DDASaccident518

Humanitarian Demining Accident and Incident Database

AID
DDAS Accident Report

Accident details

Report date: 27/01/2008
Accident number: 518

Accident time: Not made available
Accident Date: 20/10/2003

Where it occurred: Not made available
Country: Cambodia

Primary cause: Unavoidable (?)
Secondary cause: Management/control inadequacy (?)

Class: Excavation accident
Date of main report: Not made available

ID original source: None
Name of source: MAGUK MB

Organisation: [Name removed]
Ground condition: hidden root mat

Mine/device: PMN AP blast
Date last modified: 27/01/2008

No of victims: 1
No of documents: 1

Map details

Longitude:
Latitude:

Alt. coord. system: Coordinates fixed by:
Map east:
Map north:
Map scale:
Map series:
Map edition:
Map sheet:
Map name:

Accident Notes

inadequate investigation (?)
visor not worn or worn raised (?)
incomplete detonation (?)

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 injury implies that the victim's PPE was being worn in the correct manner.

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] - Deminer slight injuries to forehead and face, no permanent injuries. PMN mine detonated but didn't fully function as designed. Mine detonated whilst excavating around bamboo root in ground.”

Victim Report

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Victim number: 680</th>
<th>Name: [Name removed]</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Age:</td>
<td>Gender: Male</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Status: deminer</td>
<td>Fit for work: presumed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Compensation: Not made available</td>
<td>Time to hospital: Not made available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protection issued: Not recorded</td>
<td>Protection used: Not made available</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Summary of injuries:

minor Face
minor Head

COMMENT: No Medical report was made available.

Analysis

The primary cause of this accident is listed as a “Field control inadequacy” because the injuries to the forehead imply that the visor was worn raised and this error was not corrected.

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 Victim’s name was 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.