Improvised Explosively Formed Projectile
Typical of devices deployed in Iraq

Formation of the Projectile

The heat and shock wave from the detonation of the explosive projects the steel / copper plate from the front of the weapon at a velocity approaching 2000 metres / second forming a metallic dart capable of penetrating armour plate up to 10 centimetres thick or more at a range of 100 metres or more.

This relatively simply constructed weapon is highly directional and capable of being aimed to a fair degree of accuracy – hence it’s popularity as a stand-off anti armour weapon with Islamic insurgents.
Damage caused by a Platter Charge on a Up-Armored HMMWV.

Actual Armor Penetration
Damage to an Up Armored SUV Hit by an EFP
Common Emplacement Techniques

- Recently we have seen the main charge placed on the curb along side the road and angled upward.
- Additionally they have been placed on top of guardrails.
- Usually, but not always, these IEDs are placed on the left side of the road in order to target the vehicle's driver.