



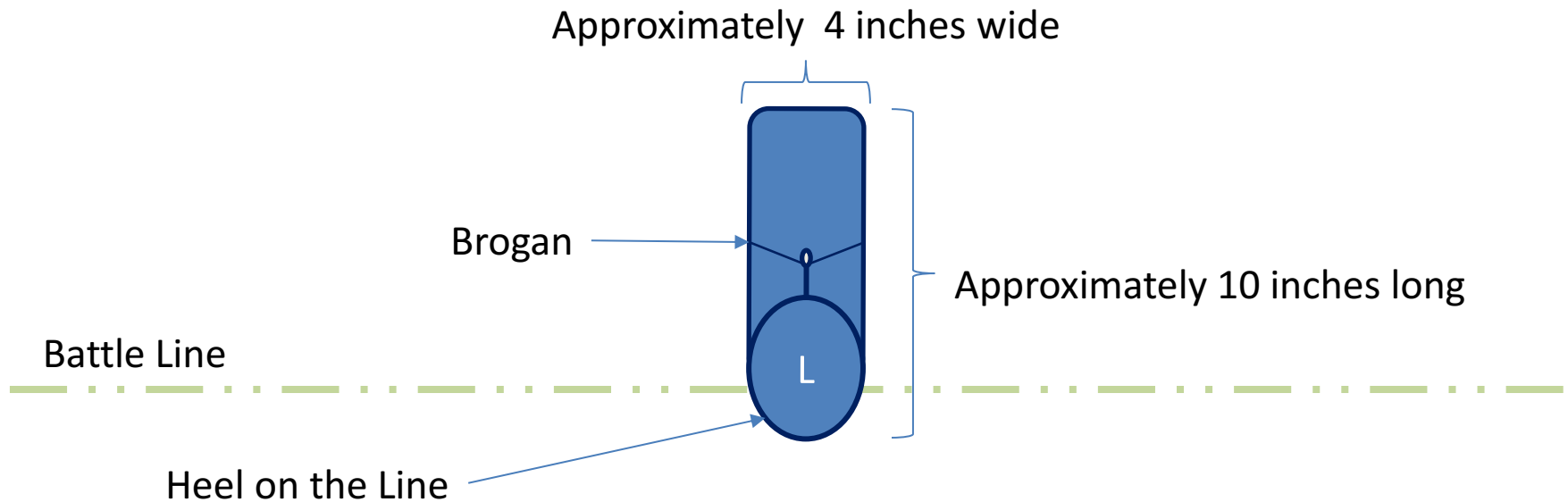
A SEMINAR ON CASEY'S SCHOOLS OF INSTRUCTION

SCHOOLS OF THE SOLDIER AND COMPANY

FACINGS & FLANKING – PART ONE DOUBLING

STEVE GIOVANNINI
16 DECEMBER 2025

Cartoon Brogans = Notional Diagrams Scale



Scale of diagrams are based on a Brogan size 9.5

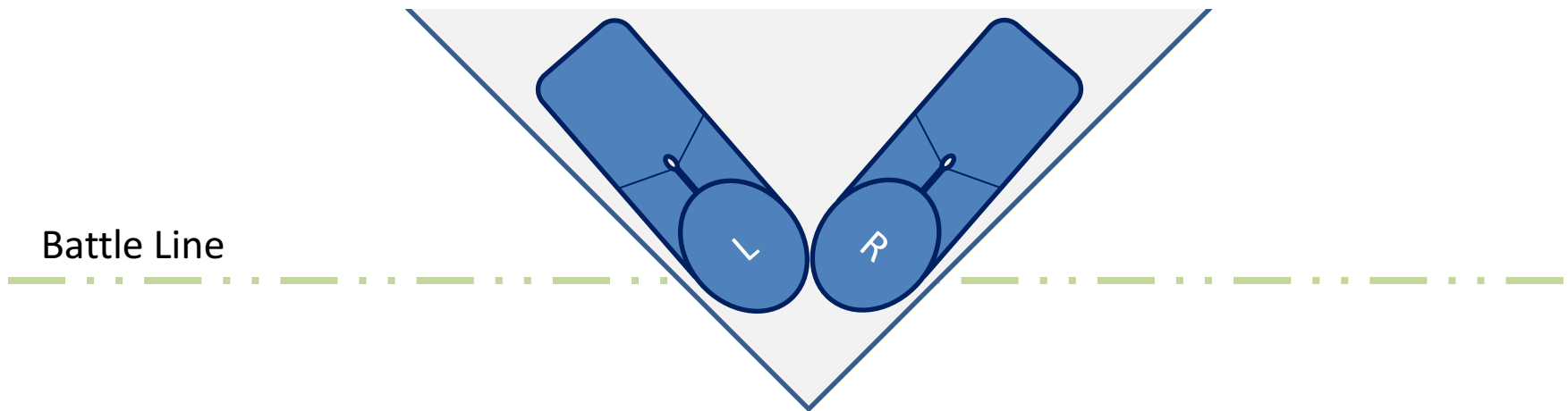
This is not an exact scale representation.

Diagrams are a rough approximation.

They are intended to illustrate the concepts.

Recall the 'Position of a Soldier'

Such a minor detail ... but so important!

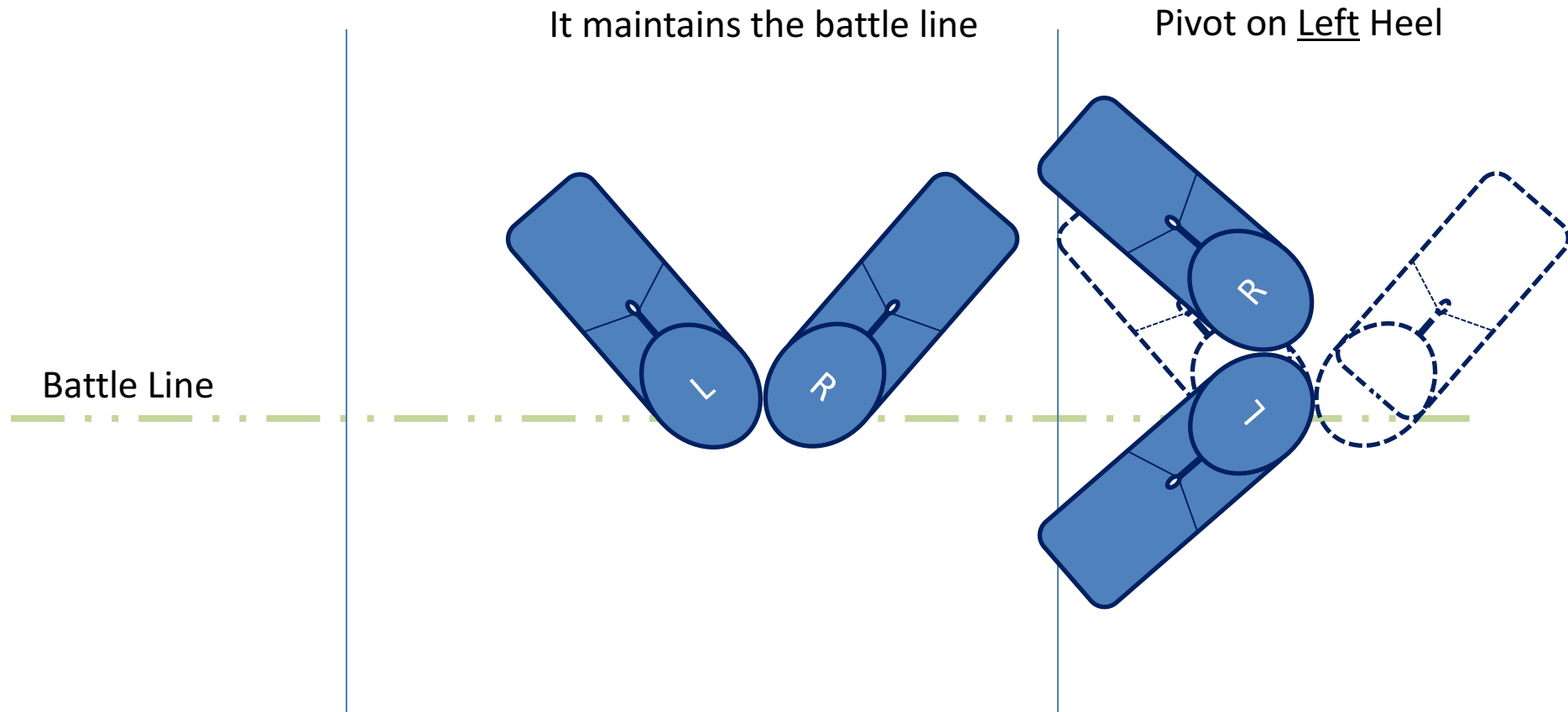


S.S. 85: Heels on the same line, as near each other as the conformation of the man will permit;
The feet turned out equally, and forming with each other something less than a right angle;
The knees straight without stiffness;
The body erect on the hips, inclining a little forward;
The shoulders square and falling equally;
The arms hanging naturally;
The elbows near the body;
The palm of the hand turned a little to the front, the little finger behind the seam of the pantaloons;
The head erect and square to the front, without constraint;
The chin near the stock, without covering it;
The eyes fixed straight to the front, and striking the ground about the distance of fifteen paces.

Facings

- **ALL** Facings (left, right, about) are performed by pivoting on the **left** heel.
 - 1. *Squad*. 2. Right (or left)-FACE.
 - 96. At the second command, raise the right foot slightly, turn on the left heel, raising the toes a little, and then replace the right heel by the side of the left, and on the same line.
 - 1. *Squad*. 2. ABOUT-FACE.
 - 98. (First time.) At the word about, the recruit will turn on the left heel, bring the left toe to the front, carry the right foot to the rear, the hollow opposite to, and full three inches from, the left heel, the feet square to each other.
 - 99. (Second time.) At the word face, the recruit will turn on both heels, raise the toes a little, extend the hams, face to the rear, bringing, at the same time, the right heel by the side of the left.
- This is extremely important for maintaining alignment: both when preparing to march by the flank and reestablishing the battle front.

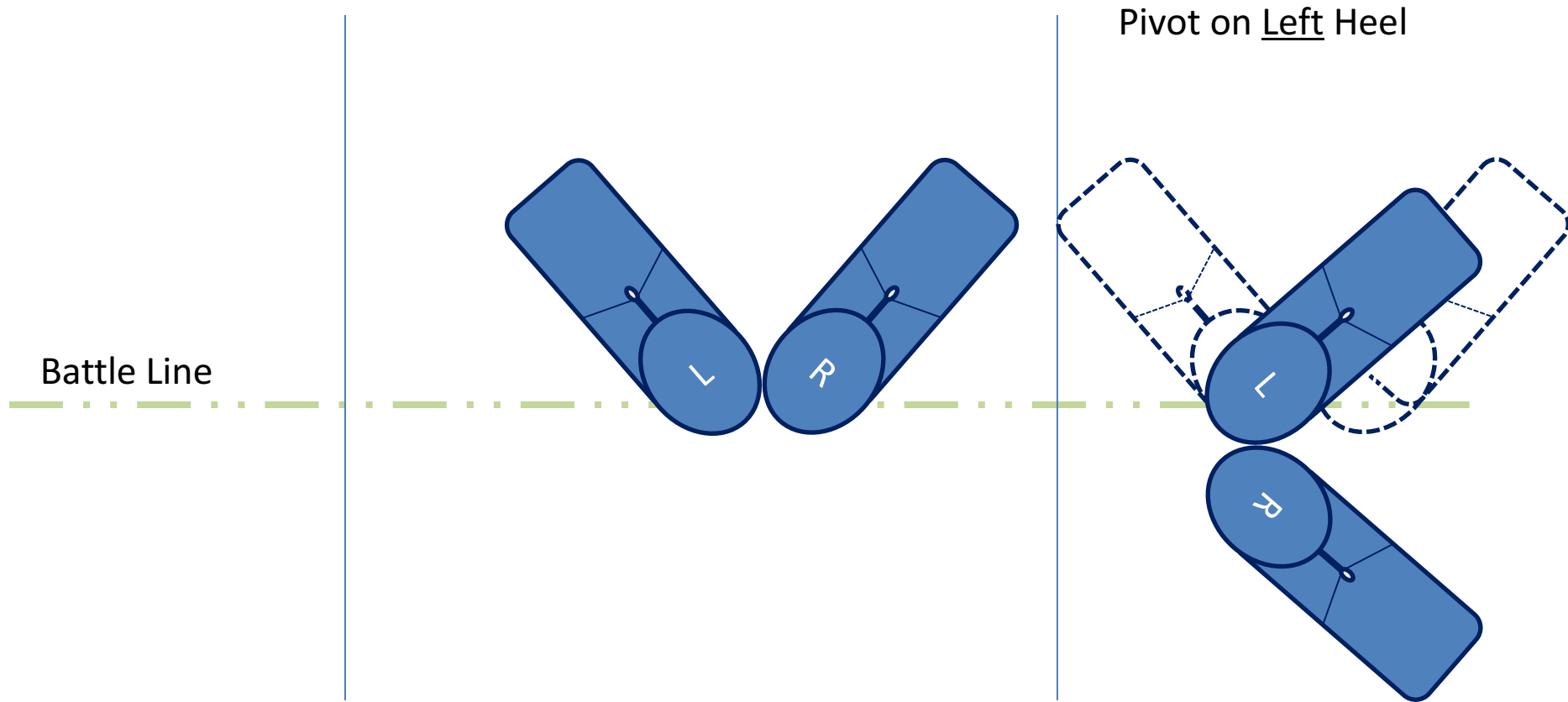
Facings – Left Face (pivot on left heel)



1. *Squad.* 2. Right (or left)—FACE.

96. At the second command, raise the right foot slightly, turn on the left heel, raising the toes a little, and then replace the right heel by the side of the left, and on the same line.

Facings – Right Face (pivot on left heel)



1. *Squad.* 2. *Right (or left)—FACE.*

96. At the second command, raise the right foot slightly, turn on the left heel, raising the toes a little, and then replace the right heel by the side of the left, and on the same line.

Repeat:

ALL facings Always Pivot on the Left Heel!

- Feels natural for a left face
- Feels awkward for a right face!
 - Although more natural feel to pivot on right heel – DON'T pivot on right heel!
 - Doing so deranges the line!
 - Modern military facing (pivot on heel of the facing) – DON'T pivot on right heel!
- Practice
 - Don't try to 'hop-twist' to the right
 - Turn the hips first, makes it easier to pivot on left heel

Always Pivot on the Left Heel!

You have got to make it work.

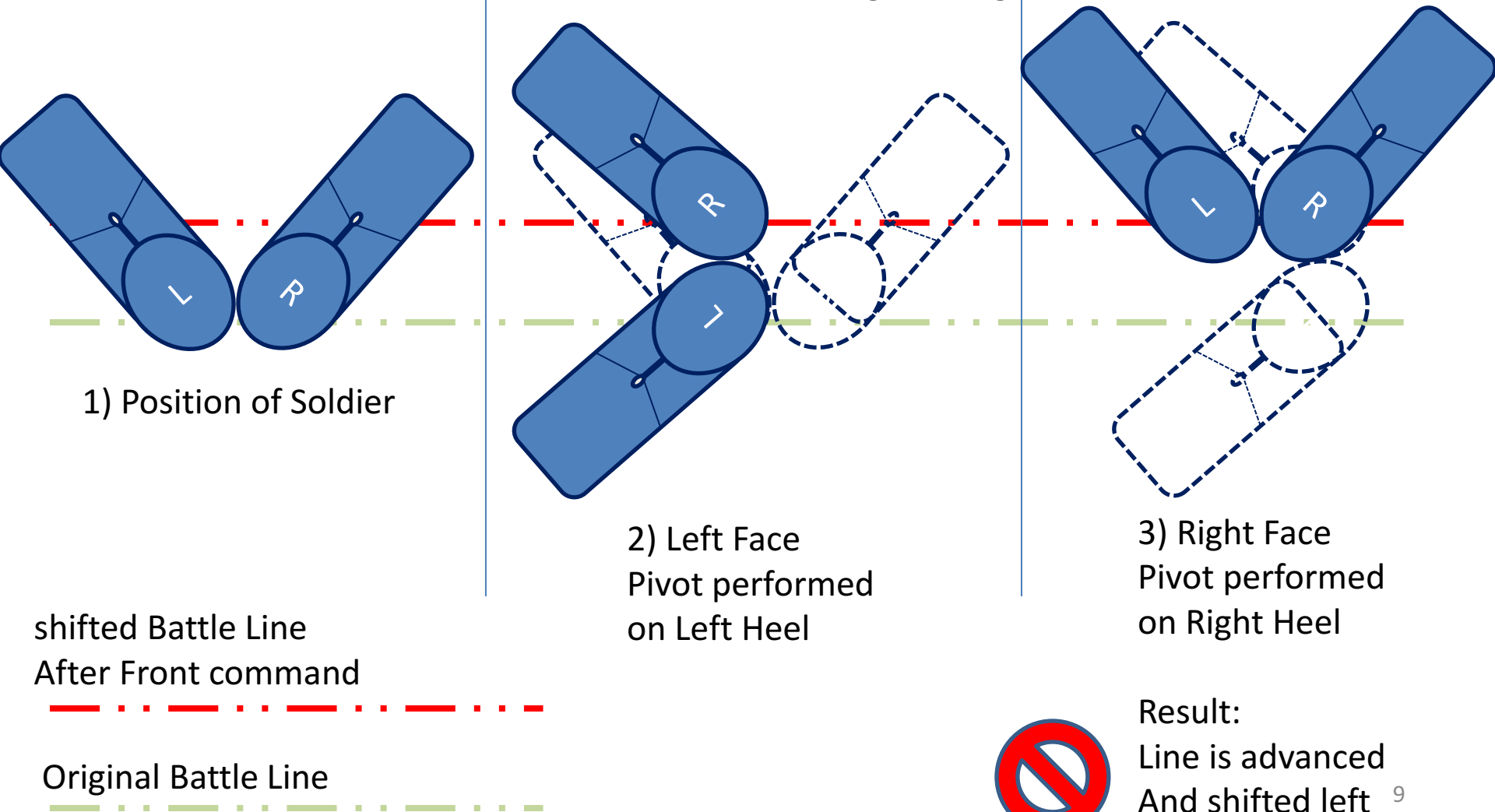
- Pivoting on different heels causes the battle line to shift (to the side and front)
 - Results in a shift of a couple inches
 - imagine 'walking' a skateboard where the pivot is on the wheels, an exaggeration but good visual
 - However, becomes apparent on repeated motions
 - Left face – front, left face – front, etc...
 - Right face – front, right face – front, etc...
 - Ready – Shoulder Arms – Ready – Shoulder Arms – Ready – Shoulder Arms- etc...
 - Load – Ready/Aim/Fire – Load – Ready/Aim/Fire – Load – Ready/Aim/Fire - etc...
 - Deranges alignment when facing by the flank
 - If all soldiers do not execute the facing by pivoting on same heel
 - Deranges alignment when firing in the field
 - Safety issue !!!!!!!
- Imagine the left heel nailed in place
 - Anchor the left heel

Do Not Pivot on Different Heels

It eventually deranges the battle line.

Left Face – Front

Face to left on left heel – Face to the right on right heel

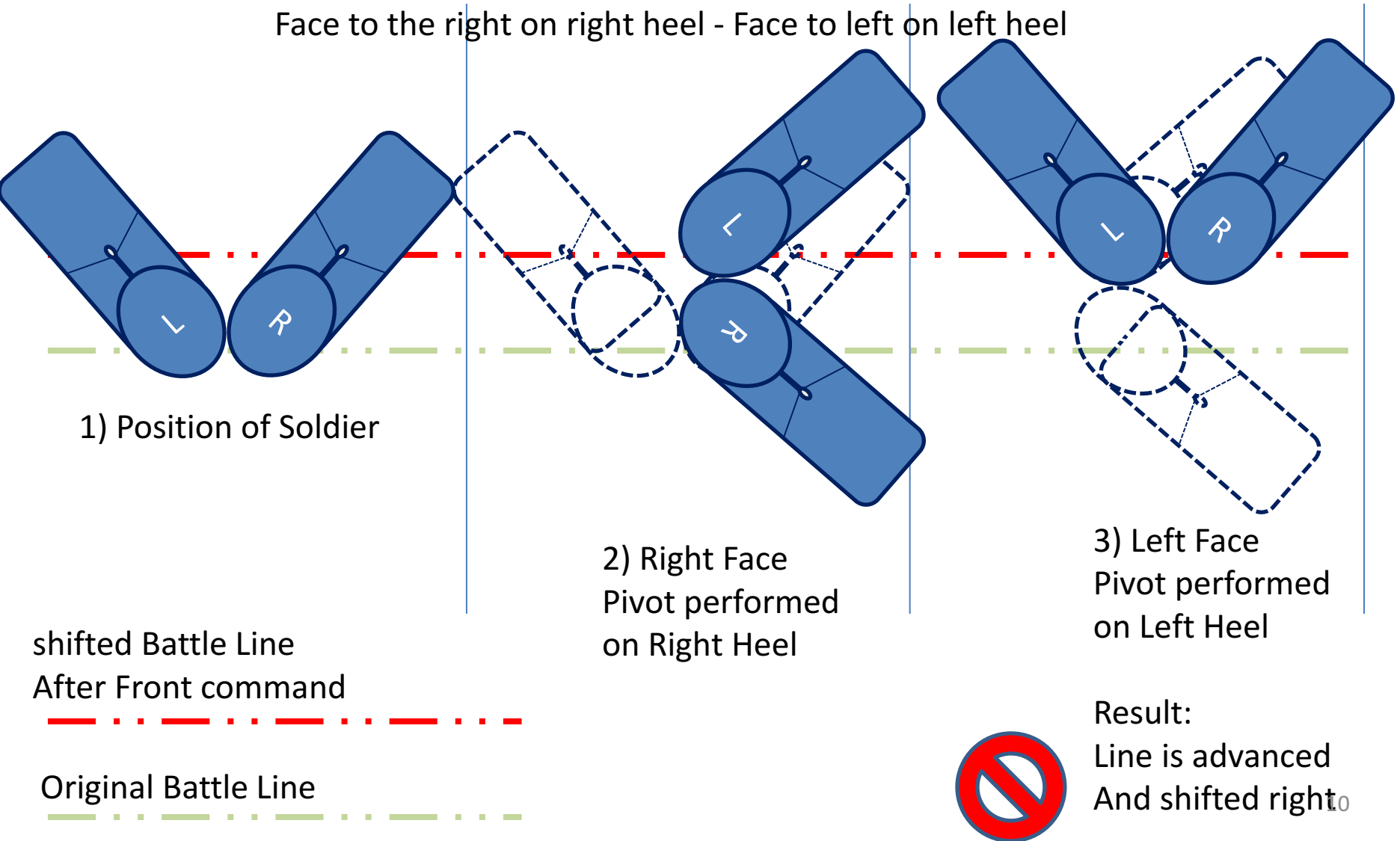


Do Not Pivot on Different Heels

It eventually deranges the battle line.

Right Face – Front

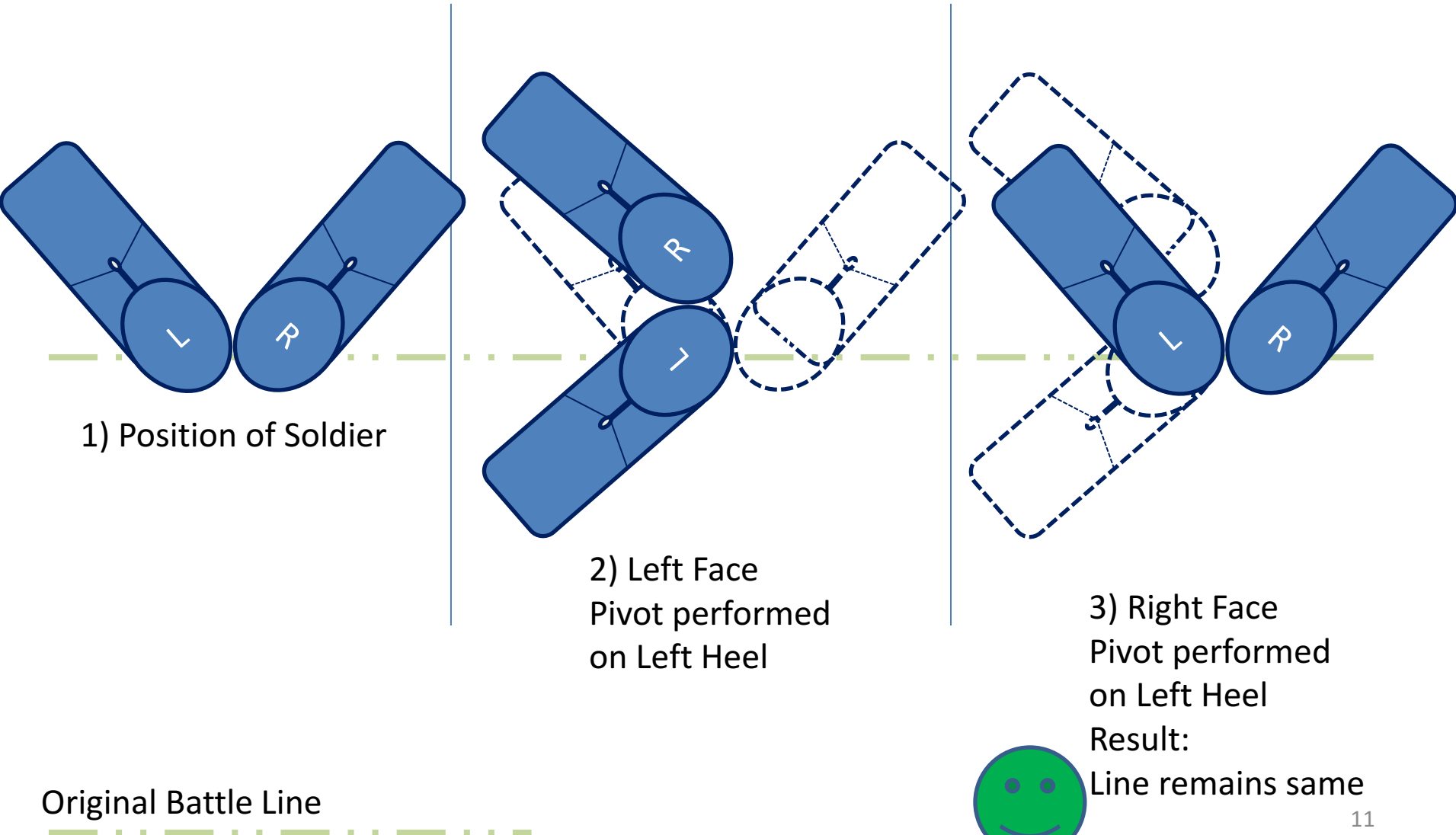
Face to the right on right heel - Face to left on left heel



Always Pivot on Left Heel

It maintains the battle line.

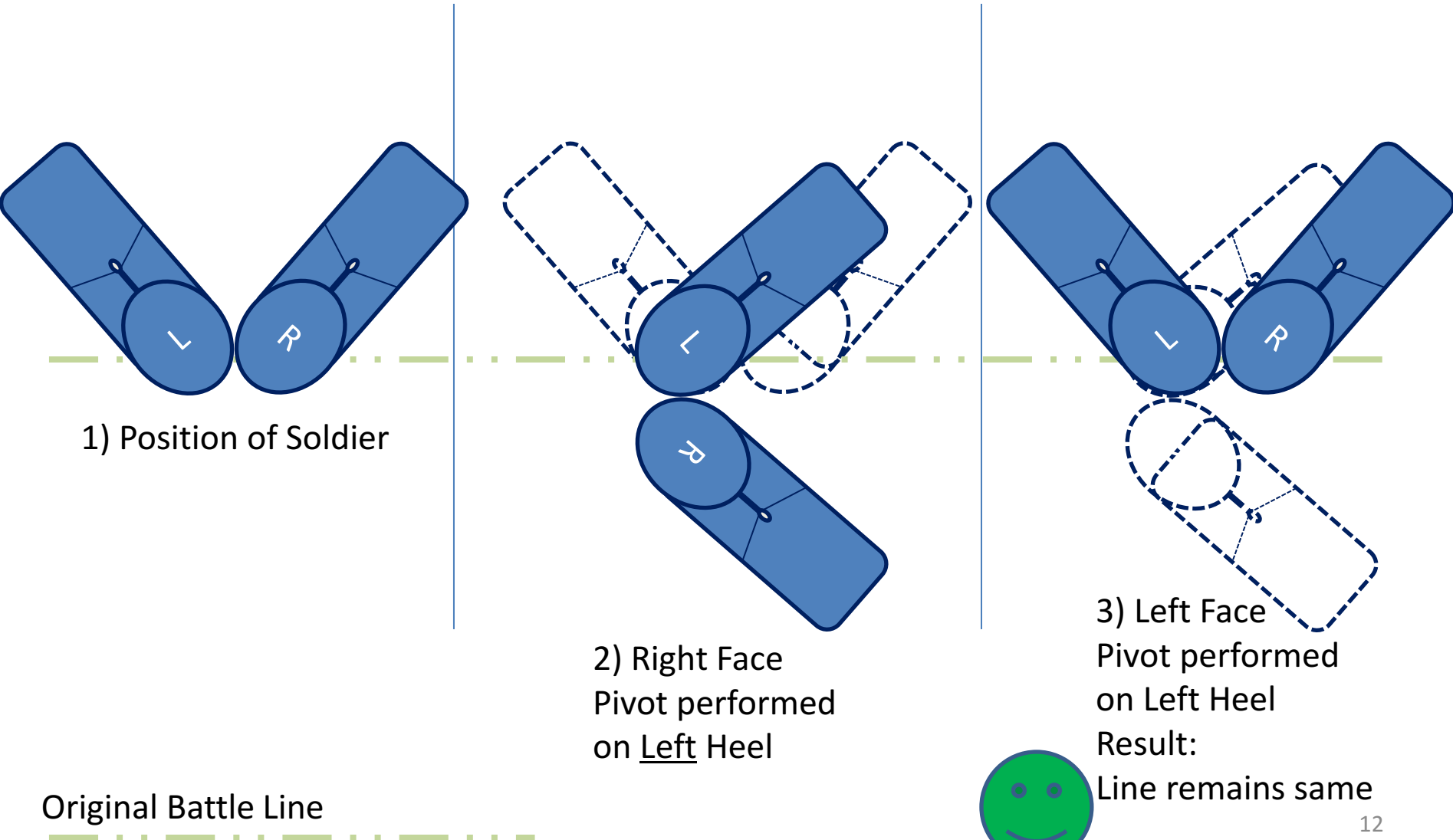
Left Face - Front



Always Pivot on Left Heel

It maintains the battle line.

Right Face - Front



The Half-Face to the Right

- This is not a command, but a measured movement
 - If your men don't know how to do this, then they can't execute the maneuvers of which it is a part
- It is a critical component of many maneuvers.
 - About Face
 - 98. (First time.) At the word about, the recruit will turn on the left heel, bring the left toe to the front, ...
 - Prime
 - 174. (First motion.) With the left hand raise the piece till the band is as high as the eye, grasp the small of the stock with the right hand; half face to the right; ...
 - Ready
 - 178. (First motion.) Raise the piece slightly with the right hand, making a half face to the right on the left heel; ...
 - Charge Bayonet
 - 202. (First motion.) Raise the piece slightly with the right hand and make a half face to the right on the left heel; ...
 - Guard against Infantry & Guard against Cavalry
 - 314. (First motion.) Make a half face to the right, turning on both heels, the feet square to each other; ...
 - Right (or left) oblique. MARCH
 - 340. At the second command, each man will make a half face to the right (or left), and will then march straight-forward in the new direction.
- Therefore, it is worth spending some time practicing it.

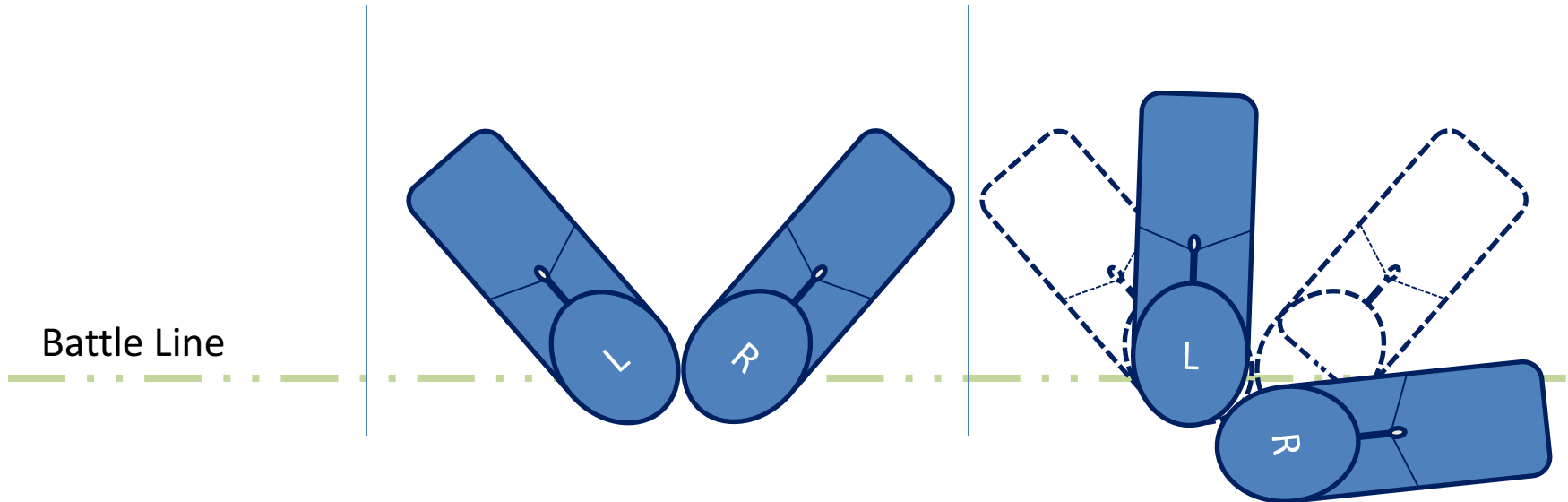
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Facings – Half-Face to the Right

This is not a command, but it is a critical component of many maneuvers.

Pivot on Left Heel

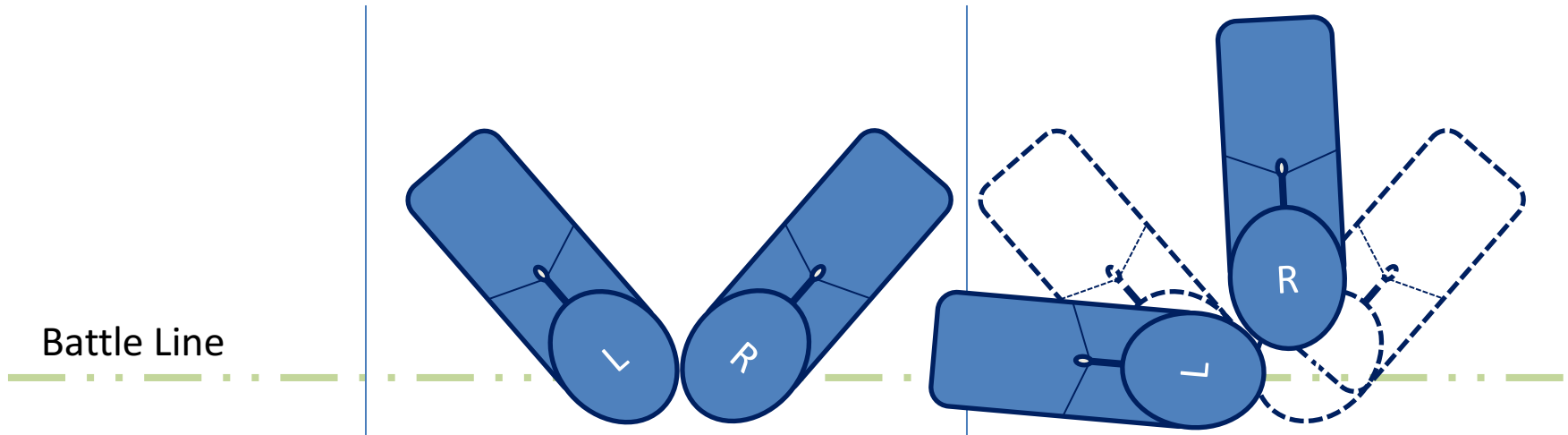


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- Guard against Infantry & Guard against Cavalry
 - 314. (First motion.) Make a half face to the right, turning on both heels, the feet square to each other; ...
- Right ~~(or left)~~-oblique. MARCH
 - 340. At the second command, each man will make a half face to the right (or left), and will then march straight-forward in the new direction.

Facings – Half-Face to the Left

This is not a command, but it is a critical component of “left oblique MARCH”.

Pivot on Left Heel



• ~~Right (or Left)~~ oblique. MARCH

- 340. At the second command, each man will make a half face to the right (or left), and will then march straight-forward in the new direction.

Facings – About Face

- Use the correct command
 - “ABOUT-FACE” not “*Right About* - FACE”
- The command is always executed by turning to the right.
- There are two commands of execution in this maneuver and a pause is required between each command.
 - Allow the boys to complete the first execution.
 - Do not rush them.
 - Else you risk the boys getting tangled about their own legs and tripping, thereby putting the safety of their comrades at risk.

Facings – About Face – First Time

- S.S. 97. The full face to the rear (or front) will be executed in two times, or pauses. The instructor will command.
 - 1. *Squad.* 2. ABOUT-FACE.
- S.S. 98. (First time.) At the word about, the recruit will turn on the left heel, bring the left toe to the front, carry the right foot to the rear, the hollow opposite to, and full three inches from, the left heel, the feet square to each other.
- The 3 inch separation is important!

Start = Position of the soldier

Half face to the right

Carry to the rear
Hollow 3 inches from the heel



Facings – About Face – Second Time

- S.S. 99. (Second time.) At the word face, the recruit will turn on both heels, raise the toes a little, extend the hams, face to the rear, bringing, at the same time, the right heel by the side of the left.
- S.S. 100. The instructor will take care that these motions do not derange the position of the body.
- That 3 inch separation allows the soldier to turn on both heels without getting tangled about their own legs and tripping!

Turn on both heels



Bring the right heel back



Facings – Terminology

Important Distinctions

- Positions that are Defined when the Company is Formed
 - Company Right Guide; the Company Right Flank
 - The 1st Sgt & the side he lines up on.
 - Company Left Guide; the Company Left Flank
 - The 2nd Sgt and the side he lines up on when marching in a Company formation
 - Company Front Rank – always the “Front Rank”
 - Company Rear Rank – always the “Rear Rank”
- Positions that are Relative to the Direction currently faced
 - “Men in the Front”
 - = the Company Front Rank if faced to the Company Front
 - = the Company Rear Rank if faced to the Company Rear
 - “Men in the Rear”
 - = the Company Rear Rank if faced to the Company Front
 - = the Company Front Rank if faced to the Company Rear
 - *Left/Right* – FACE
 - Commands to change facing when halted
 - *By the Left/Right Flank* – MARCH
 - Commands to change facing when marching

Importance of these distinctions will become more apparent as we proceed.

School of the Soldier

DOUBLING FUNDAMENTALS

When to Double? – When to Undouble?

- Automatically Double
(unless cautioned to do otherwise)
 - When facing to the Company Right Guide
 - When facing to the Company Left Guide
- Automatically Undouble
(unless cautioned to do otherwise)
 - When facing to the Company Front
 - When facing to the Company Rear
- **This Session focuses on correct Doubling**
- **The next Session focuses on correct Undoubling**

Doubling – Partially Correct Guidance

- We often hear:
 - *Right* - FACE => “2s Step Up”, or
 - “When facing to the right ... 2s Step Up”
 - *Left* - FACE => “1s Step Up”, or
 - “When facing to the left ... 1s Step Up”
- That guidance:
 - Only works when starting faced to the Front-Rank
 - Does NOT work starting faced to the Rear-Rank
 - Does NOT work when marching by the Flank, i.e., halted and then faced to the front or to the rear.

Doubling – Better Guidance

- When facing toward the Company Right Guide:
- The 2's Always Double
 - Regardless if instructed to do so via:
 - *Right* - FACE or *Left* – FACE
 - *By the Right Flank* – MARCH or *By the Left Flank* - MARCH
- When facing toward the Company Left Guide:
 - The 1's Always Double
 - Regardless if instructed to do so via:
 - *Right* - FACE or *Left* – FACE
 - *By the Right Flank* – MARCH or *By the Left Flank* - MARCH
- Challenge:
 - Teach the Soldiers how to know the “Company Right Guide” from the “Company Left Guide”

When Doubling – Which way do I go?

- Double in the same direction you were faced
 - If faced to the right, double by stepping up to the right
 - If faced to the left, double by stepping up to the left
- Doing so will ensure you always step away from the battle line you are starting from. i.e.,
 - If starting position is faced to the Company Front, step away from the Front line
 - If starting position is faced to the Company Rear, step away from the Rear line