Personnel

Military Discipline

Definition

General

Relationship of superior toward subordinate

Political activities of persons in military service

Discussions of the military policy of the United States and of War Department policies

in connection therewith

Expressions of personal opinions by persons in military service

Disciplinary powers of commanding officers

1. Definition. Military discipline is that mental attitude and state of training which render obedience and proper conduct instinctive under all conditions.

2. General. a. Obedience to orders. All persons in the military service are required to obey strictly and to execute promptly the lawful orders of their superiors.

b. Military authority, how exercised. Military authority will be exercised with promptness, firmness, kindness, and justice. Resort to trial by court martial or to punishment under the one hundred and fourth article of war will not be had for trivial offenses, except when less drastic methods of administering discipline have been tried in the case of the individual concerned, but without result. Such offenses which have been corrected, when brought to the attention of the officer concerned, need not be noted on the officer's record, and will be considered as closed incidents.

c. Military courtesy. Courtesy among military men is indispensable to discipline; respect to superiors will be extended on all occasions.

d. Deliberations conveying praise or censure. Deliberations or discussions among military men conveying praise or censure, or any mark of approbation toward others in the military service, and all publications relating to private or personal transactions between officers are prohibited.

e. Miscellaneous.

(1) (a) Officers of the Army will not use or permit to be used their military titles in connection with commercial enterprises of any kind.

(b) Officers of the Army will not engage in or permit their names to be connected with any activity incompatible with the status of an officer of the Army.
Franklin D. Roosevelt — “The Great Communicator”
The Master Speech Files, 1898, 1910-1945
Series 3: “The Four Freedoms” and FDR in World War II

File No. 1506

1944 January 29

Address in Behalf of National Foundation for
Infantile Paralysis
Tonight, on behalf of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, I wish to express heartfelt thanks to all of you who have contributed your dimes and your dollars to further the fight against a cruel disease -- a disease which strikes primarily against little children.

The generous participation of the American people in this fight is a sign of the healthy condition of our Nation. It is democracy in action. The unity of our people in helping those who are disabled, in protecting the welfare of our young, in preserving the eternal principle of kindliness -- all of this is evidence of our fundamental strength -- the strength with which we are meeting our enemies throughout the world.
Early in our history, we realized that the basic wealth of our land is in its healthy, enlightened children, trained to assume the responsibilities and enjoy the privileges of a democracy. The well-being of our youth is indeed our foremost concern -- their health and happiness our enduring responsibility. If any become handicapped from any cause, we are determined that they shall be properly cared for and guided to full and useful lives.

How different it is in the lands of our enemies! In Germany and Japan, those who are handicapped in body or mind are regarded as unnecessary burdens to the state. An individual's usefulness is measured solely by the direct contribution he can make to the war machine -- not by his service to a society at peace.

The dread disease we battle at home, like the enemy we oppose abroad, shows no concern, no pity for the young. It strikes -- with its most frequent and devastating force -- against children. That is why much of the future strength of America depends upon the success we achieve in combating this disease.
Tonight, I am happy to receive the report that your generous aid has made possible another year of progress against this dread malady. We are prepared to fight it with the planned strategy of a military campaign -- not only because the enemy is a merciless and insidious one, but because the danger of epidemic in wartime makes this fight an actual military necessity.

The tireless men and women working night and day over test tubes and microscopes -- searching for drugs and serums, for methods that will prevent and cure -- these are the workers on the production line in this war against disease. The gallant chapter workers, the doctors and nurses in our hospitals, the public health officials, the volunteers who go into epidemic areas to help the physician -- these are the front-line fighters.

And just as in war -- there is that subtle weapon that, more than anything else, spells victory or defeat. That weapon is morale -- the morale of a people who know that they are fighting "the good fight" -- that they are keeping the faith -- the only faith through which civilization can survive -- the faith that man must live to help and not to destroy his fellowmen.
The dollars and dimes you contribute are the victory bonds
that buy the ammunition for this fight against disease -- just as
the war bonds you purchase help to finance the fight against tyranny.

We are engaged now in the Fourth War Bond campaign. The
outpouring of American dollars in this campaign will assure that
superiority of fighting equipment with which we shall blast our way
to Berlin and Tokyo. It will also serve notice that we Americans
are irrevocably united in determination to end this war as quickly
as possible in the unconditional surrender of our enemies. Every
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and savagery, it is not easy for us to celebrate. There cannot
be much happiness in our hearts as we contemplate the kind of enemies
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But we may thank God that here in our country we are keeping
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January 29, 1944

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CAUTION: The following address of the President to be delivered on the occasion of his birthday anniversary is for release in editions of all newspapers appearing on the streets NOT EARLIER THAN 12:00 O'CLOCK MIDNIGHT, E.W.T., Saturday, January 29.

The same release also applies to radio announcers and news commentators.

CARE MUST BE EXERCISED TO PREVENT PREMATURE PUBLICATION.

STEPHEN EARLY
Secretary to the President
RADIO SPEECH OF THE PRESIDENT

JANUARY 29, 1944.

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this dread malady. We are prepared to fight it with the planned
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The dollars and dimes you contribute are the victory bonds that buy the ammunition for this fight against disease — just as the war bonds you purchase help to finance the fight against tyranny.

We are engaged now in the Fourth War Bond campaign. The outpouring of American dollars in this campaign will assure that superiority of fighting equipment with which we shall blast our way to Berlin and Tokyo. It will also serve notice that we Americans are irrevocably united in determination to end this war as quickly as possible in the unconditional surrender of our enemies. Every one of us has a chance to participate in victory by buying War Bonds.

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ADDRESS of the President
On Behalf of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis
Broadcast Nationally
January 29, 1944, at 12 o'clock Midnight, E.W.T.

Ladies and gentlemen:

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This is a transcript made by the White House stenographer from his shorthand notes taken at the time the speech was made. Underlining indicates words added after the speech was delivered, though they appear in the previously prepared reading copy text.

I have urgent and important news for you today. It is the gravest news with which I have ever had to deal, and I can only say that it is the gravest news with which this country has ever had to deal.

This is a time of great peril. The peril of war is near. The peril of war is real. It is a peril that must be faced and met. It is a peril that must be met.

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***** (originally inserted here, but delivered as before)

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Tonight, in the midst of a terrible war against tyranny, tyranny and savagery, it is not easy for us to celebrate. There cannot be much happiness in our hearts as we contemplate the kind of enemies we face and the very grimness of the task that (which) lies before us.

But, we may thank God that here in our country we are keeping alive the spirit of good will toward one another -- that spirit which is the very essence of the cause for which we fight.
God speed the spirit of good will.
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My dear Mr. President:

I enclose herewith your speech for this coming Saturday night over the air. It is a good speech. I did not write it.

Please be good enough to read it through fully before you start to change it. I am positive that, as it is, it will come over the air beautifully when delivered by you. A great deal of time and effort has been put into it.

Please, please, do not send it to your hackers to perform an OOPHORECTOMY on it. I just couldn't stand that!

Ex-Judge Rosenman telephoned me from Washington this morning stating that you had requested him to request me to send the speech to him in Washington "so that he could go over it and make whatever changes were necessary." When I finally ascertained that he really wasn't kidding me I declined the offer.

Faithfully yours,

[Signature]

Enclosure
Tonight, on behalf of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, I wish to express heartfelt thanks to all of you who have contributed your time and your dollars to create further the fight against an cruel — a disease which strikes primarily against little children.

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ENGAGED IN A WORLD CONFLICT. FOR THE NEW ORDER THAT THE AXIS NATIONS
WOULD IMPOSE UPON US IS FOUNDED UPON A MASTER-SLAVE CONCEPT THAT
RECOGNIZES NO SUCH CIVILIZING FACTORS.

LET OUR ENEMIES LAUGH AT WHAT THEY THINK OUR DEMOCRATIC
WEAKNESSES. LET THEM BOAST OF THEIR AGGRESSIVE MIGHT, THEIR
RUTHLESSNESS, THEIR CONFIDENCE OF WORLD CONQUEST, NOT SO BLATANTLY
ASSERTED NOW AS IT WAS A YEAR AGO! WE ARE SILENCING THOSE BOASTS WITH
DEEDS — ON THE BATTLEFIELDS OF RUSSIA, ITALY, CHINA AND THE ISLES OF
THE PACIFIC.

WE IN AMERICA PLACE OUR CLAIMS TO LASTING GLORY IN OUR
CHILDREN. THESE YOUNG, THESE LEADERS OF TOMORROW, WILL PROVE OUR
WORTH AS A NATION TODAY. THEIR STRONG AND STALWART BODIES WILL GIVE
EVIDENCE OF OUR UNREMITTING FIGHT AGAINST INFANTILE PARALYSIS. THEIR
FREE AND COURAGEOUS MINDS WILL ATTEST TO OUR UNFLINCHING DETERMINATION
IN THE GLOBAL FIGHT AGAINST BARBARISM.

EARLY IN OUR HISTORY, WE REALIZED THAT THE WEALTH OF OUR
LAND IS IN ITS HEALTHY, ENLIGHTENED CHILDREN, TRAINED TO ASSUME THE
RESPONSIBILITIES
responsibilities and enjoy the privileges of a democracy. Schools to develop their minds are established wherever people gather, in the cities, in the backwoods. [Playgrounds and organized sports programs, to build their bodies, flourish throughout 48 states.] The well-being of our youth is indeed our foremost concern -- their health and happiness our greatest joy. If any become handicapped from any cause, we regard it as our sacred obligation to care for and guide them into full and useful lives.

How different it is in the land of the swastika! In Germany, those who are handicapped in body or mind are regarded as unnecessary burdens of the state. An individual's usefulness is measured solely by the contribution he can make to the war machine -- not by his service to a society at peace.

What happens to the children in the land where the swastika reigns? Yes -- they have their celebrations -- but of another kind. They don't celebrate Hitler's birthday anymore -- but the last time they did the occasion was commemorated by a special children's broadcast, in which the captured bells of the
STRASBOURG CATHEDRAL OF ALSACE-LORRAINE RANG OUT A SOMBRE ACCOMPANIMENT. THE BROADCAST WAS PART OF AN OFFICIAL CEREMONY CALLING ONE MILLION GERMAN BOYS AND GIRLS INTO THE HITLER YOUTH MOVEMENT — ONE MILLION MORE YOUTHFUL MINDS TO BE STRAIT-JACKETED AND TRAINED TO CARRY OUT THE BUTCHERIES, THE LUST FOR WORLD-DOMINATION, OF THE NEW ORDER. EVENTS HAVE SHOWN US WHAT HAPPENED TO THOSE MILLION YOUTHS. SOON THEY WERE HERDED INTO LABOR CAMPS AND FACTORIES. THE OLDER BOYS WERE MADE GUARDS AND EXECUTIONERS.

OTHERS WERE SENT AS "CHILD TOURISTS" INTO THE OCCUPIED COUNTRIES OF EUROPE TO SPY UPON THE INHABITANTS, TO REPORT ANY HIDDEN STALK OF GRAIN OR CRUMBS OR BREAD, ANY WORD OR MOVEMENT THAT MIGHT STRIKE THE CHILDMISH MIND AS DANGEROUS TO THE NAZI-OVERLORDS.

FRUIT THE TREE OF FASCI. HAS BORNE IN THE HUNGERLESS CORPSES OF
CHILDREN LIVING ON THE FROZEN STEPPE OF RUSSIA, IN THE BLEAK
GHETTOS OF POLAND, IN THE ORAY ASHES AND CRUMLED RUINS OT COVENTRY.
AND WE HAVE SEEN THE JAPANESE VERSION IN THE ORPHANED MILLIONS
AND BOMBER-DUT QUITIES OF CHINA. THE WORLD WILL NOT FORGET WHAT
HITLER AND HIS ITALIAN AND JAPANESE SATELLITES HAVE DONE TO CHILDREN.
THEY SHALL BE AVENGED BY THE COMBINED EFFORTS OF THE UNITED NATIONS,
MERCILESS AND INSIDIOUS ONE, BUT BECAUSE THE [HIDDEN] DANGER OF
EPIDEMIC IN WARTIME MAKES [PROTECTIVE MEASURES] ACTUAL MILITARY
NECESSITY.

THE DOLLARS AND DICES YOU CONTRIBUTE ARE THE VICTORY BONDS
THAT BUY THE ALLEVIATION FOR THIS FIGHT AGAINST DISEASE — JUST AS
THE WAR BONDS YOU PURCHASE HELP TO FINANCE THE FIGHT AGAINST
TYRANNY.

THE TIRELESS MEN AND WOMEN WORKING NIGHT AND DAY OVER TEST
TUBES AND MICROSCOPES SEARCHING FOR DRUGS, VACCINES, SERUMS, ETC.
METHODS THAT WILL PREVENT AND CURE — THESE ARE THE SOLDIERS ON
IN THE WAR AGAINST DISEASE.
THE PRODUCTION LINE. THE JALLANT CHAPLAIN WORKERS, THE DOCTORS AND
NURSES IN AMERICA'S HOSPITALS, THE PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICIALS, THE
VOLUNTEERS WHO GO INTO EPIDEMIC AREAS TO LIGHTEN THE BURDEN
OF THE PHYSICIAN — THESE ARE THE FRONT-LINE FIGHTERS.

AND JUST AS IN WAR — THERE IS THAT OTHER SUBTLE WEAPON
THAT MORE THAN ANYTHING ELSE SPELLS VICTORY OR DEFEAT [FOR ONE OR
THE OTHER OF THE COMBATANTS], THAT WEAPON IS MORALE — THE MORALE
OF
OF A PEOPLE WHO KNOW THAT THEY ARE FIGHTING "THE GOOD FIGHT" — THAT
THEY ARE KEEPING THE FAITH — THE ONLY FAITH THROUGH WHICH CIVILIZATION
CAN POSSIBLY SURVIVE — THE FAITH THAT MAN IS HERE TO HELP AND NOT
to CRUSH MANKIND.

THE FACT THAT TONIGHT WE ARE ABLE TO CELEBRATE ANOTHER
MILESTONE TOWARD OUR GOAL IS DUE TO THE VALOR AND SACRIFICE OF OUR
FIGHTING FORCES, AND THOSE OF OUR ALLIES. THEY ARE MAKING SURE THAT
OUR WORK IN THE CONQUEST OF DISEASE SHALL NOT BE IN VAIN. THEY ARE
KEEPING THE LAMP OF LIBERTY BURNING, THE ONLY LIGHT BY WHICH SCIENCE
CAN MOVE FORWARD. IT IS TO THEM THAT OUR DEEPEST THANKS MUST GO.

I KNOW THAT ALL OF YOU — NO MATTER WHERE YOUR POST MAY
BE IN THIS WAR — BELIEVE THAT THE CAUSE OF OUR CHILDREN IS A SACRED
ONE. I KNOW YOU WILL AGREE WITH ME THAT THERE IS NO MORE BEAUTIFUL
SIGHT THAN THE SWIFT, RHYTHMIC MOVEMENTS OF BOYS AND GIRLS AT PLAY —
NO SWEETER MUSIC, THAN THEIR CAREFREE LAUGHTER. THUS IT HAS ALWAYS
BEEN IN AMERICA. THUS, WITH GOD'S HELP, IT ALWAYS SHALL BE.
Dear [Name],

The outpouring of American dollars in this Fourth War Bond drive will not only secure that promptness of fighting equipment with which we shall blast our way to Berlin, and Tokyo, but also will also save notice that their efforts. That we Americans are irreversibly united in our determination to end this war as quickly as possible in the unyielding surrender of our enemies. Every one of us has a chance to participate in a personal way by buying War Bonds.
RADIO SPEECH OF THE PRESIDENT, JANUARY 29, 1944.

Tonight, on behalf of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, I wish to express heartfelt thanks to all of you who have contributed your dimes and your dollars to further the fight against a cruel disease — a disease which strikes primarily against little children.

The generous participation of the American people in this fight is a sign of the healthy condition of our Nation. It is democracy in action. The unity of our people in helping those who are disabled, in protecting the welfare of our young, in preserving the eternal principle of kindliness — all of this is evidence of our fundamental strength — the strength with which we are meeting our enemies throughout the world.

Early in our history, we realised that the basic wealth of our land is in its healthy, enlightened children, trained to assume the responsibilities and enjoy the privileges of a democracy. The well-being of our youth is indeed our foremost concern — their health and happiness our enduring responsibility. If any become handicapped from any cause, we are determined that they shall be properly cared for and guided to full and useful lives.

How different it is in the lands of our enemies! In Germany and Japan, those who are handicapped in body or mind are regarded as unnecessary...
burdens to the state. An individual's usefulness is measured solely by the direct contribution he can make to the war machine -- not by his service to a society at peace.

The dread disease we battle at home, like the enemy we oppose abroad, shows no concern, no pity for the young. It strikes -- with its most frequent and devastating force -- against children. That is why much of the future strength of America depends upon the success we achieve in combating this disease.

Tonight, I am happy to receive the report that your generous aid has made possible another year of progress against this dread malady. We are prepared to fight it with the planned strategy of a military campaign -- not only because the enemy is a merciless and insidious one, but because the danger of epidemic in wartime makes this fight an actual military necessity.

The tireless men and women working night and day over test tubes and microscopes -- searching for drugs and serums, for methods that will prevent and cure -- these are the workers on the production line in this war against disease. The gallant chapter workers, the doctors and nurses in our hospitals, the public health officials, the volunteers who go into epidemic areas to help the physician -- these are the front-line fighters.
And just as in war — there is that subtle weapon that,
more than anything else, spells victory or defeat. That weapon is morale —
the morale of a people who know that they are fighting "the good fight" —
that they are keeping the faith — the only faith through which civilisation
can survive — the faith that man must live to help and not to destroy
his fellowmen.

The dollars and dimes you contribute are the victory bonds that
buy the ammunition for this fight against disease — just as the war bonds
you purchase help to finance the fight against tyranny.

We are engaged now in the Fourth War Bond campaign. The out-
pouring of American dollars in this campaign will assure that superiority of
fighting equipment with which we shall blast our way to Berlin and Tokyo. It
will also serve notice that we Americans are irrevocably united in determina-
tion to end this war as quickly as possible in the unconditional surrender
of our enemies. Every one of us has a chance to participate in victory
by buying War Bonds.

Tonight, in the midst of a terrible war against tyranny and
savagery, it is not easy for us to celebrate. There cannot be much happi-
ness in our hearts as we contemplate the kind of enemies we face and the
grimmess of the task which lies before us.

But we may thank God that here in our country we are keeping alive the spirit of good will toward one another which is the very essence of the cause for which we fight.
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Early in our history, we realized that the wealth of our land is in its healthy, enlightened children, trained to assume the responsibilities and enjoy the privileges of a democracy. [Schools to develop their minds are established wherever people gather, in the cities and on the farms.]

The well-being of our youth is indeed our foremost concern — their health and happiness our greatest. If any become handicapped from any cause, we are determined that they shall be properly cared for and guided so we regard it as one sacred obligation to urge for unceasing their bent to full and useful lives.

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The outpouring of American dollars in this Fourth War Bond Drive will assure that superiority of fighting equipment with which we shall blast our way to Berlin and Tokyo. It will also serve notice that we Americans are irrevocably united in determination to end this war as quickly as possible in the unconditional surrender of our enemies. Every one of us has a chance to participate in victory by buying War Bonds.

Tonight, in the midst of a terrible war against tyranny and savagery, it is not easy for us to celebrate. There cannot be much happiness in our hearts as we contemplate the kind of enemies we face and the grimness of the task which lies before us.
But we may thank God that here in our country we are keeping alive the spirit of good will toward one another which is the very essence of the cause for which we fight.
STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT ON THE SIGNING OF S. 1543, An Act To provide for mustering-out payments to members of the armed forces, and for other purposes .

The Mustering-Out Payment Bill which I have just signed is a step in the comprehensive program that I recommended on July 28, 1943 and again on October 27, 1943 and November 23, 1943, for the special protection of the members of the armed forces. It will ease the period of transition from military to civilian life, by providing the funds immediately needed to enable our service men and women to look for jobs and resume their peace-time pursuits.

It is an important first step in the program of demobilization. The other measures recommended in the program, however, should also be adopted.

The Federal Government should make it financially possible, for example, for members of the armed forces to resume their interrupted studies and to educate and train themselves for peace-time jobs and responsibilities. The future welfare of this nation requires that we promptly make good the educational deficit created by this war.

We must also provide our service men and women with social security credits for the period of their military service, so that they may fully enjoy the benefits of the social security laws upon their return to civilian life.

We must make our plans now and take all necessary steps to see to it that there will be good jobs awaiting our returning service men and women. But we must anticipate that there may be unemployment during the period of reconversion, and we must therefore establish now suitable machinery for the payment of reasonable unemployment allowances to those veterans who are unable to obtain jobs within a reasonable period after their discharge.