DDASaccident290

Humanitarian Demining Accident and Incident Database

3-2-1992

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DDAS Accident Report

Accident details

Report date: 06/04/2006  Accident number: 290
Accident time: not recorded  Accident Date: 02/03/1992
Where it occurred: not made available  Country: Kuwait
Primary cause: Inadequate equipment  Secondary cause: Inadequate equipment
(?)  (?)
Class: Detection accident  Date of main report: [No date recorded]
ID original source: KMOD 51/SER 41  Name of source: Various/AVS 2001:K13
Organisation: [Name removed]  Ground condition: sandy
Mine/device: Type 72 AP blast  Date last modified: 19/02/2004
Date record created: 19/02/2004  No of documents: 1
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:
Map name:

Accident Notes

no independent investigation available (?)
inadequate investigation (?)
inadequate metal-detector (?)

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 demining group were a commercial company with a time penalty on their work. International staff were paid very well. The group worked in three-man teams with a two-man drill. They used the Schiebel AN-19 detector.
The record states that the victim was “clearing mines” and stepped on a Type 72 anti-personnel blast mine and lost his foot. It is assumed that he was using his detector at the time.

**Victim Report**

Victim number: 366  
Name: [Name removed]  
Age:  
Gender: Male  
Status: deminer  
Fit for work: not known  
Compensation: not made available  
Time to hospital: not recorded  
Protection issued: Not recorded  
Protection used: not recorded

**Summary of injuries:**

AMPUTATION/LOSS  
Leg Below knee  
COMMENT  
No medical report was made available.

**Analysis**

The primary cause of this accident is listed as “Inadequate equipment” because the victim was using a detector that the management had recognised was less than adequate (following the accident on 18th February 1992). At that time, Managers had determined that salt marsh, Type 72 anti-personnel mine and the Schiebel AN-19 detectors combined to reduce detection depth to as low as 1cm (full details of any study are not known). It is the management’s responsibility to provide its workers with equipment appropriate for the task.

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