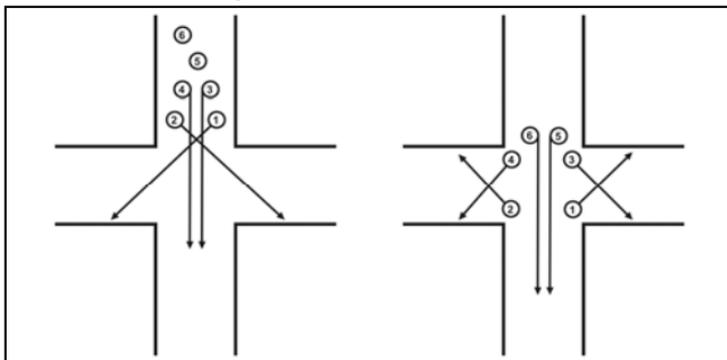


g. **Three-Way Intersection.** (See Figure 6-21.)

- STEP 1:** The #1 through #4 man will use one of the corner clearing techniques to clear the intersection.
- STEP 2:** When the intersection is secure, the #5 and #6 man move through the intersection and enter either more hallway or a room. If they are entering more hallway, the #1 through #4 man provide cross coverage as the #5 and #6 man move through the intersection into more hallway. If they are moving into a room, the #5 and #6 man move to one side of the door and signal the #1 and #3 or #2 and #4 man to enter the stack depending on which side of the door they stack on. The remaining members of the team, not in the stack, will continue to provide security down the hallway.
- STEP 3:** If the #5 and #6 man move into more hallway the #1 through #4 man will enter the stack and proceed down the hallway with the #3 and #4 man providing rear security.

**Figure 6-21. THREE WAY INTERSECTION**



**BATTLE DRILL 6  
ENTER/CLEAR A TRENCH**

**SITUATION:** The platoon is attacking as part of a larger force and identifies the enemy in a trench line. The platoon deploys and establishes a base of fire. The platoon leader determines that he has sufficient combat power to maneuver and assault the trench line.

**REQUIRED ACTIONS:** See Figure 6-22 and Figure 6-23.

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 PSG positions Soldiers and machine guns to suppress the trench and isolate the entry point.
4. Platoon leader directs platoon FO to initiate fire mission, if necessary, in support of assault. They maintain accurate battle tracking of all friendly elements to facilitate quick clearance of fires. The platoon FO ceases or shifts fires to isolate the OBJ as assault team advances.
5. The assaulting squad executes actions to enter the trench and establish a foothold. The 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 assaulting squad passes the squad that has secured the foothold and executes actions to take the lead and clear the trench.

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.

**Notes:** 1. The fire support element must be able to identify the location of the lead fire team in the trench at all times.

2. 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. The following then occurs.

(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. The following then occurs.

(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—

- Follows behind the team.

- Ensures that the trailing fire team moves up and is ready to pass the lead at his direction.

- Rotates fire teams as necessary to keep his Soldiers fresh and to maintain the momentum of the attack.

- 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.

- Ensures fire teams maintain sufficient interval to prevent them from being engaged by the same enemy fires.

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,*" and then—

(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 times.

10. The platoon leader rotates squads to keep the Soldiers fresh and to maintain the momentum of the assault.

11. The PSG calls forward ammunition resupply and organizes teams to move it forward into the trench.

12. The base-of-fire element ensures that all friendly forces move into the trench only through the designated entry point to avoid fratricide.

13. The platoon leader reports to the company commander that the trench line is secured, or he is no longer able to continue clearing. If trench line is secured, then platoon leader directs platoon FO to develop a fire plan to support the defense of the platoon position.

**DANGER**  
**FIRE TEAMS: MAINTAIN SUFFICIENT INTERVALS TO AVOID ENGAGEMENT BY THE SAME ENEMY FIRES.**

Figure 6-22. ENTER A TRENCH (SQUAD)

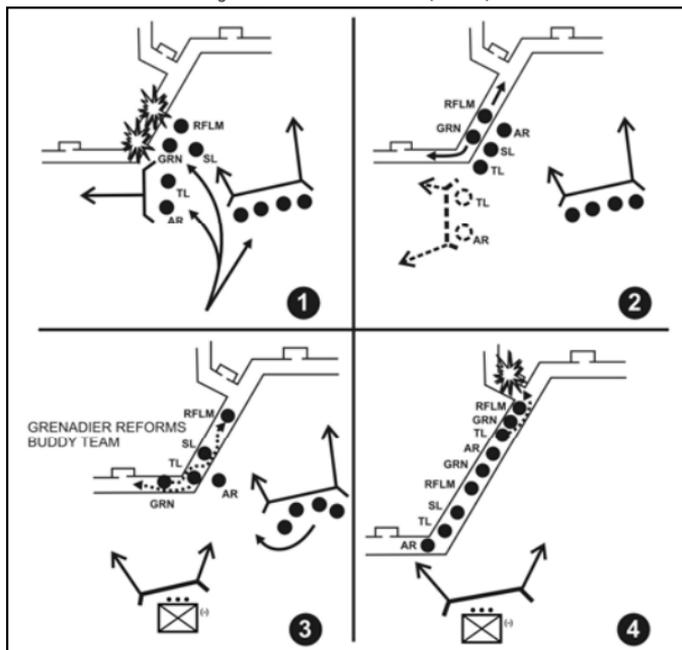
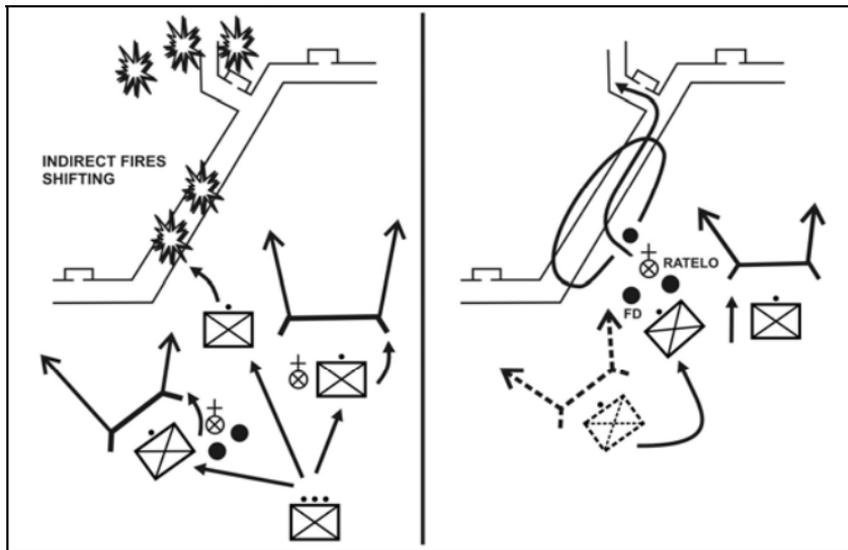


Figure 6-23. CLEAR A TRENCH LINE (PLATOON)



#### BATTLE DRILL 7

#### CONDUCT INITIAL BREACH OF A MINED WIRE OBSTACLE (PLATOON)

**SITUATION:** The platoon is operating as part of a larger force. The lead squad identifies a wire obstacle reinforced with mines that cannot be bypassed and enemy positions on the far side of the obstacle.

**REQUIRED ACTIONS:** See Figure 6-24 and Figure 6-25.

1. The squad in contact reacts to contact.
2. The platoon gains suppressive fires. The following then occurs.
  - a. The squad in contact establishes a base-of-fire position.
  - b. The platoon leader, his RTO, platoon FO, and the squad leader of the next squad with one machine gun team move forward to link up with the squad leader of the squad in contact.
3. The platoon leader determines that he can maneuver by identifying—
  - The obstacle and enemy positions.
  - The size of the enemy force engaging the squad, for example, the number of enemy automatic weapons, the presence of any vehicles, and the employment of indirect fires are indicators of enemy strength.
  - A breach point.
  - A covered and concealed route to the breach point.
4. The platoon leader directs the squad in contact to support the movement of another squad to the breach point. He indicates the base-of-fire position and the route to it, the enemy position to be suppressed, and the breach point and route the rest of the platoon will take to it. The platoon leader also clears the location, task, purpose, and method of conducting the fire mission with the platoon FO.