3-2-1992

DDASaccident287

Humanitarian Demining Accident and Incident Database

AID

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Accident details

- **Report date:** 18/05/2006
- **Accident time:** not recorded
- **Where it occurred:** not made available
- **Primary cause:** Management/control inadequacy (?)
- **Secondary cause:** Inadequate training (?)
- **Class:** Handling accident
- **ID original source:** KMOD 51/SER 39
- **Organisation:** Name removed
- **Mine/device:** Ordnance
- **Date record created:** 19/02/2004
- **No of victims:** 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:**

Accident Notes

- no independent investigation available (?)
- inadequate investigation (?)
- inadequate training (?)

Accident report

The details of Kuwait Boards of Inquiry are considered ‘Commercial in Confidence’. The following summary is gathered from various documentary and anecdotal evidence made available during the research. All anecdotal evidence is drawn from sources who were in Kuwait at the time of the accident.

The accident occurred when a US operator was engaged in “Popping 130mm cartridge case primers in the cartridge cases”. The team did not remove all of the propellant and one cartridge case “went ballistic” and removed the victim’s head.
The victim was reported to have been engaged in making ashtrays with two others. One man removed the fuzes. One man removed the propellant. The victim detonated the percussion caps holding the device in a vice or between his feet. The man removing propellant went away. The man detonating percussion caps let one off with propellant still inside the cartridge. The blast removed his head. The other member of the team present was also injured but no details were made available.

**Victim Report**

**Victim number:** 363  
**Name:** Name removed  
**Age:**  
**Gender:** Male  
**Status:** deminer  
**Fit for work:** DECEASED  
**Compensation:** not made available  
**Time to hospital:** not recorded  
**Protection issued:** Not recorded  
**Protection used:** not recorded

**Summary of injuries:**

**INJURIES**
severe Head
**FATAL**
**COMMENT**
Victim died immediately.

No medical report was made available.

**Analysis**

The primary cause of this accident is listed as a “*Management/control inadequacy*” because the victim was engaged in taking unnecessary risks and his actions should have been prevented. The activity being undertaken was unnecessary and for recreation. The risks taken imply a lack of training. The secondary cause is listed as “*Inadequate training*”.

There is a paucity of detail available for the accidents that occurred in Kuwait. If any reader has additional detail, please send it for inclusion.