

Appendix B

Employment with Infantry

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Section 1. General

Marine Tank units rarely fight alone. When fighting as part of a MAGTF, tank units are organized with other elements of the MAGTF to achieve the effects of combined arms. Combined arms is the full integration of combat arms in such a way that to counteract one, the enemy must become more vulnerable to another (MCRP 5-12A). MAGTFs accomplish combined arms through tactics and techniques at the lower levels and through task organization at the higher levels. Combined arms integrate the effects of various arms –infantry, tank, artillery, and aviation—to achieve the greatest possible effect against the enemy. The strengths of various arms complement and offset each other. At the same time, the weaknesses and vulnerabilities of each arm are protected and offset by the capabilities of the other.

Mechanized operations are tactical operations designed to maximize the ground mobility, protection, shock action, and firepower of combat vehicles to concentrate combat power rapidly against the enemy. Combat power is generated by the massed employment of tanks and enhancing the mobility of other forces through the use of AAVs and other ground mobility means.

Unrestricted terrain such as desert, plains, and flat countryside are conducive to conduct of mechanized operations characterized by the employment of massed armor formations. In such terrain, infantry supports the forward movement of the tank units by providing local security, retaining key terrain, clearing dug-in enemy positions, and enhancing direct fires with organic small arms and antitank fires.

Restrictive terrain (such as urban areas, forests, and jungles increases the vulnerability of tank units by reducing the speed, mobility, and firepower advantages of a tank. In such terrain, it is more advantageous for tanks to take a supporting role and facilitate the forward movement of the infantry. Tanks provide close-in direct fire support against hard and soft targets that could slow the infantry's advance.

When infantry and tanks move together in any operation, the infantry moves using one of three methods: dismounted, truck-mounted, or AAV-mounted. This appendix examines in detail how the tank unit is employed to support the advance of mounted and dismounted infantry.

Section 2. Task Organization

The Marine Corps is one of the few armed forces in the world that conducts mechanized operations without permanently formed mechanized infantry units. Choosing not to form permanent mechanized infantry units, the Marine Corps instead maintains well-trained general-purpose infantry units capable of executing a myriad of ground combat missions. In Marine mechanized operations, term mechanized infantry refers to a task-organized force of Marine infantry mounted in AAVs. In general, this term is a reference to any

infantry (friendly or enemy) that are riding in APCs or IFVs. In most of the world's land armies, the APC or IFV is organic to infantry units.

Based on the threat or terrain, the MAGTF commander may organize a mechanized force for a specific mission. A Marine mechanized force is a task organized, ground combat force of combined arms built around an infantry or tank unit, and reinforced with substantial assault amphibian assets. A Marine mechanized force is normally supported by air, artillery, light armor, antitank, engineer, reconnaissance, motor transport, and other combat support and combat service support units.

Commanders at each level of command must determine the best organization for combat. Normally, the process of cross attachment does this. Cross-attachment is the exchange of subordinate units between units for a temporary period. For example, a tank battalion detaches a tank company that is subsequently attached to an infantry battalion mechanized in AAVs, and the infantry battalion mechanized in AAVs detaches a company to the tank battalion to create two battalion-sized task forces.

Mechanized forces are task organized into mechanized task forces at the regimental and battalion level and company teams at the company level. Mechanized task forces and teams are described by their mix of tank and mechanized infantry.

- **Tank Heavy Task Force.** A tank-heavy force has more subordinate tank than infantry units. The headquarters of a tank heavy task force is usually that of a tank battalion.
- **Mechanized Heavy Task Force.** A Mech-heavy force has more subordinate infantry units mounted in tracked vehicles than subordinate tank units. The headquarters of a mech-heavy task force is usually that of an infantry battalion or regiment.
- **Balanced Task Force.** A balanced task force is organized with an equal number of subordinate tank and infantry units. The headquarters for a balanced task force can be either that of a tank battalion or infantry battalion/regiment
- **Tank/Infantry Pure Task Force.** A pure unit has either tank or infantry units, but not both.

Company Team. A team organized by the cross attachment of one or more tank platoons and/or mounted or dismounted infantry platoons. Based on METT-T, an infantry or tank battalion commander receiving tank or mechanized infantry companies may tailor the increase the effectiveness of his units by forming company teams. This is done by cross-attaching tank platoons and mechanized infantry platoons. Teams are cross-attached in the same manner as task forces.

Types of Mechanized Company Teams

- Tank Heavy Teams
- Mechanized- Heavy Teams
- Balanced Teams

Note: Graphics to be added later

The company is normally the smallest task organized mechanized element. The tank platoon should normally be the smallest unit that is attached/detached. The tank platoon leader must be trained to interact with controlling headquarters. Logistical support is normally obtained from the infantry battalion S-4. If the platoon's parent company is in the vicinity, he may be able to coordinate some assistance through the parent unit; however, this support may not be available.

Section 3. Coordination

Mechanized operations demand effective coordination between the tank unit and the infantry unit it is supporting. The tank platoon/company commander's responsibility is to have a thorough tactical and technical knowledge of his tank's systems and logistical needs. Based on these factors, he advises the Infantry Unit Commander and/or the Operations Officer (S-3) with respect to tank employment. In mechanized operations. These plans should maximize use of the tank's capabilities for lethal firepower, enhanced target acquisition (including thermal sights), and effective armor protection. In addition to understanding the capabilities and limitations of his tanks, the tank unit leader must appreciate the disparate capabilities of the mechanized force. Infantry mounted in AAVs has less firepower, armor protection and normally moves slower than tanks over certain types of terrain. For example, he must remember that sabot ammunition cannot be fired over the heads or flanks of unprotected infantry because of the danger created by the discarding sabot petals and the concussion of the main gun.

Habitual assignment is the routine attachment of one unit to another. Although a policy of habitual assignment between tank and infantry units is not always practical, it is highly desirable for the following reasons:

- Attached units become familiar with unit SOPs of the units to which they are attached.
- Teamwork is built between units, which is key to achieving unity of effort.
- Unit commanders joining an attached unit become familiar with that particular unit's capabilities.

Section 4. Offensive Employment of a Mechanized Force

a. Mutual Support. To best exploit the mechanized force's offensive capabilities, tanks and mechanized infantry must work together in pursuit of a common goal. Each element of the mechanized force provides a degree of mutual support to the other element.

Tanks support mechanized infantry by:

- Providing mobile protected firepower.
- Neutralizing or destroying hostile weapons by fire and movement.
- Clearing paths for dismounted infantry through obstacles.
- Neutralizing fortified positions with direct fire.
- Supporting dismounted infantry by direct fire.
- Assisting in the consolidation of the objective

Mechanized Infantry assists tanks and AAVs by:

- Breaching or removing antiarmor obstacles.
- Assisting in the neutralization or destruction of enemy antiarmor weapons
- Designating targets for tanks and AAVs.
- Protecting tanks and AAVs from enemy infantry and antiarmor weapons.
- Clearing bridges and fording areas.
- Clearing restrictive terrain such as urban, swamp, or woodland areas.
- Conducting dismounted security patrols

Based on METT-T, the mechanized force's combination of tanks, AAVs, and infantry provides the commander with several options:

- Mounted maneuver with tanks.
- Mounted maneuver with AAVs.
- Mounted maneuver with tanks and AAVs.
- Dismounted maneuver alone.
- Dismounted maneuver combined with any of the mounted maneuver options.

b. General Employment Methods. There are two general methods to employ tanks and mechanized infantry together in an attack

(1) *Tank and Mechanized Infantry (mounted in AAVs or dismounted) attack together.*

(2) *Tanks and AAVs support by fire only.*

Based on METT-T, a combination of the two methods may be employed called a multi-axis attack.

(1) **Tanks and Mechanized Infantry Attack Together.** This method allows tanks and mechanized infantry to advance together within mutually supporting distances of each other. Tanks normally lead the formation. Ideally, the infantry remains mounted in AAVs to close with the enemy. However, the infantry should only remain mounted in AAVs when enemy presents a low anti-armor threat.

Advantages of Tanks and Infantry attacking together include:

- Fully exploits the mobility, speed, armor protected firepower, and shock action of the mechanized force.
- Reduces enemy reaction time.
- Disorganizes the enemy's defense, since his positions have normally been breached before the infantry dismounts.
- Conserves the energy of the mechanized infantry since they are carried by AAVs to dismount points short of, on, or behind the objective.
- May reduce the amount of time that the infantry is exposed to enemy fires.

Disadvantages include:

- Greater potential for casualties among elements of the mechanized force if enemy antiarmor fires cannot be bypassed or effectively reduced by suppressive fires. **Lightly armor protected AAVs are vulnerable to antiarmor weapons, and may be destroyed if employed like a tank.** AAV armor can provide protection against hand grenades, shell fragments, and some small arms fire. However, even when Enhanced Applique Armor Kits (EAAK) are installed, the AAV can be vulnerable to the fires of tank and antitank guns, ATGMs, and rockets.
- The entire mechanized force can become vulnerable to enemy fires if obstacles are not breached quickly or bypassed.

c. **Mechanized Movement.** Tanks normally lead the mechanized formation due to the tanks relative advantage over the AAV in terms of armor protection and main gun firepower. When the situation permits, AAVs can support the mechanized force by following the tanks close enough to fire around the tanks and deliver suppressive fire against enemy infantry and antiarmor weapons encountered on exposed flanks.

The formation is generally based on the following criteria:

- Tanks lead in open areas or when faced with a significant armor threat.
- Mechanized infantry leads mounted only if mechanized infantry is pure with no other antiarmor reinforcements or capabilities.

The desired distance between tanks and AAVs should be determined before starting the attack. This distance is based on METT-T.

d. **Maneuver Considerations**

The critical decision of whether the infantry attacks mounted or dismounted is based on the following considerations.

TANKS NORMALLY LEAD AND INFANTRY STAYS MOUNTED WHEN:

- Enemy antiarmor fires can be effectively bypassed or suppressed by fire.
- Terrain is relatively open or manmade and natural obstacles can be easily overcome.
- Terrain and Weather affords good trafficability and visibility.

INFANTRY LEADS DISMOUNTED WHEN:

- Terrain and vegetation are restrictive. For example, when terrain and vegetation canalizes movement into likely enemy ambush sites and minefields (e.g. urban areas and woodland terrain).
- Visibility is limited.
- Antiarmor fire can't be bypassed or suppressed by fire.
- Significant obstacles or fortified positions are encountered which may prevent mounted movement and cannot be bypassed.

e. **Dismounting Considerations.** Once the commander of the mechanized force decides to dismount his infantry, he chooses when and where it dismounts. THE DECISION TO DISMOUNT MUST BE MADE PRIOR TO BEING COMMITTED TO THE FINAL ASSAULT. Commanders normally stay well forward to personally judge the situation and make an appropriate decision of whether or not to change the dismount point. Timing is critical--dismounting too early will slow down the force's momentum and unnecessarily exposes the infantry to hostile fire. Also, it must be recognized that each situation is unique. The commander should also take into account that speed can provide for the security for a mechanized force already committed to the final assault. Ideally, the infantry is dismounted after forward defensive positions have been breached. The following are some dismount point considerations:

- The dismount point should provide good cover and concealment, yet be as near the objective as possible to reduce the amount of time that the dismounted infantry is exposed to fires while closing with the enemy.
- Rapid dismount and good vehicle dispersion reduces the mechanized force's vulnerability to enemy fires. A foundation to rapid dismount and good vehicle dispersion is well-understood SOPs and well-rehearsed battle drills.

f. **Types of Dismount.** Dismount points may be short of the objective, on the objective, or after passing through the objective.

- (1) *Dismount Short of the Objective* is usually not within range of small arms and handheld antiarmor weapons. Tactical conditions may require seeking a dismount point short of the objective. Ideally, the dismount point should be located on easily recognizable terrain that provides cover from enemy direct fires.

Advantages include:

- Dismounted infantry are protected from small arms and observed indirect fires while dismounting.
- Infantry can be oriented as they approach the objective.
- Control can be established in the dismount point.
- Organic and supporting fires can suppress the enemy while the infantry is dismounting.

Disadvantages include:

- Dismounted infantry are exposed longer to enemy small arms and indirect fire as they move forward in the assault.
- Suitable dismount points forward of enemy positions may be targeted by enemy direct and indirect fires.

(2) Dismount on the objective is a technique used when the mechanized force has achieved surprise or the enemy antiarmor defense is weak.

The following are advantages:

- Greater speed and shock effect
- Mechanized infantry remains protected by AAV light armor longer from the fires of enemy small arms.
- Supporting fires can continue while the mechanized force approaches its objective since mounted infantry have greater protection against shell fragments and other small projectiles.

Disadvantages include:

- Difficulty orienting mechanized infantry to specific objectives.
- Difficulty establishing control at the dismount point due to potentially close enemy fires.
- Difficulty in directing supporting fires against enemy positions in close proximity to friendly dismounted infantry.
- Vulnerability of AAVs to short-range antiarmor weapons.
- High volume of suppressive fire is required to support dismounted infantry.

(3) Dismount after Passing through the Objective is employed when a mounted attack is more effective. The capabilities of the enemy antiarmor defense will dictate whether this is feasible.

Advantages include:

- Dismounted infantry fights from an area and direction unexpected from the enemy
- Control is usually more easily established when not on the objective.

- Shock effect on the enemy caused by a mechanized force moving through its position is likely to be considerable.

And disadvantages:

- This method may run afoul of enemy positions in depth.
- Enemy indirect and direct fires might still target suitable dismount points.
- Facing the AAV toward the objective before dismounting is desirable from the viewpoint of limited armored protection and the AA crew employment of the UGWS. However, the act of turning AAVs around in close proximity to enemy fires can make the AAVs more vulnerable to flank shots. Also, the act of turning around AAVs and dismounting infantry may reverse the relative positions of the tanks, AAVs, and infantry. The dismounted infantry may initially mask direct fires from AAVs and tanks until the AAVs and tanks can maneuver around the infantry to new support by fire positions.

g. Base of Fire and Maneuver Elements.

To facilitate fire and maneuver, mechanized forces normally organize into maneuver element(s) and a base of fire element(s). Fires are primarily employed to suppress, neutralize, destroy, and demoralize enemy forces. Maneuver, which is movement supported by fire, brings firepower into positions from which it extends and completes the destruction of the enemy force. The composition of base of fire and maneuver element is determined by the commander's task organization of the mechanized force.

- Base of Fire Element. The base of fire element covers the maneuver element's advance toward the enemy position by engaging all known or suspected targets. Upon opening fire, the base of fire seeks to gain fire superiority over the enemy. Fire superiority is gained by subjecting the enemy to fire of such accuracy and volume that the enemy fire ceases or becomes ineffective.
- Maneuver Element. The mission of the maneuver element is to close with and destroy or capture the enemy. It advances and assaults under covering fire of the base of fire element. The maneuver element uses available cover and concealment to the maximum. Fire superiority is maintained throughout the attack in order to ensure the success of any maneuver.

Attacks consist of both Fire and Maneuver and Fire and Movement.

- Fire and Maneuver. Fire and maneuver is the process of one or more elements establishing a base of fire to engage the enemy, while the other element(s) maneuver to an advantageous position from which to close with and destroy or capture the enemy. Supporting fires may consist of direct, indirect, and aviation delivered fires, which are integrated to achieve the effects of combined arms. Supporting fires should be followed closely by the maneuver element so that the shock effect of fire upon the enemy will not be lost.

- **Fire and Movement.** Once the maneuver element meets enemy opposition and can no longer advance under the cover of the base of fire, it employs fire and movement to continue its forward movement to a position from which it can assault the enemy position. Fire and movement is primarily used in the assault wherein a unit or element advances by bounds or rushes, with subelements alternatively moving and providing covering fire for other moving subelements. Fire and movement may be done by individuals (personnel or vehicles) or units. Usually, fire and movement is used only when under effective fire from the enemy because it is relatively slow and difficult to control.

There are situations when maneuvering to close range of the enemy is not required. Attack by fire is fires employed to destroy the enemy from a distance. This task is usually given to the supporting element during offensive operations and as a counterattack option for the reserve during defensive operations. An attack by fire is not done in conjunction with a maneuvering force. When assigning this task, the commander of the mechanized force specifies the intent of fires--either to destroy, fix, or suppress.

(2) Tanks and AAVs Support by Fire Only. During planning, the commander of the mechanized force may decide beforehand to attack using the *Tanks and AAVs support by fire only* method. However, if during a mounted assault, surprise antiarmor fire is received in such volume that it cannot be suppressed by all immediately available fire support resources and to continue would result in unacceptable casualties, the infantry is dismounted in defilade locations (if possible). Tanks and AAVs then adopt the *Tanks and AAVs support by fire only* method. For this reason, commanders usually devise plans of action that permit multiple options in execution. For example, a plan which incorporates the *Tanks and Infantry attack together* method should also have the flexibility to incorporate the *Tanks and AAVs support by fire only* method if the situation changes unexpectedly.

The following are examples of situations in which infantry should plan to dismount from the AAVs and use the *Tanks and AAVs support by fire only* method.

- Obstacles prevent mounted movement and cannot be quickly breached or bypassed.
- Enemy antiarmor capability poses significant threat to both tanks and AAVs.
- Terrain canalizes mounted movement into likely enemy ambush sites and minefields (e.g. close terrain such as urban or woodland and restrictive terrain such as defiles).
- Visibility is limited

Key considerations are:

- Prior planning to ensure communication can be maintained between the base of fire element(s) and dismounted infantry during the attack. Propositioned retransmission

sites and preplanned radio relay procedures are examples of techniques that can overcome a potential loss of communications during the attack.

- The scheme of maneuver and fire support plan (direct fire, indirect fire, and aviation delivered fires) are developed concurrently and understood by all elements of the mechanized force. Fires are primarily used to engage targets on the objective. Fires are also planned to isolate the objective by engaging targets on adjacent positions or likely enemy avenues of approach. Illumination and obscuration fires should be planned for whether or not the mechanized forces intend to employ these fires in the attack.
- Positive control of supporting fires between the dismounted infantry and base of fire element(s) must be maintained throughout the attack. Radio communication, prearranged visual signals (e.g. pyrotechnic) and/or messengers are used by the infantry to designate targets and coordinate supporting fires. AAVs, tanks, and other available direct fire support assets normally displace forward to new support by fire positions, as they become available.
- A sustained, heavy volume of fires helps the dismounted infantry maintain the momentum of the attack. Suppressive fire helps compensate for the infantry's lack of armor protection and decreased mobility. Long-range accurate fires (e.g. TOWs) are employed against enemy vehicles, protected antitank guns and ATGMs, and other priority hard targets.
- The base of fire element ideally supports from covered and concealed positions. Also, units comprising the base of fire element should regularly reposition themselves to avoid presenting the enemy with easily acquired stationary targets.
- Dismounted infantry should advance on a route that provides cover and concealment and prevents or minimizes masking of the fires of the base of fire element. If available, engineers should accompany the dismounted infantry to breach obstacles and destroy fortified positions.

A disadvantage of the *Tanks and AAVs support by fire only* method is that the infantry loses the mobility, shock action, and close support of the tanks and AAVs. The infantry is also unsupported on the objective itself when the tanks and AAVs shift or cease-fires. Also, Tanks and AAVs are not initially available on the objective to cover the consolidation.

h. Multiaxis Attack.

A combination of the two general methods: *Tanks and Infantry (mounted or dismounted) attacking together* and *Tanks and AAVs supporting by fire only* is an attack made on a *multiaxis*. The adoption of this method is based on METT-T. A primary consideration is the availability of suitable avenues of approach for the tanks, AAVs and the infantry. The multiaxis attack is often used to exploit the amphibious capability of the AAV in crossing streams, rivers, lakes, and marshes. Another application may be when a single avenue of approach is too narrow to accommodate the entire mechanized force. Normally, the tanks follow the more open terrain, while the infantry advance follows an axis offering cover and concealment. Tanks initially support the infantry advance by fire and join the infantry

as soon as practicable. The movement of the tanks is normally timed so that the tanks assault the objective slightly in advance of the infantry to take maximum advantage of their shock effect. The greatest challenge to employing this method is achieving proper timing among the various elements and the coordination of fires during the attack.

i. Assault on the Objective

The purpose of the assault is to place violent and intensive firepower on the objective and move rapidly across it to destroy or capture the enemy as quickly as possible. The term assault refers only to that phase of an attack when the attacking force actually closes with the enemy. Mechanized forces can assault the objective mounted or dismounted.

(1) Mounted Assault. The decision to make a mounted assault is based upon METT-T. A mounted assault is best used when the enemy is occupying hasty fighting position, antiarmor fires can be suppressed, and when the terrain in the vicinity of the objective allows for rapid movement onto and across the objective. The assault must be carried out rapidly. Normally tanks lead followed closely by AAVs. As the assault force approaches the objective, the AAVs should move closer to the tanks for added protection from enemy short-range antiarmor weapons.

Movement across the objective must be fast and continuous. A heavy volume of suppressive fires is maintained to keep enemy soldiers down in their positions. Stabilized turrets allow tanks to continue moving while conducting fire and movement. AAVs normally stay as close to the tanks as possible to provide protection to the flanks and rear of the tank.

Once the tanks and AAVs reach the far side of the objective, they occupy hull-down positions (if possible). From support by fire positions, the tanks and AAVs can engage any retreating enemy forces, continue the attack, or defend against counterattack. If it is necessary to seize the objective, the dismounted infantry is used to clear remaining pockets of enemy resistance and to secure prisoners.

A mechanized pure force assaults mounted without tanks in essentially the same way it assaults with them.

(2) Dismounted Assault.

If the enemy is in well-prepared defensive positions, antiarmor fires can't be suppressed, or the terrain restricts vehicle movement onto the objective, the assault is normally conducted dismounted. If the attack starts initially mounted, the infantry should be dismounted in a covered and concealed position that is as close to the objective as possible. The base of fire element(s) delivers supporting fires while the dismounted infantry deploys. Dismounted infantry use radio, prearranged visual signals (e.g. pyrotechnic) and/or messengers to direct the base of fire element(s) to shift and cease supporting fires. The dismounted infantry then employ fire and movement through the

objective. Elements of the base of fire element normally displace to subsequent support by fire positions just before their fires are masked by the dismount element. When the tanks and AAVs from the base of fire element rejoin the dismounted infantry, the infantry:

- Suppresses any remaining enemy position as the tanks and AAVs move to the objective.
- Reconnoiters initial support by fire positions and guides tanks and AAVs into the positions when necessary.
- Provides flank and rear security for the AAVs and tanks.

Based on METT-T, the tanks may be employed to continue through the objective, engaging resistance, and pursuing by fire until the infantry has consolidated the position

i. Consolidation and Reorganization.

The mechanized force consolidates and reorganizes as soon as it takes the objective. This is done so the force can either repel a counterattack or continue the attack. The mechanized force consolidates the objective by:

- Occupying the position. Tanks and AAVs are positioned in support by fire positions and assigned sectors of fire while antiarmor weapons are being positioned. Tanks and AAVs are normally positioned on terrain that both provides cover and concealment and permits the vehicles to overwatch the infantry in the event of enemy counterattack. If possible, tanks and AAVs are placed in hull-down positions.
- All elements of the mechanized force establish local security and mutual support between units.
- The dismounted infantry eliminates any remaining pockets of enemy resistance and secures prisoners of war. Dismounted infantry normally designate targets for the overwatching vehicles and use organic and supporting fires to destroy any enemy resistance.
- After consolidation, the infantry either remounts the AAVs to continue the attack or sets up a hasty or deliberate defense.

Reorganization consists of:

- Replacing key leaders who became casualties.
- Redistributing ammunition.
- Arranging for medical evacuation of casualties.
- Safeguarding prisoners of war to collection points or to the rear.

During mechanized operations in unrestricted terrain, tanks should always lead in offensive movement formations. Speed, mobility, firepower, and survivability are otherwise reduced. The survivability, superior target acquisition, range of weapon systems, and lethality of tank units provide the unit commander with time to develop the situation and choose an appropriate course of action.

Section 5. Transporting Infantry

On very rare occasions, the platoon leader may be required to transport infantrymen on his tanks (as illustrated in Figure B-5). This is done only when contact is not expected. If the platoon is moving as part of a larger force and is tasked to provide security, the lead section or element should not carry infantry.

Infantry and tank leaders must observe the following procedures, precautions, and considerations when infantrymen ride on tanks:

- Infantry teams should thoroughly practice mounting and dismounting procedures and actions on contact.
- Passengers must always alert the TC before mounting or dismounting.
- They must follow the commands of the TC.
- Infantry platoons should be broken down into squad-size groups, similar to air assault chinks, with the infantry platoon leader on the tank platoon leader's vehicle and the infantry platoon sergeant on the tank platoon sergeant's vehicle.
- Platoon leaders, platoon sergeants, and team leaders should position themselves near the TCs hatch, using the external phone (if available) to talk to the TC and relay signals to the unit.
- Tank crewmen must remember that the vehicle cannot return fire effectively with infantry on board.
- Whenever possible, passengers mount and dismount over the left front slope of the vehicle. This ensures that the driver can see the infantrymen and that the infantrymen do not pass in front of the coax machine gun.
- Passengers must always have three points of contact with the vehicle; they must watch for low-hanging objects like tree branches.
- Passengers must ensure that they remain behind the vehicle's smoke grenade launchers. This will automatically keep them clear of all weapon systems.
- All passengers should wear hearing protection.
- Infantrymen should not ride with anything more than their battle gear. Alice-packs should be transported by other means.
- Passengers should be prepared to take the following actions on contact:
 - Wait for the vehicle to stop.
 - At the TCs command, dismount IMMEDIATELY (one fire team on each side). DO NOT move forward of the turret.
 - Move at least 5 meters to the sides of the vehicle. DO NOT move behind or forward of the vehicle.
 - If possible, the lead vehicle should not carry infantrymen. Riders restrict turret movement and are more likely to be injured or killed on initial contact.
 - Infantrymen should be assigned sectors to scan.

The following cautions should be exercised when infantrymen ride on tanks:

- DO NOT move in front of vehicles unless ordered to do so.
- DO NOT dismount a vehicle unless ordered or given permission to do so.
- DO NOT dangle arms or legs, equipment, or anything else off the side of a vehicle; they could get caught in the tracks, causing death, injury, or damage to the equipment or vehicle.
- DO NOT carry too many riders on the vehicle.
- DO NOT fall asleep when riding.
- DO NOT smoke when mounted on a vehicle.
- DO NOT loiter on vehicles during refueling and rearming.

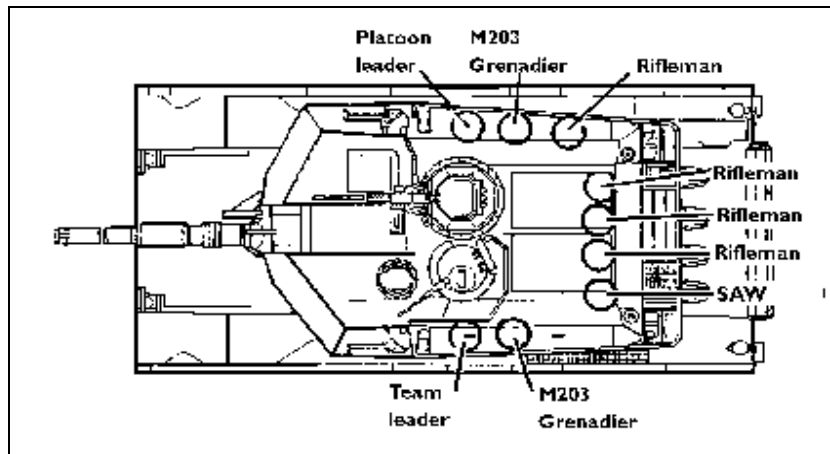


Figure B-5. Sample positions for infantry riding on a tank.