MCoE IED Defeat

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"Improvised explosive devices (IEDs) remain the single most dangerous threat to our Soldiers—all branches and all ranks—on the battlefield. They are …very clearly an enduring threat."
General Martin E. Dempsey, Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff

VBIED was used in an attack on a coalition patrol

With each passing Improvised Explosive Device (IED) event, we are reminded that it is not if, but when it will be introduced. The form of the device doesn't matter, nor the method of delivery. The detonation of an IED can change the way your unit conducts operations. Capturing the data of the event and incorporating IEDs into each training event will ensure the proper action that is expected from each of your Soldiers is taken.

In the last few weeks, events around the world show us that the IED can be presented into any situation. From the political protests in Kiev to the embattled streets of Syria, IEDs have shown up in different forms both on the ground and from the air. Over 42% of attacks that occurred around the world were completed using vehicle-borne IEDs (VBIEDs) and more than 20% were from personnel-borne IEDs (PBIEDs). Large public venues and heavily populated areas could present an easy target. Once an IED explosion happens, first responders must remain vigilant and ensure that the area is cleared of any possible secondary devices.

Fighters in Syria preparing an IED

Each Soldier must understand the nine principles of IED defeat, the rules of engagement, and when to use the right amount of force necessary to stop a would be attacker. Our Soldiers are our greatest asset and should not be short-changed when it comes to dealing with IEDs.

The MCoE's C-IED Training 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 lifesaving training. Virtual Battle Space 2 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 Detector (HHD) 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/Commanders identify effective training applications to help support C-IED learning during "white space" times or periods of budgetary restrictions.
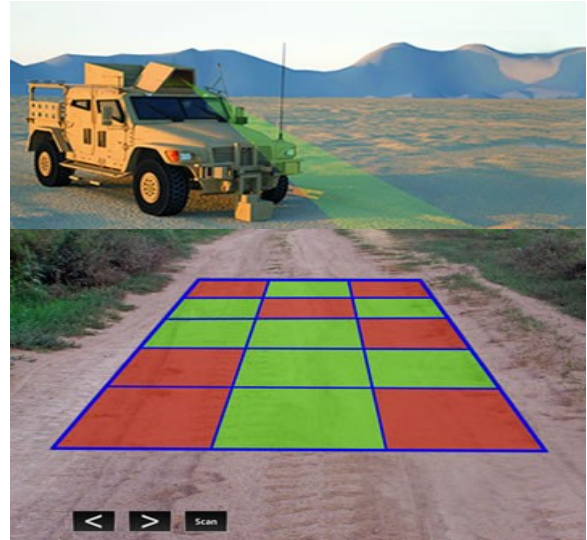
Emerging Technology

The best asset or enabler our Soldiers have against improvised explosive devices is the human eye. Being able to spot the device prior to detonation can be difficult depending on how long it has been in place. The advancement in various hand held and vehicle mounted technologies has saved countless lives. Adding to the inventory is a device called Soteria produced by Raytheon UK. The system is vehicle-mounted and uses x-ray technology. This system can aid in the detection, confirmation, and at the same time keep our Soldiers protected in their vehicles. (Learn more)

Soteria system mounted on a military vehicle

Operator can use the touch screen for a more detailed view of detected objects.

Fort Benning C-IED Training Events

On 10-11 February 2014, members of the MCoE C-IED Team provided Subject Matter Expert (SME) support to B 1/19th Mounted React to Contact (MRTC) lane. The C-IED Team spoke with CPT Murphy and Drill Sergeant Rice to establish the best scenarios to meet the commander's training intent. Training was conducted at U6-10 training area. Prior to rolling out on their exercise, the platoons received an Operation Order (OPORD) briefing with a detailed threat analysis, followed by rehearsals. On the completion of their training iteration, After Action Reviews (AAR) were conducted.

The following individual and collective tasks were conducted:

* React to an IED Attack (052-192-3261)
* Conduct the 5Cs (05-3-D0016)
* 5 and 25 Meter Scan (05-03-D0019)
* Submit a 9-Line Explosive Hazard Spot Report.

MCoE C-IED Training and Awareness Assets

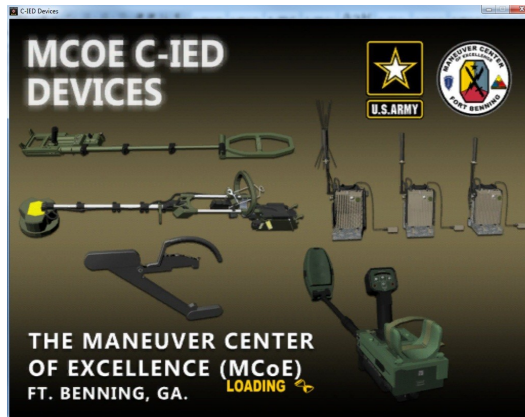**Warfighter Interactive Multimedia Instruction (IMI)**

The Warrior University is now preparing to host a new item in Interactive Multimedia Instruction that focuses on several key man portable C-IED enablers that are prevalent in day to day operations with US Forces around the world.

This Interactive Multimedia Instruction is designed to support a blended learning program of instruction of the future Warfighter leaders at all levels. The Interactive Multimedia Instruction can be used to introduce/familiarize the Warfighter with key C-IED enablers as well as refresh or sustain knowledge on these systems. The Interactive Multimedia Instruction is divided into five modules, the first four covering predominant Hand Held Devices (HHDs) employed by the Warfighter that include the DSP-27, VMC1 Gizmo, VMR2 Minehound, and AN/PSS-14 as well as a fifth module covering the dismounted CREW system Thor III.
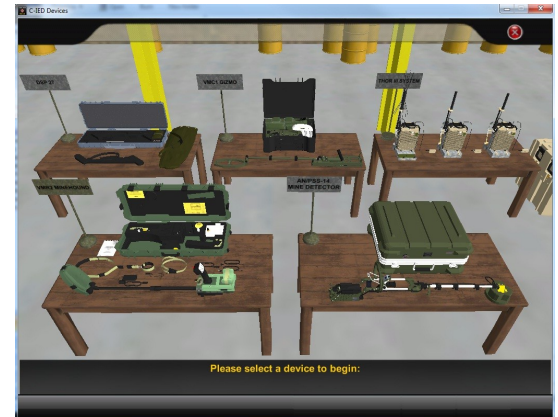
Sub-lessons are arranged in a logical progression and build upon skills and knowledge developed in previous sections of each module. They can also serve as refresher training for those who already have some experience with the systems, but haven't had recent "hands-on" experience with them.

These include the topics:

1. Introduction and Theory of Operation
2. Prepare for Operation
3. System Controls, Indicators and Operation
4. Troubleshooting

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.

Screen shots of the IMI product: Users select a device to enter instruction

Access to Interactive Multimedia Instruction will require a CAC login (AKO Account).

User/Download Note: Users can submit their feedback on the product in Warrior University. Your feedback helps develop better products that meet the Warfighter's needs.

Check Warrior University (*The link located to the left*) regularly to see the newest training enablers released.
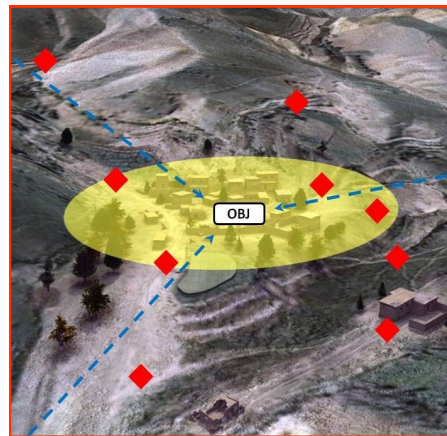
C-IED Team activity for the Warfighter

- Explain the C-IED team approach and activities to the USARCENT G3 regarding our approach to training that addresses IEDs beyond the current Afghanistan deployment/commitment.
- Continue the implementation of relevant C-IED enabler introduction, familiarization, and use during local/MCoE training sessions. Enablers include HHDs, Man Portable Line Charge trainer, CREW/THOR III, SPARK, RHINO, and Cyclone.

C-IED Hot Topic: "*Chance Contacts*"

We would like to revisit a concept that was discussed in an article from The Small Wars Journal for the USMC in 2012 by Mr. John Kennedy. The article talks about how to "predict" the possibility of IED encounters and how the Marine ,or in our case, the Warfighter might avoid them. He begins with drawing a circle in the middle of a piece of paper or on your map for your objective (OBJ). This is nothing more than substituting the circle for any village/population center in any area of operations and the lines for every patrol toward that point.

Then, from the outside of the paper or several grid squares removed from the OBJ, draw lines toward the circle with the intent of never crossing a line. Inevitably you will cross lines. It would be impossible to think with the ever-decreasing space toward the circle that you could avoid crossing lines forever.

Mr Kennedy points out that; just as in this exercise, it would be naïve to believe that patrol routes to one single stationary piece of terrain do not cross in the course of any unit's deployment. This logic may seem insultingly elementary to some, but it is the bottom line of the IED fight: Do not go where the IEDs are!

Bad guys will place their devices where they expect human traffic and the possibility of encounters will occur. This applies to any environment, any terrain, thus the likelihood of an IED encounter grows greater the closer a patrol/unit gets to inhabited areas. The farther away from this point, the less likely the chance of encounter, as long as the patrol is not traveling on or near preexisting traffic routes (pedestrian or vehicular). This demonstrates the value of "Honesty Traces" and situational awareness outside the wire.

C-IED Team Lead Comments

C-IED Security

The world watched with dark anticipation as the Olympic events took place in Sochi, Russia. Just prior to the start of events, Russia was rocked with several suicide attacks by Black Widow fighters from the Dagestan area where Russian security forces have been engaged in fighting insurgent groups for a number of years. It was believed that at least three possible bombers were already in the area of Sochi at the kick-off of the games. Russian security response to this threat was to isolate the area of the Olympics, both where the games were to be held and where athletes were to be housed, air and post visual warnings of the bombers, install extensive electronic monitoring systems (both visual and communications), and to flood the area with security forces.

The effectiveness of this approach can be judged as a success, as the threat of the Insurgent's best "smart weapon"-the SBIED, was negated during the month. The benefit for US Forces and planners is a unique inside look at Area Security operations. The proper synchronization, coverage and control of available assets over a specific area can help reduce the threat posed by the full spectrum of IEDs.

The MCoE's C-IED Team is on-call to support any requesting unit. To schedule training contact, Mr. Tom Dale at 706-545-6577, thomas.l.dale.ctr@mail.mil or Mr. Jerry Niggemann at 706-545-8823. gerald.e.niggemann.civ@mail.mil.

Tom Dale

MCoE IED Defeat

L to R: Mr. Koger, Mr. Fairchild, Mr. Perry, Mr. Black, Mr. Francis,
Mr. Molina, Mr. Freeman, Mr. Dale, Mr. Repicky

Maneuver Center of Excellence KeyBridge Technologies

Tom Dale (Team Lead)
thomas.l.dale.ctr@mail.mil
Cliff Repicky (Ops)
cliff.repicky.ctr@mail.mil
Louis Francis (Training)
louis.j.francis.ctr@mail.mil
Andrew Freeman (Analyst)
andrew.freeman1.ctr@mail.mil
Samuel Molina (Analyst)
samuel.e.molina.ctr@mail.mil
John J. Fairchild II (Analyst)
john.j.fairchild2.ctr@mail.mil
Peter Black (Analyst)
peter.b.black.ctr@mail.mil
Robert Perry (Analyst)
robert.p.perry1.ctr@mail.mil
Floyd Koger (Analyst)
Floyd.n.koger.ctr@mail.mil

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

   (Users should be aware of site maintenance down times)

Around the World

(IED topics from around the world)

NORTHCOM: **SOUTHCOM**: **EUCOM**: **AFRICOM**: **PACOM**

Link Disclaimer: The links provided above in no way denote any agenda or affiliation with the publisher of this news letter. They are provided for the reader to see the possibilities that the IED threat can/could achieve.

C-IED Training at the MCoE:

D 1/19 IN (198th IN BDE)

  These Warriors received training on Mounted React to Contact drills that included rehearsals in a virtual environment: VBS2. Scenarios employed were designed by the MCoE C-IED Team to integrate both training events. This type of training approach helps the Warfighter visualize and understand IEDs and the appropriate response more efficiently during training events.

D 1/19 Warfighters experience Virtual and Live threats

Training aids were provided to the Unit
for reinforcing lessons learned.