



MCoE IED Defeat

Current Events

“Improvised explosive devices (IEDs) remain the single most dangerous threat to our Soldiers—all branches and all ranks—on the battlefield. They are ...very clearly an enduring threat.”
 -- General Martin E. Dempsey

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For over 12 years, our men and women in uniform have been engaged in a fight against an enemy that is well informed and interconnected globally. Tactics, techniques, and procedures (TTPs) have been shared across many different forms of communication. Each event that takes place possesses some of the same characteristics and tell-tale signs. With attention to detail and good situational awareness our Soldiers can quickly identify the threat and exercise the exact amount of force to prevent the next attack. Actions that are taken before, during, and after each event should be recorded in either some sort of after action report or patrol debrief.

Recent events such as the failed personnel borne improvised explosive device (PBIED) in Kandahar and the complex attack on the Iranian embassy in Beirut can help shape the next training event. In the case of the failed PBIED attack in Kandahar, security forces identified the attacker and using small arms fire, killed the suicide attacker without detonating the device. Teaching our Soldiers the rules of engagement and incorporating them into your training will give them the advantage when facing a situation where they would have to disable or kill the attacker. As for the embassy bombing in Beirut, two devices were used and 23 people were killed. The first device was a PBIED and the second, much larger device, was the vehicle borne improvised explosive device (VBIED). This event shows that just because one device has been detonated, does not mean that there is not another close by. Using this scenario in training can teach our Soldiers that once an event happens, there is a need to clear the area prior to rushing in to care for the injured. Use the five Cs (Confirm, Clear, Cordon, Check, and Control) and maintain security throughout casualty evacuation and recovery operations.

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 numerous other enablers will add to your unit’s preparation for upcoming training or deployments.



PBIED and VBIED attack on the Iranian embassy in Beirut



Failed PBIED attack in Kandahar, AFG

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

Emerging Technology

The Army has been rapidly equipping our Soldiers in the field with equipment that could save our Soldier's lives especially in the area of robotics. The AvantGuard by G-Nuis can be used to assist our Soldiers while mounted or dismounted. These platforms can incorporate several features: mount a weapon system that can be remotely fired, detection sensors, carry counter measures, and enemy fire detection system. It can carry heavier loads and even be used during casualty evacuation. Each of these systems can be remotely operated or semi-autonomous so that it can detect and avoid obstacles. ([learn more](#))



The AvantGuard MKI



The AvantGuard MKII

Fort Benning C-IED Training Events

Mines Training Cadre, 29th IN Support:

The C-IED team just completed a week long CIED Train the Trainer course for the new cadre of the Mines Training facility. The cadre received detailed blocks of instruction on topics like: (1) the Contemporary Operational Environment, (2) IED Components (typical and unique) , (3) IED Visual Indicators/Ground Sign Awareness, (4) Insurgent TTPs (with a global perspective), (5) Operate in an IED Environment, (6) Vulnerable Point (VP) / Vulnerable Area (VA) drills and searches , and (7) Combat Enablers (Covering Organizational types of Enablers and tactical types such as Dogs, Robotics, Man Portable Line Charge and various Hand Held Detectors to include the AN/PSS-14, Minehound, Goldie, Gizmo and CIEA).

Additionally, the cadre received IED Station (formerly known as Petting Zoos) instructional classes on the most effective way to brief each point. They received a detailed Counter Radio Controlled IED Electronic Warfare (CREW) brief that included both mounted and dismounted systems and how the training sets can be employed with local TADSS for realism.

The event was topped off with an operator certification on the Improvised Explosive Device Effects Simulator allowing cadre to operate the system in accordance with Army regulations and Safety standards, as well as familiarization on selected Training Aids, Devices, Simulators, and Simulations employed at the MCoE.



MCoE C-IED Training and Awareness



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.

The "Face" of Insurgent "Smart IED" Technology

The holiday season is now upon the West, and many will be traveling or gathering in large groups at celebratory events providing targets of opportunity to those that wish us ill. As the fight against IEDs continues, the world is seeing an increase in the use of the insurgent's smart bomb- the suicide bomber. Formerly seen in use in predominantly Middle Eastern countries, the suicide bomber has found use out in the Pacific realm and in both Russia and parts of Africa. A book celebrating suicide bombers has been found in the Arizona desert along known illegal immigrant routes.

Coalition forces have developed a standard list of "typical" indicators for the Person Born IED (PBIED), but as the war progressed, an adaptive enemy was quick to exploit perceived social weaknesses. The typical indicators ranged from:

- Military aged males
- Unseasonable dress or conspicuous, bulky clothes
- Obvious or awkward attempts to "blend in" to a crowd
- Repeated & nervous handling of parts of clothing
- Profuse sweating, slow-paced walking while focusing on sides
- Attempts to stay away from security personnel or doesn't follow security instructions
- Hesitant, nervous muttering, or prayer
- Perfumed, recently shaved (*it would after all -be the last greatest act of their life*)



Recent SBIED in Bulgaria.



Recent female SBIED in Russia.

Insurgent and terrorist groups are now using women and children to carry out these attacks and have in the past used the mentally handicapped. They have also altered or adapted to "norms" with the use of items that fit in (school bags, head gear, etc). This reinforces the necessity for the Warfighter to be aware of his surroundings and be able to assess situations and individuals. This profiling is

routinely done by law enforcement agencies worldwide and is based on several "domains."

Soldiers need to quickly establish a baseline or understanding of what's normal and acceptable then, they will be able to hunt for the anomalies from the baseline that might indicate a threat. The domains should be used to develop a framework or the accepted limits of what your baseline is, as well as to assist the Warfighter in picking out those anomalies that pose a threat.

- Kinesics: The study of body language.
- Biometric Cues: Are uncontrollable bodily reactions in response to the world around us.
- Proxemics: The study of interpersonal relationships.
- Geographics: The study of people's relationship with their environment.
- Iconography: The displays that people are communicating about themselves and their beliefs.
- Atmospheric: The collective attitude and feel of an area.

In addition to these skills, the Warfighter must be aware that an Insider Threat is still a possibility when working with members of other nations. Soldiers should not allow themselves to be involved in conversations with partners involving topics of sensitivity: politics, theology/religion, and gender-based issues.

The MCoE is addressing these necessary skills through the Advanced Situational Awareness Course and revised C-IED instruction inside our courses.

C-IED Team activity for the Warfighter

- Completed review of primary POIs (OSUT, NCOES, OES) at MCoE to ensure C-IED tasks and associated TADSS and supporting ammunition requirements are addressed accurately.
- Continue the implementation of relevant C-IED enabler introduction, familiarization, and use during local/MCoE training sessions. Enablers include HHDs, Man Portable Line Charge trainer, CREW/THOR III, SPARK, RHINO, and Cyclone.
- Employ low cost training solutions (virtual, dL, IMI) to support learning in a budget constrained environment.
- Respond to RFIs regarding MCoE C-IED training submitted by the Joint Services.
- Promote a TRADOC “Best Practices” perspective on 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](#)

[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](#)

C-IED Hot Topic: Train the Trainer (cont)



Cadre from the Mines Training facility receive “Hands On” instruction on various hand held detectors used in theater. The experience and understanding gained here will benefit new Soldiers in basic training.

C-IED Team Lead Comments

Holiday Seasons:

We are in that time of year again when everyone will be headed home or soon returning back to duty because of the holidays. This is a great time for all of us to reconnect with family and friends after a very busy 2013. During our travels we must not forget to remain vigilant. These seasonal times (predictability) provide those that wish the West ill with plenty of opportunity for a strike that would most assuredly hit large groups of people and be played out over and over by the media (just what the bad guy wants to help strike doubt and fear into the West). We saw this with Flight 253 over Detroit on Christmas Eve in 2009, Christmas Day terror attacks in Nigeria by the group Boko Haram in 2011, as well as plotted terrorist attacks for Orthodox Christmas services in Russia’s volatile southern republic of Kabardino-Balkaria. The take away for us to remember is where people gather in large numbers, so does the attention and possibility of enemy activity.

On behalf of the MCoE C-IED Team, I’d like to take this time to thank all of our Service members for the jobs they do and the sacrifices they and their families make while protecting the freedoms this country enjoys. Safe travels and Safe return.

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



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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://www.us.army.mil/suite/collaboration/GetDocument.do?doid=17964848>
- (Users should be aware of site maintenance down times)

Around the World

(IED topics from around the world)



C-IED Train the Trainer:

Instructors from the 29th IN Rgt (MTA) underwent a 40hr C-IED Train the Trainer at Leyte Field to help ensure cadre were familiar with the latest trends and enablers.



Instructors get familiar with the Man Portable Line Charge (MPLC).



Instructors get familiar with Man Portable Electronic Warfare suites.