

1. Dignified Arrival Sequence

Note: All of NPB's commands are subdued, with exception of the BEARERS...ATTENTION and STEP after Secure, Mark Time, and Bearers Halt (after splitting the lift).

DAT will only heel click at the BEARERS...ATTENTION after Secure, Mark Time and Bearers Halt (after splitting the lift), and at the BEARERS...FALLOUT...MARCH when dismissing.

- 1.1 The Dignified Arrival Team (DAT) will consist of **SEVEN** personnel (6 Pallbearers and a NCOIC). A Color Team can be added if manning allows.
- 1.2 NCOIC will be prepositioned between the wing of the plane and the lift, facing lift, at the foot of the casket. *Note: NCOIC should leave enough room between the lift and himself/herself so the Pallbearers can fit in between the two.*
- 1.3 Six-person DAT will be prepositioned in a designated area, usually 25-50 paces away from the plane. The team will assume the position of **Stand at Ease** and will be positioned inverted so Hand Off and Carry are in the front. *Note: Designated area will be predetermined before the ceremony starts.*
- 1.4 DAT will consist of NPB, Fold, Mark, Cross Mark, Carry, and Hand Off. *Note: NPB should be the most experienced person on team.*
- 1.5 Once the aircraft is in position, the flight crew will prepare the aircraft, remains, and lift. *Note: The aircrew will place the remains on the lift. The lift will be in the "up" position.*
- 1.6 The remains will be positioned so that the feet are facing the outside/opening of the aircraft.
- 1.7 Once NCOIC receives the cue from aircrew, he/she will come to the position of **Attention** and give the command **SECURE**.
- 1.8 Upon receiving the cue from NCOIC, the NPB will call the team to **Attention** and give the command of **STEP**. DAT will then march up to the plane with coordinated arm swing, Hand Off and Carry are the first to split the lift, the other members follow behind.
- 1.9 Once the DAT is in place, NPB will give the command **MARK, TIME**, on the left foot, then **BEARERS, HALT** on the next left (consecutive left feet). DAT will execute a **Step-Stop, Center Face**. *Note: Hand Off and Carry will not be able to see each other once they split the lift, they should have a predetermined spot to stop at once MARK TIME is called. Pallbearers need to be aware of their space while at the Mark Time.*
- 1.10 Once the DAT has **Center Faced** and the lift has been completely lowered and all movement has stopped, NPB will give the command **SECURE** (conversational tone). Count 1, DAT will perform a "T step" starting with the foot closest to the aircraft (stepping toward the lift/ remains). Count 2, DAT will bring their other foot to the one

that is already at the side of the lift, simultaneously lowering body/bending over with their head down, simultaneously grasping the handle of the casket. *Note: Bodies should be square to casket as if carrying.*

- 1.11 NPB will give the command **READY**, DAT will raise their heads at a **3** second cadence. Once all heads are up NPB will command **UP**, DAT will pick the casket up at a **3** second cadence keeping the casket level. Once the team has stood up, NPB will call **STEP**. DAT will step off with their left feet and begin to duck walk. *Note: DAT needs to lift the remains with their legs not their back. NCOIC will Present Arms while the casket is in motion. Once the Pallbearers have stepped a few paces away from the lift, NCOIC will Order Arms and follow, in step with the Pallbearers, with suspended arm swing.*
- 1.12 When the team is **1** pace away from the back of the hearse (*Note: NBP might have to “pop a wheel”*), NPB will give the command **HALT**, on the left foot, then **CENTER**. DAT will face the casket (3 second movement), then flip their back hands (3 second movement). Once all movement has stopped, DAT (except Hand Off) will do a **3** second head drop, looking at the crown of the casket. Hand Off will take **1** step to the right splitting the corner of the transfer case with his/her chest, then **1** more step centering himself/herself on the back of the casket. *Note: As Hand Off steps around he/she will keep both hands on the casket handles at all times (palms up). NCOIC will stop at the side of the hearse, perpendicular with the Pallbearers and Present Arms.*
- 1.13 Hand Off will command **READY STEP**. DAT will take one step toward the hearse. Hand Off will feed the casket inside the hearse. As Hand Off passes the team members, they will raise their heads at a **3** second cadence and their arms/hands will return to the proper position of **Attention**. Once the casket is inside the vehicle, Hand Off will take **2** steps back to his/her original position. *Note: Once the casket is in the hearse NCOIC will Order Arms and remain at the position of Attention.*
- 1.14 NPB will give the command of **FACE, AWAY**. DAT will do a **3** second facing movement away from the hearse. NPB will command **STEP**. DAT will step off with their left foot, with coordinated arm swing. NPB will march the team to a predetermined area and give the command **BEARERS.. FALLOUT..MARCH** on 3 consecutive left steps. *Note: NCOIC will follow behind the Pallbearers, in step with the team, and fall out with them.*