6-11-1997

DDASaccident230

Humanitarian Demining Accident and Incident Database

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DDAS Accident Report

Accident details

Report date: 18/05/2006
Accident time: 10:45
Where it occurred: Vidovice, Posavina
Primary cause: Management/control inadequacy (?)
Class: Survey accident
ID original source: Incident no.530
Organisation: Name removed
Mine/device: PROM-1 AP Bfrag
Date record created: 17/02/2004
No of victims: 3

Accident number: 230
Accident Date: 11/06/1997
Country: Bosnia Herzegovina
Secondary cause: Inadequate training (?)
Name of source: other
Ground condition: not recorded
Date last modified: 17/02/2004
No of documents: 1

Map details

Longitude: 
Latitude: 
Alt. coord. system: GR: CQ 088850
Coordinates fixed by:
Map east: CQ196831
Map north:
Map scale:
Map edition:
Map name:

Accident Notes

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

Accident report

Details of this accident were discovered in a document entitled "Synopsis of EA Military demining accidents 1997". The victims were DoS trained members of FWF/HVO engaged in "mine-lifting".

As part of the Peace Accord, the three active armies were required to engage in humanitarian demining. They did this without keeping the country MAC informed of their working methods or giving them access to conduct accident investigations.
The document stated that two teams were due to begin demining in adjacent mined areas at Grid reference CQ 088 850. The team commanders held records of the mined area and had a discussion about the accuracy of those records. One of them said the records were inaccurate but that he knew where the mines were. He led two of his men to show them where the mines were.

At 10:45 one of the three men surveying the area activated a PROM-1.

"Although they were wearing protective equipment, they were so close to the mine that two of them were killed and one was very badly injured."

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Victim Report</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Victim number: 298</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Status: supervisory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Compensation: not made available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protection issued: Various</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Summary of injuries:
FATAL
COMMENT
No medical report was made available. The victim was recorded as having been killed immediately.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Victim number: 299</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Status: deminer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Compensation: not made available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protection issued: Various</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Summary of injuries:
FATAL
COMMENT
No medical report was made available. The victim was recorded as having been killed immediately.
Victim number: 300
Name: Name removed
Age: 
Gender: Male
Status: deminer
Fit for work: not known
Compensation: not made available
Time to hospital: not recorded
Protection issued: Various
Protection used: not recorded

Summary of injuries:
COMMENT
No medical report was made available. The victim's injuries were described as "severe".

Analysis
The primary cause of this accident is listed as a "Management/control inadequacy" because a Team Commander made a management decision regarding field survey that caused the accident. It seems likely that he had not been appropriately trained to err on the side of caution, so the secondary cause is listed as "Inadequate training".

The fact that the control group allowed the victims to be close together in a dangerous area represents a further failing of management.