

10-10-1999

# DDASaccident304

Humanitarian Demining Accident and Incident Database  
*AID*

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# -DDAS Accident Report

## Accident details

<b>Report date:</b> 19/05/2006	<b>Accident number:</b> 304
<b>Accident time:</b> 14:20	<b>Accident Date:</b> 10/10/1999
<b>Where it occurred:</b> Suleimanya province, Sharbazher district, Mawat sub-district, Awakutie village	<b>Country:</b> Iraq
<b>Primary cause:</b> Field control inadequacy (?)	<b>Secondary cause:</b> Inadequate training (?)
<b>Class:</b> Handling accident	<b>Date of main report:</b> [No date recorded]
<b>ID original source:</b> NPA/ET	<b>Name of source:</b> ET/AVS 2001:KI01
<b>Organisation:</b> Name removed	
<b>Mine/device:</b> Fuze	<b>Ground condition:</b> not recorded
<b>Date record created:</b> 19/02/2004	<b>Date last modified:</b> 19/02/2004
<b>No of victims:</b> 1	<b>No of documents:</b> 1

## Map details

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

## Accident Notes

no independent investigation available (?)  
inadequate training (?)  
inadequate equipment (?)  
visor not worn or worn raised (?)  
inadequate investigation (?)

## Accident report

The following information was provided by the demining group involved. It is not an "Accident report" but a summary of the accident provided for this purpose. A request was made for the original accident report in 2000 [not answered by 2004].

A battle Area Clearance (BAC) team was working in an area where the task comprised approximately 500 mortar bombs and shells. Most of the items were visible on the surface. People nearby had been interfering with the items trying to take them apart. The accident occurred when an EOD worker was making a final check over the cleared area. He then discovered a partly buried mortar (PD M-6) fuze. The fuze was already taken apart. The booster was removed and no safety pins (two) were in place. When the EOD worker handled the fuze the striker "sledged and initiated the detonator".



The picture above was provided by the demining group and shows some of the fuzes they had encountered at the site.

The victim received superficial blast wounds to left hand (thumb and index finger) and fragmentation wounds to right hand and right ear.

After receiving treatment, the victim recovered and "rejoined the work capability".

### Victim Report

<b>Victim number:</b> 384	<b>Name:</b> Name removed
<b>Age:</b>	<b>Gender:</b> Male
<b>Status:</b> deminer	<b>Fit for work:</b> yes
<b>Compensation:</b> not made available	<b>Time to hospital:</b> not recorded
<b>Protection issued:</b> Not recorded	<b>Protection used:</b> not recorded

#### Summary of injuries:

INJURIES

minor Hand

minor Head

COMMENT

No medical report was made available.

## **Analysis**

The primary cause of this accident is listed as a "*Field control inadequacy*" because it is assumed that the victim should not have handled a damaged fuze. The fact that it was found on a final check implies that it may have been missed earlier and raises questions about the methods used. If the victim did not know that it was dangerous to handle a damaged fuze, his training was inadequate. The secondary cause is listed as "*Inadequate training*".

The brief investigation is considered inadequate because it did not seek to reach conclusions or recommendations that might prevent a recurrence.