



# Historic Weapons Program

## *Artillery Demonstration Checklist*

### **BEFORE**

- ( ) The gun has been inspected, inside and out. Bore is clean of foreign material.
- ( ) The carriage is in good condition and all keys are secure.
- ( ) The accessory equipment is in good condition (sponge head in good repair, rammer and sponge head secure on staff, etc.).
- ( ) Sponge head fits bore snugly but not too tight.
- ( ) Ammunition boxes, haversacks, etc., are clean and free of spilled powder.
- ( ) Ammunition is properly prepared, with only enough for one days demonstrations.
- ( ) All implements are in their correct place on the piece (not on the ground).
- ( ) Misfire equipment in place at the firing position.
- ( ) Required number of personnel are present to safely fire the piece.
- ( ) Limber placement is at least seven yards distance from visitors barricade.
- ( ) There are at least ten yards between the limber and the trail of the piece.
- ( ) Visitors have a good field of vision of the demonstration.
- ( ) The interpreter has a clear view of all the visitors and downrange area.
- ( ) The carriage is free to recoil if necessary so it won't buck or break carriage.
- ( ) There is a fixed barricade between the visitors and the demonstration area.

- ( ) The wind conditions are not too strong for a safe demonstration.
- ( ) Conditions are not too dry as to risk a range fire from the muzzle blast.
- ( ) First Aid kit and emergency communications are available.
- ( ) There are no open fires nearby (campfires, brush clearing, etc.).
- ( ) Final review of misfire drill and accident procedures.

### **DURING**

- ( ) The crew is following the approved manual with each person is in their correct position during each portion of the drill.
- ( ) The sponge is adequately damp, but not soaking wet.
- ( ) Cannoneer # 1 (Ramming position) is holding the rammer correctly.
- ( ) Cannoneer # 1 and Cannoneer # 2 (the two cannoneers who service the muzzle of the piece) are wearing gauntlets.
- ( ) Gauntlets are not so stiff or heavy as to cause fumbling or other difficulty.
- ( ) When quill primers are used: linstock and lantern are handled safely.
- ( ) The sponge head is not allowed to contact the ground at any time during the demonstration (to prevent grass, sand etc. from sticking to it).
- ( ) Cannoneer # 3 (cannoneer who services the vent) is sealing the vent correctly during sponging and loading operations.
- ( ) If there is a misfire, is it handled correctly.



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## AFTER

- ( ) After firing, the piece was cleared of all cartridge material, washed and dried.
- ( ) All weapons, explosives and accessory pieces are accounted for.
- ( ) The field piece and limber are secured and stored properly.
- ( ) The demonstration area is inspected carefully for smoldering residue.
- ( ) Sponge head is thoroughly rinsed and dried.
- ( ) All remaining explosives are returned to storage facility.

**Demonstration Supervisor:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_