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FIRE
&
MOVE CAPSULE

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LESSON PLAN

FC&BC 4

(Part 1)

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The primary aim of infantry is to close in with the enemy & destroy him. The aim of getting close is achieved by making skilful use of ground. A clever enemy will however, deny you the use of such ground which you may need. When such a cover is denied by the enemy, we may have to movement in open. Once we are forced to movement in open, a part of our force will have to fire on en position & force him to keep his head down.

This would render the element incapable of bringing down aimed fire at us while we are on the movement. This process of keeping one element on the ground to give covering fire, while the other element is on movement, is called fire & movement. This is the basic tactics of all infantry and mechanised ops. To understand the fire and move as capsule cadets has to understand basics nuances.

Field Signals

Whenever someone wants to convey his message one has to raise his voice. In olden days smoke, sound of drum was the mode to convey messages from one village to another. In Army, different methods are used to convey messages. Today, you will learn one of these methods called Field Signals.

SIGNALS WITH HAND

Name of the Signal: Deploy

Signals with Hand: Right arm fully extended above head and waved from side to side, palm open.

Illustration:



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Name of the Signal: Advance

Signals with Hand: Right arm swung from rear to front in
“Under arm blowing” fashion.

Illustration:

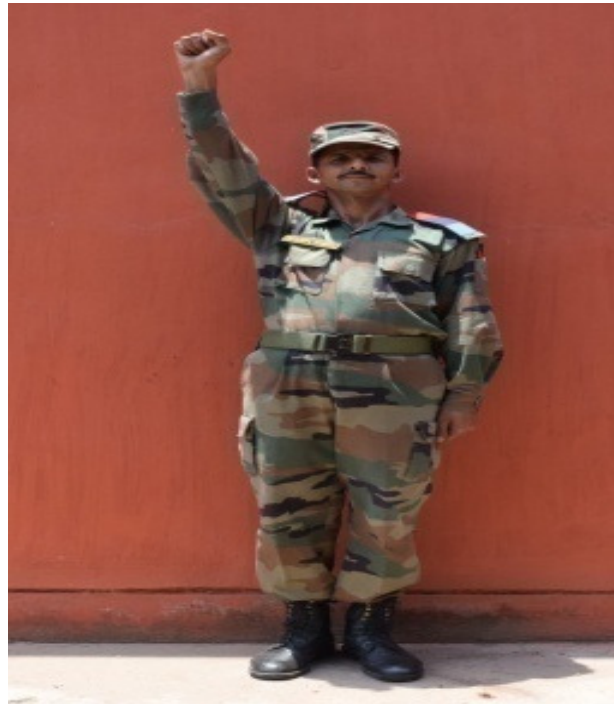


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Name of the Signal: Halt

Signals with Hand: Right arm raised to full extent above head.

Illustration:



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Name of the Signal: Turn About

Signals with Hand: Right arm raised and bent above head.

Illustration:



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Name of the Signal: Change Direction

Signals with Hand: Right arm raised to front in line with shoulder. Body then turned in required direction.



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Name of the Signal: Close

Signals with Hand: Right hand place on top of head,
elbow to the right.

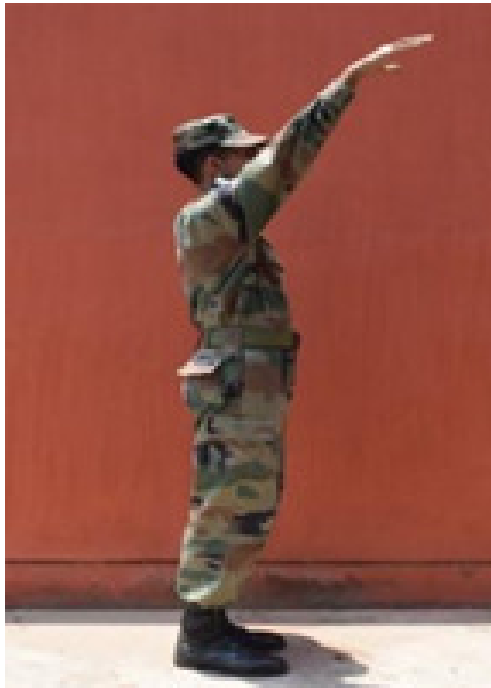
Illustration:



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Name of the Signal: Follow me

Signals with Hand: Right arm swung from rear to front above the shoulder in “over arm bowling” fashion.



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Name of the Signal: Enemy Approaching

Signals with Hand: Both hands open, palm inwards at waist level, with inwards scooping motion.

Illustration:



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Name of the Signal: Enemy LMG firing

Signals with Hand: Right hand thumb down signal.

Illustration:



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Name of the Signal: Attack

Signals with Hand: Punching motion with Right or Left hand according to direction of attack.

Illustration:



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Name of the Signal: Closed to Rendezvous

Signals with Hand: Closed sign followed by both hands clasped in front of body at waist level.

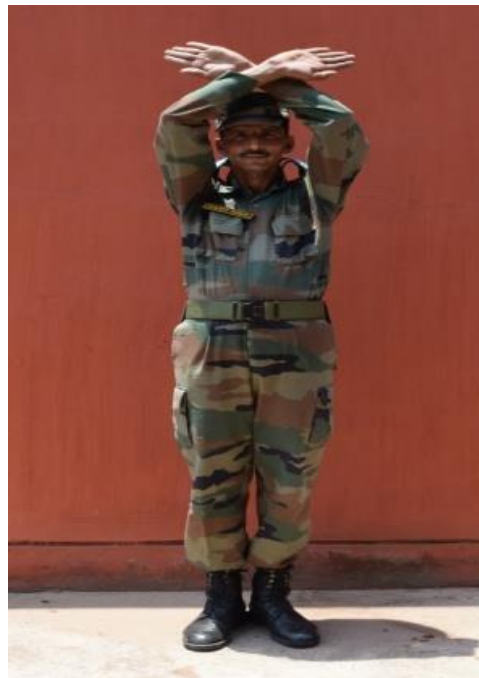
Illustration:



Name of the Signal: Infantry obstacle ahead

Signals with Hand: Both hands crossed in front of body at waist, palm open downwards.

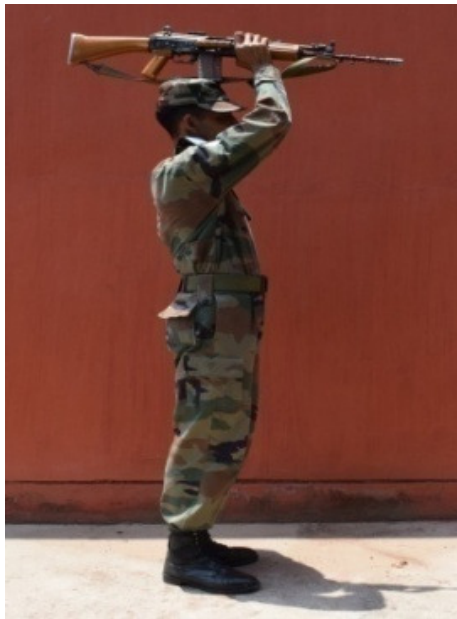
Illustration:



SIGNALS WITH WEAPONS

Name of the Signal: Enemy in Sight

Signals with Hand: Rifle held above the head parallel to the small number muzzle in the direction of the enemy.

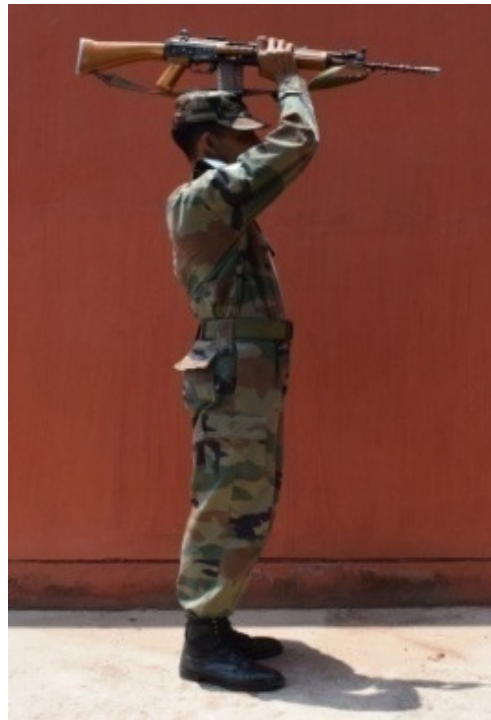


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Name of the Signal: Enemy in Sight in large number

Signals with Hand: As per (the above signal), but arm moved up and several times.

Illustration:



Name of the Signal: Advance

Signals with Hand: Both arms raised to form the letter U

Illustration:



SIGNALS WITH WHISTLE

Name of the Signal: Cautionary Blast

Signals with Hand: A short blast to draw attention to a signal or order about to be given.

Name of the Signal: The Alarm Blast

Signals with Hand: A succession of alternate long and short whistle blasts.

SIGNALS WITH WHISTLE

Name of the Signal: Enemy Aircraft

Signals with Hand: A succession of short blast

Name of the Signal: Enemy Aircraft departed

Signals with Hand: Two long blasts repeated at interval
of five seconds.

Field Signals as means of Giving Orders

Field signals are alternate means of giving orders and to control troops when voice control is not possible. Control over troops deployed can be done better by field signals than by voice control. There are various occasions when voice control is not possible. They are:

- (a) Battle noises.
- (b) Need for silence.
- (c) Intervening distances are too large.

Battle Noises

In war, due to firing and vehicle movement very high noise will be produced, so it may not be possible for a Commander to give voice message.

Need for Silence

There are certain operations which, by design are carried out in utmost silence, example:

- (a) Ambush (b) Patrolling
- (c) Raid (d) Cordon

Intervening Distances are Too Large

When Infantry takes the battle field they come across many obstacles in ground such as the ditch, rivers, mountains. Under such circumstances we will have the only choice left with us is field signals for communication.

Methods to Attract Attention of Troops

Before any field signal is executed, the commander has to attract the attention of troops. Methods to attract attention of troops are

- (a) A Short Blast of Whistle
- (b) A Bird Call
- (c) Whistle by Mouth
- (d) Clicks(By using tongue)
- (e) Clicks by Fingers

Other methods of Communication

Besides field signals there are various other means of communication in the Army which are as follows

(a) Dispatch Runner



(b) Dispatch Rider



(c) Radio Sets



Field Signals by Day

Some of the visual signals used during the day are flags and mercury coated mirrors. Flags are very effectively used by Navy on board a ship.

- (a) Flags: (Red, Green and White flags)
- (b) Mercury coated mirrors
- (c) Smoke
- (d) Miscellaneous: Various signals can be improvised and pre-arranged as under:

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- (i) Clothes superficially hung out to dry.
- (ii) Hurricane lamp, kept in the window.
- (iii) Flashing of torch is used as Morse Code.
- (iv) Applying various colours / signs on forehead and arms



Field Signals by Night

Some of the field signals that can be used at night are:

- (a) Pre decided signals on a walkie talkie.
- (b) Click by fingers.
- (c) Clicks by using tongue.
- (d) Whistle by the mouth.
- (e) Use of rope.
- (f) Use of colour light.
- (g) Use of blacked out torch.
- (h) Firing of weapon.

The fighting efficiency of a unit/sub unit depends on sound communication system which helps commanders at all levels to exercise command and control effectively. Every commander must influence the battle by his personal touch which is achieved by good signal communications.

Field signals become a part of movement of a good section/platoon commander. At section/platoon level, the commander directly influences the battle by the use of field signals. Victory in battle will come to that section/platoon whose men are familiar in the use of field signals.

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THANK YOU



JAI HIND

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