

## CHAPTER 4

### MARKSMANSHIP TRAINING

---

#### Section I. GENERAL

##### **62. Introduction.**

The primary use of the submachinegun is to engage the enemy at close range with accurate automatic fire. To obtain accurate fire from the submachinegun, the soldier must be trained. With proper training and a desire and willingness to learn, the soldier can deliver effective fire with this weapon.

##### **63. Fundamentals of Marksmanship.**

Accurate shooting is the result of knowing and being able to put into use the important elements of marksmanship: sighting and aiming, positions, and trigger manipulation.

##### **64. Phases of Training.**

a. Marksmanship training is divided into two phases:

- (1) Preparatory marksmanship training.
- (2) Range firing.

b. Each of the two phases may be divided into separate instructional steps. One very important thing to remember, during all phases of marksmanship training, is that the training must be progressive.

#### Section II. PREPARATORY MARKSMANSHIP TRAINING AND FAMILIARIZATION FIRING

##### **65. General.**

a. Before he receives instruction in marksmanship training, the soldier must have a good understanding of the functioning cycle. He must know how to disassemble and assemble the weapon. He must know the correct way of applying immediate action and all of the safety precautions.

*b.* A thorough course in preparatory marksmanship training must precede any range firing. This training is given to all soldiers expected to fire the submachinegun. The soldier should develop fixed and correct shooting habits before going on the range. The purpose of preparatory marksmanship training is to develop these shooting habits.

*c.* Preparatory marksmanship training is divided into three steps:

- (1) Sighting and aiming.
- (2) Position.
- (3) Trigger manipulation.

## **66. Coaching.**

*a.* Throughout all of the preparatory training, the coach-and-pupil method of training should be used. The duties of the coach are very important. How well a man learns to shoot depends to a great extent on how well his coach does his duties. When possible, the more experienced man should serve as the coach first. The coach will assist the pupil by:

- (1) Correcting any errors made.
- (2) Insuring that, he takes the proper positions.
- (3) Insuring that he observes all safety precautions.

*b.* During familiarization firing, the coach will also perform the duties listed in paragraph 72 *b.*

## **67. Sighting and Aiming, General.**

The first step of preparatory marksmanship is sighting and aiming. Sights on the submachinegun are not adjustable. The weapon is primarily intended for firing automatic fire at short ranges where quick shooting is required. Generally the sights are used for the initial alinement of the weapon on the target. During firing, the firer can observe the strike of the rounds and bring them onto the target. In a situation where the firer desires to fire single shots or short bursts and has enough time to obtain the correct sight alinement and sight picture, he should do so. Therefore he must understand the correct sight alinement and sight picture.

## **68. Important Points About Sighting and Aiming.**

*a.* The front sight must be accurately centered in the rear sight.

b. The bull's-eye is centered above and appears to barely touch the top of the front sight.

c. The last focus of the eye is on the *front sight*. The front sight will be seen clear and sharp, while the bull's-eye will appear to be a bit fuzzy.

d. If the rounds are striking below the target, aim higher on the target. If the rounds are striking above the target, aim lower.

## 69. Position.

The second and most important step of preparatory marksmanship is the position exercise. To hit a target and to continue to hold a burst on a target, the firer must have a good position. The submachinegun may be fired from the standing, sitting, kneeling, prone, or assault position (figs 30 ① and ②).

a. *Standing*. This is normal firing position. To assume this position, stand facing the target, then make a half right face. Move the left foot forward one step, pointing the left toe toward the target. Lean forward; bend the left knee slightly, keeping the right leg straight, with about two-thirds of the body weight on the left foot. Grasp the magazine guide with the left hand and the pistol grip with the right hand. Place the butt of the stock against the right shoulder, and twist the body (at the waist) to the left to bring the right shoulder forward. The left elbow should be under the weapon, and the right elbow should be shoulder high. Press the cheek against the stock. The recoil is slight for one shot, but in automatic fire, each time the gun recoils it will tend to push the shoulder backwards. Therefore, the gun will move off the target if the firer is not well braced and in the proper position.

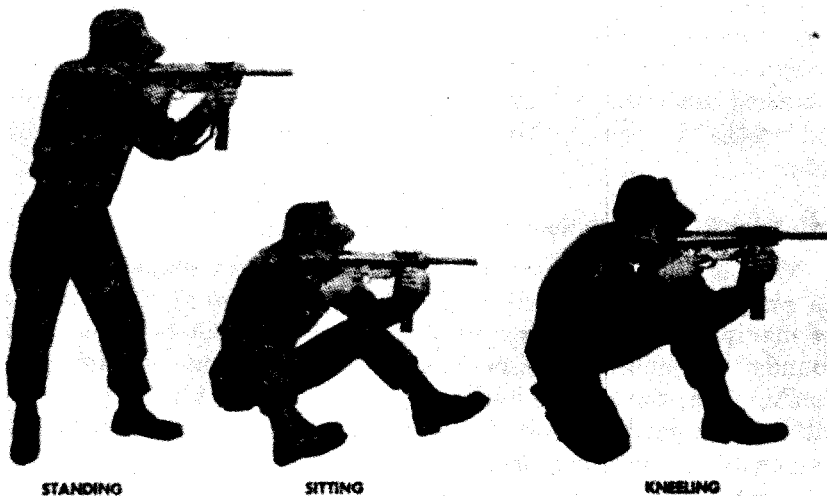
b. *Sitting*. This position is best used when firing from ground that slopes to the front. To assume this position, face the target, half face to the right, spread the feet a comfortable distance apart, and sit down. The feet should be farther apart than the knees. Bend the body forward from the hips, keeping the back straight. Push the right shoulder slightly forward (toward the target). Place the left upper arm on the flat part of the shinbone so that the tip of the elbow is crossed over the shinbone. There should be several inches of contact between the upper arm and the shinbone. The right elbow is blocked in front of the right knee,

c. *Kneeling*. The kneeling position affords a steadier aim than the standing position and is useful when the firer can crouch behind a rock, log, or other protection. This position is frequently

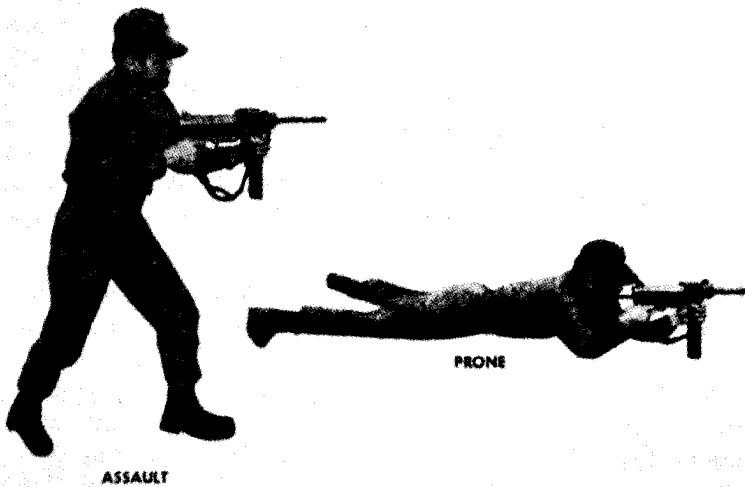
used on level ground or ground that slopes upward. To assume this position, face the target, half face to the right, and kneel on the right knee. Sit on the right heel, with the right thigh forming an angle of  $90^\circ$  with the line of aim. The entire surface of the lower right leg, from knee to toe, is in contact with the ground. The left foot should be placed about 18 inches to the front, with the toe pointing at the target. The left lower leg is vertical when viewed from the front. Move the weight of the body forward, and place the point of the left elbow a few inches forward of the knee. The right elbow is raised to the height of, or slightly below, the right shoulder.

*d. Prone.* This position is the steadiest and should be used whenever time and terrain permit. To assume this position, take a prone position, with the body inclined to the left of the line of aim at an angle of  $20^\circ$  or less. Spread the legs a comfortable distance apart, with the toes pointed outward. Keep the spine straight. Place the left elbow under the gun, with the left hand grasping the magazine guide. The right elbow is out from the body so that the shoulders are level. Place the butt of the stock the pocket formed by the shoulder, and press the cheek against the stock.

*e. Assault.* This position, usually called the hip position or chest position, is used for "close-in" fighting. When this position



*Figure 30①. Firing positions.*



*Figure 30. Firing positions.*

is used, there is less tendency of the muzzle to climb. The sights are not used to aim the weapon; the firer simply points the weapon toward the target and commences firing. The soldier must have a great deal of practice before he can do accurate shooting. To assume this position, press the stock against the side of the hip with the right arm, or place the stock under the armpit and press it against the body. The body should be in a crouched position, and the firer should walk on the balls of his feet so that he can quickly shift his body to fire at targets to his side.

### **70. Trigger Manipulation.**

a. This is the third step of preparatory marksmanship. With an automatic weapon, the soldier does not squeeze the trigger; he manipulates the trigger to obtain a single shot or a burst of rounds. To obtain correct trigger manipulation on the submachinegun, the soldier must be given adequate training. In addition, he must be familiar with his weapon, because the trigger pull on all submachineguns is not the same.

b. To fire single shots, the firer may press or tap the trigger to the rear until the bolt is released, then quickly release the trigger.

c. To obtain a burst of rounds, the firer holds the trigger to

the rear until the desired number of rounds have been fired, then quickly releases the trigger.

d. To practice trigger manipulation for single shot, the soldier cocks the weapon, presses or taps the trigger, and releases it before he hears the noise of the bolt striking the guide rod locating plate. If ammunition is available, firing the weapon and becoming familiar with it is the best means of learning trigger manipulation.

## 71. Familiarization Firing.

The following table prescribes the familiarization firing. Preliminary instruction is conducted prior to firing. Thirty rounds of ammunition are allowed per individual. The procedure for familiarization firing is given in paragraph 72.

### FAMILIARIZATION FIRING—E SILHOUETTE

Type of fire	Position	Range (Meters)	Time	Rounds
Single shot and automatic.	Standing and assault.	25	No limit . . . . .	*10
Single shot and automatic.	Standing, sitting, or kneeling.	50	No limit . . . . .	**10
Single shot and automatic.	Standing, sitting, or kneeling.	90	No limit . . . . .	**10

\*Four rounds from the standing position (single shot) and 6 rounds in a burst from the assault position.

\*\*Four rounds single shot and 6 rounds in bursts of 3 rounds.

## 72. Procedure for Familiarization Firing.

a. *General.* This course is designed to allow the men to become familiar with the weapon. It may be set up and fired in the following manner:

(1) A straight firing line with several firing points is used, with approximately 10 to 12 feet between firing points. Stands are provided on which to place the weapons during lulls in firing. Holders for E-type targets should be placed at ranges of 25, 50, and 90 meters from the firing line. There is one target for each firing point.

(2) The E targets are first placed in the holders at the 25-meter range.

(3) Each firer has 3 magazines of 10 rounds each. Each firer has a coach who also acts as his scorer.

(4) The firers take the standing position. On the command of the officer in charge, they cock, lock, and load their guns. At the command COMMENCE FIRING, each firer fires four

rounds, single shot, at his target. He then locks his weapon, takes the assault position, opens the cover, and fires a burst of six rounds at his target.

(5) The firers clear their weapons (checked by the coaches) and place them on the stands. On command, the firers and coaches move forward and mark and paste the targets. They then move the targets to the 50-meter range, placing them in the holders there.

(6) After moving back to the firing line, the firers take standing, sitting, or kneeling positions. On command, they cock, lock, and load their guns and commence firing. Each firer fires 4 rounds, single shot, and 2 bursts of 3 rounds each, at his target.

(7) The firers clear their weapons (checked by the coaches) and place them on the stands. On command, the firers and coaches move forward and mark and paste the targets. They then move the targets to the 90-meter range, placing them in the holders there.

(8) After moving back to the firing line, the firers take standing, sitting, or kneeling position. On command, they cock, lock, and load their guns and commence firing. Each firer fires 4 rounds, single shot, and 2 bursts of 3 rounds each, at his target.

(9) The firers clear their weapons (checked by the coaches) and place them on the stands. On command, the firers and coaches move forward and mark and paste the targets. They then bring the targets back to the 25-meter range and place them in the holders there in readiness for the next order of firers.

(10) In some cases, a pistol range maybe modified for firing this course by establishing the 25 and 90 meters.

(11 ) If a stoppage occurs, the firer will keep his weapon pointed down-range and notify his coach.

*b. Duties of coaches.* Coaches perform the duties listed in paragraph 66. In addition, they mark and paste the targets

*c. Marking and pasting targets.*

(1) *Procedure.* When the officer in charge has determined that the weapons are clear, he commands: MARK AND PASTE TARGETS. Firers and coaches mark and paste targets as indicated by the officer in charge.

(2) *Familiarization scores.* There are no scores for this course.

### **Section III. RANGE FIRING AND TARGETS, RANGES AND RANGE SAFETY PRECAUTIONS**

#### **73. Responsibility.**

Unit commanders are responsible for the conduct of range prac-

tice in accordance with the provisions of this manual and applicable Army Regulations. All range firing will be conducted under the direct supervision of a commissioned officer. No person will be permitted to fire the submachinegun on the range until he has completed the preliminary instruction.

#### **74. Target.**

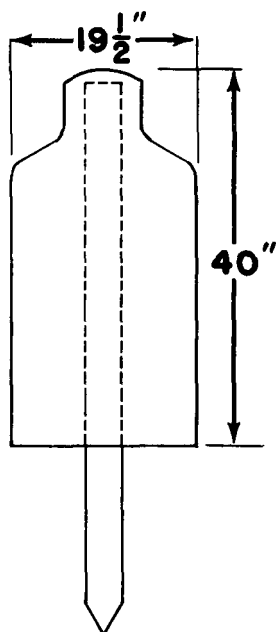
The target used for familiarization firing is the E silhouette (fig 31).

#### **75. Ranges.**

The familiarization course range may be set up on a pistol range (if space permits), a rifle range, or any flat terrain.

#### **76. Range Safety Precautions.**

During firing, all personnel, including marking and scoring details, must be in a safe position. The necessary range guards must be posted and danger flags prominently displayed before firing begins. Men on the firing line must observe all safety precautions.



*Figure 31. E silhouette target.*