MCoE IED Defeat

"By failing to prepare you are preparing to fail."

Benjamin Franklin

Special points Of Interest:

Electronic Warfare Planning Tool

Training and Education

C-IED @ Ft Benning

Team Lead Comments/Hot Topic

(CAC login/Registration may be required for link access)

Child captured with suicide vest by Pakistani Security forces in 2014

The use of suicide bombers or person-borne improvised explosive devices (PBIEDs) by violent extremist groups is nothing new. Each event can give us some insight as to which group may have executed the event by either the composition of the device or the method of delivery. The use of women, children, and animals by several groups is nothing new.
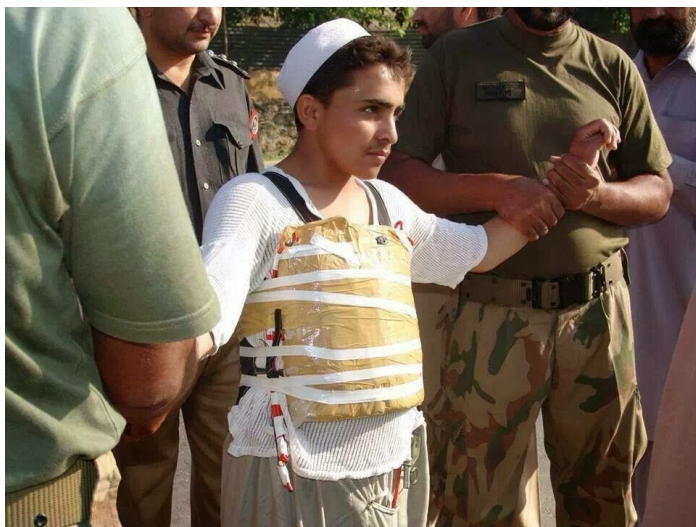
Recently a PBIED was remotely detonated in the country of Nigeria. The child that was carrying the device was no older than 10-years-old. Previous events in this area caused the local government and security forces to restrict activities in the market areas to males only. The child made at least three attempts to enter the market place prior to the device being detonated.

How do we defeat this method of delivery? No security force would immediately use deadly force on a child that is being noncompliant. Past experiences have shown us that the enemy will exploit those children as well as adults with a diminished mental capacity. Implementing good force protection measures to include maintaining standoff will not only save lives, but will also make your installation a hard target.

Past events from around the world have shown us that there is a huge possibility that a complex attack will be initiated by either a PBIED, vehicle-borne improvised explosive device (VBIED), or suicide vehicle-borne improvised explosive device (SVBIED).

Safe areas for screening and the searching of personnel and their vehicles should be constructed with blast resistant or blast absorbing material helping to maintain the structural integrity of your access control points. Enablers such as counter radio-controlled improvised explosive device electronic warfare (CREW) systems, thermal sights, hand held detectors/sensors, and x-ray machines need to be a part of the search process as well. Military working dogs can be employed, but you must also take into consideration the culture or the environment you are operating in.

The MCoE's C-IED Team continues to provide quality support to all. Whether it's live, virtual, mounted, or dismounted training, we are providing each unit with relevant information and life-saving training. Virtual Battle Space 3 will provide your unit with the opportunity to identify issues prior to conducting live training and missions in an IED-laden environment. Threat and IED Awareness briefings will refresh your Soldiers who have multiple deployments and educate newly assigned personnel. Counter Radio Controlled Improvised Explosive Device Electronic Warfare (CREW) training, Hand Held Detectors (HHDs) training, and familiarization of the numerous other enablers will add to your unit's preparation for upcoming training or deployments. The team can also help Units and Commanders identify effective training applications to help support C-IED learning during "white space" times or periods of budgetary restrictions.

Technology

The use of electronic warfare (EW) counter-measures is still fairly new to our Warfighters. EW systems are particularly important when it comes to the fight against radio-controlled improvised explosive devices (RCIEDs). Knowing how to employ and incorporate the equipment into your formations is just as or more important than knowing how to operate them.

A program unlike ones in the past is being developed to help out the EW personnel in planning for the use of different types of equipment. The Electronic Warfare Planning and Management Tool (EWMPT) will aid our Electronic Warfare Officers and NCOs in making sure that EW systems are increasing our chances of winning the fight. (Learn More)
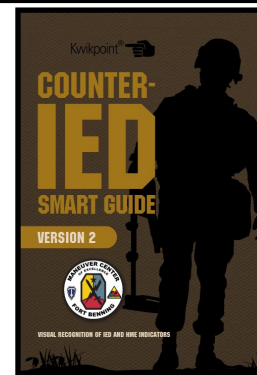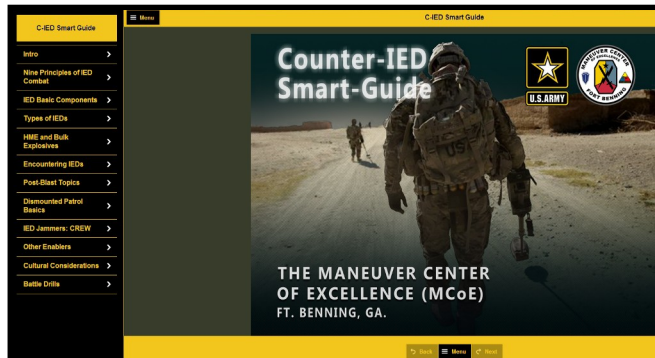
C-IED Training and Education

Hands-on training in a tactical environment is always the most preferred method of introducing and reinforcing topics regarding IEDs, but time is the critical influencer of whether this is done or not. Units and leaders now find themselves juggling their schedules to meet a variety of other mandated or important tasks in support of the Unit's responsibilities or training requirements.

Getting "exposure" to C-IED related material and topics is a vital necessity in supporting a sequential and progressive learning approach for leaders/trainers and helps provide an educational base of knowledge to build from, that doesn't leave them starting from "ground zero".

In an effort to ensure that our Warfighters remain informed and educated on the latest technology and information, several apps and smart guides have been produced. Depending on the format, these digital products can be downloaded onto your smart phone, tablet, and laptop. Keeping our Warfighters educated must be a priority. Being able to access these and many other products means that they can maintain their knowledge on the go!

The link for the Warrior University below will require CAC login or AKO username and password information.

https://www.warrioruniversity.army.mil

MCoE C-IED Team Capabilities Demonstration and Briefings

In an effort to keep our Warfighters and Government Service Employees informed on the dangers of improvised explosive devices, your MCoE C-IED Team conducts capabilities briefings and demonstrations.

This month, the MCoE C-IED Training Support Team had the privilege to provide a capabilities briefing and TADSS demonstration for the Executive Leadership Development Program (ELDP). The Executive Leadership Development Program (ELDP) provides Department of Defense (DOD) and interagency personnel the opportunity to participate in an exceptional joint and enterprise-wide civilian leadership training and development experience. The objective is to promote greater understanding of the overall Department of Defense mission and culture, provide hands-on leadership training that parallels selected military training and ensure cross-component exposure. ELDP is intended to stretch participants' experiences and to help them develop the knowledge of future Enterprise leaders.

The event was broken down into an overview of C-IED related training at the MCoE, followed by a hands-on TADSS demonstration that included basic non-pyrotechnic devices, Improvised Explosive Device Effects Simulator (IEDES), the family of Hand Held Detectors, the newest 3 dimensional simulation focused on anomaly detection, and finally both mounted and dismounted CREW systems and concepts.

Groups were then navigated down a short dismounted IED indicators lane to help demonstrate how previous topics are used to build upon and structure effective learning at the MCoE.
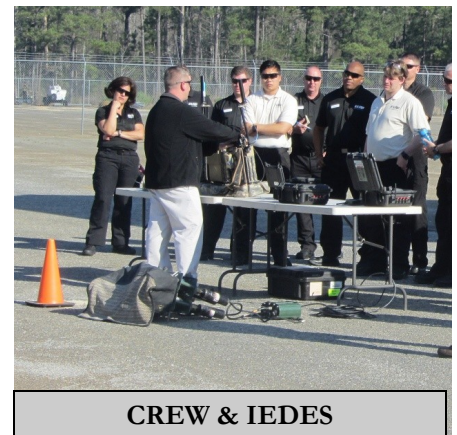
Units who wish to augment their lane training can request a Global IED Threat Update. The following items are addressed inside one of these 2-3 hour sessions:

- Counter-IED Facts
- IED TTP sharing
- IED types and typical employment methods
- Mounted and Dismounted attack TTPs used in Afghanistan
- Atmospherics
- CREW concepts
- Introduction to Insider Threats
- Where to find additional C-IED training resources

WELCOME TO WARRIOR UNIVERSITY
Home of the Maneuver Soldier
Click here for Training

- The MCoE C-IED Team works hand-in-hand with the Warrior University to share the Best Practices with the Warfighter. This portal is organized as a professional "home" for Infantry, Armor and Cavalry Soldiers, and leaders to facilitate and foster lifelong professional relationships. The mission of Warrior University is to synchronize and integrate all maneuver training so the right Soldiers receive the right training at the right time, regardless of their physical location.
- You will now find material related to the MCoE's C-IED Training Team, AtN, and the DCT-MT course.

IED Training Stations

Hand Held Detectors

3D Anomaly Trainer

Dismounted Lane

CREW & IEDES

C-IED Team Lead Comments

The Improvised Explosive Device, in many cases cheap and easy to construct affairs, in other cases highly specialized, expensive, purposed designed tools in an adversary's "tool box." All these have something in common; their point of contact with U.S. and coalition forces remains a physical site that the adversary expects contact.

The IPB process employed by the Warfighter helps to identify these possible sites, and when coupled with practices like using CAGE (*see MCoE C-IED Newsletter June 2012 edition*), will help to significantly degrade the enemy's plans for successful employment of IEDs.

One aspect of Western military operations that the adversary continues to exploit is the cultural socialization we're brought up with. Avenues of "approach" (or access) include our beliefs surrounding women, children, the elderly, the infirm, and our fast paced Western society.

UNCLASSIFIED

Afghanistan and Pakistan's Child Suicide Bombers

30 July 2013

(U) Document Summary:

"Children are tools to achieve God's will. And whatever comes your way, you sacrifice it."
Taliban commander Qari Hussain

We've pointed out that many adversaries have no reservation of employing members of the local population to do their bidding. These "pawns" have ranged from the willing to the unknowing, from the aged to the innocently young, and from the athletic to the wheel chair bound. Warfighters understand this avenue of exploitation, and they should remember that these efforts seek that "Point of Contact" we mentioned earlier.

One thing the Warfighter needs to remember is the three dimensional aspect of the IED's emplacement/employment.

All too often we get "fixed" on the traditional understanding of IEDs as covered by mainstream media; static, roadside or traffic chokepoint, and buried. This tends to keep us focused looking forward and down. The adversary quickly takes advantage of this by placing devices in higher positions. They have also attempted to exploit the tops of formations through the use of various aerial delivery methods. (*see MCoE C-IED Newsletters December 2014 and January 2015*)

When it comes to our understanding of emplacement of devices, we tend to visualize an adversary sending someone out during periods of limited visibility (either time or weather induced) to a selected site and putting in a device. This in many cases leaves tell tale signs due to the emplacer's lack of time to see the nested device in broad daylight, although some are better at it than others, whether it's through rehearsals, emplacement over a period of time so as to reduce suspicion, or best selection of site, use of light, and available/ambient camouflage.

What we could very well over look in these cases, and insurgents in Syria have latched onto the idea, is emplacing rather large devices or collections of explosives through the use of tunneling. This approach, if not using existing underground configurations like wells, caves, and man-made avenues like sewers and transit systems, is time consuming, and provides the Warfighter with possible clues as to an enemy's intentions, if they're looking for it.

IEDs can be expected to be around us for the foreseeable future. The current learning objectives for our IED training have not changed, but we would like to make the Warfighter aware of basic indicators for this type of employment. And when it comes to knowledge like this, it's better to have and not need, than to need and not have. (Reference FM 90-8 Appendix A)

Situational Awareness, this includes getting to know your AO, establishing a baseline, and don't forget to talk the local populace. They know.

Some possible indicators of tunneling activity include:

►Movement of human traffic in a specific direction after being spotted and then seemingly disappearing.
► Large piles of dirt near structures and irrigation systems. Adversaries may attempt to conceal the spoils (dirt removed) by; erecting tall fences and large tarps connecting rooftops to conceal the yard areas or parking lots, lifted or raised floors for spreading the spoils over the existing flooring within the buildings, and using locations near construction sites in order to blend the spoils in with the construction spoils.
►Use of markers (not just for IEDs) to identify entry points in concert with the previous indicators. Typically tunnel entry and exit points have security patrols or lookouts that conduct counter surveillance.

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MCoE IED Defeat

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Links of Interest

- **Joint IED-Defeat Organization** @ https://www.jieddo.mil

- **JKnIFE C-IED Training site** @ https://jknife.jieddo.mil

- **Center for Army Lessons Learned** @ https://call2.army.mil/

- **Combined Arms Center** @ https://ctd.army.mil/external12/BSTPs/ied-tsp/index.asp

- **Directorate for Counter IED (DCIED)** @ http://www.wood.army.mil/dcied

- **Army C-IED Professional Forum** @ https://www.us.army.mil/suite/collaboration/GetDocument.do?doid=17964848

► Digging tools, communication wire, extension cords, lights/candles, head lamps, air hoses (could be as subtle as dry ducts), wood (used for tunnel shoring), and generators (absence of visible work is suspicious) Also, water pumps (*functioning infrastructure is a double edged sword*). Many times there is substantial ground water that is encountered during tunneling that needs to be pumped out, or they unintentionally tap into a subterranean reservoir or well. New pools of water in an area could be an indicator to tunnel activity as well.

► Large amounts of baskets, boxes, and/or bags (cement/fertilizer) - may conceal dirt being transported away. Metal drums and the large blue plastic drums typically used for water have been utilized to move out the spoils.

► Unusually large amounts of personnel entering local structures; note the durations of the stay.

► If you have an AO that supports it, monitor existing subsurface infrastructure (sewers, transit, etc) that the enemy can use to circumvent tactical perimeter security (be alert to disturbance/tampering).

The C-IED Team is on-call to support any requesting unit. To request training assistance, contact Mr. Tom Dale at 706-545-6577, or Mr. Jerry Niggemann at 706-545-1619. or gerald.e.niggemann.civ@mail.mil.

Article photos from UK medias sources on Syrian conflict