

STATEMENT BY

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BEFORE THE

HOUSE ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND INVESTIGATIONS
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

ON THE ENDURING CAPABILITIES
OF A COUNTER-IED ORGANIZATION

SECOND SESSION, 110TH CONGRESS
16 SEPTEMBER 2008

Chairman Snyder, Ranking Member Akin, and distinguished Members of the Subcommittee, thank you for inviting me to appear before you today. It is a genuine pleasure to represent this great organization, staffed with personnel who passionately serve our men and women in uniform with a keen sense of urgency. My testimony will speak to current improvised explosive device (IED) trends, outline Joint IED Defeat Organization's (JIEDDO) four mission areas, discuss some key counter-IED (C-IED) initiatives, and address JIEDDO's enduring role within the Department of Defense (DoD).

I would like to share my thoughts with you on what I believe is the best course of action to preserve JIEDDO's unique capabilities beyond this fiscal year. It is also my hope that the information provided about the scope of JIEDDO's efforts clearly illuminates the need for an institutionalized C-IED organization capable of meeting the challenges of the Long War we face against global terrorism. IEDs remain a persistent threat abroad, not only in our current theaters of operation in Iraq and Afghanistan, but throughout the world, and we must ensure the protection of our nation by continuing to eliminate the IED threat from setting foot within our homeland.

In Iraq and Afghanistan, the enemy's ability to emplace IED's has a strategic impact on Coalition Forces. In response, the Department of Defense (DoD) established JIEDDO in February of 2006 to "focus (lead, advocate, and coordinate) all DoD actions in support of Combatant Commanders' and their respective Joint Task Forces' efforts to defeat IEDs as weapons of strategic influence." Established as a jointly manned organization reporting directly to the Deputy Secretary of Defense, JIEDDO understands the need for a comprehensive solution to this complex threat and is committed to defeating IEDs and the networks that employ them.

To date, JIEDDO's success has been dramatic. In June 2003, the enemy generated more than one Coalition Force casualty with each IED he emplaced. Today, he must emplace over nine IEDs to cause one casualty. The combined impact of that trend with the continued emphasis on disrupting the capability of insurgent networks to generate and emplace IEDs has dramatically improved the survivability of our forces.

JIEDDO executes its mission through four critical mission areas: rapid acquisition, operations and intelligence fusion, training support, and strategic planning. While some aspects of each mission area may exist in other DoD organizations, the combination of these capabilities, organized under JIEDDO's single point of focus, creates an unprecedented synergy in the fight against IEDs. In order to fulfill these mission areas, JIEDDO is organized primarily into three lines of operation (LOO): Attack the Network, Defeat the Device, and Train the Force. JIEDDO uses a combination of capabilities within these three LOOs to support the warfighter.

In the mission area of rapid acquisition, JIEDDO responds to urgent warfighter needs through the development and delivery of capabilities, normally within a period of four-24 months. As DoD's leader for C-IED investments, JIEDDO rapidly integrates the efforts of academia, industry, interagency, and joint and allied forces to focus and coordinate key investments across the tactical, operational, and strategic battlespace. JIEDDO uses aggressive finding networks to identify solutions to persistently difficult, high-priority, technical, and operational capability gaps.

JIEDDO is currently working 301 C-IED initiatives across the three LOOs. We also support a Science and Technology investment portfolio of 78 technology projects

that address critical C-IED technology capability gaps in the areas of explosives detection at standoff distance, social network analytic tools, and anticipated threats not yet observed in theater. Additionally, JIEDDO is currently responding to 87 active JUONs with 119 separate initiatives. Our rapid acquisition process, Joint IED Defeat Capability Approval and Acquisition Management Process (JCAAMP), allows JIEDDO to provide the warfighter with viable life saving solutions within 12 months.

During JIEDDO's first year, defeating the device was our central focus in order to save the life and limb of our warfighters and innocent Iraqi and Afghan civilians. As our positive impact in this area grew, we increased our focus on attack efforts to go after the networks that finance, construct, emplace, and initiate IEDs.

In spite of our many successes in defeating devices and attacking networks, IEDs continue to threaten the safety and long-term strategic interests of the United States and our allies. Recent examples range throughout the globe from the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Columbia (FARC) to tribal clans in the Horn of Africa, India, and the Philippines, but are most notably seen throughout the Middle East. In response to this global challenge, during this past year JIEDDO has placed increased emphasis toward our offensive capability by having our COIC, with its enabling operations and intelligence fusion mission area, focus even more on attacking networks.

Through the COIC, JIEDDO enables network attacks by providing nontraditional decision support and analytical tools to warfighters through operations and intelligence fusion. By developing and maintaining the Joint Common Operational Picture (JCOP) and the Joint Common Intelligence Picture (JCIP) for the C-IED fight, JIEDDO leverages existing intelligence and operations data to identify potential weaknesses and capability gaps so that we can quickly initiate the development of innovative solutions that will benefit our warfighters.

The COIC is a cross functional, multi-discipline interagency analytical platform in which members of the Intelligence Community participate to mass information and analysis on a deployed unit's problem within short, operationally-driven timelines. The COIC provides a comprehensive integration of capabilities critical to the warfighter, including: strategic reachback; access to data not routinely available to the warfighter; rapid fusion of operations, intelligence, adversary, and net-centric analysis. Additionally, the COIC is responsible for new analytical tools development, providing analysis within tactical level decision cycles, and maintaining the focus on enabling C-IED and Attack the Network operations. Based on the warfighter critical need for access to information, the COIC accelerated its net-centric operations capability this year and this, along with an extremely adaptive Systems Integration Lab, provides a highly responsive federated architecture with web-based tools and services making critical data continuously available and exploitable.

In 2007, the COIC averaged 84 requests for support (RFS) per month. So far in 2008, the COIC has averaged more than 170 RFSs per month from commanders in theater. User feedback points to more than 76 major operations since January 2007 in which the COIC products have played a key role. Additionally, the COIC currently averages 23,000 hits per month on its portal from individuals seeking IED data and analytical tools. Most queries come from warfighting units, however, a significant number of queries come from other government and Intelligence Community organizations.

Since January of 2008, when the COIC assumed a support role to the Baghdad Fusion Cell, its efforts have led to the detention of over 66 high-value individuals. The COIC's unique ability to fuse and deliver near real-time, strategic-level intelligence in support of tactical unit human network targeting, especially for conventional forces at battalion and brigade level, provides an unprecedented level of support to warfighters. During the past 18 months, in total, COIC has supported 213 missions that resulted in the kill or capture of 691 high-value targets.

JIEDDO also developed and continues to support the Law Enforcement Program, human-terrain teams, and operations research analysts to provide immediate analytical support at the brigade combat team level. The Weapons Technical Intelligence program, a set of key JIEDDO initiatives, includes Weapons Intelligence Teams, Combined Explosive Exploitation Cells, C-IED targeting programs, and the FBI's Terrorist Explosive Device Analytical Center, all enabling in-depth analysis of IEDs and network activity from the tactical to the strategic level.

Early in 2008, JIEDDO deployed teams to Iraq to enhance the warfighter's ability to focus on the networks employing the explosively formed penetrators (EFP). The EFP is one of the most lethal IEDs encountered in Iraq. These teams, called FOX teams, include law enforcement experts, aerial surveillance systems, and weapons technical experts. The FOX program enhances the Attack the Network capabilities of conventional forces in Iraq by supporting the effort to collect and exploit forensic data to defeat high-value EFP networks in Iraq. Since the initial deployment of FOX teams in February 2008, the program has completed multiple weapons cache exploitation missions that led to the seizure of EFP components and neutralized those networks' production capabilities. Raid assistance and exploitation missions have led to the capture of high-value targets in EFP-specific networks.

In order to effectively deliver new equipment and network attack enablers to our warfighters, JIEDDO provides the force with comprehensive training support. JIEDDO headquarters and its Joint Center of Excellence (JCOE) provide this critical training support by rapidly synchronizing input from JIEDDO-deployed field teams, unit debriefs, and in-theater surveys by migrating the results to all four Services' training bases to ensure deploying warfighters are training against the most current threat using proven tactics, techniques, and procedures (TTPs). Additionally, JIEDDO conducts predeployment battle staff training for brigade and regimental combat teams, as well as division and corps headquarters.

By investing in home station training capabilities across more than 50 installations to increase individual and small unit training, the Combined Training Centers (CTC) can focus on high-payoff collective skill training associated with attacking the network operations. By financing modifications at the CTCs, such as replicating cell phone networks, JIEDDO has enabled a more realistic training environment for our troops so that they are accustomed to the surroundings and the cultures they will experience prior to actually deploying to theatre. Having the opportunity to test new equipment and TTPs under such realistic conditions has enormous benefit to our warfighters.

Another key, recent example of JIEDDO's impact in training support to the force occurred after recognizing a significant increase in the enemy's use of homemade explosives (HME). As a result of feedback from JIEDDO personnel in Iraq and

Afghanistan, JIEDDO identified a gap in its pre-deployment training support to deploying warfighters on HME identification and mitigation techniques. Through the JCOE, JIEDDO initiated a training program on counter-HME TTPs, a mere 22 days following the capability gap identification.

JIEDDO remains DoD's lead for strategic planning in order to develop goals and execute priorities to counter IEDs for the foreseeable future in the Long War. JIEDDO develops and publishes the DoD C-IED guidance to support COCOM C-IED planning efforts, continues to further refine and report DoD's C-IED performance measures to the Department's senior leaders, and communicates openly with Congress ensure our leaders are aware of the IED threat. As DoD continues to strengthen its response to evolving asymmetric threats, JIEDDO is uniquely postured to accept a wider strategic planning role.

Mr. Chairman, we are making great progress.

However, in spite of our successes, IEDs remain the enemy's weapon of choice in Iraq and Afghanistan. We currently see over 1,400 IED events in Iraq and Afghanistan and another 350 elsewhere in the world every month. These numbers have the capacity to go much higher, because the enemy will continue to exploit readily available commercial technology to rapidly produce IEDs in unending cycles of innovation. We must continue to apply pressure to make IEDs too costly to produce and too risky to employ. We will never run this weapon off the battlefield, but we must relentlessly attack the networks that finance, develop, and emplace IEDs. In this Long War, where global terrorism will continue to manifest itself as persistent conflict waged against human targets, we must also further diminish the strategic effects of IEDs, reducing their appeal for global employment by violent extremists. JIEDDO is the organization to combat this critical threat.

Through its focus on IEDs, JIEDDO has learned a great deal about other domains, such as human networks. In order to further leverage JIEDDO's unique abilities to support the war in Iraq and Afghanistan, while meeting the global challenge of prevailing in the Long War, it may be appropriate at a future time to widen JIEDDO's focus to include other asymmetric threats. JIEDDO's unique synergy and single point of focus have clearly demonstrated the ability to achieve decisive results against IEDs.

In closing, as we look to the future, JIEDDO will aggressively continue to lead DoD's efforts to find and develop capabilities to counter IEDs and to enable attacks against the networks that employ them. We must continue to anticipate and innovate faster than a thinking and resourceful enemy. As we move forward, JIEDDO will strive for an even greater impact. Our goal remains clear- to defeat IEDs as weapons of strategic influence.