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Humanitarian Demining Accident and Incident Database

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DDAS Accident Report

Accident details

Report date: 05/03/2011	Accident number: 617
Accident time: 08:37	Accident Date: 05/01/2009
Where it occurred: MF No: E 397 SABHA 6, Um Al Quttain Village, Almafraq Province	Country: Jordan
Primary cause: Unavoidable (?)	Secondary cause: Unavoidable (?)
Class: Excavation accident	Date of main report: Not recorded
ID original source: None	Name of source: Demining group
Organisation: [Name removed]	
Mine/device: M14 AP blast	Ground condition: hard rocks/stones
Date record created:	Date last modified: 05/03/2011
No of victims: 1	No of documents: 2

Map details

Longitude:	Latitude:
Alt. coord. system:	Coordinates fixed by:
Map east: 36 55' 56"E	Map north: 32 35' 37"N
Map scale:	Map series:
Map edition:	Map sheet:
Map name:	

Accident Notes

no independent investigation available (?)
standing to excavate (?)
use of rake (?)
non injurious accident (?)

Accident report

An internal demining group accident report was made available. The conversion into a DDAS file has led to some of the original formatting being lost. Text in square brackets [] is editorial.

The internal report is reproduced below, edited for anonymity.

INCIDENT INVESTIGATION FOR [Demining group] – MINE ACTION TEAM - JORDAN

GRID REF: 32 35' 37"N: 36 55' 56"E

MINEFIELD NO – 397, MINEFIELD TASK ID - E 397 SABHA 6

INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED BY – [Demining group] SECTOR COORDINATOR, [Name removed]

DEMINER: [The Victim], DATE OF BIRTH: 01/ 01/ 1973

SECTION COMMANDER: [Name removed], TEAM LEADER: [Name removed]

TIME OF INCIDENT: 08:37 AM, DATE OF INCIDENT: 5 JAN 2009

NATURE OF INJURY: No Injury

TYPE OF MINE: Anti Personnel M 14

IMSMA DETAILED REPORT FOR MINE INCIDENT Monday, 5 January 2009

Part 1 – Description of the incident

1. Organisation name: [Demining group], JORDAN. Team No: MANUAL TEAM SEVEN
2. Incident date: 05/01/2009. Time: 08:37 AM
3. Location of incident: EAST SECTOR, Province: ALMAFRAQ, Village: UM AL QUTTAIN. Project or task No: E 397 SABHA 6
4. Name of site manager or team leader: [Name removed]
5. Type of incident: M14 AP MINE, uncontrolled detonation of a mine
6. Device was detonated by: deminer
7. Device detonated while: Raking with Heavy Rake
8. Device was found in an area classified as: a known hazardous area
9. Narrative (Describe how the incident happened. Attach additional pages and photographs or diagrams to assist in clarifying the circumstances surrounding the incident):

While the deminer trying to recover an AP m14 mine using the heavy RAKE he applied a pressure in the pressure palate of a non visible M14 which in turn activated that mine in a depth of about 5-7 cm

Part 2 – Injuries

10. Did the incident result in any injuries? No
11. List people injured and nature of injury: [The Victim], Deminer, Nil

Part 3 – Equipment damages

12. Did the incident result in any damage to equipment or property? No
13. List any mine action equipment or property damage. [None]
14. List damage to equipment or property owned by a member of the public or the government. [None]

Part 4 – Explosive hazard

15. Provide details of mines/UXO/ other devices that were involved in the incident.

Device Type: Method: Determined by:

AP (Blast) Mine Buried RAKING

16. State specific device (if known): M 14 AP MINE

17. Comments (include measurements of any crater resulting from the explosion):

Crater Depth: approx. 15 cm / Width: approx. 40 cm

Part 5 - Site conditions

18. Describe the conditions at the site at time of the incident

Ground/Terrain: Medium hard, Flat

Weather: Clear, Cold

Vegetation: None



[The accident site.]

Part 6 – Team and task details

20. Qualifications of Member(s) involved in the incident:

Name	Position in Location	Occupation
[The Victim]	Deminer	Manual Team 7

21. How long had this team been?

- a. At this site? 2 weeks
- b. working on this task? 5 months
- c. working on the day? Two Hours

22. Detector type: N/A. Tripwire feeler used? No

23. Hand tool: HEAVY RAKE

24. PPE: Vest, Visor, [Blast boots]

25. Comments: [None]

Part 7 - Medical & First Aid

Medical treatment required? no

26. Medical Support at Incident Site: Medic, 1st Aid Kit, Stretcher, Ambulance, Safety Vehicle, Radio to call forward medic.

27. Was a Mine Incident Drill carried out? Yes

28. Time and distance data

a. Time from incident to SECTION MEDICAL POINT: (01) minute

b. Time spent at site administering treatment: (15) minute

c. Time from evacuation FROM to arrival King Abdullah Hospital: (50) minutes

Part 8 – Reporting procedures

Reported by: [Name removed], [Demining group] Amman Office to: [Demining group] Offices & NCDR

Investigation conducted by: [Name removed], [Name removed]

Report compiled/translated by: [Name removed], [Name removed], [Name removed]

Verified by: [Name removed]

Observations and Recommendations

According to the preliminary investigation the incident is caused due to a pressure applied to the mine from the heavy RAKE (the excavation tool) used by the deminer and the deminer didn't expect to find a mine in that spot with that depth and may like accident could be avoided by using the metal detector to locate the non visible mine before using the standard RAKE drill.

Signed: Operations Coordinator, 12 January 2009

Attachments:

Statements by Injured Members

Statements by Witnesses

Photographs of Incident Site

Copy of Incident Report

Victim Report

Victim number: 800	Name: [Name removed]
Age: 36	Gender: Male
Status: deminer	Fit for work: yes
Compensation: N/A	Time to hospital: 66 minutes
Protection issued: Frontal apron Mask Visor blast boots	Protection used: Frontal apron, Mask visor, Blast boots

Summary of injuries:

COMMENT: No injuries were recorded. See Medic's statement.

Statements

Statement 1: the Victim

- Team leader [Name removed] put me to work in section 7 group 12 to search for anti person mines in this group, when I was working on 3 o'clock mine I used the light rake at first, when I reached the hard ground which doesn't respond to it I used the heavy rake but the presence of grass stopped the work then I pulled the rake, at this moment the accident happened.
- Yes the team leader gave me a brief about work, the hardness of the ground in that area and the presence of grass there, and the section commander [Name removed] did the same, although when the accident happened I was under the responsibility of section commander [Name removed] because I was near his site.

Statement 2: Team leader

- When the accident happened I was in section 8 and close to the accident location. - I supervised the deminer's evacuation to the ambulance.
- I informed the section commander [Name removed] that the injured deminer was under his responsibility because he was closer to his site although he was in section commander [Name removed]'s team.
- I gave a brief about work to all the team and warned them about the nature of the ground in that area and I informed the deminer about the expected place of that mine.
- I think that the accident happened because of the hard nature of the ground and the presence of a cluster of grass in the mine field.
- We gave all the team a safety brief before the work starts.

Statement 3: Section commander

- When the accident happened I was taking a mine from the (IOE area number 19) to the mines hole and when I was back to my site I heard a sound of explosion.

- I informed the deminer [the Victim] about the mine place and the area he is working in.
- Team leader [Name removed] informed me that this deminer works under my responsibility because his place was near my site, while his direct section commander was [Name removed].
- I did the evacuation procedures within the instructions I have about this subject.

Statement 4: Medic

At 8:45 am Tuesday the 6th of January 2009 I was informed about an accident of a mine explosion (M14), immediately I went to the accident place, we reached there at 8:47 am when the other deminers evacuated the injured to the ambulance, I checked on him he was in a good condition but had a little pain in his right hand finger and some pain in the right area of his back, we took him to the control point to watch him then we transferred him to the King Abdulllah Hospital with the coordination of [Name removed], we took off at 8:55 am from the mine field and arrived the hospital at 9:55 am he was checked there and hospitalized, x-ray was made for him and given the treatment and went back to Jaber offices at 11:45 am.

Analysis

The primary and secondary causes of this accident are listed as *Unavoidable* because it is possible that the deminer was working as directed when the accident occurred. His PPE and the long handled tool prevented him suffering injury.

The demining group who made this report available is thanked for its transparency and its professional concern to share lessons that can be learned from accidents. This record, along with several other records where rakes were used, provide compelling evidence that the controlled use of rakes can be both effective and tolerably safe (reducing risk of injury to tolerable levels).