

5-9-2000

DDASaccident298

Humanitarian Demining Accident and Incident Database
AID

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DDAS Accident Report

Accident details

Report date: 06/04/2006	Accident number: 298
Accident time: not recorded	Accident Date: 09/05/2000
Where it occurred: Mukumbura Communal Lands	Country: Zimbabwe
Primary cause: Unavoidable (?)	Secondary cause: Victim inattention (?)
Class: Excavation accident	Date of main report: 10/05/2000
ID original source: JM	Name of source: Mounser/AVS 2001:Z05
Organisation: [Name removed]	
Mine/device: R2M2 AP blast	Ground condition: rocks/stones woodland (bush)
Date record created: 19/02/2004	Date last modified: 19/02/2004
No of victims: 1	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

no independent investigation available (?)

inadequate investigation (?)

Accident report

The following official "accident summary" was made available in January 2001. No other report was made. The summary was compiled by the demining group's site manager on the day following the accident.

The following text has only been edited where necessary to conceal the identity of individuals and organisations mentioned.

1. At 1210hrs on 09 May 2000 in Mukumbura Communal Lands, [a deminer] sustained only minor injuries in the form of bruising to the forearms.

2. At the time of the accident [the] deminer had identified a reading within a row of mines in the Cordon Sanitaire Minefield. Ground conditions were favourable with relatively level ground and not very hard but with small loose stones. The deminer was wearing full PPE including gloves in both hands for arm protection. After identifying a reading, the deminer pinpointed and started excavating. From his own statement, he had already located the mine and was further exposing it when it went off. He further states that a rock rolled back into the hole he was excavating and landed on a mine causing it to detonate.
3. All marking had been done correctly. His detector was correctly set. The protective equipment served its purpose well. The visor and apron prevented possible serious injury to the deminer. Medical cover was in place and a paramedic immediately attended to the victim and thereafter at the MRU by the Project Doctor. No evacuation to the next level of care was found necessary.
4. It was concluded that correct drills were being applied but also that the deminer had not applied sufficient water to soften the ground and reduce the risk of excavation accidents. This will be emphasised to all team leaders and deminers.

Signed: Operations Manager

[The mine was identified as an R2M2 by another source.]

Victim Report

Victim number: 378	Name: [Name removed]
Age:	Gender: Male
Status: deminer	Fit for work: yes
Compensation: not made available	Time to hospital: not applicable
Protection issued: Frontal apron Long visor	Protection used: Frontal apron, Long visor

Summary of injuries:

INJURIES

minor Arms

COMMENT

No medical report was made available.

Analysis

The primary cause of this accident is classed as “*Unavoidable*” because the victim appears to have been working properly in accordance with widely approved SOPs when the accident occurred. It is possible that the mine was initiated by a rock rolling back into the excavation area, in which case the victim’s inattention would have been a contributory factor. The secondary cause is listed as “*Victim inattention*”.

The accident investigation is considered inadequate because no record of an official investigation was found.