



MCWP 3-35.3, Military Operations on Urbanized Terrain (MOUT) (excerpt)

Section VI

Firing Positions

Whether a unit is attacking, defending, or conducting retrograde operations, its success or failure depends on the ability of the individual Marine to place accurate fire on the enemy while providing the least exposure to return fire. Consequently, Marines should immediately seek and properly use firing positions.

26. Hasty Firing Position. A hasty firing position is one that is normally occupied in the attack or the early stages of the defense. It is a position from which a Marine can place fire on the enemy while using available cover for protection from return fire. The Marine may occupy this position voluntarily, or he may be forced to occupy it because of enemy fire. In either case, the position lacks preparation before occupation. **Some of the more common hasty firing positions in a built-up area involve firing around corners of buildings,** firing from behind walls, firing from windows, firing from unprepared loopholes, and firing from the peak of a roof.

a. Corners of Buildings. The corner of a building provides cover for a hasty firing position if used properly.

(1) **The shooter should be capable of both right-handed and left-handed firing of his weapon (using the “short stocking” technique) to be effective around corners.** Short stocking the weapon will prevent the muzzle from protruding and keep the weapon ready to fire the instant visual contact with the enemy is made. Furthermore, it reduces the Marine’s exposure as a target. (Figure A-51)

(2) A common mistake made when firing around corners is firing from the standing position. The shooter exposes himself at the height the enemy would expect a target to appear and risks exposing the entire length of his body as a target for the enemy.

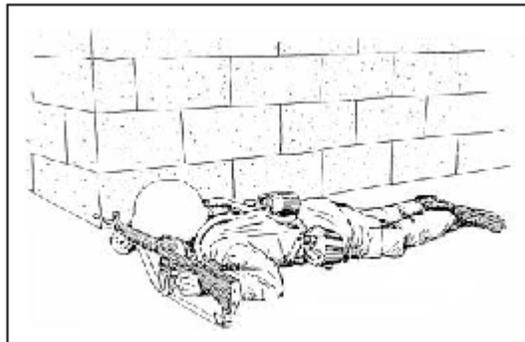


Figure A-51. Firing, Using Either Hand, Around the Corner of a Building