"Before anything else, preparation is the key to success."

Alexander Graham Bell

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RADBO

Training Highlight

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

Over the past few months, especially in Iraq, Syria, and Afghanistan, installations have been attacked with varying results. The enemy has tested their methods of delivery of improvised explosive devices (IEDs) from the air using indirect, on the ground using suicide attacks, and underground by tunneling under the objective. How can we combat this? How can we tackle this security/ defensive problem set? Security and Situational Awareness!

Security is everyone's responsibility, identifying weak points, and fixing them should be a top priority. We know that establishing perimeter security with clear fields of fire/ observation will help our Warfighters identify threats from the ground that could lead to a complex attack. Using our air

Radio controlled VBIED attack on the Italian Consulate in Cairo, Egypt on 11 July 2015

assets such as rotary wing, fixed wing, and aerostat balloons to check possible or previous improvised rocket assisted munitions (IRAMs) launch sites will deny the enemy that ability. Sometimes the best defense is having a good offense. A good combination of perimeter reporting and dismounted or mounted patrols in the immediate area could possibly detect tunneling activities. Actively patrolling the area surrounding your outpost and establishing a good working relationship with the local populace will be its own reward. Knowing the people and their culture will gain the their respect. All of this coupled with knowing your enemy and your operational environment will help your unit overcome any base defense concerns.

VBIED detonated near a parliament building in Afghanistan

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 lifesaving 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, Handheld 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.

Emerging Technology

The improvised explosive device (IED) is one of the deadliest conditions on today's modern battlefield and we are constantly searching for technologies that will aid our Warfighters in removing this threat. Once it has been determined that a device cannot be removed, the maneuver element is left with only one choice but to detonate it in place. Detonating the device can present many problems to include stand-off and personal protection.

The U.S. Air Force has been testing a laser that is vehicle mounted and may offer our Warfighters the option of detonating a suspected device. The Recovery of Airbase Denied By Ordinance (RADBO) has a range of up to 300 meters and will also keep Warfighters protected while remaining in the vehicle. Keep in mind that all the enablers in our arsenal are great, but you still have to be aware of your surroundings and use the best weapon you have: YOUR EYES! (Learn More)

RADBO mounted on a Mine-Resistant Ambushed-Protected (MRAP) Vehicle

Training the Trainers

This past month, our Trainers received some critical training on a vital enabler being used on the battlefield. Soldiers from the 194th Training Brigade, members of both the MCoE C-IED Team and the Dismounted C-IED Master Trainer Course participated in a Train the Trainer (T3) course that covered the Biometrics Automated Toolset (BAT) and the Secure Electronic Enrollment Kit II (SEEK II) multilingual automated registration system.

The use of both of these systems have aided U.S. Forces and U.S. Law Enforcement in catching wanted criminals. Capturing critical information such as finger prints, voice recognition, and most important the iris of each eye helps track individuals. Individuals doing criminal deeds can fake names, wear out or burn their fingerprints, but they cannot fake the signature of the iris. Knowing how to use these systems in tandem or as stand alone systems will enhance our Warfighters ability to capture wanted individuals.

Trainers learning how to operate the BAT System

Trainers learning how to enroll individual biometrics data into the SEEK II

C-IED Training 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

Coordination information can also be found inside the Benning Bulletin.

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.
- 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 DCT-MT.

Delta 2/58th IN Mounted React to Contact Lane

SITUATION: IED attacks are a constant and ever evolving global threat for Soldiers. In response, the MCoE C-IED Team is developing training to meet the objectives of TRADOC commanders.

WHO: Delta 2/58th IN

WHAT: Mounted React to Contact Lane

WHEN: 13-14 July 2015

WHERE: Training Area 7 and the Home Station Training Lane (HSTL)

SUMMARY: 224 Soldiers received instructions on Mounting and Dismounting procedures, followed by their Mounted React to Contact Lane. Two JACIT Pyrotechnic devices and Two IEDES Non-pyrotechnics devices were used to replicate the IED explosions. This training helps the Warriors visualize and understand the danger of IED attacks.

FUTURE: The C-IED Team continues to assist units in improving training scenarios by providing the most up-to-date information on IEDs and threats to our Soldiers in the operational environment.

Alpha Troop 5/15th IN Mounted React to Contact/Convoy Operations

SITUATION: IED attacks are a constant and ever evolving global threat for Soldiers. In response, the MCoE C-IED Team is developing training to meet the objectives of TRADOC commanders.

WHO: Alpha Troop 5/15th and the MCoE C-IED Team

WHAT: MRTC/Convoy Operation, which consisted of Mounted and Dismounted Rehearsals, Operation Order Brief, React to an IED Attack, 5/25/200 Meter Checks, Explosive Hazardous Report, and PCC/PCI.

WHEN: 15-17 July 2015

WHERE: Training Area Oscar 13-15

SUMMARY: Instructions were provided to 130 future 19Ds. In conjunction with their Convoy Operations training an IED scenario was added to the lane. Three IEDES Non-pyrotechnics devices were used to replicate the IED explosion. This training helps the Warriors visualize and understand the danger of IED attacks. An AAR was conducted after each IED scenario.

FUTURE: The C-IED Team continues to assist units in improving training scenarios by providing the most up-to-date information on IEDs and their threats to our Soldiers in the operational environment.

Team Lead Comments

We are now in America's longest war, and one of the deadliest weapons we continue to face is still the IED. The main reason for this is the cyclic nature of "device-counter measure-adaptation". Throughout this continuing war of wits, resources, and science, the number one practice to Counter – Improvised Explosive Devices remains OBSERVATION.

Observation, as defined by Webster, is an act or the power of seeing or taking notice of something. This practice is key in developing and maintaining situational awareness. In an increasingly technology flooded battle space, device dependency may replace simple practices and common sense.

Defeating the employment of IEDs through the practice of OBSERVATION is not just a set of eyes outside the wire on a suspected emplacement site; it begins back in the planning phase. A good look at your map will show many of the places likely to support IED employment (remember, they'll be placed where human traffic is expected).

It's from this first chance at observation that will help you decide how to move, where to move, and the selection and employment of what enablers might best assist you in completion of the mission.

Outside the wire there's a growing tool box of enablers that patrols, mounted and dismounted, might employ to assist them in their operations. It's at this point that we tend to shift to a technological dependency, opening up a window for exploitation.
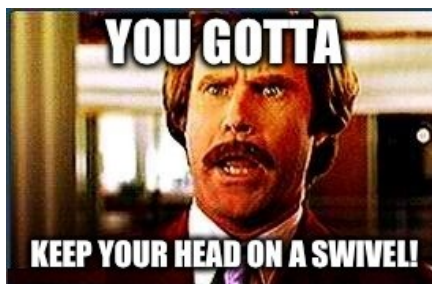
Warfighters must remain vigilant, with a broader, less traditional look for devices (surface laid or buried = ground level). As we discussed in previous issues, the enemy now employs devices that seek to exploit the weakness induced by media delivered inundation of road side, culvert, or buried IEDs. Devices are employed through elevated delivery techniques, that include higher positioning, indirect delivery, and aerial platforms. The quickest way to negate the effectiveness of these is to see them quickly and take appropriate action.

Suicide attacks, magnetic bombs and tunneling are capable of taking this exploitation to even greater levels and become a serious concern for replication during training. When conducting training events, with IEDs as a condition on the battlefield, how often do we have mounted elements stop and conduct a detailed exterior check of their vehicles before entering back into the safety of a compound? While inside the protective interior of a fixed site, how often do we have security elements look for possible indicators of tunneling? Do occupying elements understand the subterranean composition of the site on which they now sit? Are units aware of and prepared to deal with the possibility of a suicide AFV or tank, instead of a traditional vehicle?

Again this all boils down to Units and the Warfighter being aware and visually surveying their surroundings. The old adage that "it's the Mk I Eyeball that's the most effective weapon against the threat of IEDs" remains valid. Employment of additional enablers increases the ranges for detection, providing better standoff.

Nothing is more important in supporting mission accomplishment than our own survival and Situational Awareness. Through the practice of observation is a skill that, exercised continuously, will enhance your safety in all environments. Trainers need to ensure they're replicating this evolving threat's applications, and not suffer from "historical" tunnel vision (this is all we've seen).

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.

Quick Links:

RFMSS Homepage

Advanced Situational Awareness Training

DHS IED Fact Sheet

ROC-IED Training Link

MCoE C-IED Smart Guide & Apps

Marine Corps Center for Lessons Learned

CREW/Enabler Training

Attack the Network Homepage

West Point Negotiation Project

Militant Organizations

Tom Dale

MCoE IED Defeat

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

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

Links of Interest

- Joint Improvised-Threat Defeat Agency @
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

- **TRIPwire (Domestic DHS site) @**
https://tripwire.dhs.gov/IED/appmanager/IEDPortal/IEDDesktop?_nfpb=true&_pageLabel=LOGIN

(Users should be aware of registration requirements, CAC authorization for access, and site maintenance down times)

"Out of Focus" C-IED

We've come a long way in our replication of the IED threat during training sessions. In most cases you'll find a device or simulation that can adequately represent a specific threat, but one threat deserves a little more consideration due to its unique nature, the animal borne IED. History has shown us that these can range in size from rats, bats & birds, to dogs and the increasingly popular donkey, horse, and camel bombs (due to their payload size). As Westerners, we tend to view and treat animals a bit differently than other areas of the world, which opens a door to exploitation. Soldiers need to know what to be on the lookout for in the realms of possibility (in most cases if they've never heard of it, they won't look for it), especially in remote areas of the world where animals, like the horse and donkey, do the heavy lifting.

The following is a list of some noteworthy attempts at employing animal borne IEDs.

Afghanistan
April 30, 2009
April 5, 2013

Columbia
August 24, 1995

Iraq
21 November 2003

Lebanon
November 1985

United States
1862, New Mexico Campaign (American Civil War)
Wall Street bombing 1920

West Bank and Gaza Strip
June 25, 1995
June 17, 2001
January 26, 2003
June 8, 2009
May 25, 2010
July 19, 2014