



UNRESTRICTED
WARFARE
SYMPOSIUM

14 - 15 MARCH 2006

MEETING THE UNRESTRICTED
WARFARE THREAT:
INTEGRATING STRATEGY,
ANALYSIS AND TECHNOLOGY

Countering Common Adversary Weapons

Discussion Group Presentation

15 March 2006



Summary of Roundtable Insights

(Countering Common Adversary Weapons Roundtable)

- **IEDs are primary weapons of choice**
 - **Rapid IED development cycle**
 - **Remote Controlled IEDs are most common**
 - **Most difficult IEDs to counter are:**
 - > **Remote controlled devices**
 - > **Manhole charges**
 - > **Hybrid Fuze B IEDs**
- **Other primary threat weapons include:**
 - **Suicide, briefcase & vehicle bombs**
 - **RPGs (even a threat vs. armored vehicles)**
 - **Rockets & mortars (incl. home made rockets)**
 - **Man Portable Air Defense Weapons**
 - **UVs (potential future)**
- **IED use supported by:**
 - > **intelligence from local population**
 - > **detailed convoy pattern analysis**

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Summary of Roundtable Insights

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- **Tiered approach is necessary to defeat IEDs**
 - Defeat the device
 - Defeat the system
 - Defeat the insurgency
 - Defeat the movement
- **Do we understand the systemic interrelationships between our information, physical distribution, and essential societal services systems? Do we appreciate our vulnerabilities?**

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Discussion Group Insights

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- **IEDs are weapons which are physical, informational & social/political. They target both Iraq & America & bystanders in region & the world. Multiple purposes to IEDs in addition to a means of blowing up vehicles :**
 - One purpose is as an info operations weapon.
 - Tactical/operational purpose is to separate US troops from the populace and modify our behavior.
 - Foment civil war.
- **Focus on environment that supports groups that use the device, rather than the device itself.**
 - If IEDs don't achieve their purpose, they won't continue to be used (e.g., road to airport).
- **But, IEDs as devices will remain a future threat unless we develop effective countermeasures.**
- **More important to defeat adversary's strategy than his weapons.**

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Unanswered Questions

(Countering Common Adversary Weapons Roundtable)

- Are we looking at the root cause rather than the device?
- What's the IED after next?
- Can we adapt as fast as the adversary?

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Suggested Actions for **Strategy**

(Countering Common Adversary Weapons Roundtable)

- Separate the insurgents from the population and get local populace to support security forces (Iraqi and American) overcome past & establish trust.
 - Need to understand how to “take” the village. An uphill PR campaign given Abu Ghraib.
- Understand motivations of different factions and their reasons for using IEDs in order to effectively counter them.
- This is a silent conflict – or ought to be.
- Broaden our focus – not just “here and now,” but the threat in the future. Include other aspects of URW.
- Need to change how we think about conflict – not always a technological solution.

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Suggested Actions for **Analysis**

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- A discussion of values and a consensus.
- Metrics that reflect complex values and allow for direct comparison of options.
- Greater need for analytical collaboration – TTIL type research needs to be brought to bear on IEDs.
- Need a better understanding of human and information dimensions of environment & tools for analysis (not just focus on physical phenomena).

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Suggested Actions for **Technology**

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- **Need capability to detect bomb factories**
 - > wide area coverage of trace detection of explosive chemicals
 - > technology for efficient monitoring of waste stream (garbage, sewage, etc.)
- **Need technology for locating the IED man-in-the-loop, away from urban areas**
- **Need technology to detect & track large-scale vehicle bombs**
- **Need to detect changes in behavior of population**
- **Need for sensors that detect changes and disturbances in road and ground surface**
- **Need for ground penetration detection of devices at standoff distances**
- **Need technical means for safe clandestine reporting**

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Parting Shot

- **Future conferences of this type are needed, perhaps to be conducted at the classified level.**

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