



Volume 4, Issue 4

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Inside this issue:

[Current Events](#) 1

[C-IED Technology](#) 2

[Fort Benning C-IED](#) 2

[C-IED Training Tips](#) 3

[C-IED Hot Topic](#) 4

[Team Contacts](#) 5

[Links of Interest](#) 5

[Around the World](#) 5

Special points of interest:

[iRobot Platform](#)

[IED Training Support](#)

[Future of IED Basics](#)

[Path Forward/Hot Topic](#)

[Links of Interest](#)

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

MCoE IED Defeat

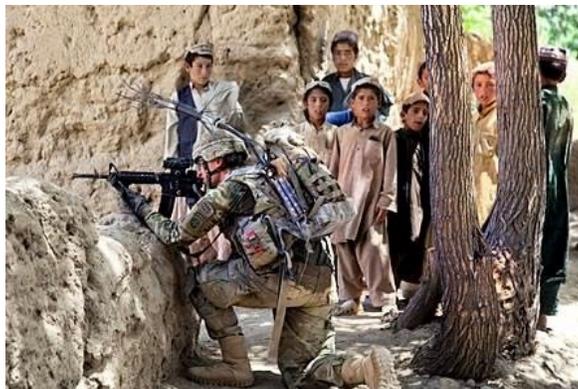
Current Events

“Global threat networks are not going to cease operations or stop developing IEDs after coalition forces leave Afghanistan. Their weapon of choice has proven too effective, cheap and easy to make.” GEN Barbero, former Director, JIEDDO

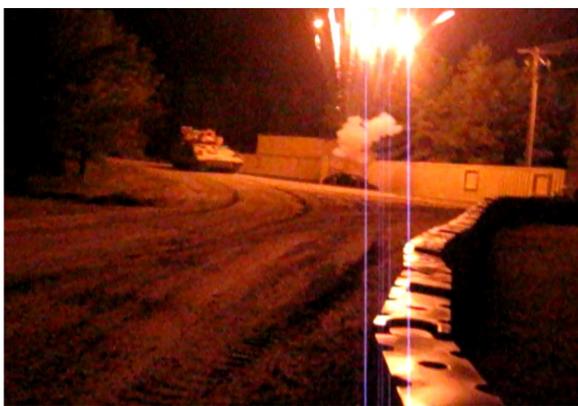
As more of our Soldiers deploy and redeploy from various places around the world we must remind ourselves to never forget our lessons learned. The enemy, regardless of his or her background or affiliation; has a powerful weapon in their arsenal. The improvised explosive device (IED) has been proven effective and very deadly in our world today. Whether or not they choose to use it in the next area of operation remains to be seen. Extremist networks, factions, and even individuals remain interconnected using various electronic devices and social media to pass on successful tactics, techniques, and procedures (TTPs).

How do we defeat this? History teaches us to retain the knowledge of successes and learn from our failures. Education is the first step to maintaining a knowledge base. Knowing what obstacles your unit may face will help you shape your training. Training is the second step, practice makes perfect and repetition is the key to honing skills. Implementing IEDs in every training event with various indicators and rehearsing actions repetitively will save countless lives. The last step to mention is Resources. Each installation has many resources that can be tapped in order to provide quality training with positive results. Your Counter IED Teams can assist your unit in basic IED Awareness classes and live training support.

Your MCoE CIED Team continues to provide quality support to all. Whether it is 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 to upcoming training or deployments.



Soldier in Afghanistan pulls security while employing the THOR III



A Bradley Fighting Vehicle is attacked with an IED while training on the Home Station Training Lane (HSTL)

Emerging C-IED Technology

With different types of improvised explosive devices surfacing around the world, the need for new technologies to aid in defeating them becomes apparent. Many of our enablers have been modified to meet mission requirements such as weight, dimensions, and thermal capabilities.

Most Soldiers are familiar with the iRobot system known as the Packbot. Two recent modifications have been made in order to meet mission needs. One version utilizes a device called the batwing ([learn more](#)) and the other is an inflatable arm. With the batwing attachment, the operator can interrogate a suspected device with the capability of digging or scratching the surface. This could possibly uncover or even disable the device. The second attachment is an inflatable arm. This arm is light weight, easily stored in the main body of the robot chassis ([learn more](#)).



Packbot with the inflatable arm

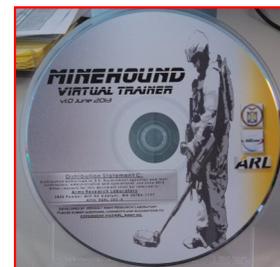


Batwing Attachment

Fort Benning C-IED Training Events

IED Awareness Session: Maneuver Senior Leader Course (M-SLC)

This month the team provided C-IED Global threat sessions to Leaders of the Maneuver Senior Leader Course (M-SLC) at the Non Commissioned Officer Academy (NCOA). Based on feedback provided from theater and previous sessions with SLC courses, the session addressed the topics of: IED Facts, Afghanistan trends, various C-IED enablers- both material and organizational, Insider threat considerations, and several C-IED training opportunities for Soldiers. The enabler portion of the session focused on prominent enablers that can be found at the patrol level like various hand held detectors, dog teams, and ISR assets, all the way through organization enablers like JTF Paladin and JIEDDO that support the Warfighter at higher echelons with data collection, trends identification, and solutions procurement. A closing emphasis was placed on the necessity of leaders reinforcing the lessons learned over ten years of conflict and the importance of adapting and finding ways to continue to train Soldiers effectively in a budget restricted environment. Copies of the Minehound Virtual Trainer app were provided to the Small Group Instructors for possible inclusion on any take away disk students are provided.



HME Awareness, Recognition and Response Training Seminar

Members of both the C-IED team and the Dismounted C-IED Tactics Master Trainer cadre attended a local seminar supporting law enforcement and fire prevention specialists. The one day session covered topics like: Basic Explosive Characteristics and Hazards, HME Manufacture Precursor Materials and Explosives, HME/IED Manufacture Indicators, HME Lab Identification Exercises, HME Scene Safety and Security, and Community Awareness and Education. The exchange of ideas and information, despite some difference in operational vocabulary, goes a long way in ensuring that cooperation and shared "Best Practices" continue to support the best training the Warfighter receives, and better measures in support of Homeland Security are established.



The Future of C-IED Basics



During the NCOA SLC's Global IED Threat Update, the following items were briefed:

- Counter-IED Facts
- IED activities in major combatant commands
- 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 and how to best use them to support Unit training

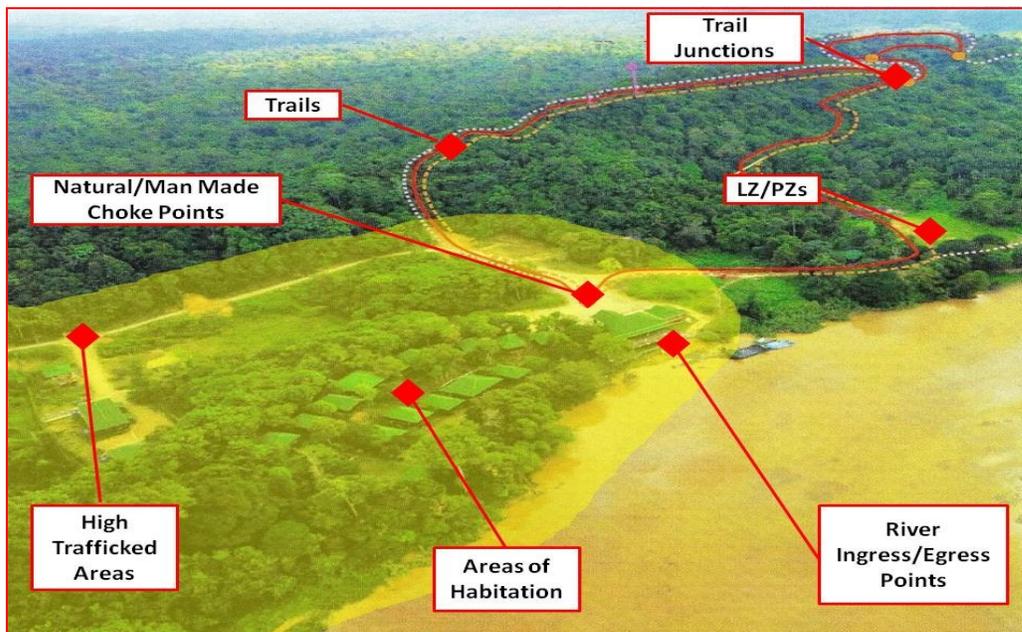


- The MCoE C-IED Team works hand in hand with the Warrior University to share the Best Practices with the Warfighter. This portal is organized as a professional "home" for Infantry, Armor and Cavalry Soldiers and leaders to facilitate and foster lifelong professional relationships. The mission of Warrior 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.

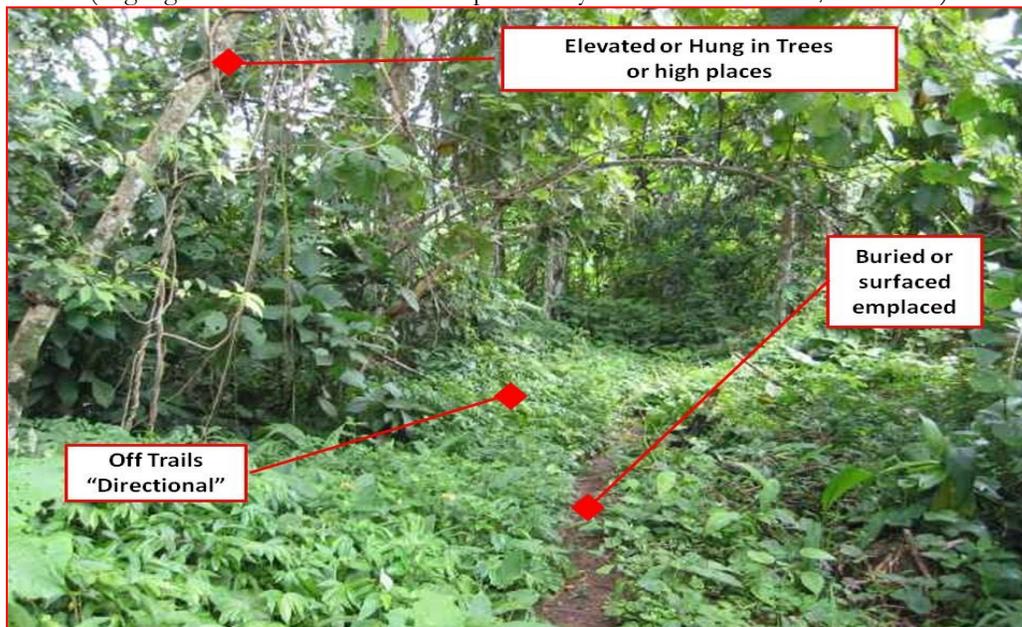
Although the times find US Forces drawing down from forward presences in Afghanistan, the threat posed from IEDs devices do not diminish. These movements provide continued targets of opportunity for insurgents to strike back.

The media has done a fine job of mentally attaching the climate and terrain of the Middle East and Southwest Asia to the concept of IED employment, but this clouds the perception of those unfamiliar with this threat.

The future will see US forces deployed in other regions of the World, but the types of places we'll encounter IEDs remains the same. So whether it's sand or snow, Africa or Panama, and they (IEDs) will be in areas that have or expect human traffic or habitation.



(Highlighted area reflects increased probability due to human traffic/habitation)



They will also be employed in any one of three fashions: buried (culverts, etc), surface (includes the use of SBIEDs and SBVIEDs, directional devices), or above ground (suspended, elevated seats, IRAMs, etc).

C-IED Team Activity for the Warfighter

- Support the completion and implementation of the Warfighter C-IED Distance Learning course.
- 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 TRADOC “Best Practices” for training with the Force.
- Remain flexible, adaptive, and proactive in the team’s efforts to provide the latest relevant training to the Warfighter.



Quick Links:

[RFMSS](#)

[Homepage](#)

[OEF Training](#)

[CALL UTPP
Bulletin 2011-02](#)

[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](#)

C-IED Hot Topic: HME

“Afghan bomb makers shifting to new explosives for IEDs” from USA TODAY regarding a major shift in the manufacturing of Home Made Explosives in theater.

Story Highlights :

- New chemical is cheaper than its predecessor: Ammonium Nitrate
- The material is easier to turn into an explosive than fertilizer, and is nearly as powerful.
- For the first time in the 12-year war, potassium chlorate was the most common ingredient, fueling 60% of the IEDs.
- Potassium chlorate is used legally in Pakistan in the manufacturing of matches and textiles.
- The Haqqani Networks tend to favor potassium chlorate for their bombs.
- Potassium chlorate is an odorless white crystal or powder that, when combined with a fuel, forms an explosive mixture. Ammonium nitrate fertilizer, meanwhile, requires several steps to transform into an explosive.

[\(See article details here\)](#)

C-IED Team Lead Comments

“Labor omnia vincit”

Here we are now, at the peak of the summer. The installation has been very busy trying to bring the very best of training and equipment to the newest Warfighters, and this applies no less to the C-IED Team. This month saw the regular support for local units on the MRTCs, along with several pre-deployment opportunities for Global Threat/IED Awareness. The team’s facility played the host to the first institutional session of the Dismounted C-IED Tactics Master Trainer Course. Along with these major events, the team was involved in the local functionality trials of the Warfighter C-IED Distance Learning Course. This course will be a relevancy upgrade to the existing C-IED DL product on ALMS that we highlighted in the May 2012 issue of our newsletter. To cap the efforts of this busy month, members of the team participated in a locally hosted Law Enforcement seminar on Detection and Identification of Home Made Explosives. The MCoE C-IED Team is on-call to support any requesting unit. To schedule training contact, Tom Dale at 706-545-6577, thomas.l.dale.ctr@mail.mil or Jerry Niggemann 706-545-8823, gerald.e.niggemann.civ@mail.mil.



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MCoE IED Defeat

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Links of Interest

- **Joint IED-Defeat Organization** @ <https://www.jieddo.dod.mil/>
- **KNIFE Training site** @ <https://jknife.jieddo.dod.mil/pages.knifepublic.aspx>
- **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:** <http://www.wood.army.mil/dcied>
- **Army C-IED Professional Forum** <https://forums.army.mil/SECURE/CommunityBrowser.aspx?id=131710&lang=en-US>

Around the World

(IED topics from around the world)



NORTHCOM: SOUTHCOM: EUCOM: AFRICOM: PACOM

Attack the Network

Attack the Network (AtN) operations are defined as lethal and nonlethal actions or operations against friendly, neutral, and threat networks conducted continuously and simultaneously at multiple levels. These operations enable operational success by capitalizing on supporting friendly networks, influencing neutral networks, and creating key vulnerabilities that neutralize the threat networks' ability to function.

The Attack the Network MTT provides staff training to Active, Reserve and National Guard Units at the Brigade & Battalion level at no cost to the unit. The MTT is capable of 1, 2 or 3 day teaches in order to meet the unit's requirements. The Attack the Network (AtN) course trains staff members to recognize and understand friendly, neutral and threat networks operating within their operational environment. Staff members are taught to use the six pillars of AtN to synchronize the actions of staff sections in order to successfully direct operations and utilize resources to mitigate threat networks.

The Joint Expeditionary Team (JET) has seen positive effects from the AtN course in regards to units coming in better prepared and understanding the capabilities of the C-IED enablers that help mitigate the threat while operating in an IED environment.

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