



Fig. 15. Alarm-recruitment to enemies. Following an encounter with alien ants, especially invading members of other *Oecophylla* colonies, excited weaver ants greet nestmates with a rapid back-and-forth jerking movement. This figure was drawn from four successive frames in a motion picture taken at 25f/s; the recruiting ant is depicted in black

nestmates. At high intensities the path was much more direct, and trail-laying was continuous over long stretches.

(3) Like workers laying trails to new terrain, and unlike those laying trails to food, the workers engaged in long-range recruitment to enemies failed to put down 'signposts' with tight looping movements in the vicinity of the source of stimulation. The closest approach to this behavior was the very different 'short-range recruitment' just described.

(4) In most instances the trail layers at the very least briefly antennated the heads of nestmates they encountered. When highly excited, especially after encountering alien *Oecophylla* workers, the ants jerked their bodies rapidly in the direction of the nestmates (3–12 back-and-forth jerks/s) (Fig. 15). Most jerking encounters lasted less than a second (0.3–0.8 s). This behavior closely resembles the maneuvering of *Oecophylla* workers during territorial fighting (which will be discussed later), to the extent that it can be interpreted as a ritualized version of that more overtly aggressive response. Some of the nestmates