

UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS
FIELD MEDICAL TRAINING BATTALION-EAST
PSC BOX 20042
CAMP LEJEUNE, NORTH CAROLINA 28542-0042

STUDENT READ-AHEAD MATERIAL

Execute Bayonet Techniques

MCCS-TAN-1004

MARINE CORPS EXPEDITIONARY AND COMBAT SKILLS TRAINING

M03L753

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1. **SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS**. To prevent injury during training, ensure you follow these safety procedures:

(a) Begin by executing the bayonet techniques in the air. If training with bayonets, ensure bayonets are sheathed. Ensure contact is not made with an opponent when doing the target acquisition phase of "air drills".

(b) As you become more proficient, you will be allowed to execute techniques on bayonet dummies or other targets.

(c) Prior to training with a rifle, conduct an "Unload, Show Clear" of the rifle to show students the weapon is not loaded.

(d) Enforce the following five basic safety rules when handling a weapon.

(1) Treat every weapon as if it were loaded.

(2) Never point your weapon at anything you do not intend to shoot.

(3) Keep your finger straight and off the trigger until you intend to fire.

(4) Keep your weapon on safe until you are ready to fire.

(5) Know your target and what lies beyond.

2. **PURPOSE**. The purpose of bayonet techniques is to disable or kill an aggressor.

3. **PRINCIPLES**. When executing bayonet techniques, the rifle is held in a modified basic warrior stance. All movement begins and ends with the basic warrior stance.

a. Mindset.

(1) When engaging in combat, mindset, more often than not, will be the determining factor of success or failure, regardless of technical proficiency. Anyone can train in a martial skill, but few have the mind and will to use their skills to kill or injure. Mindset is often the "mental trigger" in the defining moment that forces you to commit to an opponent with the goal of injury or death.

DEMONSTRATE/IMITATE

b. Holding the Rifle.

(1) Grab the pistol grip with your right hand. Keep your trigger finger off the trigger and included it in the grip

(2) While it is possible to execute these bayonet techniques while gripping the butt stock of the weapon, the stress is on being able to execute them from the pistol grip. These are lethal, offensive techniques that can be used in conjunction with assault fire movement. The small of the butt stock grip is used in non-lethal situations.

(3) With the left hand, grab the hand guards of the rifle under-handed.

(4) Lock the butt stock of the rifle against the hip with the right forearm.

(5) Keep movements of the bayonet blade within in a box, shoulder width across from your neck down to your waistline. The aggressor has a greater chance of blocking your attack if you bring the blade in a wide sweeping movement. Your attacks should close with the aggressor, going straight to your target. Always keep the bayonet end of the rifle oriented toward the aggressor.

4. FUNDAMENTALS.

a. OFFENSIVE BAYONET TECHNIQUES.

(1) Straight Thrust.

(a) Purpose. The straight thrust is performed to disable or kill an opponent. The thrust is the most deadly offensive technique because it will cause the most trauma to an opponent and is the primary offensive bayonet technique.

(b) Target Areas of the Body. Target areas are the opponent's throat, groin, or face. The opponent's chest and stomach are also excellent target areas if they are not protected by body armor or combat equipment.

(c) Technique. To train the straight thrust, have the student:

(1) From the modified basic warrior stance, step forward with your lead leg, driving off the ball of your rear foot.

(2) At the same time, thrust the blade end of the weapon directly toward the aggressor by thrusting both hands forward.

(3) Retract the weapon and return to the basic warrior stance by stepping forward with the rear foot.

(2) Vertical Butt Stroke.

(a) Purpose. The butt stroke is used to weaken opponent's defenses, to cause serious injury, or to create space to set him up for a killing blow. It is best executed after a thrust but should always be followed by a slash, thrust, or smash.

(b) Target Areas. For lethal applications, the head, neck, and unprotected torso are the target areas of the body, and in a non-lethal situation, the arms, shoulders, and meaty portion of the legs.

(c) Striking Surface. The strike is executed with the toe of the butt stock of the rifle.

(d) Technique.

(1) From the modified basic warrior stance step forward with your right foot and drive your right elbow forward, straight up while moving your left hand back toward your left ear.

(2) Rotate the hips and shoulders, rising slightly, driving with your legs to generate power.

(3) Return to the modified basic warrior stance by stepping forward with your left foot and bringing your weapon down executing a slash, or also followed by a smash.

(3) Horizontal Butt Stroke.

(a) Purpose. The butt stroke is used to weaken an aggressor's defenses, to cause serious injury, or to set him up for a killing blow. It is best executed after a thrust but should always be followed by a slash and a thrust.

(b) Target Areas. For lethal applications, the head, neck, and unprotected torso are the target areas of the body, and in a non-lethal situation, the arms, shoulders, and meaty portion of the legs.

(c) Striking Surface. The strike is executed with the toe of the butt stock of the rifle.

(d) Technique.

(1) From the modified basic warrior stance step forward with your right foot and drive your right elbow forward, parallel to the deck while moving your left hand back toward your left shoulder.

(2) Rotate the hips and shoulders into the strike to generate power.

(3) Return to the modified basic warrior stance by stepping forward with your left foot and bringing your weapon back executing a slash.

(4) Smash.

(a) Purpose. The smash is used as a follow-on technique to the vertical or horizontal butt stroke, primarily when the target was missed on a butt stroke or to gain proper striking distance for close-in engagements.

(b) Target Areas. The head, neck, torso, and arms are the target areas of the body.

(c) Striking Surface. The strike is executed with the butt of the stock of the rifle.

(d) Technique.

(1) Start from step one of the vertical butt stroke. Your right foot should be forward with the blade end of the weapon over your left shoulder, weapon roughly parallel to the ground.

(2) Step forward with your right foot, driving off of your left to generate power. Strike the aggressor with the butt stock of the weapon by thrusting the weapon toward your opponent.

(3) As you retract the weapon back to the starting position, take a small step forward with the left leg. Don't jump or hop.

(4) Return to the modified basic warrior stance by stepping forward with your left foot and executing a slash (see next technique).

(5) Slash.

(a) Purpose. The slash is used to cut through the aggressor's defenses or to kill him. It is best to follow up the slash with a thrust to maximize the damage and trauma to the aggressor.

(b) Target Areas. The head, neck, torso, and arms are the target areas of the body.

(c) Striking Surface. The slash is executed with the primary cutting edge of the blade.

(d) Technique.

(1) From the modified basic warrior stance retract the left hand slightly toward the left shoulder.

(2) Bring the left hand down and to the right (diagonally) cutting through the target with the blade. To generate more power take a small step with your left foot when you slash, rapidly bringing your right foot back up to the modified basic warrior stance.

4. **FUNDAMENTALS.**

a. DEFENSIVE BAYONET TECHNIQUES

(1) Static Disrupt.

(a) Purpose. A static disrupt is used as a defensive technique to redirect or deflect an attack in preparation for executing a thrust or other appropriate offensive bayonet techniques. It is used against a linear attack such as a straight thrust or a smash. A disrupt is a slight redirection of an aggressors linear attack

(b) Technique.

(1) With the weapon locked against the hip with the right forearm, rotate the body to the right or left, moving the bayonet end of the rifle to disrupt the opponent's attack.

(2) Contact is made with the bayonet end of the rifle against the barrel or bayonet of the opponent's weapon.

(3) Redirect or guide the opponent's weapon away from your body by exerting pressure against the opponent's weapon with your weapon. The static disrupt should be executed with an economy of motion. You only need to redirect the opponent's weapon a couple of inches to have the weapon miss your body.

EXPLAIN:

To be effective in combat, you must be proficient in both offensive and defensive rifle bayonet techniques. You must know how and when to use each technique to create an opening in the opponent's defense so you can execute an offensive technique, which finishes the fight. Equally important is quality leadership found throughout the entire chain of command in the Marine Corps. Let us now discuss the fundamentals of Marine Corps leadership.