the surge was also responsible. Once again, the local citizens, feeling more secure, are stepping forward to provide information to our forces about cache locations for IED munitions as well as the locations of some IEDs and the buried wires used in some instances to command detonate them. We have also continued to benefit from the success of our counter-remote electronic warfare (CREW) devices, which force the enemy to depend upon victim operated and command detonated IEDs. The former are more difficult to build and install, requiring specialized personnel that are not easily replaced when our offensive operations successfully target them. The command detonated IEDs force the enemy to remain on site near the IED, which has made it easier to find and eliminate them as a threat. Overall, MND-B has seen the beginning of a reversal in IED trends for the first time in years. The combined efforts of the surge also impacted the supply of munitions available to the enemy, and forces him to search for new sources of explosives to conduct attacks.

Where we need to be: Current successful operations have disrupted enemy operations; however, more Electronic Close Targeting Reconnaissance (ECTR) equipment would greatly enhance the MND-B targeting effort. The enemy's use of EFPs continues to increase with support from foreign governments and remains the most lethal threat to Coalition forces. Improved armor systems for our vehicles, EFP detection systems, route clearing equipment, and exploitation support are critical to overcoming this threat. Finally, additional Persistent Surveillance and Dissemination System of Systems (PSDS2) capability would allow MND-B to survey and detect threats to more of the fixed sites and routes.