



CJTF-7 OIF Smart Card 4

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The IED and VBIED Threat (Improved Explosives Device) (Vehicular Borne IED)



IEDs and VBIEDs are the largest cause of Coalition injury at current time, and the largest threat that coalition forces face. An IED can be almost anything with any type of material and initiator. And vehicles of every imaginable sort can become a vehicle borne IED. Vigilance in performing your duties and ensuring there is 360 degree security are keys to not becoming a statistic to the IED threat.

CALL EOD – Do Not Be A Bloody HERO.

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THE IEDS EMPLOYED HAVE HAD ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING CHARACTERISTICS:

- COMMAND DETONATED – EITHER BY WIRE OR REMOTE DEVICE
- TIME DELAY FUSE- IEDS COULD ALSO BE TIME DELAYED TO DETONATE.

IEDS MAY BE EMPLACED IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS:

- EMPLACED ALONG MSRS AND ASRS.
- EMPLOYED ALONG UNIMPROVED ROADS IN MEDIANS
- CONCEALED IN NON-THREATENING PACKAGING

DO NOT APPROACH OR TAMPER WITH A SUSPECTED IED. CALL EOD

REMEMBER THE 4 C's – CLEAR, CORDON, CONTROL, and CALL EOD.

IED / UXO Battle Drill

Step 1. Clear Leave the immediate area; detonation may be imminent, secondary devices may be present.

Step 2. Cordon Establish a perimeter (300m small device/ 1000m up to van-size / 2000m water truck or semi)

Step 3. Control Maintain visual (Binoculars/scopes) observation to ensure no one tampers with the device; maintain security.

Step 4. Call EOD Immediately contact your supporting EOD to respond (9-line IED/UXO Spot Report).

This could be your hand if you try to neutralize UXOs or IEDs. The enemy has established collapsing circuits and booby traps to catch you when you try defusing. Leave it to the experts.



IED / UXO Report

- Line 1.** Date-Time Group (DTG): DTG item was discovered.
- Line 2.** Reporting Activity (unit identification code (UIC) and location (grid of UXO)).
- Line 3.** Contact Method: Radio frequency, call sign, point of contact (POC), and telephone number.
- Line 4.** Type of Ordinance: Dropped, projected, placed, or thrown. If known, give the size of the hazard area and number of items. Without touching, disturbing, or approaching (tripwire) the item, include details about size, shape, color and condition (intact or leaking).
- Line 5.** NBC Contamination: If present, be as specific as possible.
- Line 6.** Resources Threatened: Report any threatened equipment, facilities, or other assets.
- Line 7.** Impact on Mission: Provide a short description of your current tactical situation and how the presence of the UXO affects your status.
- Line 8.** Protective Measures: Describe any measures taken to protect personnel and equipment.
- Line 9.** Recommended Priority: Recommend a priority for response by EOD technicians or engineers.

Priority	Basis
Immediate	Stops unit's maneuver and mission capability or threatens critical assets vital to the mission.
Indirect	Slows the unit's maneuver and mission capability or threatens critical assets important to the mission.
Minor	Reduces the unit's maneuver and mission capability or threatens non-critical assets of value.
No Threat	Has little or no effect on the units' capabilities or assets.



155mm Artillery round next to the road, blasting cap and Det cord were located in the fuze well.



Spool of wire, battery, and a remote device were located at the firing observation point. At the top of a dirt mound.



Results of this incident were several soldiers requiring MEDEVAC along with loss of supplies, vehicle, and trailer. The person firing the device escaped before he could be engaged.

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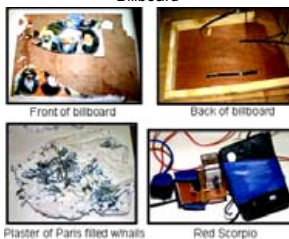
Emplacement TTPs

1. Camouflaging devices with bags of various types to resemble the garbage along the roadways or burying these devices in the roadbed.
2. Using a decoy device out in the open to slow or stop convoys in the kill zone of the actual device that is obscured along the route of travel.
3. Throwing devices from overpasses or from the road-side in front of approaching vehicles or the middle of convoys; usually done by males of all ages.
4. Emplaced in potholes (covered with dirt).
5. Employed along MSRs and ASRS (targeting convoys).
6. Employed along unimproved roads (targeting patrols).
7. IEDs often used in conjunction with RPG/SA fire as a distraction to divert attention of Coalition Forces (create a kill zone for subsequent attacks by RPG/SA fire).
8. VBIEDs used to gain access/close proximity to compounds/buildings.
9. Worn by attacker (suicide vests); possibly employed by women to gain proximity to Coalition Forces.

IEDs are disguised to look like any object and to function through a multitude of actions. An IED is only limited by the Bomber's imagination and capabilities. IEDs are unpredictable and extremely hazardous to all, including the Bomber.

Billboard

Cinder Block



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Remote Control Devices



RC Unit from Car Alarm

Wireless Doorbell

Cell Phone RC Unit

Remote control devices of every sort are showing up. They include Car Alarms, key fobs, Door Bells, Remotes for toy cars, Garage Door Openers, Cell Phones, FRS and GMRS two-way radios.

The adaptation of using radios, cell phones and other remote control devices has given the enemy the standoff ability to watch forces from a distance and not be compromised.

the enemy has continued to improve there techniques, and more sophisticated and destructive devices are being discovered.



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Common Roadside IEDs

Common roadside IEDs are explosives, usually an artillery or mortar round(s) placed near the road at the designated kill point. They may be hastily camouflaged with dirt, rocks, trash, or of items that are common along the road. Early in the operations, these devices were command detonated with usually an attack of small arms fire or RPG rounds.

Types of Explosives Used

The most common explosives used are military munitions, usually 122 mm or greater mortar/tank/artillery

- This is the easiest to use since there are so many munitions available in the ITO and they provided a ready made fragmentation effect
- Allows for relatively easy “daisy chaining”

Other types include putting PE4, TNT, or other explosive in container such as oil/paint cans.



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Vehicle Borne IEDs

Vehicle borne IEDs come in all shapes, colors, and sizes. From a simple passenger car, to a large delivery or sewage truck. There have even been instances of what appeared to be generators, donkey drawn carts, and ambulances used to attempt attacks on Coalition Forces and the New Iraqi Government. To include using vehicles that are familiar to coalition forces.

VBIEDs have increasingly used larger amounts of explosives, and the explosive charge has ranged anywhere from 100lbs to well over 1000 pounds. And has included things such as mortar rounds, rocket motors, rocket warheads, PE4 explosives, and artillery rounds.

A growing technique is to have multiple vehicles involved. The lead vehicle is used as a decoy or barrier buster, once it has been stopped or neutralized and the coalition forces start moving to inspect or detain – the main VBIED comes crashing through and into the crowd and detonates. Thus increasing their casualty ratio.

Service members need to stay alert to signs and indicators to prevent the VBIED from reaching its destination. Of these are fake markings and plates, official symbols in the wrong location, drivers that are not familiar with the vehicles controls, and drivers that seem to be agitated or lost in their directions.

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Why are VBIEDs more dangerous?



8ft wide by 3ft deep hole left by vehicle IED. The auto disintegrated upon detonation. Suspected 155mm artillery rounds as the main charge, unknown number of rounds used.

Wires connected to battery running back to the charge in the trunk, under the rear seat, and to the switch above the drivers sun visor. This VBIED was captured intact.



After ramming through the serpentine barrier, this VBIED detonated when the vehicle became disabled in gunfire. The vehicle vaporized.



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They bring the attack to YOU.



Fake Ambulance, had over 1000 pounds of explosives inside it.

Single vehicle, well over 1000 pounds of explosives. Was a white sewage pumping truck. Explosives hidden inside the tank.



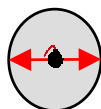
Delivery truck that detonated right outside the camp.

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IED Actions on the Scene

1) Immediately establish a security perimeter

- Clear the area of all civilians and soldiers
 - Airspace included
- Search for secondary devices
- Request Local MP support



300ft 360°
1000ft for large IED
2000ft for truck sized

2) Gather as much info as possible.

- What does the object look like?
- Where is the device?
- Who first identified the object?
 - Let them tell their story

* Have the person that identified the IED present for EOD to interview and question.

3) Notify EOD

- Request an expanded perimeter
- EOD will conduct analysis/diagnostics
- Remote Reconnaissance/Disruption
- Use EOD UXO/IED 9-Line



The enemy has increased its use of false IEDs to draw personnel into the kill zone. Using collapsing circuits, and using booby traps to catch personnel attempting to disarm IEDs.

REMEMBER – DO NOT ATTEMPT TO DISARM AN IED YOURSELF.

LEAVE IT TO THE EXPERTS.

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Countermeasures

- Use counter-recon and route security patrols along highly traveled MSR's and other convoy routes. Aggressive patrolling can mitigate the threat; devices have been encountered that the perpetrator had not had time to finishing emplacing.
- While traveling in a convoy, watch the sides of the roads for objects that look out of place and stay alert.
- Increase the knowledge of Coalition forces on IED awareness and minimize knowledge of operations to non-Coalition personnel.
- Assume any manmade object encountered can contain an IED. Do not drive over or step on sandbags, garbage bags, burlap material, boxes, or garbage in the road while on patrol.
- Upon discovering an IED, assume it can be remote detonated. Be aware of any suspicious individuals in the area and secure a safe distance around the device.
- IEDs have been found that were targeting vehicles traveling in either the left or right lanes on the highways; drive aggressively and keep vigilance when driving for the above mentioned objects.
- IEDs currently used to target an initial Coalition activity (ex: convoy or patrol); future incidents could target a secondary activity (ex: first responders-MPs, EOD) as the devices and employment TTPs gain complexity.

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Key to Defeating the IED Threat

- LET THEM KNOW THAT YOU ARE READY:** The enemy is looking for an easy mark. He wants to get away. Show him that you are not an easy target.
- VEHICLE DISPERSION:** 75 m to 100 m or greater, makes it more difficult to correctly target the convoy – this results in late or early detonation and the likelihood that the enemy will not get away.
- KNOW THE INDICATORS:** Bags, piles of rocks, piles of dirt in or beside the road. If you don't like what you see, trust your instinct, stop, turn around, and go another way. Report observation through the chain of command. Let the experts check it out.
- VARY THE ROUTE AND TIME AND SPEED OF TRAVEL:** We know the enemy is watching us and attempting to determine our patterns; make every attempt to vary this pattern; never take the same route twice in two days. The enemy placed the IED there for a reason, and he is targeting you!
- ALWAYS HAVE FRONT AND REAR SECURITY OUT:** Roll up or remove HMMWV/FMTV canvas, so that you can see behind you, and pay attention to where you are going. Determine who has what security responsibilities before you move, face out during movement and constantly scan assigned sectors of fire. Many ambushes are initiated with an RPG shot from the rear.
- REPORT, SECURE AND REDUCE CACHE SITES:** The enemy is drawing his supply of explosives from somewhere.
- TRAVEL IN CONVOYS OF 3 OR MORE VEHICLES:** The enemy may not detonate the IED if he believes that he will be caught. It is very difficult to successfully attack 3 or more vehicles if they are widely dispersed.
- VEHICLE MODIFICATIONS:** Install machinegun mounts and outward facing seats.
- SANDBAG VEHICLES, WEAR IBA AND HELMETS:** ...these actions have saved lives.

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