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MCoE IED Defeat

Current Events

“Across the country, we have supported stronger information sharing through state and local fusion centers, where we have deployed DHS personnel and strengthened our analytic capabilities. We have trained law enforcement to recognize trends, tactics, behaviors, and other indicators of potential terrorist activity.” Janet Napolitano, Secretary of Homeland Security

Vigilance does not stop once you return from patrol or even leave the theater of battle. More now than before are Americans being recruited and radicalized to perform various attacks. Whether it's on our soil or overseas, our Soldiers need to be prepared, and we all have a duty to report suspicious acts or objects. Individuals or groups will take advantage of many things available to them like the ease of access to firearms and even more dangerous, the ingredients for making an improvised explosive device. Individuals or groups can gain the technical know-how through one outlet that is available to everyone, the internet. There are more than 15,000 websites and forums that are being used by extremist organizations to communicate successful tactics, techniques, and procedures (TTPs).

In July 2013, a total of 187 incidents required local bomb squads to respond. These devices included: IED explosions, reports of suspicious packages, incendiary devices, bomb making materials found or stolen, and devices rendered safe. ([TripWire link](#))

Complacency and thinking that it will never happen in my town is the wrong mindset.

Applying the skills and TTPs that we have learned over 10 years can make a difference. Report what you see to the authorities and make those around you aware of the situation so that no one gets injured or killed. It's not your job to safely dispose of the device. That is the responsibility of the police and the bomb squad to take care of the device.

Your MCoE C-IED Team continues to provide quality support to all. Whether its live, virtual, mounted or dismounted training, we are providing each unit with relevant information and life saving 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 many other enablers will add to your unit's preparation for upcoming training or deployments.



Common household cleaning products that were used in constructing a device in Tennessee



Tobacco cans were used to house BBs and pellets for a potential attack at an Alabama high school

Emerging C-IED Technology

The IED threat our Soldiers face while conducting combat operations span the technological gambit from simple and crude to sophisticated and custom built for purpose, yet they all share one trait—they're all deadly. A deep buried IED containing 500+lbs of homemade explosives can easily destroy a tactical vehicle, but more importantly kills our Soldiers, an Army's most important resource. Our Route Clearance Patrols are tasked with ensuring that our routes remain IED-free and that units retain freedom of maneuver throughout their area of operation.

A fairly new vehicle that was featured at the latest weapons and equipment expo in Europe was the PEROCC. This vehicle is designed to provide several route clearance capabilities like: mine rollers, ground penetrating radar, mechanical arm, and blast protection for a crew of three. The PEROCC does have the ability to mount a remote operated crew served weapon system which adds to the fire power of the overall patrol. ([learn more](#))



PEROCC incorporates the remote arm to Interrogate a suspected device



PEROCC with full compliment of attachments to include a CROW mounted weapon system

Fort Benning C-IED Training Events

194th Armor Brigade IED Lane Support:

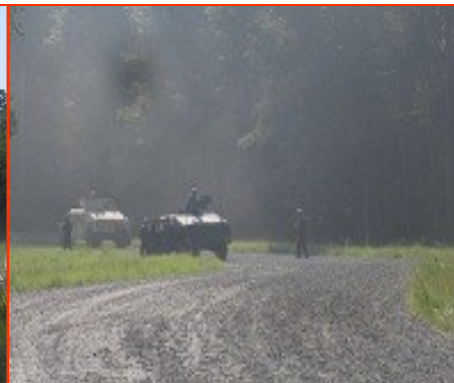
On 16 Sept 2013, the Maneuver Center of Excellence C-IED team provided support to the members of C 5/15 CAV during their IED lane event. Support provided included briefing current IED threats, IED Station briefs (including: EFPs, DFFCs, RCIEDs, VOIEDs (pressure switch), House-Borne IEDs, Suicide Bombers, CWIEDs, VOIEDs (Crush wire), Vehicle Borne IEDs, HME with Precursors and Pressure Switches, and emplacement of devices on the dismounted IED lane. The following C-IED topics, tasks and battle drills were trained; React to a possible IED, Conduct the 5 and 25 checks, Conduct the 5C's, and Identify Visual Indicators of an Improvised Explosive Device. Evolving TTPs, types of IEDs, and the enablers (SPARKS, EW systems: CREW, THOR III, and Pippier; Hand Held Detectors that included: AN-PSS-14, Schonstedt, Gizmo, and Mine Hound, and the Man Portable Line Charge-MPLC) used to defeat various types of detonation devices were briefed.



"Outside the Wire" Soldiers of 316th CAV roll on the lane.



The patrol encounters an IED and appropriate drills are employed.



"5-25-200s" Soldiers of 316th CAV clear their immediate surroundings of devices.

MCoE C-IED Training In Action



Getting the most out of the Home Station Training and Lane.

In a time of increasing restrictive training budgets, leaders and trainers are seeking to get the most out of their training dollars. Here at the MCoE's Home Station Training Lane, trainers are squeezing every bit of training opportunity out of the HSTL and all it has to offer, by blending and incorporating a variety of training enablers, such as VBS2, C-IED training aids & devices (EW suites, Hand Held Detectors, etc), and relevant Tactics, Techniques, and Procedures (TTPs) into a "symphony" that replicates a tactical operation.

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
- Atmospheric
- CREW concepts
- Introduction to Insider Threats
- Where to find additional C-IED training resources.

Units start their planning and event preparation in a training scenario consultation with members of the MCoE C-IED team. This ensures that the Commander's intent will be met. Any changes in relevant TTPs from theater are addressed at this time.

If the use of Virtual Battle Space 2 is to be included, a scenario is developed using the very terrain (MCoE's HSTL) the Warfighter will conduct their live operation. It is here, as well, that a 30 day event work sheet can be developed and provided to non-TRADOC entities, which might bring a staff to function in the capacity of a Company Intelligence Support Team (CoIST) or C-IED Working Group. The information allows them to "develop" a picture using pattern analysis and apply predictive analysis during their event to avoid or limit the effects of hostile IED employment.



The two C-IED classrooms on Leyte Field adjacent to the HSTL, each host roughly 40 Soldiers at one time, but training opportunity is not lost for Soldiers not actively engaged in the "simulations" aspect. Those available are provided "Familiarization" training on various key enablers they may encounter in theater, in an attempt to prevent the "Deer in the Headlight" behavior when encountering such items outside of CONUS.

Once training at the complex is complete, Units and training entities can then move out to the HSTL and confirm and refine the items they identified as successful or needing improvement in their AARs at Leyte Field.

As you can see, as much IED training and awareness is incorporated into each unit's event on the HSTL as possible. Some units who want to spend more time on the lane in a "live" setting, opt out of the virtual applications and, instead, receive an overview of the IED threat (in most cases it will be a Global look as we downsize our footprint in Afghanistan, but some FORSCOM users receive information more focused on their operational needs).

The MCoE C-IED Training Team believes that an UNUSED enabler is a USELESS enabler, even when it comes to training. As Leaders and Trainers we can't afford to overlook every opportunity to address relevant Knowledge and Skills regarding the Number One killer on today's battlefields.



- 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.

C-IED Team activity for the Warfighter

- Identify training items (TADSS, Ammo, etc) that need to be properly addressed in POIs for “long term” continuity in a budget restricted environment.
- Continue the implementation of C-IED enabler introduction, familiarization, and use during local/MCoE training sessions. Enablers include HHDs (AN/PSS-14 and Minehound), Man Portable Line Charge trainer, CREW/THOR III, SPARK, RHINO, and Cyclone blower.
- Employ low cost training solutions (virtual, dl, IMI) to support learning in a budget constrained environment.
- Continue to provide Warfighters of the MCoE globally relevant C-IED instruction and training assistance and augmentation.
- Continue training support for Units assigned at the MCoE through MRTCs, C-IED Training sites and Professional Development sessions.
- Respond to RFIs regarding MCoE C-IED training submitted by the Joint Services.
- Share a TRADOC “Best Practices” perspective on training with the Force.

C-IED Hot Topic: The IED and its resiliency

As US forces draw down on their numbers in traditional IED fertile areas like Afghanistan, the World’s attention is focused on other hotspots, like Libya, Egypt, Syria, Mexico, Mali, and areas in the Pacific realm. Unlike what we’re accustomed to in the West for research/development, procurement and future modifications, the IED continues to show lasting resiliency.

A look at an adversary and his resourcefulness provides some keen insight into the development and employment of IEDs. Here you will see Improvised Explosive Devices built to fulfill a purpose and not just distributed haphazardly around a battlefield. You will see a crafty opponent who will employ anything and everything within his means to achieve success.

When developing training scenarios, the adage of “the Insurgent’s IED design is only limited to their imagination,” should also include the understanding that the insurgent’s accessibility to certain material helps curb the “*High End*” extremes to IED design when compared to what we have access to here in the West. Here in the West many items are more readily accessible for OUR designs and not so much for a relevant insurgent design. Click Link to see [Photo Story](#).

C-IED Team Lead Comments

Leftovers-Not always what we want!

There are still some Units and well intentioned trainers on Ft Benning who are still “Going it alone” when conducting C-IED training. Since the necessity to replicate and train on IED related tasks developed, Simulators have been employed by units training at Fort Benning. Some of these have been abandoned in training areas throughout the installation. Trainers have become comfortably familiar with them through day to day exposure, but these innocent looking training devices (booby trap simulators, artillery ground burst simulators) can and will cause severe burns, loss of sight, loss of fingers or hands and even loss of life. Items like these encountered in your training areas should be respected and treated as duds. Units should report the location (a chance to practice that 9-Line Explosive Hazard report- never miss an opportunity to train!) of dud and training simulator devices to Range Operations at 544-6291/6371, any time-around the clock.

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 706-545-8823, at gerald.e.niggemann.civ@mail.mil.



Quick Links:

[RFMSS
Homepage](#)

[OEF Training](#)

[DHS IED Fact
Sheet](#)

[ROC-IED
Training Link](#)

[RAPID Reports](#)

[Marine Corps
Center for
Lessons Learned](#)

[CREW Training](#)

[Attack the
Network
Homepage](#)

[West Point
Negotiation
Project](#)

[Commander’s
Handbook
For Strategic
Communication
and
Communication
Strategy](#)



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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://forums.army.mil/SECURE/CommunityBrowser.aspx?id=131710&lang=en-US>

Never a Missed Opportunity

On 17 September 2013, the McKenna MOUT/Urban Operations test and training facility was the newest location to receive a static training suite of 7 IED Stations. The intent was to provide another training site enabler for Warfighters using the facility to catch a glimpse of enemy TTPs, types and components in prevalent IED models worldwide, and Homemade Explosive topics. The displays can be used in conjunction with the Military Operations on Urban Terrain (MOUT) training conducted at the facility. The stations serve as a visual reminder of key components and employment indicators which reinforces the Soldiers' necessity to understand the various aspects on this type threat.

Around the World

(IED topics from around the world)



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.

