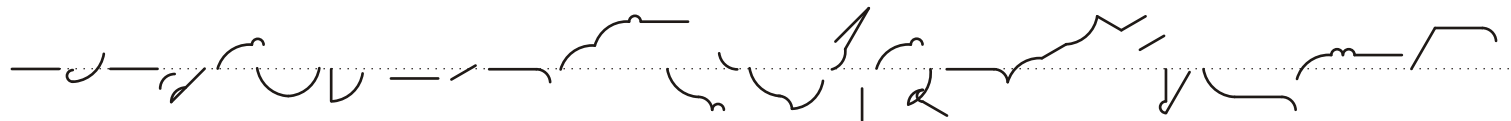
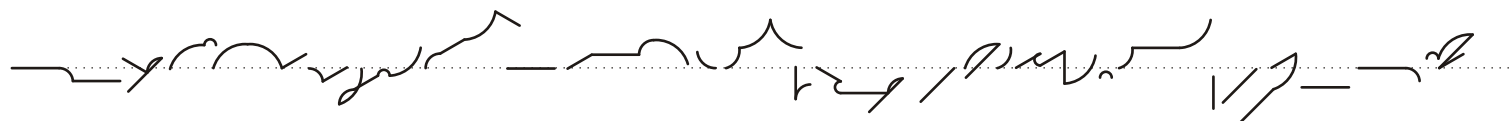


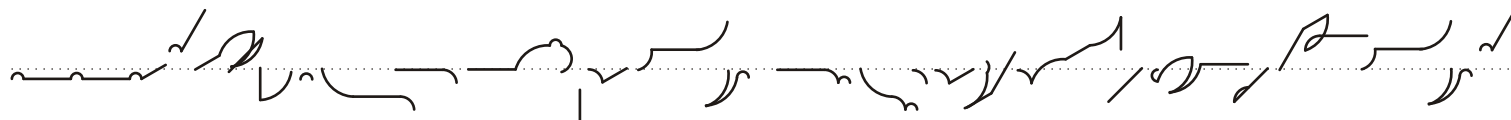
it into these seemingly desperate situations and it will survive. If the enemy opens a way for individuals to escape, you must contrive



to close it, or your men will flee. It is the moment when a whole body of men perceive themselves as faced with imminent death



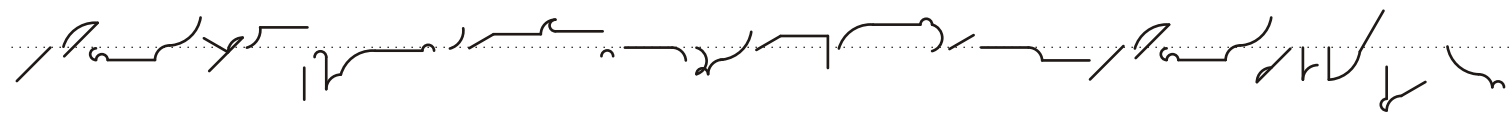
that every man makes his personal resolve to strike a blow for victory. You may be successful in battle if you spy out the enemy's



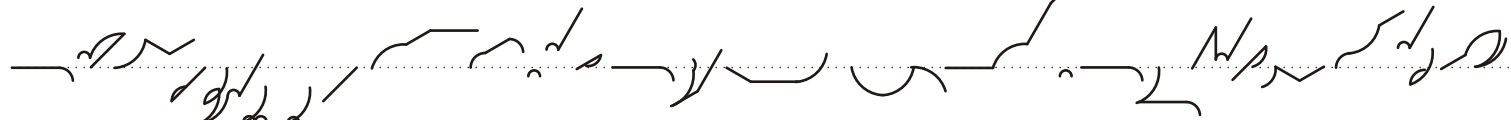
intentions and simply fall in with the timing of his battle plan. Then when he has exposed himself, you complete your desperate battle plan and



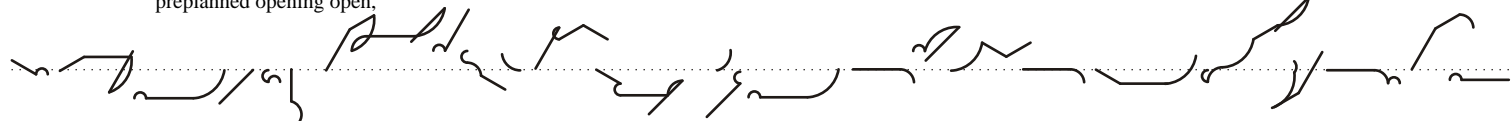
defeat him. On the day you make this awful decision, destroy the official records and stop the passage of all external communications, so that



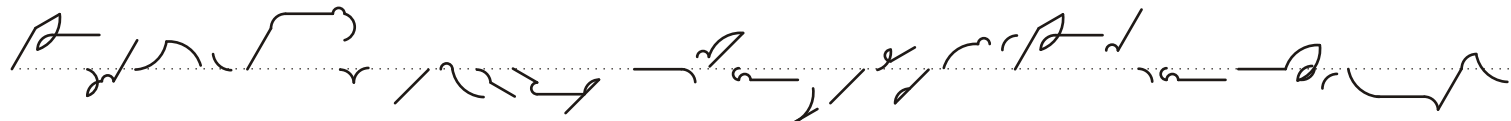
you may control every bit of information. Be strict in the general staff meeting, so that you may control your fear-filled officers. When



the enemy leaves your preplanned opening open, you must rush in and seize the exposed vital. Walk timidly in the path defined by obvious rules and appear simple,



even stupid, until you can fight desperately and achieve a decisive victory. Be coy until the enemy leaves the vital carelessly exposed, then dash into



desperate ground like a darting hare. You now have the victory. The enemy can't oppose you because your men are desperate and he can't temporize or withdraw



because you hold his vital. If the enemy general has compassion for his men's lives and the sovereign has compassion for the lives of his people he will