

OTHER PREDICTORS

- **Experienced**
 - Has performed route clearance in theater.
- **Knowledgeable**
 - Knows enemy tactics, devices and how best to defeat them.
- **Experienced hunters**
 - Particularly those that track large game.
- **Good visual abilities**
 - Strong acuity, depth perception.
- **Takes care of him/herself**
 - Gets enough sleep, water, is generally healthy.

MAKE SURE YOUR WARFIGHTERS:

- Wear their glasses, if applicable
- Keep their windshields and windows cleaned
- Have access to up-to-date intel about previous attacks, emplacement trends, etc.
- Are well-rested and take breaks as needed
- Stay properly hydrated
- Are using proper scanning strategies
- Actively practice IED detection tactics

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Tactical Pocket Reference Card

Identifying Experts in IED Detection



COGNITIVE & BEHAVIORAL PREDICTORS OF IED DETECTION

- **Intelligent**
 - Picks up new skills quickly and learns from their mistakes.
- **Good decision-making skills**
 - Trusts self to make good decisions, makes tough choices well.
- **Sensitive to change**
 - Notices very small things that are different on the route.
- **Attentive**
 - Pays attention to detail, is thorough in completing tasks.
- **Adaptable**
 - Easily adjusts to change, and doesn't get frustrated in difficult situations.
- **Resilient**
 - Can stand up to environmental extremes, is physically tough.

COGNITIVE & BEHAVIORAL PREDICTORS (Continued)

- **Vigilant**
 - Can pay attention for long periods of time, even in harsh environments.
- **Able to take a "big picture" perspective**
 - Can see other people's points of view.
- **Good object recognition capabilities**
 - Can identify objects from far away, find things that are lost, and can spot things that are "wrong."
- **Good working memory**
 - Can remember long lists of things, can remember complex instructions.
- **Strong spatial capabilities**
 - Can read maps well, doesn't get lost.

COGNITIVE & BEHAVIORAL PREDICTORS (Continued)

- **Self-aware**
 - Knows when he/she's "on" and when he/she's not, and isn't afraid to say so.
- **Sensitive to anomalies**
 - Notices things that seem out of place, even if he/she can't say why.
- **Errs on the side of caution**
 - Not afraid to be wrong, thinks it's better to be safe than sorry.
- **Proactive learner**
 - Seeks out learning experiences and discusses situations with experts.

BE PROACTIVE

- **Keep windshields and windows clean.**
 - This will increase your visibility.
- **Sanitize the area.**
 - Removing brush, trash, etc., will eliminate opportunities for placing IEDs.
- **Seek out learning experiences and share your experiences with others.**
 - Discuss situations with experts you trust.
 - Help others get smarter to increase your safety and their safety, too.
- **Document your own successes and failures.**
 - One of the best ways to learn is to reflect on your own experiences.

PAY ATTENTION TO:

- Attitudes of civilians around you.
- Intel about previous attacks, especially when and where they occurred.
- Emplacement trends in your region.
- Things that seem out of place, or have changed since the last time you saw them.
- Your fellow Warfighters and their states of mind.



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Improving Your Visual IED Detection



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THINK LIKE THE ENEMY

- **Put yourself in their shoes.**
 - If you were the enemy, where would you place an IED?
- **Think tactically.**
 - Look for choke points, intersections, and other strategic locations for an IED.
- **Don't make a "snap" decision.**
 - Carefully collect as much information as you can and evaluate it before coming to conclusions.
- **Stay current on enemy tactics and US countermeasures.**
 - Actively study IED trends and defeat tactics while deployed.

KNOW YOUR LIMITATIONS

- **Get enough rest.**
 - Fatigue is the biggest threat to IED detection.
- **Wear your glasses.**
 - They may be uncomfortable, but you have them for a reason.
- **Monitor yourself.**
 - Ask yourself: Am I getting tired? Am I following my scanning strategy?
- **Say something!**
 - Let someone know if you're too fatigued to pay attention. It's better to share your workload than to put everyone's safety in jeopardy.

THE RIGHT SCANNING STRATEGIES

- **Don't limit your search to 5 & 25's.**
 - An IED could be right next to your vehicle.
- **Look up!**
 - IEDs have been found in trees, on signs, and on bridges.
- **Adjust your strategy to your view.**
 - If you have low visibility, focus on nearby areas. If you have high visibility, keep an eye on the distance.
- **Always assume there is an IED.**
 - Develop a mental checklist of indicators, and execute the list while scanning.

