

HANDOUTS FOR LESSON 1: W225 version 1

**This Appendix
Contains**

This appendix contains the items listed in this table—

Title/Synopsis	Pages
SH-1, Advance Sheet	SH-1-1 thru SH-1-2
SH-2, Extracts from FM 7-8	SH-2-1 thru SH-2-12

Student Handout 1

This student handout contains the Advance Sheet.

Student Handout 1

Advance Sheet

Lesson Hours

This lesson consists of two hours of small group instruction and a three hour practical exercise

Overview

This lesson provides you with some basic techniques and procedures used in basic combat operation when a team/squad size element comes in contact with the enemy.

Learning Objective

Terminal Learning Objective (TLO).

Action:	Lead a team/squad in basic combat operations.
Conditions:	In a classroom environment culminating in a situational training exercise and given a team/squad.
Standards:	Led a team/squad in basic combat operations by: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reacting to contact.• Breaking contact.• Reacting to an ambush.• Conducting a hasty attack. IAW FM 7-8.

ELO A Discuss elements of reacting to contact.

ELO B Discuss elements of breaking contact.

ELO C Discuss elements of reacting to an ambush.

ELO D Discuss elements of conducting a squad attack.

Assignment

The student assignments for this lesson are:

- Study SH-2, Extracts from FM 7-8,

Additional Subject Area Resources

None

Bring to Class

- SH-2, Extracts from FM 7-8.
- Pencil or pen and writing paper.
- Bring equipment required for the practical exercise as directed by the SGL.

Note to Students

It is your responsibility to do the homework prior to class. We expect you to come to class prepared. You will participate in small group discussion. We expect you to participate in the discussion by providing information you learned from your study and your personal and observed experiences. Failure to study and read the assignments above will result in your inability to participate with the rest of the group. Not having your input affects the group's ability to discuss fully the information.

Student Handout 2

Extract from FM 7-8, Infantry Rifle Platoon and Squad, dated Apr 92, w/ch 1 dated Mar 01.

This Student
Handout Contains

This student handout contains 37 pages of extracted material from FM 7-8.

Pages	(Reading/Study) Requirement
SH-2-2 thru SH-2-12	Read
SH-2-2	Battle Drills
SH-2-3 thru SH-2-5	Battle Drill 1 Squad Attack
SH-2-6 thru SH-2-7	Battle Drill 2 React to Contact
SH-2-8 thru SH-2-9	Battle Drill 3 Break Contact
SH-2-10 thru SH-2-11	Battle Drill 3 React to Ambush
SH-2-12	Definitions

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CHAPTER 4

BATTLE DRILLS

Infantry battle drills describe how platoons and squads apply fire and maneuver to commonly encountered situations. They require leaders to make decisions rapidly and to issue brief oral orders quickly.

4-1. DEFINITION

FM 25-101 defines a battle drill as “a collective action rapidly executed without applying a deliberate decision-making process.”

a. Characteristics of a battle drill are--

- They require minimal leader orders to accomplish and are standard throughout the Army.
- Sequential actions are vital to success in combat or critical to preserving life.
- They apply to platoon or smaller units.
- They are trained responses to enemy actions or leader’s orders.
- They represent mental steps followed for offensive and defensive actions in training and combat.

b. A platoon’s ability to accomplish its mission often depends on soldiers and leaders to execute key actions quickly. All soldiers and their leaders must know their immediate reaction to enemy contact as well as follow-up actions. Drills are limited to situations requiring instantaneous response; therefore, soldiers must execute drills instinctively. This results from continual practice. Drills provide small units with standard procedures essential for building strength and aggressiveness.

- They identify key actions that leaders and soldiers must perform quickly.
- They provide for a smooth transition from one activity to another; for example, from movement to offensive action to defensive action.
- They provide standardized actions that link soldier and collective tasks at platoon level and below. (Soldiers perform individual tasks to CTT or SDT standard.)
- They require the full understanding of each individual and leader, and continual practice.

BATTLE DRILL 1. SQUAD ATTACK

SITUATION: The squad is moving as part of the platoon conducting a movement to contact or a hasty or deliberate attack.

REQUIRED ACTIONS:

STEP 1. Action on Enemy Contact.

- A. Soldiers receiving fire take up nearest positions that afford protection from enemy fire (cover) and observation (concealment).
- B. The fire team in contact immediately returns heavy volume of suppressive fire in the direction of the enemy.
 - 1) Soldiers in the fire team in contact move to positions (bound or crawl) from which they can fire their weapons, position themselves to ensure that they have observation, fields of fire, cover, and concealment. They continue to fire and report known or suspected enemy positions to the fire team leader.
 - 2) The team leader directs fires using tracers or standard fire commands.
 - 3) The fire team not in contact takes covered and concealed positions in place and observes to the flanks and rear of the squad.
 - 4) The squad leader reports contact to the platoon leader and moves toward the fire team in contact.

STEP 2. Locate the Enemy.

- A. Using sight and sound, the fire team in contact acquires known or suspected enemy positions.
- B. The fire team in contact begins to place well-aimed fire on suspected enemy positions.
- C. The squad leader moves to a position where he can observe the enemy and assess the situation.
- D. The squad leader requests, through the platoon leader, for immediate suppression indirect fires (normally 60-mm mortars).
- E. The squad leader reports the enemy size and location, and any other information to the platoon leader. (As the platoon leader comes forward, he completes the squad leader's assessment of the situation.)

STEP 3. Suppress the Enemy.

The squad leader determines if the fire team in contact can gain suppressive fire based on the volume and accuracy of the enemy fire.

- A. If the answer is YES, the fire team leader continues to suppress the enemy:
 - 1) The fire team destroys or suppresses enemy crew-served weapons first.
 - 2) The fire team places smoke (M203) on the enemy position to obscure it.

- 3) The fire team leader continues to control fires using tracers or standard fire commands. Fires must be well-aimed and continue at a sustained rate with no lulls.
 - 4) Buddy teams fire their weapons so that both are not reloading their weapons at the same time.
- B. If the answer is **NO**, the squad leader then deploys the fire team not in contact to establish a support-by-fire position. He reports the situation to the platoon leader. Normally, the squad will become the base of-fire element for the platoon. The squad continues to suppress the enemy and responds to orders from the platoon leader. (The platoon leader, his RATELO, the platoon FO, one machine gun team, and the squad leader of the next squad, as well as the platoon sergeant and the other machine gun team, are already moving forward IAW Battle Drill 1, Platoon Attack.)

STEP 4. Attack.

If the fire team in contact can suppress the enemy, the squad leader determines if the fire team not in contact can maneuver. He makes the following assessment:

- Location of enemy position(s) and obstacles.
- 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.)
- Vulnerable flank.
- Covered and concealed flanking route to the enemy position.

A. If the answer is **YES**, the squad leader maneuvers the fire team in the assault:

- 1) The squad leader directs the fire team in contact to support the movement of the other fire team. He then leads or directs the assaulting fire team leader to maneuver his fire team along a route that places the fire team in a position to assault the enemy. (The assaulting fire team must pick up and maintain fire superiority throughout the assault. Handover of responsibility for direct fires from the supporting fire team to the assaulting fire team is critical.)
- 2) Once in position, the squad leader gives the prearranged signal for the supporting fire team to lift fires or shift fires to the opposite flank of the enemy position.
- 3) The assaulting fire team fights through enemy positions using fire and movement. (The supporting fire team must be able to identify the near flank of the assaulting fire team.)
 - a. The team leader selects the route that allows him to reach his objective, while providing the best available cover and concealment for his team. The team leader then leads his team, from up front, in a shallow wedge throughout the attack.
 - b. Fire team members conduct individual movement techniques as individuals or buddy teams, while maintaining their relative position in the assault formation. At the end of each move, soldiers take up covered and concealed positions and resume firing.

- B. If the answer is **NO** or the assaulting fire team cannot continue to move, the squad leader deploys the assaulting fire team to add its fires against the enemy, reports to the platoon leader and requests instructions. The squad continues suppressing enemy positions and responds to the orders of the platoon leader.

STEP 5. Consolidate and Reorganize.

- A. Once the assaulting fire team has seized the enemy position, the squad leader establishes local security. (The squad leader must quickly prepare to defeat any enemy counterattack. At the conclusion of the assault, the squad is most vulnerable.
 - 1) The squad leader signals for the supporting fire team to move up into a designated position.
 - 2) The squad leader assigns sectors of fire for both fire teams.
 - 3) The squad leader positions key weapons.
 - 4) All soldiers take up hasty defensive positions.
 - 5) The squad leader develops an initial fire support plan against an enemy counterattack. (As the platoon moves up, he hands the plan to the platoon leader for further development.)
 - 6) The squad leader posts an OP to warn of enemy activity.
- B. The squad performs the following tasks:
 - 1) Reestablish the chain of command.
 - 2) Redistribute and resupply ammunition.
 - 3) Man crew-served weapons first.
 - 4) Redistribute critical equipment (for example, radios, NBC, NVDs).
 - 5) Treat casualties and evacuate wounded.
 - 6) Fill vacancies in key positions.
 - 7) Search, silence, segregate, safeguard, and speed EPWs to collection points.
 - 8) Collect and report enemy information and materiel.
- C. Team leader provide ammunition, casualty, and equipment (ACE) reports to the squad leader
- D. The squad leader consolidates the ACE report and passes it to the platoon leader or Platoon sergeant.
- E. The squad continues the mission after receiving instructions from the platoon leader. (the platoon follows the success of the squad's flanking attack with the remaining squads as part of the platoon attack.)
- F. The squad leader reports the situation to the platoon leader.

BATTLE DRILL 2. REACT TO CONTACT

SITUATION: A squad or platoon receives fires from enemy individual or crew-served weapons.

REQUIRED ACTIONS: (Figure 4-4.)

1. Soldiers immediately take up the nearest covered positions and return fire in the direction of contact.
2. Team/squad leaders locate and engage known or suspected enemy positions with well-aimed fire, and pass information to the squad/platoon leader.
3. Fire team leaders control fire using standard fire commands (initial and supplemental) containing the following elements:
 - Alert.
 - Direction.
 - Description of target.
 - Range.
 - Method of fire (manipulation, and rate of fire).
 - Command to commence firing.
4. Soldiers maintain contact with the soldiers on their left and right.
5. Soldiers maintain contact with their team leaders and report the location of enemy positions.
6. Leaders check the status of their personnel.
7. The team/squad leaders maintain contact with the squad/platoon leader.
8. The squad/platoon leader—
 - a. Moves up to the fire team/squad in contact and links up with its leader. (The platoon leader brings his RATELO, platoon FO, the squad leader of the nearest squad, and one machine gun team. The squad leader of the trail squad moves to the front of his lead fire team. The platoon sergeant also 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.)
 - b. Determines whether or not his squad/platoon must move out of an engagement area.
 - c. Determines whether or not he can gain and maintain suppressive fires with his element already in contact (based on the volume and accuracy of enemy fires against the element in contact).
 - d. Makes an assessment of the situation. He identifies—
 - The location of the enemy position and obstacles.
 - The size of the enemy force. (The number of enemy automatic weapons, the presence of any vehicles, and the employment of indirect fires are indicators of the enemy strength.)
 - Vulnerable flanks.
 - Covered and concealed flanking routes to the enemy position.
 - e. Determines the next course of action (for example, fire and movement, assault, breach, knock out bunker, enter and clear a building or trench).
 - f. Reports the situation to the platoon leader/company commander and begins to maneuver.

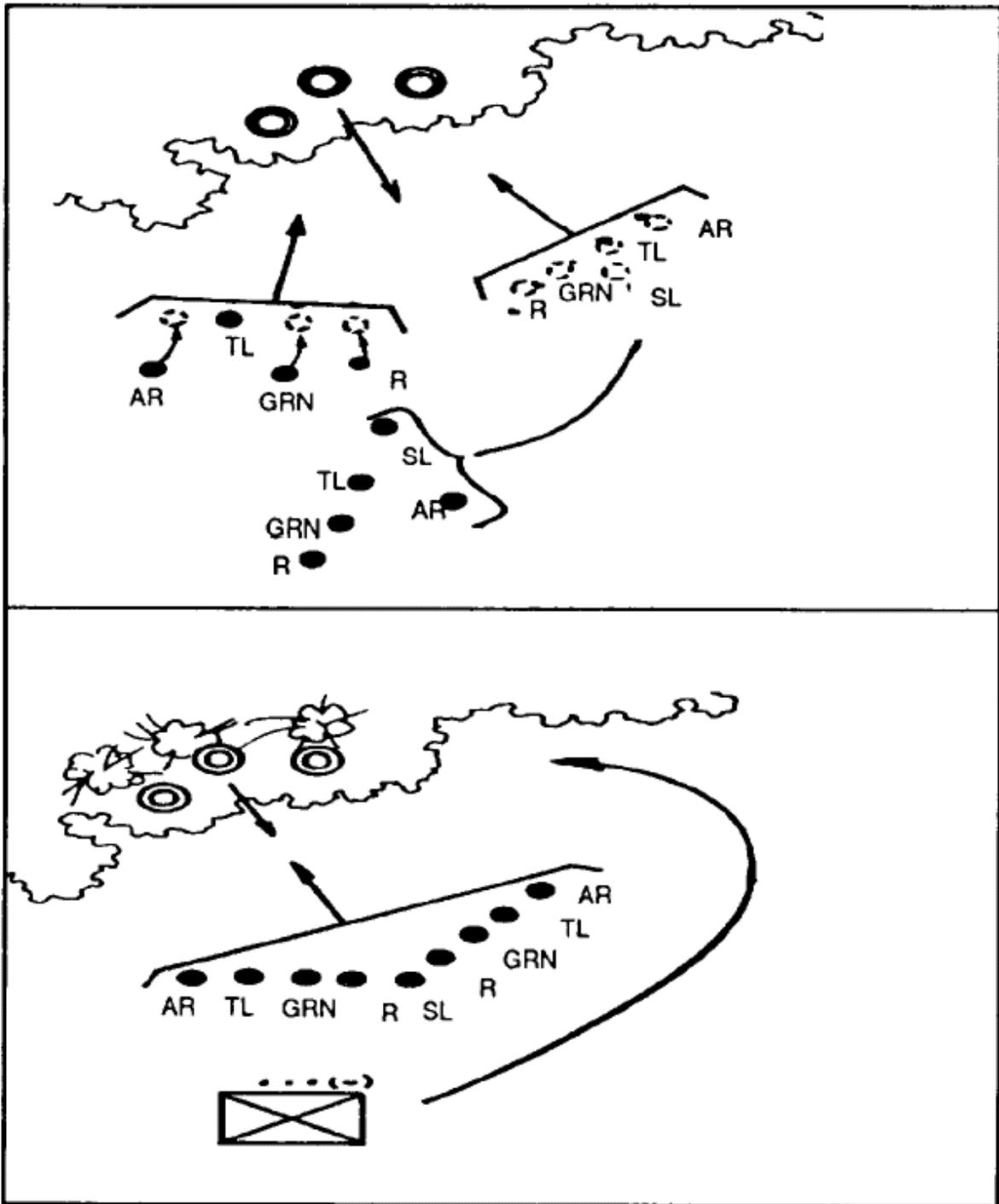


Figure 4-4. React to contact.

- g. Calls for and adjusts indirect fire (mortars or artillery). (Squad leaders relay requests through the platoon leader.)
- 9. Team leaders lead their teams by example; for example, "Follow me, do as I do."
- 10. Leaders relay all commands and signals from the platoon chain of command.

BATTLE DRILL 3. BREAK CONTACT

SITUATION: The squad/platoon is under enemy fire and must break contact.

REQUIRED ACTIONS: (Figure 4-5.)

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

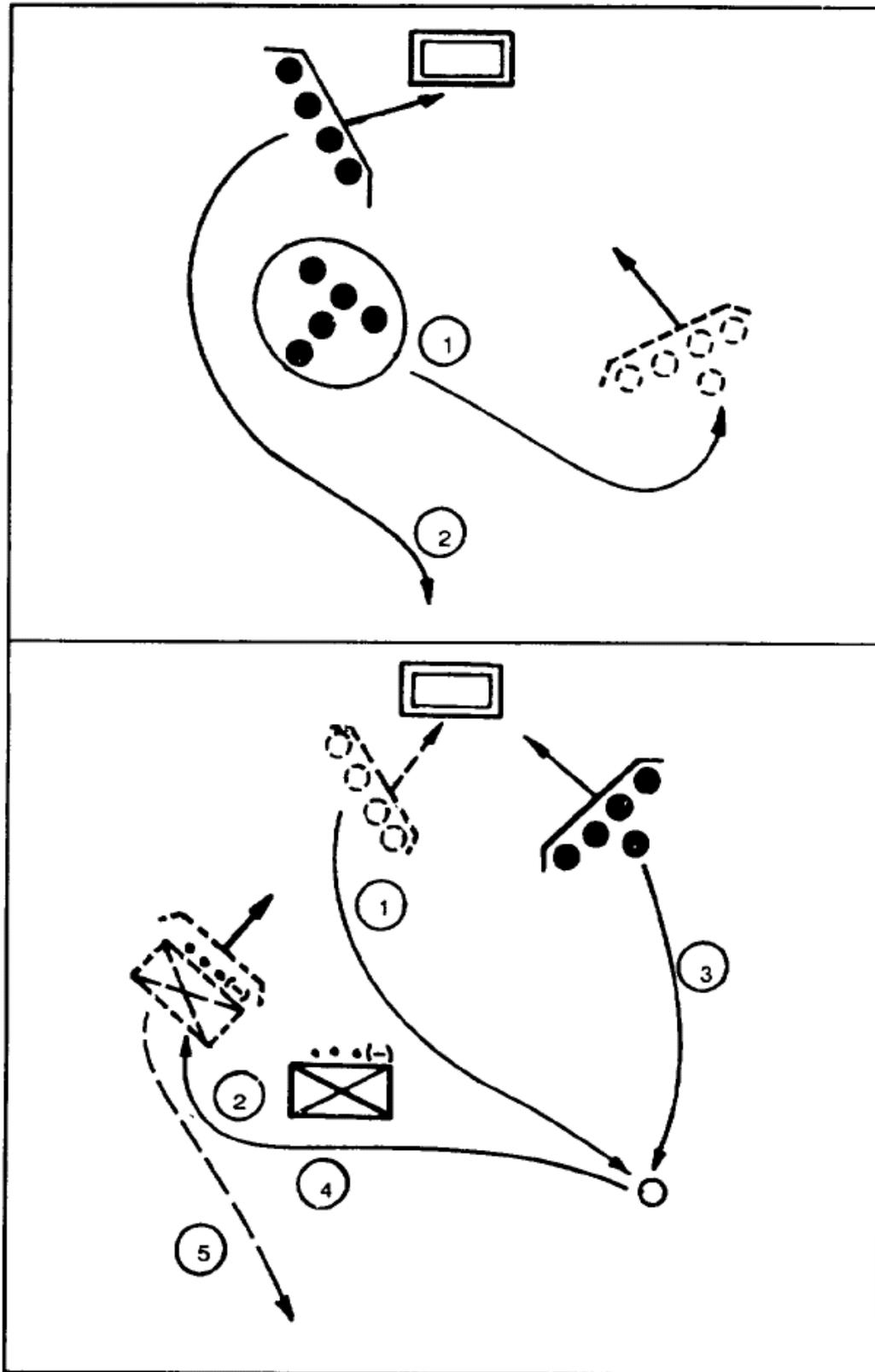


Figure 4-5. Break contact.

BATTLE DRILL 4. REACT TO AMBUSH

SITUATION: If the squad/platoon enters a kill zone and the enemy initiates an ambush with a casualty-producing device and a high volume of fire, the unit takes the following actions.

REQUIRED ACTIONS: (Figure 4-6.)

1. In a near ambush (within hand-grenade range), soldiers receiving fire immediately return fire, take up covered positions, and throw fragmentation concussion, and smoke grenades.
 - a. Immediately after the grenades detonate, soldiers in the kill zone assault through the ambush using fire and movement.
 - b. Soldiers not in the kill zone immediately—
 - Identify enemy positions.
 - Initiate immediate suppressive fires against the enemy.
 - Take up covered positions.
 - Shift fires as the soldiers in the kill zone assault through the ambush.
2. In a far ambush (beyond hand-grenade range) soldiers receiving fire immediately return fire, take up covered positions, and suppress the enemy by—
 - Destroying or suppressing enemy crew-served weapons first.
 - Obscuring the enemy position with smoke (M203).
 - Sustaining suppressive fires.
 - a. Soldiers (teams/squads) not receiving fires move by a covered and concealed route to a vulnerable flank of the enemy position and assault using fire and movement techniques.
 - b. Soldiers in the kill zone continue suppressive fires and shift fires as the assaulting team/squad fights through the enemy position.
3. The platoon FO calls for and adjusts indirect fires as directed by the platoon leader. On order, he lifts fires or shifts them to isolate the enemy position, or to attack them with indirect fires as they retreat.
4. The squad/platoon leader reports, reorganizes as necessary, and continues the mission.

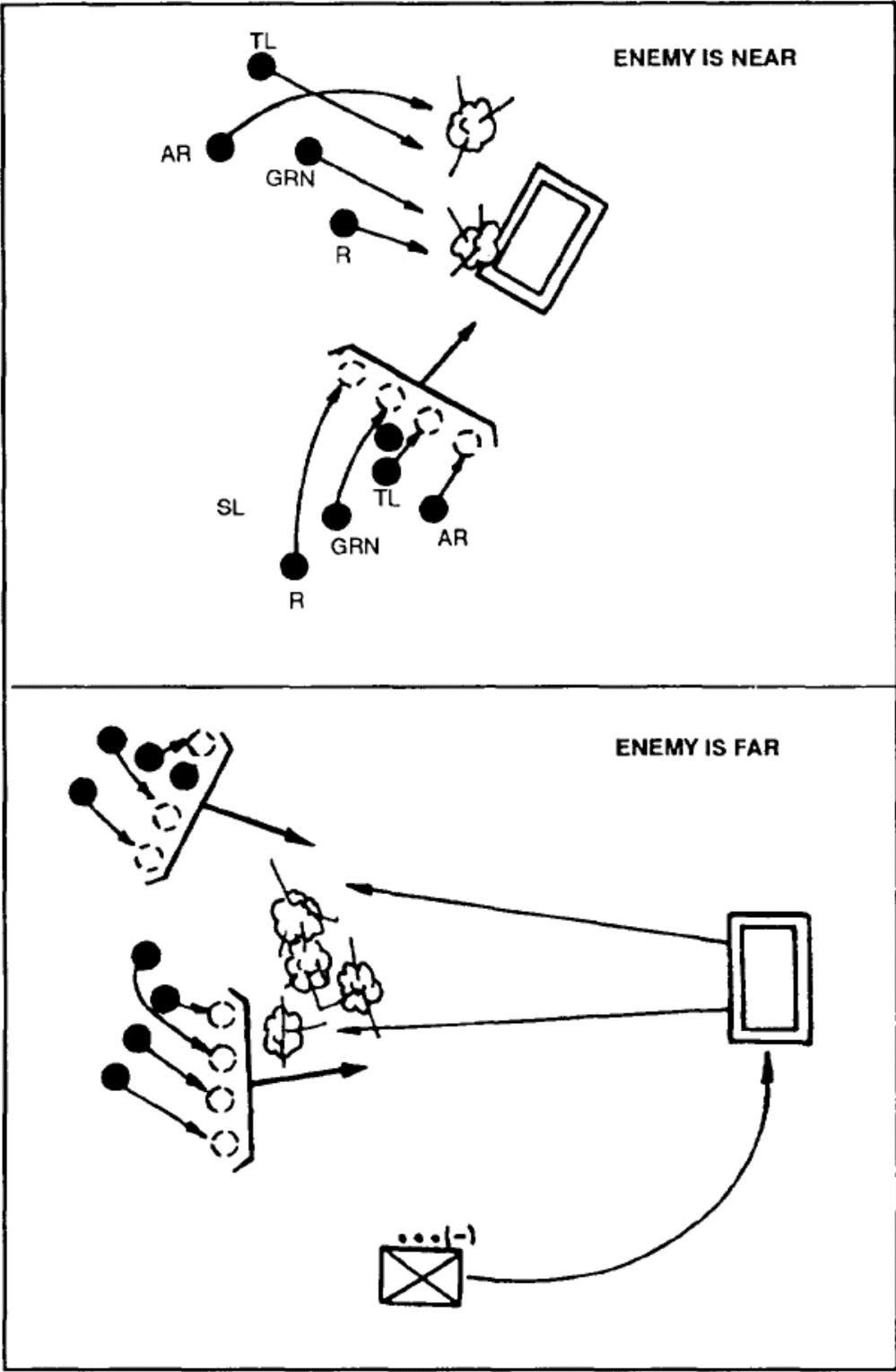


Figure 4-6. React to ambush.

Consolidation. Platoons and squads move quickly to establish security during the consolidation of an objective. They do this by establishing OPs along likely approaches and by establishing overlapping sectors of fire to create all-round security. (See Section V.)

Reorganization. Once platoons have consolidated on the objective, they begin to reorganize. Platoons reorganize to continue the attack. Reorganization involves—

- Reestablishing command and control.
- Re-manning key weapons, redistributing ammunition and equipment.
- Clearing the objective of casualties and EPWs
- Assessing and reporting the platoon status of personnel, ammunition, supplies, and essential equipment.