

2-27-2003

# DDASaccident465

Humanitarian Demining Accident and Incident Database  
*AID*

Follow this and additional works at: <https://commons.lib.jmu.edu/cisr-globalcwd>

 Part of the [Defense and Security Studies Commons](#), [Peace and Conflict Studies Commons](#), [Public Policy Commons](#), and the [Social Policy Commons](#)

---

## Recommended Citation

Database, Humanitarian Demining Accident and Incident, "DDASaccident465" (2003). *Global CWD Repository*. 664.  
<https://commons.lib.jmu.edu/cisr-globalcwd/664>

This Other is brought to you for free and open access by the Center for International Stabilization and Recovery at JMU Scholarly Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Global CWD Repository by an authorized administrator of JMU Scholarly Commons. For more information, please contact [dc\\_admin@jmu.edu](mailto:dc_admin@jmu.edu).

# DDAS Accident Report

## Accident details

<b>Report date:</b> 09/01/2008	<b>Accident number:</b> 465
<b>Accident time:</b> Not made available	<b>Accident Date:</b> 27/02/2003
<b>Where it occurred:</b> Not made available	<b>Country:</b> Iraq
<b>Primary cause:</b> Inadequate survey (?)	<b>Secondary cause:</b> Management/control inadequacy (?)
<b>Class:</b> Survey accident	<b>Date of main report:</b> Not made available
<b>ID original source:</b> [Name removed]	<b>Name of source:</b> [Name removed]
<b>Organisation:</b> [Name removed]	
<b>Mine/device:</b> Valmara 69 AP Bfrag	<b>Ground condition:</b> not recorded
<b>Date record created:</b> 09/01/2008	<b>Date last modified:</b> 09/01/2008
<b>No of victims:</b> 5	<b>No of documents:</b> 1

## Map details

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

## Accident Notes

inadequate investigation (?)

inadequate survey (?)

inadequate training (?)

safety distances ignored (?)

## Accident report

Details of this accident have been withheld by the demining NGO that employed the Victim. A spreadsheet including the Victim's name and very brief details of the accident was made available in 2007. Some details can be inferred from the information released. For example, the limited spread of injury implies that the victims may have been wearing PPE.

This entry will be expanded if access to the report of the investigation is made available in future.

The spreadsheet data is reproduced below, edited for anonymity.

“Date and country. [Name removed] – supervisor - deep wound on right leg  
[Name removed] - Guideman - traumatic amputation of left leg below  
knee and right leg above knee  
[Name removed] - Deminer - multiple superficial injuries to left leg  
[Name removed] - Guideman - superficial injuries  
[Name removed] – Deminer - superficial injuries  
[Demining group] staff part of recce team walking round minefield perimeter  
to demarcate, guideman initiated V69 mine.”

### Victim Report

<b>Victim number:</b> 617	<b>Name:</b> [Name removed]
<b>Age:</b>	<b>Gender:</b> Male
<b>Status:</b> supervisory	<b>Fit for work:</b> presumed
<b>Compensation:</b> Not made available	<b>Time to hospital:</b> Not made available
<b>Protection issued:</b> Not recorded	<b>Protection used:</b> Not made available

#### Summary of injuries:

severe Leg

COMMENT: "Deep wound on right leg." No Medical report was made available.

### Victim Report

<b>Victim number:</b> 618	<b>Name:</b> [Name removed]
<b>Age:</b>	<b>Gender:</b> Male
<b>Status:</b> surveyor	<b>Fit for work:</b> not known
<b>Compensation:</b> Not made available	<b>Time to hospital:</b> Not made available
<b>Protection issued:</b> Not recorded	<b>Protection used:</b> Not made available

#### Summary of injuries:

AMPUTATION/LOSS

Leg Above knee

Leg Below knee

COMMENT: No Medical report was made available.

### Victim Report

<b>Victim number:</b> 619	<b>Name:</b> [Name removed]
<b>Age:</b>	<b>Gender:</b> Male
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Fit for work:</b>
<b>Compensation:</b> Not made available	<b>Time to hospital:</b> Not made available
<b>Protection issued:</b> Not recorded	<b>Protection used:</b> Not made available

#### Summary of injuries:

minor Leg

COMMENT: "Multiple superficial injuries to left leg." No Medical report was made available.

### Victim Report

<b>Victim number:</b> 620	<b>Name:</b> [Name removed]
<b>Age:</b>	<b>Gender:</b> Male
<b>Status:</b> surveyor	<b>Fit for work:</b> presumed
<b>Compensation:</b> Not made available	<b>Time to hospital:</b> Not made available
<b>Protection issued:</b> Not recorded	<b>Protection used:</b> Not made available

#### Summary of injuries:

COMMENT: Minor "superficial injuries". No Medical report was made available.

### Victim Report

<b>Victim number:</b> 621	<b>Name:</b> [Name removed]
<b>Age:</b>	<b>Gender:</b> Male
<b>Status:</b> deminer	<b>Fit for work:</b> presumed
<b>Compensation:</b> Not made available	<b>Time to hospital:</b> Not made available
<b>Protection issued:</b> Not recorded	<b>Protection used:</b> Not made available

#### Summary of injuries:

COMMENT: Minor "superficial injuries". No Medical report was made available.

### Analysis

The primary cause of this accident is listed as "Inadequate training" because the same demining group had several survey accidents in this country at around the same time. In each the area under demarcation was smaller than it should have been. Apparently, they did not learn from the previous accidents, or the lessons were not carried over into training.

The secondary cause is listed as a “Management control inadequacy” because the management of the demining group declined to make the accident details available. Although this is sometimes done to protect the Victims, in this case the Victims’ names were among the limited detail made available. It is possible that the managers have chosen to avoid transparency because they are afraid that the circumstances of the accident would reflect badly on their organisation.

The fact that five people were injured by the same device is evidence that safety distances were not being imposed at the time. This may have been deliberate because the demarcation should always be in a safe area outside the suspect area. If this was the case, the victims may not have been wearing PPE. The man who tripped the mine lost both legs and may have prevented the mine bounding to its full height, so reducing the spread of fragments.