



MCoE IED Defeat

“IEDs are a manifestation of a bigger problem — disruptive technology. The enemy has figured out how to arrest our technological advantage on a localized or temporal basis. Their combination of local attacks gives them potential for strategic advantage.” Lt. Gen John D. Johnson, JIEDDO Director

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

With Operation Enduring Freedom coming to a close soon, we have to recognize those hard lessons learned when confronted with improvised explosive devices (IEDs). The tactics, techniques, and procedures (TTPs) for the employment of each IED and the location can aid the enemy in accomplishing his or her mission with lethal results. A vulnerable point while traveling mounted or dismounted, culverts can aid an individual or extremist group with the easy emplacement and very little work when it comes to concealing the device. Culverts found in Afghanistan and many other countries around the globe, provide anyone with the opportunity to achieve their goal of death and destruction.

On the flip side of that, our Warfighters have experience when it comes to conducting thorough inspections of these vulnerable points. Using your available enablers like robotics, micro-unmanned aerial vehicles, or dogs can save lives, but what happens when none of these are available? When all else fails, deliberately clear the area with boots on the ground. Optics can be used to verify if the culvert is clear or if a bypass route is needed. Just assuming that it is clear without checking it first could be deadly.

Each installation’s training area might not have stream beds, culverts, or ditches, but that should not stop units from training for these encounters. Be innovative when it comes to mission readiness training. Using engineer tape to simulate a culvert and conducting clearance drills is a start and conducting rehearsals so that everyone knows their part.

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.



Partially open culvert denial systems should raise a red flag



These 12 jugs filled with homemade explosives were found inside the culvert pictured above in Afghanistan

Technology

Clearing and maintaining security along routes in an operational environment can be dangerous and down right difficult. Each route presents its own set of concerns which can include ditches, culverts, bridges, overpasses, streams, and river crossings. These areas can provide our enemies with the opportunity to attack our Warfighters with improvised explosive devices (IEDs).

One piece of technology that is being used is the culvert denial system. Each of these grates is secured to the opening of the culvert and keeps the enemy from planting devices. But like many other enablers in use, the enemy has found a way to accomplish their mission.

Now the denial system coupled with a system like LightLOC Smart-Grates can alert friendly forces when attempts are being made to gain access and plant IEDs. Using fiber optics, a silent alert is sent only when an attempt is made to cut or bend the grate significantly.

[\(Learn More\)](#)



C-IED Team in Support of the Maneuver Battle Lab and JIEDDO

SITUATION: In response to the continuous threat of Improvised Explosive Devices. The Army Research Lab (ARL), Joint Improvised Explosive Device Defeat Organization (JIEDDO), and the Maneuver Battle Lab (MBL) evaluated new technologies with the capabilities of detecting potential IED threats.

WHO: ARL, JIEDDO, MBL, and the MCoE C-IED Team

WHAT: The C-IED Team was tasked to construct and emplace 15 inert IEDs that replicated IEDs found in today's Operational Environment.

WHEN: 29 September 2014 – 08 October 2014

WHERE: McKenna Urban Operations Complex

SUMMARY: The Technologies were challenged on their ability to successfully identify Indicators, culverts and above ground threats, and conduct inspection inside culverts. ARL, JIEDDO, MBL, and the C-IED Team merged their expertise's and efforts to ensure the mission was a success.

FUTURE: The MCoE C-IED Team will continue to assist ARL, JIEDDO, and the MBL in their efforts to improve the safety and welfare of Warriors in the Operational Environment.

JIEDDO Culvert Denial Challenge	
Development	Employment
Technologies	

MCoE C-IED Training



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



- 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 DCT-MT.

Future Warfighters are introduced to their first skills and knowledge regarding C-IED at the Maneuver Center of Excellence. In an increasing budget conscious environment, leaders are trying to make the most out of their available time and limited available resources. It's the BCTs and their training at the Mines Training facility or the 316th lane supported by the enablers and material provided by the C-IED Team that shape the understanding of the threat. Units then proceed from this "Crawl Phase" (new Soldiers

are inundated with so many things to remember that some of the "fountain delivered knowledge" fails the End of Cycle Retention check). Units move to the "Run Phase" during their Mounted React to Contact lanes. Units could increase the effectiveness of their training and retention by including a "Walk Phase" that would include conducting operations both Mounted and Dismounted in the C-IED Virtual labs at the Leyte Field C-IED training facility. This location can also provide a "First Person" approach with an on site Dismounted IED/Anomaly Detection lane, where Soldiers are required to physically negotiate a stretch of terrain and identify various C-IED related indicators.



MCoE C-IED Team Recommended Reading

There is a lot of good C-IED related training available to units, but in many cases it's tailored to developing leaders and future unit trainers. This is due to limited instructors and class sizes. Ideally everyone in uniform with a possibility of traveling outside the wire should receive it.

In June 2014, a book was released titled "Left of Bang: How the Marine Corps' Combat Hunter Program Can Save Your Life". It was produced by a couple of USMC officers, with the help of a few other experts on the topic of Combat Profiling/ Behavioral Analysis or what those of us in the Army might label as Situational Awareness.

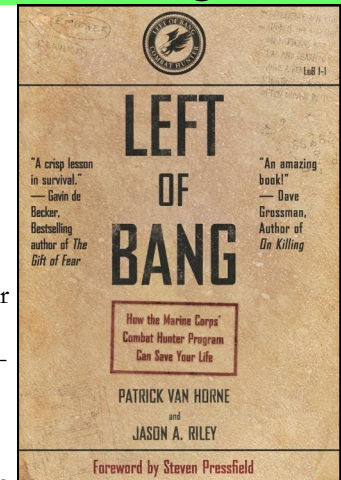
It begins with the history of the USMC's Combat Hunter program that was initiated by General Mathis (USMC) in an effort to counter the employment of IEDs and rob the enemy of initiative. Experts from civilian law enforcement agencies, big game hunters, and the military developed a program that addressed what they identified as common behaviors amongst most living things, no matter what race, gender, or national origin. These behaviors have been informally familiar (They'd never been taught, but through experience knew what to look for) to hunters and senior law enforcement personnel. The Army picked up the value of such instruction and developed its own version of the USMC's Combat Hunter program, called Advanced Situational Awareness (ASA).

It breaks down the: *Observe, Orient, Decide, and Act (OODA)* cycle in clear and easy reading. It talks about how Warfighters on the front lines have to make decisions in split seconds based on minimal information in most cases, all the while cognizant of the boundaries imposed by ROE and EoF measures (developed for their safety and those of the natives). It breaks down the Freeze-Flight-Fight response and discusses our decision making process based on one's personal experiences.

Individuals who are aware of the subtle clues (Behavioral Analysis) given off by other's posture and actions gain an advantage over their opponents, especially when coupled with the knowledge gained regarding the typical placement of IEDs on the battlefield (As we've pointed out previously-they'll be located where human traffic is expected to go).

In the case of this book (an easy two night read), even a little awareness of the subject material is better than none at all. The training opportunity here is that Leaders and Trainers could employ this product to good effect covering the various topics with their squads or platoons, or by having their Soldiers read the book and conducting informal professional development sessions during "white space" moments. Not only does it share the wealth of life saving skills from the book, but it allows Leaders to develop younger Soldiers' communications skills, but also as trainers. It is also sure to stimulate discussions based on experiences between deployment veterans and the new arrivals.

Find more at <http://www.cp-journal.com/services/military/>



C-IED Team Lead Comments

Art imitating life or precipitating it.....

[pre-cip-i-tate-verb: cause (an event or situation, typically one that is bad or undesirable) to happen suddenly, unexpectedly, or prematurely.]

We strive here at the MCoE to use every possible cognitive opportunity regarding C-IED topics to be a productive one. This month we're looking at a seldom used option; movies. Film makers and game designers have always taken a keen interest in representing on the big screen or platform, events that shape peoples' lives. The power of film is especially powerful in its ability to persuade or anger a population about any given subject can't be overlooked. With the start of the War on Terror, there's been plenty of material to work from.

In 2007, the movie "**The Kingdom**" was released. It's a story of a FBI team going to investigate a bombing in a foreign country that killed Americans. Although not based on facts, it provided a good look at several topics that have become increasingly important for Soldiers to understand, like Insider threats, Home Made Explosives construction, and threat networks.

Film makers followed this up with the 2008 production "**Hurt Locker**". The movie used actual EOD techs to advise producers on some of the finer technicalities of the subject material. It was through this that main stream America and the rest of the Western world came to an "understanding" of what IEDs were. It also showed just how much certain media venues could familiarize a large audience, and in this case (*Film producers make what sells*) not always the most accurate of lessons. Nearly every new Soldier who comes through training at the MCoE has a somewhat misguided knowledge of IED topics from this movie alone.

In 2010, a foreign movie production was released titled "**Four Lions**". This release bears watching for several reasons, not only because of some key points regarding IEDs and their life cycle, but how much this production bears similarities to events taking place today, and the aspect of how much media influences and educates its recipients. Some of the highlights of the film include:

- **A group of radicalized young men aspire to be suicide bombers or conduct IED attacks.** Messages from foreign causes are reaching impressionable young people and motivating them to take part in these events around the world (again the persuasive power of media). They even mention the use of publishing their exploits through social media. A funny side note is one professes to be a rapper. Compare this with Abu Talha the German or Alabama born- Omar Hammami, known as the "*the rapping Jihad?*" who was killed in Somalia in 2013.
- **One tries to train crows to be used as bombers.** Not too farfetched as IED makers are constantly on the lookout for new delivery methods and gaps in any protective coverage. They share this information through countless websites and media portals.
- **They leave their native country to visit a training camp in a foreign country and then using the experience gained abroad on their return.** The activities ISIS/ISIL and rebel groups in Syria have brought this topic to the front of media headlines.
- **The group acquires materials for making improvised explosive devices.** In the show they cover the necessity of not buying in bulk any material that would raise law enforcement attention. *Could media like this actually be used to convey training and operational messages?*
- **Discussion of false flag operations to radicalize portions of a population.**
- **Concepts of Operational Security in their safe house.** During the film, one of the members brings an outsider into their safe house/ lab. They go on for a bit discussing the necessity of operational security. This exposes the growing threat of "Lone Wolf" operations- the less who know, the less we know. It's the whole "Loose Lips sink Ships" or the more moving parts involved, the more chances for exposure or something to go wrong.
- **Sensitivity of some homemade devices.** It can't be stressed enough, if you didn't put it there, then don't touch it or pick it up! Many improvised devices and explosives can and are extremely sensitive.
- **Detonation of devices through the use of common place Western day to day tools like the cell phone.** A good example of what Westerners take for granted that could and has been easily exploited. Imagine the chaos of having to shut down cell towers and the like inside a large city.



Quick Links:

[RFMSS
Homepage](#)

[Waterborne IEDs](#)

[DHS IED Fact
Sheet](#)

[ROC-IED
Training Link](#)

[MCoE CIED
Smart Guide &
Apps](#)

[Marine Corps
Center for
Lessons Learned](#)

[CREW Training](#)

[Attack the
Network
Homepage](#)

[West Point
Negotiation
Project](#)



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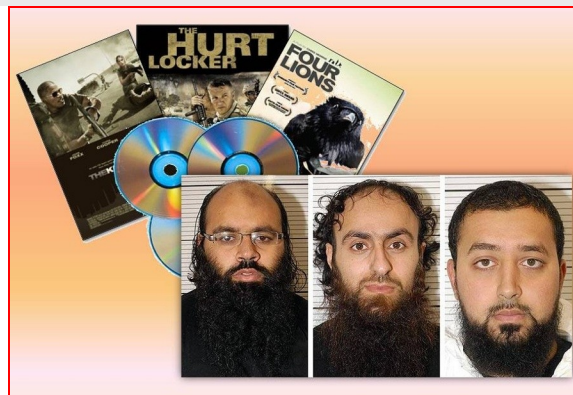


L to R: Mr. Koger, Mr. Fairchild, Mr. Perry, Mr. Black, Mr. Francis, Mr. Molina, Mr. Freeman, Mr. Dale, Mr. Repicky

Links of Interest

- Joint 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)

C-IED Team Lead Comments *continued*



- Target selection, in this case a marathon, using an improvised approach of a traditional indicator; wearing mascot costumes to conceal their explosives. Here they show a target that has all the right makings for a high pay off attack- large numbers of people, in a condensed area. We actually witnessed an event like this in the 2013 Boston Marathon bombing- amazing that the target in the movie was so similar to the real life event. Coincidence??

The bottom line is the Soldier needs to be aware of this growing global threat that employs IEDs & suicide attacks. Leaders/trainers could actually find training opportunities from viewing and discussing productions like these with their Soldiers, and getting them to think about these topics and where they might identify points in the Life Cycle of an IED that they can influence by conducting their missions and being vigilant.

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