

BATTLE DRILL 2 BREAK CONTACT

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

REQUIRED ACTIONS: See Figure 6-2.

1. The platoon/squad leader directs fire support for the disengagement. He accomplishes this by—
 - Directing one squad/fire team in contact to support the disengagement of the remainder of the unit.
 - Considering the use of indirect fires for breaking contact.
 - Clearing the location, task, purpose, and method of conducting the fire mission with the platoon FO.
2. The platoon/squad leader orders a distance and direction, a terrain feature, or last ORP for the movement of the first squad/fire team. In conjunction with the platoon FO, the leader maintains accurate battle tracking of all friendly elements to facilitate quick clearance of fires.
3. The base of fire squad/team continues to suppress the enemy. The platoon/squad leader directs the platoon FO to execute the fire mission, if needed.
4. The moving squad/team assumes the overwatch position. The squad/team should use M203 grenade launchers, throw fragmentation and concussion grenades, and use smoke grenades to mask movement. The platoon/squad leader directs the platoon FO to execute smoke mission to screen friendly elements movement, if needed.
5. The moving squad/team 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 or squad may need to use fire and movement techniques.
7. The platoon/squad continues to bound away from the enemy until—
 - It breaks contact. It must continue to suppress the enemy as it does this.
 - It passes through a higher-level SBF position.
 - Its squad/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 fires on the unit.
9. If the platoon/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. With the platoon FO, the platoon/squad develops a quick fire plan to support the hasty defense or new route of march.

Figure 6-2. BREAK CONTACT

