8-23-1997

**DDASaccident169**

Humanitarian Demining Accident and Incident Database

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DDAS Accident Report

Accident details

- Report date: 17/05/2006
- Accident number: 169
- Accident time: not recorded
- Accident Date: 23/08/1997
- Where it occurred: Srah Chik Village, Siem Reap Province
- Country: Cambodia
- Primary cause: Field control inadequacy (?)
- Secondary cause: Field control inadequacy (?)
- Class: Victim inattention
- Date of main report: 25/08/1997
- ID original source: JPB
- Name of source: CMAC/CIDEV
- Organisation: Name removed
- Mine/device: Fuze
- Ground condition: not applicable
- Date record created: 14/02/2004
- Date last modified: 14/02/2004
- No of victims: 3
- No of documents: 1

Map details

- Longitude: 
- Latitude: 
- Alt. coord. system: 
- Coordinates fixed by: 
- Map east: 
- Map north: 
- Map scale: not recorded
- Map series: 
- Map edition: 
- Map sheet: 
- Map name: 

Accident Notes

- inadequate investigation (?)
- no independent investigation available (?)
- safety distances ignored (?)

Accident report

The group involved in this accident were involved in "Battle Area Clearance" or simple EOD tasks. Their operating procedures were not made available.

A one page description of the accident written in French by the group involved and dated 25th August 1997 was on file at the country MAC. The following summarises its content.

Victim No.1 was carrying a DK2 fuse to the collections pit and dropped it. It exploded when it hit the ground. The victim was leaning over slightly when it fell and received injuries to his
cheek and nose. The other two victims were close by and were hit on the back by fragments and small stones.

They were evacuated to a hospital but only Victim No.1 was detained for X-rays [results not stated]. The other two returned to work with only a change of shirt necessary.

**Conclusion**

The description concluded that the accident was caused by carelessness. There was some confusion over why the fuse had been found where it was and it was thought that perhaps someone wanted to use it for fishing. It was left in a trench that contained other ordnance [but presumably separated from it].

**Recommendations**

The demining group’s internal investigator saw no need to change working procedures.

### Victim Report

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Victim number: 214</th>
<th>Name: Name removed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Age:</td>
<td>Gender: Male</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Status: deminer</td>
<td>Fit for work: presumed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Compensation: not made available</td>
<td>Time to hospital: not recorded</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protection issued: Not recorded</td>
<td>Protection used: not recorded</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Summary of injuries:**

**COMMENT**

No medical report was made available.

### Victim Report

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Victim number: 215</th>
<th>Name: Name removed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Age:</td>
<td>Gender: Male</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Status: deminer</td>
<td>Fit for work: presumed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Compensation: not made available</td>
<td>Time to hospital: not recorded</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protection issued: Not recorded</td>
<td>Protection used: not recorded</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Summary of injuries:**

**INJURIES**

minor Body

**COMMENT**

No medical report was made available.
Victim Report

Victim number: 216
Age: 
Status: deminer
Compensation: not made available
Protection issued: Not recorded

Name: Name removed
Gender: Male
Fit for work: presumed
Time to hospital: not recorded
Protection used: not recorded

Summary of injuries:
INJURIES
minor Body
COMMENT
No medical report was made available.

Analysis
The primary cause of this accident is listed as a "Field control inadequacy" because the main victim was apparently breaching SOPs and his failure went uncorrected.
The fact that three people were injured by a small device is taken to indicate that safety distances were either inadequate or ignored.