

Figure A-14. Selection of the Next Position

9. Crossing Open Areas. Open areas such as streets, alleys, and parks should be avoided. They are natural kill zones for enemy crew-served weapons. They can be crossed safely if certain fundamentals are applied by Marines and small-unit leaders.

- a.** When using the correct procedure for crossing an open area, the Marine develops a plan for his own movement. (Smoke from hand grenades or smoke pots should be used to conceal the movement of all Marines.) The Marine runs the shortest distance between buildings and moves along the far building to the next position. By doing so, he reduces the amount of time during which he is exposed to enemy fire.
- b.** Before moving to another position, the Marine should make a visual reconnaissance and select the position that offers the best cover and concealment. At the same time, he should select the route that he will take to get to that position.
- c.** When moving from position to position, each Marine should be careful not to mask his supporting fires. When he reaches his next position, he should be prepared to cover the movement of other members of his assault force or element.

10. Assault Element Employment. Moving as an assault element from building to building or between buildings presents a problem because an assault element presents a large target to enemy fire. When moving from the corner of one building to another, the assault element should move across the open area in groups of two, maintaining their integrity within their respective clearing or covering team (Figure A-15). The assault element leader (fire team leader) is responsible for

the secure movement of his unit. Smoke should be used to screen the assault element's movement. The covering team will move first to establish security on the far side. Their movement is protected by the fire of the clearing team. Once the covering team is in position, they provide cover as the clearing team moves across and prepares, then enters, the structure. Moving from the side of one building to the side of another presents a similar problem, and the technique of movement employed is the same (Figure A-16).

There may be situations in which it is best to move in larger groups. An example is that Marines crossing in pairs may key enemy snipers in to the movement, setting them up for good shots at the next pair to cross. Leaders should remain aware of the situation and threat and plan movements accordingly.

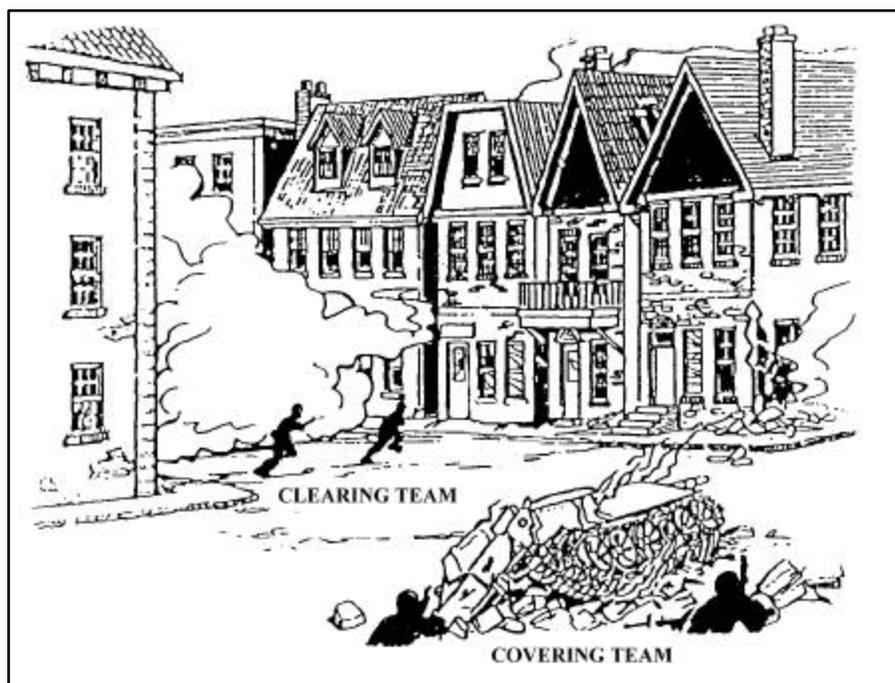


Figure A-15. Assault Element Movement

11. Movement Inside a Building. When moving within a building that is under attack (Figure A-17), Marines should avoid silhouetting themselves in doors and windows. If forced to use a hallway (Figure A-18), Marines should move by hugging the wall to avoid presenting targets to the enemy.

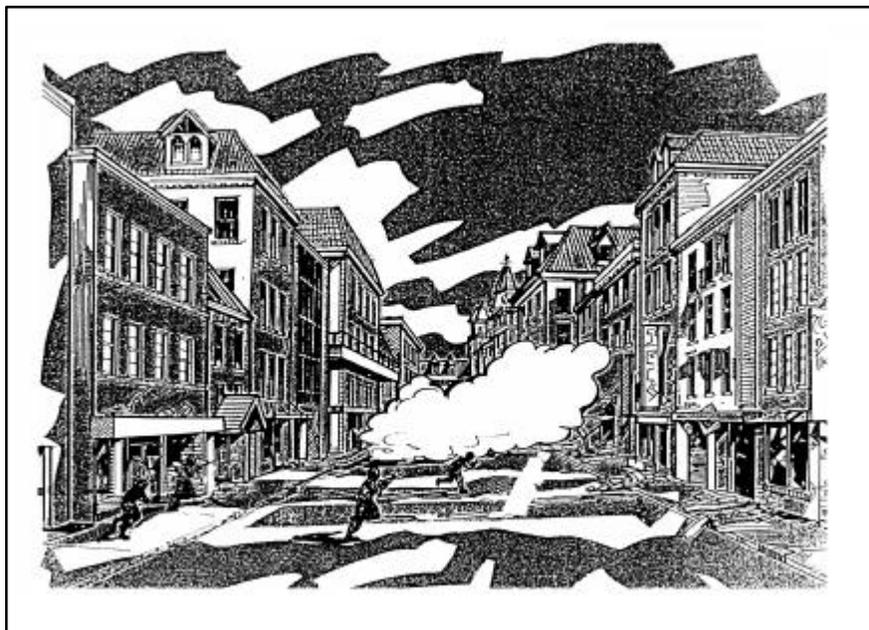


Figure A-16. Movement to an Adjacent Building

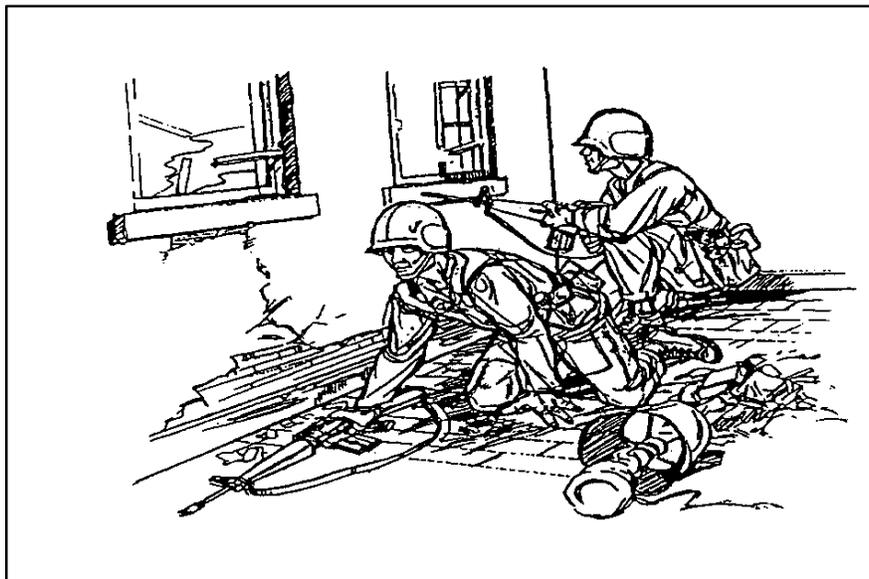


Figure A-17. Movement Within a Building Under Attack

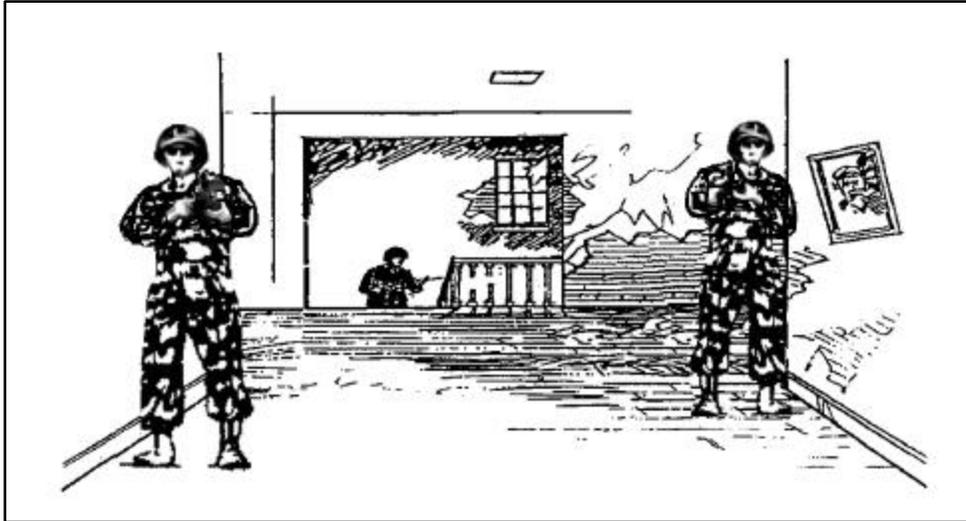


Figure A-18. Moving Down a Hallway