

But the IEDs we got, or our, the riflemen became very, very good at detecting them. Mm, we had, I think we've got one rifleman now, now a Lance Corporal Butanna Bur [ph 0:24:19] who himself personally found nineteen on the tour.

*Nineteen?*

Mm, and he, of which I think seven of them were low metal content or no metal content meaning that the Vallon that he's sweeping the ground with on, you know, was, wouldn't have found them but he found them, which, you know, makes you think actually we've got some guys who are pretty special out there who, who, who pick this up. And they start looking at ground disturbance, they start looking at, you know, looking around and, and really tune into the environment and just go 'yes, there is something, there is something there'. Mm, and then lo and behold that they call in the IEDD team and by the time he's found his first five or six, you know, the, the Platoon Commander's or Section Commander's not going to question him and he's just going to go 'yes, right', mm, you know.

They adapted on a weekly basis.

*Okay.*

Mm, I mean we saw over the time we were there we, and this is again is the problem because if you start getting, we started seeing no metal content IEDs, which were made out of, they were quite

literally they didn't have a battery or anything like that they were a log that was cut in the middle with a spike, a wooden spike going down like a giant match which then had a small detonator which sort of lit the fuse and went into the detonator and went into the thing. So there was virtually no metal, no detectable metal in it.

*Okay.*

Mm, and it was sort of you, you tread on the top of a log. You know, they'd bury the whole thing, tread on the top of the log and it just sparks it, it just goes, and the only way you can detect that is through ground sign.

*Okay.*

You know, you can't detect it through using a metal detector, you know, you'd be very hard pushed to find it any other way other than just thinking about where, if I was an insurgent where would I place it and then having a look and going 'that's a vulnerable, that there if I was an insurgent I would be targeting there because we, you know, we have to go through it'. 'Right, let's have a look'. See if there's any ground signs, see if there's any evidence of this, see if there's any, you know, shallow dips in the ground where, you know, where it's set, all that sort of stuff. Mm, and that's, you know, that's a hell of a skill particularly when your life and your mates' lives depend on it.