7-1-2005

DDASaccident524

Humanitarian Demining Accident and Incident Database

AID

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Accident details

Report date: 27/01/2008  Accident number: 524
Accident time: Not made available  Accident Date: 07/11/2005
Where it occurred: Not made available  Country: Iraq
Primary cause: Field control inadequacy (?)  Secondary cause: Management/control inadequacy (?)
Class: Excavation accident  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: AP blast (unrecorded)  Date last modified: 27/01/2008
Date record created:  No of victims: 1
No of documents: 1

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 (?)
squatting/kneeling to excavate (?)
visor not worn or worn raised (?)

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 severe facial injury indicates that a visor was not worn by the Victim.

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 - multiple fractures to facial skeleton, collapsed right eye.

Mine accident - deminer found electronic indication of mine and was prodding to clear soil when mine detonated.”

**Victim Report**

**Victim number:** 691  
**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 Face  
AMPUTATION/LOSS: Eye  
COMMENT: No Medical report was made available.

**Analysis**

The primary cause of this accident is listed as a “Field control inadequacy” because the Victim was working with his visor raised (or not worn) and his 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.