

Chapter 10

Advanced Techniques

Note

The procedures in this chapter are written for right-handed Marines; left-handed Marines must reverse directions as needed.

10001. Shooting on the Move

When moving from one area of cover to another, it may become necessary to engage a target that presents an immediate threat. In this situation, the Marine lets accurate fire serve as his cover.

a. Moving with the Pistol. The likelihood of encountering a threat will dictate how the pistol should be carried while moving. However, whatever the method of carry, the muzzle of the weapon should be pointed in the same direction that the head and eyes are directed. Like the movement of a tank turret, the eyes and muzzle move as one.

(1) Alert Position. When carrying the pistol in the Alert position, the weapon should be tucked in close to the body, the finger off the trigger. This position allows the shooter freedom of movement and still allows for a quick presentation of the weapon.

(2) Ready Position. If there is a high probability of encountering a threat, the Marine should carry the weapon in the ready position while moving.

b. Moving – The Glide Technique. To shoot accurately while moving, the shooter cannot simply run or walk fast. A normal running movement produces too much bounce in the Marine's body. This makes it extremely difficult to use the sights of the pistol or to achieve a needed level of stability for accurate shooting. Lifting the legs in a normal manner may also cause the individual to trip on debris while concentrating on a target or cover.

- The proper movement technique is similar to a glide. A lower center of gravity is achieved by keeping the knees bent and the upper body erect. The bent knees also serve to absorb the shock from movement. The feet are not lifted as high as in a normal walk or run. This allows for kicking an obstruction as opposed to tripping on it.
- The feet and knees are pointed in the direction of travel. If there is a need to engage a target off to the side, the shooter rotates at the waist to move his upper body in the desired direction. The upper body shooting position does not change.
- The glide is not a technique that can be used for a long period of time or for long distances. Rather, the Marine can move in a normal manner until it becomes necessary to engage a target, at which time he should slow and assume the glide. This method of movement allows for accurate target engagement.

c. Engaging Targets – Using the Pistol Sights. When the time comes to shoot, it is extremely important to concentrate on the front sight of his weapon. The adherence to the fundamentals of marksmanship becomes even more vital under these adverse shooting conditions.

d. Continue Moving. A Marine should continue to move no matter what happens. Continuing to move makes it difficult for an adversary to engage the Marine and can be one of the best assets the individual has. When moving to cover or to a different position, the Marine should not stop to engage a target.

e. Reloading and Stoppages. If a stoppage occurs or a reload is required while moving, the shooter's primary consideration is to keep moving and seek cover. Ideally, reloads and clearing stoppages should be performed behind cover.

10002. Turn and Fire

The techniques for turn and fire allow a Marine to engage a target that is not directly in front of him. The key to turn and fire is smoothness and quickness of pivoting and presentation of the weapon to engage the threat. This is achieved by adhering to the principle that wherever the head goes, the body will follow.

a. Engaging Targets 90 Degrees to the Right of the Marine. To engage a target that is 90 degrees to the right of the Marine:

- Turn the head toward the threat and identify the target. See figure 10-1. Once the target is identified, the Marine maintains focus on the target for the rest of the presentation.



Figure 10-1. Engaging Targets 90 Degrees to the Right.

- Begin presentation. At the same time, turn toward the target by raising the left foot while pivoting on the ball of the right foot, then planting the left foot until squarely facing the target and in a natural stance. See figure 10-2.



Figure 10-2. Engaging Targets 90 Degrees to the Right (Cont.).

- Engage the target.

b. Engaging Targets 90 Degrees to the Left of the Marine. To engage a target that is 90 degrees to the left of the Marine:

- Turn the head toward the threat and identify the target. See figure 10-3. Once the target is identified, the Marine maintains focus on the target for the rest of the presentation.



Figure 10-3. Engaging Targets 90 Degrees to the Left.

- Begin presentation. At the same time, turn toward the target by raising the right foot while pivoting on the ball of the left foot, then planting the right foot until squarely facing the target and in a natural stance. See figure 10-4.



Figure 10-4. Engaging Targets 90 Degrees to the Left (Cont.).

- Engage the target.

c. Engaging Targets 180 Degrees to the Rear of the Marine. To engage a target that is 180 degrees to the rear of the Marine:

- Turn the head toward the target, looking over either the right or left shoulder, and identify the target. See figures 10-5 and 10-6. Once the target is identified, the Marine maintains focus on the target for the rest of the presentation.



Figure 10-5. Engaging Targets 180 Degrees to the Rear (Right Shoulder).



Figure 10-6. Engaging Targets 180 Degrees to the Rear (Left Shoulder).

- Begin presentation. At the same time, pivot toward the target.
- To pivot to the right, pick up the left foot, move it across the right foot, while pivoting 180 degrees on the ball of the right foot, and plant it squarely. The Marine should be squarely facing the target and in a natural shooting stance. See figure 10-7.



Figure 10-7. Engaging Targets 180 Degrees to the Rear (Right Shoulder) (Cont.).

- To pivot to the left, pick up the right foot, move it across the left foot, while pivoting 180 degrees on the ball of the left foot, and plant it squarely. The Marine should be squarely facing the target and in a natural shooting stance. See figure 10-8.



Figure 10-8. Engaging Targets 180 Degrees to the Rear (Left Shoulder) (Cont.).

- Engage the target.