

7. The leaders (visually or orally) check the status of their personnel.
 8. The squad/fire team leaders maintain visual contact with the platoon/squad leader.
 9. The platoon/squad leader moves up to the squad/fire team in contact and links up with its leader.
 - a. The platoon leader brings his RATELO, platoon FO, the squad leader of the nearest squad, and one machine gun team.
 - b. The squad leader of the trail squad moves to the front of his lead fire team.
 - c. The platoon sergeant moves forward with the second machine gun team and links up with the platoon leader, ready to assume control of the base-of-fire element.
 10. The platoon/squad leader determines whether or not his unit must move out of the engagement area.
 11. The platoon/squad leader determines whether or not his unit can gain and maintain suppressive fires with the element already in contact (based on the volume and accuracy of enemy fires against the element in contact).
 12. The platoon/squad leader makes an assessment of the situation. He identifies--
 - a. The location of the enemy position and obstacles.
 - b. The size of the enemy force engaging the unit in contact. (The number of enemy automatic weapons, the presence of any vehicles, and the employment of indirect fires are indicators of enemy strength.)
 - c. Vulnerable flanks.
 - d. Covered and concealed flanking routes to the enemy positions.
 13. The platoon/squad leader determines the next course of action (for example, fire and movement, assault, breach, knock out bunker, enter and clear a building or trench).
 14. The platoon/squad leader reports the situation to the company commander/platoon leader and begins to maneuver the unit.
 15. The platoon leader calls for and adjusts indirect fire (mortars or artillery). (Squad leaders relay request through the platoon leader.)
 16. Leaders relay all commands and signals from the platoon chain of command.
- NOTE:** Once the platoon has executed the React to Contact Drill, the platoon leader makes a quick assessment of the situation (for example, enemy size, location). He decides on a course of action.



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Team Battle Drills

Battle Drills

A battle drill is a collective action executed by a platoon or smaller element without the application of a deliberated decision making process. The action is vital to success in combat or critical to preserving life.

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Battle Drill 1

TASK: Break Contact

CONDITIONS: The platoon/squad is moving or stationary. The enemy fires on the platoon/squad. The platoon/squad leader orders the platoon/squad to break contact.

STANDARDS: The unit moves to where the enemy cannot observe or place direct fire on it.

TASK STEPS AND PERFORMANCE MEASURES:

1. The platoon/squad leader directs fire support for the disengagement.
2. The platoon/squad leader orders a distance and direction, a terrain feature or last objective rally point for the movement of the first squad/fire team.
3. The base-of-fire squad/team continues to suppress the enemy.
4. The moving squad/team moves to assume the overwatch position.
5. The moving squad/team takes up the designated position and engages the enemy positions.
6. The platoon leader directs the base-of-fire squad/team to move to its next location. (Based on the terrain and the volume and accuracy of the enemy's fire, the moving fire squad/team may need to use fire and movement techniques.)
7. The platoon/squad continues to bound away from the enemy until--
 - a. It breaks contact (the platoon/squad must continue to suppress the enemy as it breaks contact).
 - b. It passes through a higher level support-by-fire position.
 - c. Its squads/fire teams are in the assigned position to conduct the next mission.
8. The leader should consider changing his unit's direction of movement once contact is broken. This will reduce the ability of the enemy to place effective indirect fire on the unit.
9. If the platoon or squad becomes disrupted, soldiers stay together and move to the last designated rally point.
10. The platoon/squad leaders account for soldiers, report, reorganize as necessary, and continue the mission.

Battle Drill 2

TASK: React to Ambush

CONDITIONS: The platoon/squad is moving. The platoon/squad is in a prepared kill zone. The enemy initiates the ambush with a casualty-producing device and a high volume of fire.

STANDARDS: Soldiers in the kill zone in a near ambush immediately return fire, take up covered positions, soldiers in the kill zone assault through the ambush using fire and movement. Soldiers not in the kill zone locate and place suppressive fire on the enemy, take up covered positions, and shift fire as the assault begins. Soldiers in the kill zone in a far ambush immediately return fire and take up covered positions. The leader identifies the enemy's location and soldiers place accurate suppressive fire on the enemy's position. Soldiers not in the kill zone begin fire and movement to destroy the enemy. The unit moves out of the kill zone, forces the enemy to withdraw, or destroys the ambush.

TASK STEPS AND PERFORMANCE MEASURES:

1. Near Ambush (Within Hand-Grenade Range).

trench.

6. The squad leader designates the entry point of the trench line.

7. The squad leader and the assaulting fire team move to the last covered and concealed position short of the entry point.

a. The squad leader marks the entry point.

b. The base-of-fire team shifts suppressive fires from the entry point and continues to suppress adjacent enemy positions or to isolate the trench as required.

c. The assault fire team leader and the automatic rifleman remain in a position short of the trench to add suppressive fires for the initial entry.

d. The squad leader takes the two remaining soldiers of the assault fire team and continues toward the entry point. They move in rushes or by crawling.

e. The squad leader positions himself where he can best control his teams.

8. The first two soldiers of the assault fire team move to the edge of the trench, parallel to the trench and on their backs. On the squad leader's command, COOK OFF GRENADES (2 seconds maximum), they shout, "Frag out," and throw the grenades into the trench.

a. Upon detonation of both grenades, the soldiers roll into the trench, landing on their feet, and back-to-back. They fire their weapons down the trench in both directions.

b. Both soldiers immediately move in opposite directions down the trench, firing three-round bursts. Each soldier continues until he reaches the first corner or intersection. Both soldiers halt and take up positions to block any enemy movement toward the entry point.

c. At the same time, the squad leader rolls into the trench and secures the entry point.

d. Upon detonation of the grenades, the assault fire team leader and the automatic rifleman move to the entry point and enter the trench. The squad leader directs them to one of the secured corners or intersections to relieve the automatic rifleman who then rejoins his buddy team at the opposite end of the foothold.

9. The squad leader remains at the entry point and marks it. He calls forward the base-of-fire team, once he has ensured that the remainder of the platoon continues to provide supporting fires.

10. The squad leader reports to the platoon leader that he has entered the trench and secured a foothold. The platoon follows the success of the seizure of the foothold with the remainder of the platoon.

Battle Drill 5

TASK: React to Contact (Platoon/Squad)

CONDITIONS: The platoon/squad is halted or moving. The enemy initiates fires on the platoon/squad with an individual or crew-served weapon.

STANDARDS: The unit returns fire immediately. The unit locates and engages the enemy with well aimed fire and causes at least one enemy casualty. The leader can point out at least one-half of the enemy positions and identify the types of weapons (such as small-arms, light machine gun).

TASK STEPS AND PERFORMANCE MEASURES:

1. Soldiers immediately assume the nearest covered positions.
2. Soldiers return fire immediately on reaching the covered positions.
3. Squad/team leaders locate and engage known or suspected enemy positions with well-aimed fire, and pass information to the platoon/squad leader.
4. Fire team leaders control the fire of their soldiers by using standard fire commands (initial and supplemental) containing the following elements:
 - a. Alert.
 - b. Direction.
 - c. Description.
 - d. Range.
 - e. Method of fire (manipulation and rate of fire).
 - f. Command to commence firing.
5. Soldiers maintain contact (visual or oral) with the soldiers on their left or right.
6. Soldiers maintain contact with the team leader and indicate the location of the enemy positions.

- (1) Follows behind the lead team.
 - (2) Ensures that the trailing fire team moves up and is ready to pass the lead at his direction.
 - (3) Rotates fire teams as necessary to keep his soldiers fresh and to maintain the momentum of the attack.
 - (4) Requests indirect fires, if required, through the platoon leader. (The squad leader also directs the employment of the M203 to provide immediate suppression against positions along the trench line.)
 - (5) Ensures fire teams maintain sufficient interval to prevent themselves from being engaged by the same enemy fire.
- f. At each corner or intersection, the lead fire team performs the same actions previously described.
 - g. If the lead soldier finds that he is nearly out of ammunition before reaching a corner or intersection, he announces, "Ammo."
 - (1) The lead soldier stops and moves against one side of the trench, ready to let the rest of the team pass. He continues to aim his weapon down the trench in the direction of movement.
 - (2) The next soldier ensures that he has a full magazine, moves abreast of the lead soldier, taps him, and announces, "Taking the lead."
 - (3) The lead soldier acknowledges that he is handing over the lead by shouting, "Okay." Positions rotate and the squad continues forward.
 - h. The trailing fire team secures intersections and marks the route within the trench as the squad moves forward. The trailing fire team leader ensures that follow-on squads relieve his buddy teams to maintain security.
 - i. The squad leader reports the progress of the clearing operation (The base-of-fire element must be able to identify the location of the lead fire team in the trench at all time).
11. The platoon leader rotates squads to keep the soldiers fresh and to maintain the momentum of the assault.
 12. The platoon sergeant calls forward ammunition resupply and organizes teams to move it forward into the trench.
 13. The base-of-fire element ensures that all friendly forces move into the trench only through the designated entry point to avoid fratricide.
 14. The platoon leader reports to the company commander that the trench line is secured, or he is no longer able to continue clearing.

Battle Drill 4 B

TASK: Enter/Clear a Trench (Squad)

CONDITIONS: Operating as part of a larger force, the squad is moving and receives fire from the enemy in a trench.

STANDARDS: The squad secures a foothold in a trench. The squad kills, captures, or forces the withdrawal of the enemy in its assigned section of the trench. The squad maintains a sufficient fighting force that can defeat the enemy's counterattack and continue operations.

TASK STEPS AND PERFORMANCE MEASURES:

1. The squad reacts to contact.
2. The fire team in contact locates the enemy trench and gains suppressive fire.
3. The squad leader determines that he can maneuver by identifying--
 - a. The enemy trench and any obstacles.
 - b. Size of enemy force engaging the squad. (The number of enemy automatic weapons, the presence of any vehicles, and the employment of indirect fires are indicators of enemy strength.)
 - c. An entry point.
 - d. A covered and concealed route to the entry point.
4. The fire team in contact--
 - a. Destroys or suppresses enemy weapons that are firing effectively against the squad.
 - b. Continues suppressive fires.
5. The squad leader directs the fire team in contact to support the other fire team's entry into the

- a. Depending on the terrain, soldiers in the kill zone carry out one of the following two actions:
 - (1) Return fire immediately. If cover is not available, immediately, without order or signal, assume the prone.
 - (2) Return fire immediately. If cover is available, without order or signal, seek the nearest covered position, assume the prone position.
 - b. Immediately after the explosion of the concussion or fragmentation grenades, soldiers in the kill zone return fire and assault through the ambush position using fire and movement.
 - c. Soldiers not in the kill zone identify the enemy location, and then place accurate suppressive fire against the enemy's position. Fire is shifted as the personnel in the kill zone begin to assault.
 - d. Soldiers in the kill zone continue the assault to eliminate the ambush or until contact is broken.
 - e. The platoon conducts consolidation and reorganization.
2. Far Ambush (Out of Hand-Grenade Range).
 - a. Soldiers receiving fire immediately return fire, take up covered positions, and suppress the enemy-
 - (1) By destroying or suppressing enemy crew-served weapons.
 - (2) By sustaining suppressive fires.
 - b. Soldiers (squads/teams) not receiving fire move by a covered and concealed route to a vulnerable flank of the enemy position and assault using fire and movement.
 - c. Soldiers in the kill zone continue suppressive fires and shift fires as the assaulting squad/team fights through the enemy position.
 - d. The leader lifts or shifts fires to isolate the enemy position or to attack them with indirect fires as they retreat.
 - e. The platoon/squad leader reports, reorganizes as necessary, and continues the mission.

Battle Drill 3 A

TASK: Knock Out Bunkers (Platoon)

CONDITIONS: The platoon receives fire from the enemy in bunkers, while moving as a part of a larger force.

STANDARDS: The platoon destroys the designated bunker by killing, capturing, or forcing the withdrawal of enemy personnel in the bunker. The platoon maintains a sufficient fighting force that can defeat the enemy's counterattack and continue operations.

TASK STEPS AND PERFORMANCE MEASURES:

1. The platoon initiates contact.
2. The squad in contact establishes a base of fire.
3. The platoon leader and one machine gun team move forward to link up with the squad leader of the squad in contact.
4. The platoon sergeant moves forward with the second machine gun team and assumes control of the base-of-fire squad.
5. The base-of-fire squad--
 - a. Destroys or suppresses enemy crew-served weapons.
 - b. Continues suppressive fires at the lowest possible level.
6. The platoon leader determines that he can maneuver by identifying--
 - a. The enemy bunkers, other supporting positions, and any obstacles.
 - b. The size of the enemy force engaging the platoon. (The number of enemy automatic weapons, the presence of any vehicles, and the employment of indirect fires are indicators of enemy strength.)
 - c. A vulnerable flank to at least one bunker.
 - d. A covered and concealed flanking route to the flank of the bunker.
7. The platoon leader determines which bunker is to be assaulted first and directs one squad (not in contact) to knock it out.
8. If necessary, the platoon sergeant repositions a squad, fire team, or a machine gun team to isolate the bunker as well as to continue suppressive fires.
9. The assaulting squad, with the platoon leader, move along the covered and concealed route and take action to knock out the bunker. On the platoon leader's signal, the support squad lifts or shifts fires to the opposite side of the bunker from which the squad is assaulting.

10. The assaulting squad leader reports to the platoon leader and reorganizes his squad.
11. The platoon leader--
 - a. Directs the supporting squad to move up and knock out the next bunker.
 - OR
 - b. Directs the assaulting squad to continue and knock out the next bunker.
 - c. Rotates squads as necessary.
12. The platoon leader reports, reorganizes as necessary, and continues the mission. The company follows up the success of the platoon attack and continues to assault enemy positions.

Battle Drill 3 B

TASK: Knock Out a Bunker (Squad)

CONDITIONS: The squad receives fire from an enemy bunker while moving as a part of a larger force.

STANDARDS: The squad destroys the designated bunker by killing, capturing, or forcing the withdrawal of enemy personnel in the bunker. The squad maintains a sufficient fighting force that can defeat the enemy's counterattack and continue operations.

TASK STEPS AND PERFORMANCE MEASURES:

1. The squad reacts to contact.
2. The fire team in contact identifies the bunker and gains suppressive fire.
3. (If Applicable) fighting vehicles reposition, if necessary, to provide additional observation and supporting fires.
4. The squad leader determines that he can maneuver by identifying--
 - a. The bunker and any obstacles.
 - b. The size of the enemy force engaging the squad. (The number of enemy automatic weapons, the presence of any vehicles, and the employment of indirect fires are indicators of enemy strength.)
 - c. A vulnerable flank.
 - d. A covered and concealed flanking route to the bunker.
5. The fire team in contact--
 - a. Suppresses the bunker and any supporting positions. (The squad should employ LAWs/AT4s against the bunker as part of its suppressive fires.)
 - b. Continues suppressive fires.
6. The squad in contact: Destroys or suppresses enemy crew-served weapons first. Sustains suppressive fires.
7. The squad leader directs the fire team in contact to support the movement of the other fire team.
8. The squad leader requests indirect fires through the platoon leader to destroy or isolate the enemy position.
9. The squad leader leads the assaulting fire team along the covered and concealed route to the flank of the bunker:
 - a. The assaulting fire team approaches the bunker from the blind side and does not mask the fires of the base-of-fire team.
 - b. Soldiers constantly watch for other bunkers or enemy positions in support of bunkers.
10. Upon reaching the last covered and concealed position--
 - a. The fire team leader and the automatic rifleman remain in place and add their fires to suppressing the bunker. (This includes the use of LAWs/AT4s.)
 - b. The squad leader positions himself where he can best control his teams. On the squad leader's signal, the base-of-fire team lifts or shifts fires to the opposite side of the bunker from the assaulting fire team's approach.
 - c. The grenadier and automatic rifleman go to the blind side of the bunker. One soldier takes up a covered position near the exit, while one soldier cooks off a grenade (2 seconds maximum), shouts, "Frag out," and throws it through an aperture.
 - d. After the grenade detonates, the soldier covering the exit enters the bunker firing short bursts to destroy the enemy.
11. The squad leader inspects the bunker to ensure that it has been destroyed. He reports, reorganizes as needed, and continues the mission. The platoon follows the success of the attack

against the bunker and continues the attack of other bunkers.

Battle Drill 4 A

TASK: Enter/Clear a Trench (Platoon)

CONDITIONS: The platoon attacks as part of a larger force and identifies the enemy in a trench. The platoon deploys and establishes a base of fire. The platoon leader determines that he has enough combat power to maneuver and assault the trench.

STANDARDS: The platoon kills, captures, or forces the withdrawal of the enemy in its assigned section of the trench. The platoon's main body is not surprised by an enemy counterattack. The platoon maintains a sufficient fighting force that can defeat the enemy's counterattack and continue operations.

TASK STEPS AND PERFORMANCE MEASURES:

1. The platoon leader directs one squad to enter the trench and secure a foothold.
2. The platoon leader designates the entry point of the trench line and the direction of movement once the platoon begins clearing.
3. The platoon sergeant positions soldiers, machine guns and fighting vehicles (if applicable) to suppress the trench and isolate the entry point.
4. The platoon leader designates the entry point of the trench line and the direction of movement once the platoon begins clearing.
5. The assaulting squad executes actions to enter the trench and establish a foothold. The assaulting squad leader signals to the platoon leader that the foothold is secure, and the follow-on elements can move into the trench. The squad leader remains at the entry point and marks it. The platoon follows the success of the seizure of the foothold with the remainder of the platoon as part of the platoon actions to clear a trench line.
6. The platoon leader moves into the trench with the assaulting squad.
7. The platoon leader directs one of the base-of-fire squads to move into the trench and begin clearing it in the direction of movement from the foothold.
8. The base-of-fire element repositions as necessary to continue suppressive fires.
9. The platoon leader moves into the trench with the assaulting squad.
10. The assaulting squad passes the squad that has secured the foothold and executes actions to take the lead and clear the trench.

NOTE: The fire support element must be able to identify the location of the lead fire team in the trench at all times.

- a. The squad leader designates a lead fire team and a trail fire team.
- b. The lead fire team and the squad leader move to the forward most secure corner or intersection. The squad leader tells the team securing that corner or intersection that his squad is ready to continue clearing the trench. The trail fire team follows, maintaining visual contact with the last soldier of the lead team.

NOTE: Throughout this battle drill, the team leader positions himself at the rear of the fire team to have direct control (physically, if necessary) of his soldiers. Other soldiers in the fire team rotate the lead to change magazines and prepare grenades. Rotating the lead provides constant suppressive fires down the trench and maintains the momentum of the attack as the squad clears the trench.

- c. The lead fire team passes the element securing the foothold:
 - (1) The lead soldier of the fire team moves abreast of the soldier securing the corner or intersection, taps him, and announces, "Taking the lead."
 - (2) The soldier securing the corner or intersection acknowledges that he is handing over the lead by shouting, "Okay!" He allows the fire team to pass him.
- d. The lead fire team starts clearing in the direction of movement. They arrive at a corner or intersection.
 - (1) Allowing for cook-off (2 seconds maximum) and shouting "Frag out," the second soldier prepares and throws a grenade around the corner.
 - (2) Upon detonation of the grenade, the lead soldier moves around the corner firing three-round bursts and advancing as he fires. The entire fire team follows him to the next corner or intersection.
- e. The squad leader--