Humanitarian Demining Accident and Incident Database

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DDAS Accident Report

Accident details

Report date: 05/03/2011
Accident number: 626
Accident time: 10:30
Accident Date: 07/07/2008
Where it occurred: HT 2243, Bagram New road Village, Dehsabz Distuct, Kabul Province
Country: Afghanistan
Primary cause: Field control inadequacy (?)
Secondary cause: Inadequate training (?)
Class: Other
ID original source: SA18
Name of source: UNMACCA
Organisation: [Name removed]
Mine/device: UXO, Ordnance
Ground condition: not recorded
Date record created: Date last modified: 05/03/2011
No of victims: 0
No of documents: 1

Map details

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

Accident Notes

inadequate investigation (?)
inadequate training (?)
non injurious accident (?)

Accident report

The only report of this accident that has been made available to date was in a UNMACA EXCEL spreadsheet. Text in square brackets [ ] is editorial. This record will be revised if more information is made available.

The EXCEL summary is reproduced below, edited for anonymity.
S. # 18, No.# Accident: DA18
Demining group: [Demining group]
Date of Accident: 7th July 2008  10:30
IMSMA ID: [None]
Accident/Incident:
Name: [No injuries]
Type of Casualty: Driver [No casualties]
Type of injury: Truck has got damage
Title: Driver Truck
Team No: WAD 04
Task No: HT 2243
Activity of Victim during accident: During transportation from task to CDS & the incident occurred inside the truck
Type Device: UXO
Equipment Damaged: [Truck]
Village, District, Province: Bagram New road Village, Dehsabz Distruct, Kabul Province.
Investigation Completed Y/N: Y
Action Taken by NGOs (Y/N): Y
BOI Conclusions:

1. The source of detonation was 23mm ammunition packed in a water thermos. The main cause of the accident appears to be poor packing of ammunition and the likelihood that some of the rounds transported had exposed retaining balls.

2. Packing ammunition nose to tail is a good approach, but there must always be a gap between rounds which will then be filled in with sand i.e. each round is individually packed. But use of thermos as a mean of transportation for 23mm ammunition firmly limited the spacing between ammunition as for its small diameter, has subsequently caused the accident.

3. The 23mm ammunitions were found rusty, old and corroded and APCT rounds muddled in together. It also seems from the other barrel loaded to the truck that, the ammunitions were not correctly layered between soft sand in the barrel.

Analysis

The primary cause of this accident is listed as a Field Control Inadequacy because the driver was transporting UXO to a Central Demolition Site (CDS) when the UXO had not been appropriately loaded. The secondary cause is listed as Inadequate training because the investigators seem to think that those who loaded the truck did not know how to do so safely.

The “Inadequate investigation” listed under notes refers to the absence of a full accident report. The UN supported MACCA has failed to make these widely available for some years in contravention of the requirements of the IMAS. The failure of the UN to share the Afghan investigators’ work with others is regrettable.