Improvised explosive devices

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The characteristic weapon of modern warfare has been the IED, which was the leading cause of death among coalition 22 troops during conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan. devices may range from rudimentary homemade explosives to sophisticated devices containing high explosives. Within this broad range of devices are further categories including road side explosives and blast mines, suicide bombers and explosive formed projectiles (EFPs). EFPs are a particular form of device with a deformable plate on the uppermost surface. The deto nation of the de vice and expansion of the explosive products deforms this plate into a missile shape, while simultaneously accelerating it upwards to very high velocities. Alternatively , copper plates ma y melt to create a high-speed molten jet (a shaped charge). Upon contact with a target (typically a vehi cle), the missile impacts the hull of the vehicle with a degree of penetration dependent on the device and vehicle armour. Huge amounts of kinetic energy are dispersed through the vehicle and occupants. Injuries may be caused by both direct impact of the deforming hull and gross upwards acceleration followed by downwards deceleration of the whole vehicle. Improvised explosive devices

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