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Hot Topic

MCoE IED Defeat

Current Events

“We must institutionalize the hard-won lessons of the last 10 years and not let counter-IED capabilities and skills atrophy,” Barbero said. “The threat is enduring and therefore, counter-IED training for warfighters and commanders must also be enduring.”
Quote from Gen. Barbero Commander Joint IED Defeat Organization

As the new fighting season begins, Coalition forces continue to transfer responsibility to our Afghan partners and they take the lead for all security operations. Our Soldiers will continue to mentor these elements during training events and missions throughout the transfer process. The signature of US Forces will be smaller and with that the risk level increases. We need to ensure that our partners that are taking the lead are receiving the most relevant information and techniques in searching for improvised explosive devices (IEDs) regardless of the form. Our Soldiers must remain vigilant at all times and even more so now because of the rise of insider attacks. Each member of the team must be able to teach and at the same time apply the nine principles of IED Defeat. Finally, our elements will scale back operations and turn focus towards retrograde operations. As this takes place, our bases will be the targets of opportunity as they were in Iraq. The enemy will use this time to reintroduce improvised rocket assisted munitions (IRAMs) or mortars, personnel borne improvised explosive devices (PBIEDs), and vehicle borne improvised explosive devices (VBIEDs). We need to maintain security, improve our positions, and remind everyone that the fight is not over until the last Soldier steps off the plane at home.



Member of a Security Force Advise and Assist Team (SFAAT) with his AFGHAN Partner



ANSF taking the lead

Spring is upon us and the training tempo has not slowed down. We continue to provide the utmost quality training events from the classroom, virtual, and live training exercise support. The operational environment changes every day because our enemy changes his tactics, techniques, and procedures (TTPs). Our IED Awareness and Threat Awareness briefings can be tailored to a specific area of operation or cover the global threat. Virtual Battle Space 2 (VBS2) can give your unit an opportunity to conduct virtual rehearsals, identify, and correct potential issues prior to moving a single piece of equipment. During your live training events, our team provides subject matter expert (SME) advice to our leaders and Soldiers while exposing them to the latest TTPs. With the use of training aids, devices, simulators, and simulations we add realistic conditions to your training exercise.

Emerging C-IED Technology

As the advancement of our hand held detectors continues, so does the need to train our Soldiers on them. Classroom instruction and hands-on practical exercises give our Soldiers the knowledge base for basic operations. Only time and experience can make one a subject matter expert on a particular piece of equipment.

The Visual Support Technology for Explosive Detection (VaST) may be a solution to helping our Soldiers with sweeping techniques. VaST can be used in both training and the operational environment. The original intent was to aid minefield clearance teams charged with clearing mines left behind by warring elements. Although it will not aid the user in the exact location of a device, it will give the user immediate feedback on the sweep pattern. ([Click here to learn more](#))



Visual Support Technology for Explosive Detection (VaST)



Prototype tool detects gaps during a training session

Fort Benning C-IED Training

IED Awareness Session: 3/11 IN (OCS)

This month the team provided C-IED Global threat sessions to students of both 3/11 OCS. The afternoon session served as a Check on Learning from the C-IED instruction candidates received during Basic Combat Training and addressed the topics of: IED Facts, How they share TTPs/Why they use them, Afghanistan trends, Components/Initiating systems, Key IED types (SBIEDs, LMC/NMC devices) and available enablers employed to counter them, HME, Principles of IED-D operations, Establishing a baseline, Markers/Ground signs, the CAGE formula, VPs/VAs, Confirmations, CREW concept and topics, Bio-metrics highlights, and Insider threats. A closing emphasis was placed on the necessity that leaders reinforce the lessons learned from over ten years of conflict. Nothing in the operational environment should be taken for granted, and that unused or misused enablers and best practices, are useless efforts in the continuing struggle to negate the effects of IEDs.



Candidates review basic components



A "Hands On" understanding



Discussing PBIED indicators

Training Tip



Knowing what Right looks like. (Actions During the Patrol-Pt 2)

During the C 3/11 OCS'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
- 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.

1. The element leader employs available aerial ISR capabilities to extend tactical reach, negate the effects of terrain and perform a wide area search in order to identify enemy threats and likely IED engagement areas.
2. The element leader employs mounted and dismounted Counter Radio Controlled Electronic Warfare systems to protect against any RCIED threat.
 - a) Leader determines the number of suites required to provide adequate coverage for his entire element.
 - b) Leader determines the effects and impacts of vehicle mounted EW suites on any dismounted operations.
3. The element leader employs portable radio direction finders to detect enemy ground-based radio emitters which could indicate the presence of enemy command and control nodes, observation posts, and spotter positions. (Ref to Pre Patrol Item #3)
4. The element leader employs available off-leash capable explosive detection dogs to provide standoff detection of EH. (Ref to Pre Patrol Item #3)
5. The element leader employs available unmanned ground systems (e.g. robotics) to aid in the detection, investigation, interrogation and/or neutralization of EH, IEDs and IED components.
6. The element leader employs available ground penetrating radar (GRP), command wire, and high/low metal handheld detection equipment to locate buried EH, IEDs and IED components.
7. Utilize visual equipment (Dismounted Optics, Vehicle mounted systems, etc) to detect, and investigate EH, IEDs and IED components.
8. The element leader employs explosive linear charges in high threat EH areas to assist in the location, destruction or disruption of IEDs and IED components, while staying within the ROE and limiting the effects on Civilian routine/infrastructure.
9. If warranted during interactions with the local populace, the element leader will utilize available biometric equipment to enroll or verify an individual's identity in support of attack the network activities. (Ref to Pre Patrol Item #1-C-III)
10. If warranted during interactions with the local populace, the element leader will utilize available trace and/or vapor explosive detection equipment to check personnel for explosive contamination.
11. If bulk fertilizer is encountered during dismounted operations, the element leader will utilize explosive precursor detection kits to determine if the fertilizer is legal to possess and confiscate any illegal fertilizers.

WARNING: At no time will untrained personnel attempt to collect samples of suspected homemade explosives or precursors for testing purposes. Personnel encountering suspected homemade explosives or precursors will immediately back out of the area and call EOD.

Patrol leaders who apply these basic steps and measures before and during their operations will decrease the amount of tactical surprise by the enemy and his use of IEDs to influence the battlefield and ensure a degree of freedom of action.

C-IED Team Path Forward

- Support the Army Research Laboratory in the data collection and user assessment of the 3D Ground Sign Awareness training program and the laptop based Anomaly Detection program.
- Seek 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 UTTP
Bulletin 2011-02](#)

[ROC-IED
Training Link](#)

[RAPID Reports](#)

[Marine Corps
Center for
Lessons Learned](#)

[CREW Training](#)

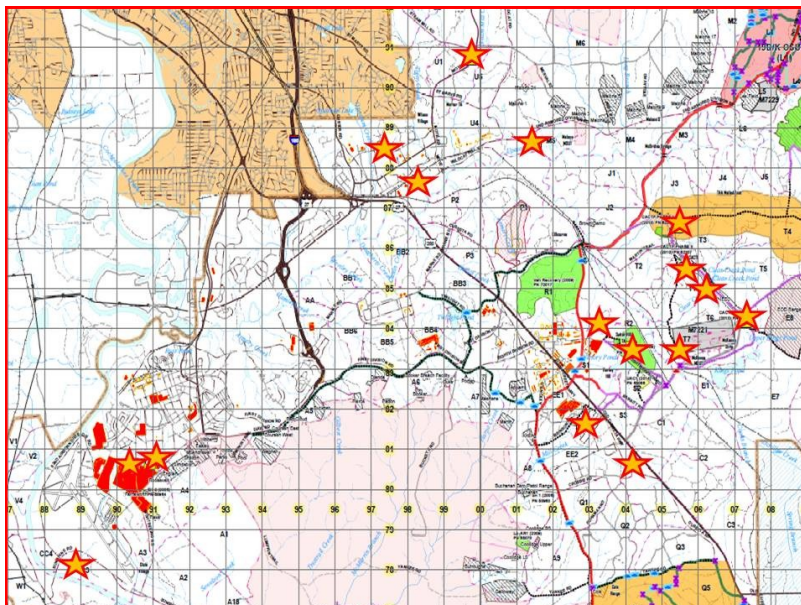
[Attack the
Network
Homepage](#)

[West Point
Negotiation
Project](#)

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

MCoE C-IED Training Sites

No matter where you’re at on the MCoE, you’re probably close to a C-IED training site. These sites range from mounted and dismounted training lanes, sites with multiple IED stations, several C-IED Enablers, and virtual simulations class rooms. Units are reminded that IED stations sites require no scheduling, but Enabler/Simulations classrooms require two week notice, and lanes, to include the HSTL should be booked through RFMSS/BASE4D.



C-IED Team Lead Comments

Remaining true to the letter of Instruction

The headlines read: Coalition Soldier(s) killed by road side bomb. We’ve seen this too many times, and sad as it may be, there is a disturbing trend developing in the hidden details of many of these reports. American warfighters and our coalition partners are being successfully attacked due to the lack of adherence to the C-IED instruction received. Various C-IED enablers and Best Practices in theater are not being used, or have not been properly employed per instructions.

The key learning points of any training session regarding any piece of equipment or Tactic, Technique, or Procedure (TTP) are developed for a reason; deviate from this established baseline, and the chances of exposure or exploitation by an observant opponent increases drastically. “Avoid setting patterns” is one of the Principles of IED Defeat, but another is “Use available Technology,” and by the implied understanding, the appropriate use of TTPs associated with each device.

The attack in Boston last month only reinforces the fact that the use of IEDs is proliferating and not declining due to any drawdown of forces in various hotspots around the world.

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.



Tom Dale



MCoE IED Defeat

Maneuver Center of Excellence KeyBridge Technologies C-IED Team POCs

- Tom Dale (Team Lead)
thomas.l.dale.ctr@mail.mil
- Cliff Repicky (Ops)
cliff.repicky.ctr@mail.mil
- Louis Francis (Training)
louis.j.francis.ctr@mail.mil
- Andrew Freeman (Analyst)
andrew.freeman1.ctr@mail.mil
- Samuel Molina (Analyst)
samuel.e.molina.ctr@mail.mil
- John J. Fairchild II (Analyst)
john.j.fairchild2.ctr@mail.mil
- Peter Black (Analyst)
peter.b.black.ctr@mail.mil
- Robert Perry (Analyst)
robert.p.perry1.ctr@mail.mil



L to R: Mr. Fairchild, Mr. Perry, Mr. Black, Mr. Francis, Mr. Molina, Mr. Freeman, Mr. Dale, Mr. Repicky
(Not pictured: Mr Koger)

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>

Training Support

HHC 2/69 AR IED Threat and Dismounted Lane training.



IED Threat Awareness Session prior to lane training.

Around the World

(IED topics from around the world)



Soldiers evacuate casualties after incident on dismounted lane..