

BATTLE DRILL 4 KNOCK OUT BUNKERS

SITUATION: While moving as part of a larger force, the platoon identifies the enemy in bunkers.

REQUIRED ACTIONS: See Figures 6-4 and 6-5.

1. The platoon initiates contact.
 - a. The squad in contact establishes a base of fire.
 - b. The platoon leader, his RTO, platoon FO, and one machine gun team move forward to link up with the squad leader of the squad in contact.
 - c. The PSG moves forward with the second machine gun team and assumes control of the base-of-fire squad.
 - d. The base-of-fire squad—
 - Destroys or suppresses enemy crew-served weapons first.
 - Obscures the enemy position with smoke (M203).
 - Sustains suppressive fires at the lowest possible level.
 - e. The platoon leader directs platoon FO to call for and adjust indirect fires. The platoon leader in conjunction with the platoon FO maintains accurate battle tracking of all friendly elements to facilitate quick clearance of fires.
2. The platoon leader determines that he can maneuver by identifying—
 - Enemy bunkers, other supporting positions, and any obstacles.
 - 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.
 - A vulnerable flank of at least one bunker.
 - A covered and concealed flanking route to the flank of the bunker.
3. The platoon leader determines which bunker is to be assaulted first and directs one squad (not in contact) to knock it out.
4. If necessary, the PSG repositions a squad, fire team, or machine gun team to isolate the bunker as well as to continue suppressive fires.
5. The assaulting squad, with the platoon leader and his RTO, move along the covered and concealed route and take action to knock out the bunker. The following occurs.
 - a. On the platoon leader's signal, the support squad ceases or shifts fires to the opposite side of the bunker from which the squad is assaulting.
 - b. At the same time, the platoon FO shifts indirect fires to isolate enemy positions.
6. The assaulting squad leader reports to the platoon leader and reorganizes his squad.
7. The platoon leader—
 - Directs the supporting squad to move up and knock out the next bunker.
 - Directs the assaulting squad to continue and knock out the next bunker.
 - Rotates squads as necessary.
8. 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.

Figure 6-4. KNOCK OUT A BUNKER (SQUAD)

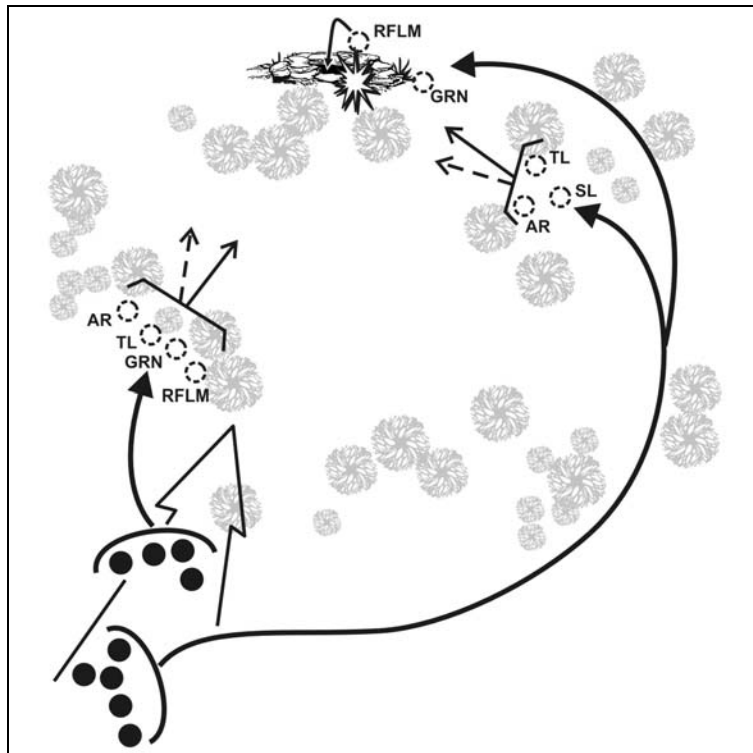


Figure 6-5. KNOCK OUT BUNKERS (PLATOON)

