

12-28-2004

DDASaccident520

Humanitarian Demining Accident and Incident Database
AID

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DDAS Accident Report

Accident details

Report date: 27/01/2008	Accident number: 520
Accident time: Not made available	Accident Date: 28/12/2004
Where it occurred: Not made available	Country: Cambodia
Primary cause: Field control inadequacy (?)	Secondary cause: Management/control inadequacy (?)
Class: Victim inattention	Date of main report: Not made available
ID original source: none	Name of source: [Name removed]
Organisation: [Name removed]	Ground condition: not recorded
Mine/device: Mortar (120mm)	Date last modified: 27/01/2008
Date record created:	No of documents: 1
No of victims: 3	

Map details

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

Accident Notes

inadequate investigation (?)
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 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] - Trauma Care Medic - Deminer – fatality.

[Name removed] - Acting Supervisor - Deminer - broken leg, superficial injuries.

[Name removed] – Deminer - Deminer - leg injuries and loss of 4 fingers.

EOD accident - 120mm mortar shell fitted with type 69 fuse was knocked and exploded”.

Victim Report

Victim number: 684	Name: [Name removed]
Age:	Gender: Male
Status: medic	Fit for work: DECEASED
Compensation: Not made available	Time to hospital: Not made available
Protection issued: Not recorded	Protection used: Not made available

Summary of injuries:

FATAL

COMMENT: Listed as "Fatality". No medical report was made available.

Victim Report

Victim number: 685	Name: [Name removed]
Age:	Gender: Male
Status: supervisory	Fit for work: not known
Compensation: Not made available	Time to hospital: Not made available
Protection issued: Not recorded	Protection used: Not made available

Summary of injuries:

severe Leg

COMMENT: Listed as "broken leg, superficial injuries". No medical report was made available.

Victim Report

Victim number: 686	Name: [Name removed]
Age:	Gender: Male
Status: deminer	Fit for work: not known
Compensation: Not made available	Time to hospital: Not made available
Protection issued: Not recorded	Protection used: Not made available

Summary of injuries:

severe Leg

AMPUTATION/LOSS: Fingers

COMMENT: No medical report was made available.

Analysis

The primary cause of this accident is listed as a "Field control inadequacy" because there were three Victims which implies that safety distances were not being enforced. The fatality was of a medic, which raises questions over whether the person who initiated the device was appropriately trained.

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.