes need not be fixed.

c. Rest. When given "rest," Fourth Classmen will maintain good posture and may converse with one another.

d. Cadet Area. All areas, including in, under, and around dormitories, south of North Road, east of Honor Court retaining wall, north of parking lot below the new dormitory, and west of retaining wall at east end of the terrazzo.

CHAPTER II

RULES OF CONDUCT IN THE CADET AREA

4. **Philosophy of Training.** Phase I (Basic Cadet Training) is a period of accelerated learning during which Basic Cadets are inducted into an environment and training program that demands mental alertness, physical endurance, and emotional stability. The Basic Cadet is stripped of his previous symbols of prestige, and forced to draw upon his own abilities to establish his place in the Cadet Wing. He is subjected to rigorous discipline; he learns instantaneous obedience, attention to detail, punctuality, and fundamentals of military life and knowledge. He is instructed in the need for high standards of individual ethical values, and is given an understanding of the need for a strong sense of personal responsibility and reliability. This instruction is provided in two distinct environments: the cadet area and Jack's Valley. Contrails is thoroughly studied. Successful completion of this phase of training is rewarded by being accepted into the Cadet Wing, and the right to be called Fourth Class Cadets.

5. **General Rules.** The following rules apply to all Basic and Fourth Class Cadets. The Basic Cadet Training Group Commander may (with the approval of the Commandant of Cadets) establish additional rules for Basic Cadets.

a. Saluting and General. Basic and Fourth Class Cadets will:

(1) Salute all officers and First Class members of Command Post wearing a sabre.

(2) Salute when reporting to all persons senior in rank

(3) Keep right hand free for saluting when possible.

(4) Give way to all officers and upperclassmen when space limitations or conflicting routes dictate.

(5) Observe seniority at all times at or away from the Academy.

(6) Know their rifle serial number.

(7) When leaving an office, room, tent, or building and entering an area where Basic Cadets and Fourth Classmen are at attention, halt one pace before the doorway and replace head gear.

(8) Not escort during Phase I; exceptions must be approved.

(9) Not be outside their squadron except:

(a) When specifically authorized by their Element Leader.

(b) When on a Basic Cadet permit.

(c) When reporting to Command Post or Central Security Control.

(d) When going to and from formations.

(10) Not be allowed to purchase food or candy until a date specified by the Basic Cadet Training Group Commander. Basic Cadets who receive food packages prior to that date will turn them in to their Element Leader who will regulate their consumption.

b. Reporting. Reporting to a person senior in rank is a military duty. The Basic Cadet will report in a military manner with no emotion in his voice. The following reporting procedures will apply:

(1) Salute when reporting and maintain the salute until it is returned.

(2) When reporting to make a statement:
"Sir, Basic Cadet Smith, I. M., 000K, _____
Squadron, reports to make a statement."

(3) When reporting to ask a question: "Sir,
Basic Cadet Smith, I. M. 000K, _____
Squadron, reports to ask a question."

(4) When reporting as ordered: "Sir, Basic Cadet Smith, I. M., 000K, _____ Squadron, reports as ordered."

(5) When reporting late: "Sir, Basic Cadet Smith, I. M., 000K, _____ Squadron, reports late."

(6) When leaving, take one step back and salute.

c. Addressing others: Basic Cadets will:

(1) Sound off when addressing upperclassmen—whether greeting in passing, reporting, or asking a question.

(2) Greet officers and civilians in a proper, courteous, military manner without shouting.

(3) Not use profanity, slang, abbreviations, or contractions when conversing with an officer or upperclassmen.

(4) Use only the following responses when questioned by an upperclassman: "No Sir," "No excuse Sir," "Sir, may I make a statement?", "Sir, may I ask a question?"

d. Double time at all times in this area except:

- (1) Returning from a meal.
- (2) In hallways or stairwells of any building at any time.
- (3) When excused by the Flight Surgeon.
- (4) When carrying heavy or bulky articles.
- (5) When wearing overshoes.
- (6) Returning from chapel.

e. Be at attention in this area at all times except when ordered otherwise.

f. Be in ranks by first call for all formations.

g. At all times use only the perimeter of the terrazzo, using only the stairs nearest their rooms.

h. Not enter the Air Gardens at any time.

i. Not use the North Road to go to Arnold Hall.

6. Mitchell Hall.

a. General Conduct. Basic Cadets will:

(1) When entering or leaving Mitchell Hall, proceed at attention by the most direct route to or

from their assigned tables, using Fourth Class aisles. They will keep their eyes lowered, square all corners, and give way to seniors.

(2) Remove their caps when entering the door of Mitchell Hall. They will carry their caps in their left hand, grasping the rear of the cap with the visor facing downward and the inside of the cap outward.

(3) Upon arrival at the table, place the cap under chair in holder, expeditiously remove outer garments, and fold neatly over chair.

(4) Be at attention with eyes lowered, when standing in Mitchell Hall. When sitting, sit "at ease."

(5) At the command, "Gentlemen, take seats," Basic Cadets will remain standing at attention until given the command of take seats by an upperclassman at the table.

(6) Rise when addressed by a standing superior.

(7) Not talk at the table unless assigned duties requiring speaking or when spoken to by a superior, at which time he will cease eating and look at the person addressing him.

b. Duties at the Table:

(1) Basic Cadets will know the names of the cadets assigned to their table, and will know the names of any guests present.

(2) Basic Cadets will know the name of the waiter, and will use his name when addressing him. They will know "Checkpoints."

(3) The Basic Cadet at the end of the table opposite the Table Commandant is responsible for supplying and serving the cold beverages. He will announce the beverages to the Table Commandant as follows: "Sir, the cold beverages for the meal are _____ Does Cadet _____ or any other gentleman not care for cold beverages at this time?" After announcing the beverages, the first glass will be served to the Table Commandant. The Basic Cadet will announce the beverage is being passed to the Table Commandant.

(4) The Basic Cadet adjacent to the Cadet-in-Charge of cold beverages and opposite the serving side of the table is responsible for supplying and serving the hot beverages. He will announce and serve hot beverages in the same manner as the Cadet-in-Charge of cold beverages.

(5) The Basic Cadet opposite the Cadet-in-Charge of hot beverages will see that the table is supplied with food at all times. He will place the proper serving utensil in the main course dishes.

(6) Other Basic Cadets at the table will insure that the table is neat and clean at all times.

(7) When the Wing is dismissed, all Basic Cadets will rise from the table immediately. However, the Table Commandant may permit any cadet to remain and complete his meal. A First Class or Second Class cadet will be present until all Basic Cadets have completed their meals and departed the table. Upon departing the table, Basic Cadets will state: "Excuse me, Sir, excuse me, Gentlemen, good (afternoon, evening, etc.), Sir."

(8) When an item is passed from one Basic Cadet to another, the item and its destination are announced by each successive Basic Cadet to the next cadet in a normal tone of voice.

(9) Basic Cadets will practice good table manners at all times.

(a) No Basic Cadet will eat until everyone at the table has been served and the Table Commandant has started his meal.

(b) Utensils must be returned to the plate between bites. They must not rest on any food. Hand must be placed in lap between bites.

(c) A glass must be returned to the table between drinks. Hand must be placed in lap between drinks.

(10) Requests for second servings must be made formally to the Table Commandant by first inquiring, "Does Cadet _____ or any other gentleman care for more _____ at this time?" If not, the Basic Cadet then requests an additional serving. The Cadet-in-Charge of food will ask if any person desires more food before returning a serving tray to the waiter.

(11) One Basic Cadet prepares the Form 0-96 after asking if the Table Commandant, other upperclassmen, or guests have any comments.

(12) At publication of orders, Basic Cadets will stop eating and assume a position of attention, with eyes on the plate. At the command of "Gentlemen, carry on," Basic Cadets will remain at the position of attention until commanded by a senior cadet at the table to carry on.

7. Arnold Hall. Basic Cadets will use Arnold Hall only at times specified by the Basic Cadet Training Group Commander. When authorized by the Squadron Air Officer Commanding, Basic Cadets will be allowed to use the reception room to greet visitors. When attending movies, Basic Cadets will not escort and they will sit in the balcony.

8. Gymnasium.

a. Basic Cadets will attend physical training periods twice daily or as prescribed by the Physical Education Department.

b. Prior to physical training periods, Basic Cadets will change into the appropriate PE uniform in their rooms, and form up by squadron on the north road. First call will be 15 minutes prior to contact time for the PE period. Cadets will proceed in flights, at the double-time, to the appropriate area. After the physical training period, Basic Cadets will again assemble by flights and return at the double-time to their rooms, undress and shower, and prepare for the next formation. They will insure that their rooms are in inspection order prior to leaving.

c. Basic Cadets will be "at ease" at all times in the gymnasium unless spoken to by an officer or an upperclassman. Basic cadets will use the ramps in proceeding to and from the locker rooms.

9. In Formation.

a. Basic Cadets will be at attention while in formation unless told to be "at ease."

b. When the uniform-of-the-day includes low-quarter overshoes, Basic Cadets will proceed on the terrazzo level at the quick-time. Marble strips will be avoided when weather causes slippery conditions.

c. Basic cadets will enter their flights from the rear of the formation and will execute proper facing movements. Proper dress and cover will be maintained in all formations. They will be in ranks by first call for all formations.

d. Basic Cadets will be prepared to have all aspects of personal appearance (e.g., uniforms, shoes, haircut, fingernails, general cleanliness, etc.) inspected at every formation.

e. Basic Cadet Element Leaders will be responsible for knowing the names of all members of their respective elements and will be required to render an accurate report at all formations upon demand by a BCT Detail member.

10. Vandenberg Hall and the new Dorm. In the cadet dormitories, Basic Cadets will:

a. Square corners at all times.

b. Keep doors to rooms open at all times except during Cadet Time and after Taps.

c. Basic Cadets will not lie on their beds until Taps.

d. Be at attention at all times except in the latrine, Basic Cadet rooms, Cadet Store, and Barber Shop.

e. Converse with another Basic Cadet only when both are present in the same Basic Cadet room.

f. Walk at a quick step at all times in hallways and on stairways.

g. When using stairways, ascend and descend one step at a time, using the stairwell closest to their rooms.

h. Walk on the right side of hallways and stairwells at all times.

i. When the route of a Basic Cadet conflicts with that of an upperclassman, the Basic Cadet will give way and ask, "By your leave, Sir."

j. Smoke in Basic Cadet rooms only.

k. Not read Squadron Bulletin Boards within five minutes prior to First Call for a formation and within 10 minutes after dismissal from a formation.

l. Keep their rooms in inspection order at all times.

m. Be in the uniform-of-the-day except when directed otherwise.

n. Come to attention when his room is entered by an officer or an upperclassman. The first one to see the senior enter will call the room to attention.

o. Not be allowed to visit in other Basic Cadet rooms except with permission of their respective Element Leaders or at specified times.

p. Keep only Air Force Academy Dispensary prescribed medicines. Basic Cadets who have brought or received any types of medicines, including aspirin and vitamins, will turn them in to their Element Leader.

CHAPTER III

RULES OF CONDUCT & DUTIES FOR BASIC CADET JACK'S VALLEY FIELD ENCAMPMENT

11. Rules of Conduct. The rules of conduct are established in order to provide a common environment in which to train all classes, accomplish certain necessary group functions, and instill in cadets self-discipline, and instant obedience to, and respect for, authority. During Basic Cadet Training (BCT), rules of conduct will consist of the following, plus any other such rules as may be prescribed by the BCT Group Commander, with the approval of the Commandant of Cadets.

12. General. The following rules apply to all Basic Cadets and are not specifically associated with our area or location. Basic Cadets will:

a. Salute all officers and members of Central Security Control Detail.

b. Salute when reporting to all persons senior in rank.

c. Keep right hand free for saluting when possible.

d. Give way to all officers and upperclassmen when space limitations and/or conflicting routes dictate.

e. Observe seniority at all times, while at or away from the encampment (using facilities, seating at movies, boarding vehicles, etc.).

f. Know their individual rifle serial number.

g. When leaving a tent or building, halt before doorway and replace headgear.

h. Not be outside their immediate squadron area unless accompanied by a Basic Cadet Detail member except:

(1) When reporting to Central Security Control (CSC).

(2) When going to or returning from the Dispensary.

i. Not be allowed to purchase food or candy until after a date specified by the BCT Group Commander. Basic Cadets who receive food packages prior to the specified date will turn them in to their Element Leader.

j. Not make or be allowed to receive any routine telephone calls. Emergency telephone calls may be received at any time.

13. Address to Others. In keeping with the training desired, Basic Cadets will:

a. Not sound off when addressing an upperclassman, but address him in an audible, impersonal tone whether greeting in passing, reporting, or answering an upperclassman.

b. Greet officers and civilians in a proper and courteous military manner, without shouting.

c. Not use profanity, slang, abbreviations, or contractions when conversing with an officer or an upperclassman.

d. When reporting to a senior in rank, the Basic Cadet will report in a military manner with no show of emotion in his voice. He will adhere to the reporting procedures established during First Detail.

e. The Basic Cadet will use only the following responses when questioned by an upperclassman: "Yes sir"; "No sir"; "No excuse, sir"; "Sir, may I make a statement"; "Sir, may I ask a question?"

14. Encampment Area. The following rules apply when the Basic Cadets are in or moving through the Encampment Area. The Encampment Area is defined as the area enclosed by the power lines surrounding the camp.

a. Double-time when outside the squadron area.

b. "At Attention" anytime outside tent except when specifically ordered to be "At Rest."

c. Be in ranks by first call for assembly for all formations.

d. At all times, travel by the most direct route when going to or returning from a place of destination.

15. Messing Area. During mealtimes, the following rules apply:

a. Basic Cadets will eat all meals in their squadron area except when field training dictates feeding in the field.

b. While waiting in line for servings, Basic Cadets will be at ease.

c. Upon receiving their serving, Basic Cadets will be at easy and use good table manners.

d. Upon finishing their servings, Basic Cadets will throw all disposable items in trash cans, return eating utensils to mess truck, and police the area around their tables.

e. Seconds may be provided to all Basic Cadets as long as seconds are available.

f. Table seating arrangements in each squadron mess tent will be established by Squadron Administrative Officers.

g. Talking among Basic Cadets during meal times may be permitted at the discretion of the Squadron Commander.

16. In Formation.

a. Basic Cadets will maintain the position of attention while in formation unless told to be "at ease."

b. Basic Cadets will enter their flights from the rear of the formation. Proper dress and cover will be maintained in all formations.

c. Basic Cadets will be prepared to have all aspects of personal appearance (e.g., uniforms, boots, haircut, fingernails, general cleanliness, etc.) inspected at every formation.

d. Assigned Basic Cadet Element Leaders will be responsible for knowing the names of all members of their respective element, and will be required to render an accurate report at all formations upon request by a BCT Detail member.

17. Living Quarters. In the cadet living quarters area, Basic Cadets will:

a. Sit but not recline on their beds between Reveille and Taps.

- b. Will not retire until Taps.
- c. Be "at ease" in the latrine.
- d. Converse with another Basic Cadet only at times and in places designated by the BCT Group Commander.
- e. Smoke only at times and in places designated by the BCT Group Commander.
- f. Not read Squadron Bulletin Boards within 10 minutes after dismissal from a formation.
- g. Keep their tents in inspection order at all times and will be subject to inspection until Taps.
- h. Be in the Uniform of the Day except when otherwise directed by the BCT chain of command.
- i. Come to attention when his tent is entered by an officer or an upperclassman. The first one to see the senior enter will call the quarters to attention.
- j. Be allowed to visit with other Basic Cadets only at times and in places designated by the Squadron Commander.
- k. Keep only Air Force Academy Dispensary prescribed medicines. Basic Cadets who have brought or received any other types of medicines, including

aspirin and vitamins, will turn them in to their Element Leader.

l. Accomplish clean-up duties in the squadron and group areas as outlined by the Group and Squadron Operations and Training Officers.

m. Not consume any candy, food, or beverage in their living quarters.

18. Knowledge.

a. A professional knowledge of the Air Force Academy and the Air Force is required of all cadets. To augment the knowledge obtained in the field instruction, Basic Cadets will be required to memorize the items in CONTRAILS and "checkpoints" during the field encampment.

b. General.

(1) Checkpoints. Checkpoints shall consist of:

(a) Date

(b) Officer-in-Charge

(c) Senior Officer-of-the-Day

(d) The next Air Forces Day

(e) The number of days until:

1. Graduation of the First Class
2. Graduation of the Second Class
3. Graduation of the Third Class
4. Graduation of Basic Cadets

(f) Checkpoints may be recited at any designated knowledge formation.

c. Contrails. The items in Contrails may be recited at knowledge formations or any other duly authorized time.

d. The dates during BCT by which Basic Cadets will know the required knowledge will be announced by the BCT Group Commander.

19. Immediate Reaction Drills for BCT Field Training.

a. Immediate reaction drills will develop in the cadet a high degree of mental alertness as well as make him proficient in various combat techniques.

b. There will be only one proper command to make the cadet respond to each drill. There will be a proper command to have the cadet terminate the drill.

As part of the development of mental alertness, the cadet will respond only to the proper commands.

c. Description of Drills—The immediate reaction drills are as follows:

(1) Command—"FLARES"

Reaction—The cadet will drop to the ground and freeze in position.

Command—"ALL CLEAR"

Reaction—The cadet will return to his original position.

(2) Command—"UNDER FIRE"

Reaction—The cadet will drop to the ground, roll in either direction (approximately six feet) and assume the prone firing position.

Optional Command—"RUSH"

Reaction—The cadet will advance forward by rushing a distance of approximately ten meters.

Command—"ALL CLEAR"

Reaction—The cadet will return to his original position.

(3) Command—"ON GUARD"

Reaction—The cadet assumes the bayonet ON GUARD position.

Optional Command—"LONG THRUST"

Reaction—The cadet executes the LONG THRUST and holds.

Command—"WITHDRAW"

Reaction—The cadet executes the WITHDRAW.

Command—"RECOVER"

Reaction—The cadet returns to the ON GUARD position.

Optional Command—"SHORT THRUST"

Reaction—The cadet executes the SHORT THRUST and holds.

Command—"WITHDRAW"

Reaction—The cadet executes the WITHDRAW.

Command—"RECOVER"

Reaction—The cadet returns to the ON GUARD position.

Command—"ALL CLEAR"

Reaction—The cadet returns from the ON GUARD position to his original position.

END

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE ACADEMY MISSION:

**TO PROVIDE INSTRUCTION, EXPERIENCE AND MOTIVATION TO EACH CADET
SO THAT HE WILL GRADUATE WITH THE KNOWLEDGE, CHARACTER AND
QUALITIES OF LEADERSHIP ESSENTIAL TO HIS PROGRESSIVE DEVELOPMENT
AS A CAREER OFFICER IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE.**