

8-7-2004

DDASaccident431

Humanitarian Demining Accident and Incident Database
AID

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DDAS Accident Report

Accident details

Report date: 02/08/2006	Accident number: 431
Accident time: 08:45	Accident Date: 07/08/2004
Where it occurred: BF 23003 Dararweyne bunkers	Country: Somaliland
Primary cause: Unavoidable (?)	Secondary cause: Other (?)
Class: Excavation accident	Date of main report: 12/08/2004
ID original source: Name removed	Name of source: Name removed
Organisation: Name removed	
Mine/device: Fuze	Ground condition: building rubble
Date record created: 02/08/2006	Date last modified: 02/08/2006
No of victims: 1	No of documents: 1

Map details

Longitude:	Latitude:
Alt. coord. system: Not recorded	Coordinates fixed by:
Map east:	Map north:
Map scale:	Map series:
Map edition:	Map sheet:
Map name:	

Accident Notes

inadequate investigation (?)

Accident report

A Somalia MAC accident report was made available in 2005. It is reproduced below, edited for anonymity.

Accident Investigation Report

To: The [Demining group] Program Manager

Cc: [Name excised] SMAC Manager

Date: 12/08/04

1 Introduction

The clearance of minefield in an essential element of development although done correctly, BAC Operations is generally a procedure, which is no more dangerous than most other forms of work in a development country, accidents may occur. The investigation and reporting on any such accidents is something, which can prove to be extremely useful in re-establishing any quality standards, which may need addressing.

SMAC QC/EOD Team Leader [Name removed] has been appointed on 07/08/2004 to investigate the mine accident at Dararweyne the [Demining group] clearance site. The investigators have selected (group of persons such as supervisor and injured de-miner).

The aim of this accident investigation is to discover:

- The immediate cause of the accident
- Any underlying cause of the accident
- Lessons Learned
- Provide a permanent record of the accident

2 Background information of the site

The SMAC ID Minefield BF 23003 Dararweyne bunkers BAC field in 1991, the Soviet-built military camp at Dararweyne in Hargeisa region of Somaliland was captured by troops of the Somali national Movement (SNM). Shortly afterward, three reinforced concrete storage bunkers containing what would appear to have been large quantities of ordnance were destroyed. But the most likely theory seems to involve the dropping bombs from aircraft of the Somali air force. After that same loose ordnance remains on the surface within the walls of the three damaged bunkers, and generally within the confines of the camp. Undoubtedly, a large volume is unknown also remains under the heavy rubble of the collapsed bunker roofs, although in what condition is unknown at this time.

On 07/08/04 at the 8:45am an accident occurred at the Dararweyne EDF 23003 cleared by the [Demining group]. Around 9:15 am the [Demining group] H/Q informed the SMAC office about accident in Dararweyne.

Immediately the SMAC Manager appointed a team for that issue to investigate the accident. The investigation departed at 10:00 am on 07/08/04 at Dararweyne and arrived on 10:57 am, the investigation team interviewed Supervisor [Name removed]. He confirmed that the injured deminer [Name removed] had good experience in Humanitarian Demining.

3 Details of the situation of the time of accident

The Supervisor and Section leader of the [Demining group] informed us that the injured deminer was well equipped according to the [Demining group] SOP and has not mentioned any problems. The accident happened exactly 8:45 am. He got the injured parts of his body including the left hand and right leg.

All this injuries were caused by Base fuze 57mm Model T-Ammunition 10/20 gr.

Not damaged any protective equipment also any property. All work at the BAC field has been stopped according to the SOP when the accident happened. The injured deminer has been evacuated in accordance SOP. The final medical report is not available till treatment of the injured deminer is complete.

4 Discipline of the injured deminer

The [Demining group] Operations Officer, the team supervisor and the section leader have all confirmed that [the victim] is a deminer with the good discipline. In addition that they added that he always obeyed all the [Demining group] rule and regulations in humanitarian demining.

Assumed causes of the accident and contributing factors.

The injured deminer has hit the detonator

The area was been tightened and dim. [Confined space with poor light.]



[The photograph above shows] where the accident happened.]

6 Recommendation

The work is dangerous

* Seek advice with the UNDP MA operational Advisor

7 Comment

The Deminer during the accident was wearing the all protective equipment according to the SOP and Operation Officer, Supervisor and section leader have confirmed this. [The victim] is a 30 years old deminer he has never disobeyed the rules and regulation of the deminer and Humanitarian demining standards. The team has no reason to believe that [the victim] was operating outside SOP.

The SMAC Deputy Manager accompanied the team.

Investigation team led by [name removed] Q/C/EOD Team Leader

[Name removed], SMAC RMALO, Hargeisa Region

Approved by: [Name removed] SMAC Deputy Manager

Victim Report

Victim number: 574	Name: Name removed
Age: 30	Gender: Male
Status: deminer	Fit for work: presumed
Compensation: Not made available	Time to hospital: Not recorded
Protection issued: Long visor Short frontal vest	Protection used: Inferred, Long visor, Short frontal vest

Summary of injuries:

INJURIES

minor Hand

minor Leg

COMMENT

No medical report was made available. Because the device was a fuze, minor injuries are inferred.

Analysis

The primary cause of this incident is listed as "*Unavoidable*" because the victim appears to have been working in accordance with his SOP. The secondary cause is listed as "*Other*" because the investigators did not record what was happening at the time of the incident.

The incident is classed as a "*Excavation incident*" because the victim had hand and leg injury and a photograph shows an accident site that implies the victim was reaching down into a cavity, perhaps with one leg inside the cavity when the fuze was initiated by his activity. The report states that he "hit the detonator" but does not explain what with, so a hand-tool is presumed.

The incident is noted as having had an "*Inadequate investigation*". This was the first conducted by the Somali MAC and is far better than many – but there are areas where it should have been improved. Recording the precise activity at the time, the timing of MEDEVAC and the apparent nature of the injuries, for example.