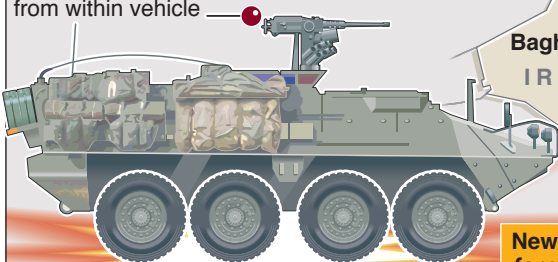


Shaped-charge bombs target U.S. troops

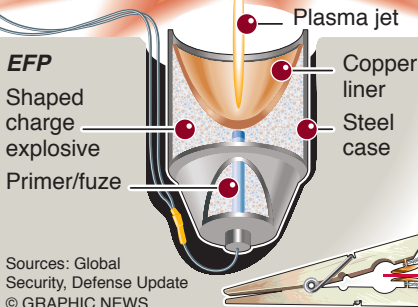
A string of heavy losses to Stryker infantry units from improvised explosive devices (IEDs) has raised questions about the vulnerability of state-of-the-art army troop-carriers. At least seven Strykers sent to Iraq's Diyala province as part of the "troop surge" in March have been destroyed

Stryker: Vehicle carries two crew members and 11 infantrymen

Remote Weapons Station: Operates .50 calibre machine gun and grenade launchers from within vehicle



New-style explosively formed penetrators (EFPs) are buried by insurgents under roads



Plasma jet: On detonation, liner forms spike of molten metal
Plasma jet hits underside armour with penetrating pressure of around 10 million kg/sq cm

EFP fired remotely by clothes peg trigger