

6-27-2009

DDASaccident712

Humanitarian Demining Accident and Incident Database
AID

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DDAS Accident Report

Accident details

Report date: 07/07/2011	Accident number: 712
Accident time: 11:15	Accident Date: 27/06/2009
Where it occurred: AF/0108/00560, MF0126, Qalai-e-Badal Village, Paghman District, Kabul Province	Country: Afghanistan
Primary cause: Unavoidable (?)	Secondary cause: Inadequate equipment (?)
Class: Excavation accident	Date of main report: 30/07/2009
ID original source: None	Name of source: UNMACCA
Organisation: [Name removed]	
Mine/device: AP blast (unrecorded)	Ground condition: rocks/stones steep slope
Date record created:	Date last modified: 07/07/2011
No of victims: 1	No of documents: 1

Map details

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

Accident Notes

inadequate investigation (?)
use of pick (?)
squatting/kneeling to excavate (?)
handtool may have increased injury (?)

Accident report

The only report of this accident that has been made available to date is a UNMACCA Lessons Learned document. Its conversion into a DDAS file has led to some of the original formatting

being lost. Text in square brackets [] is editorial. This record will be revised if more information becomes available.

The document is reproduced below, edited for anonymity.

File last saved: 30th July 2009

LESSONS LEARNED SUMMARY OF [Demining group] DT-05 DEMINING ACCIDENT

INTRODUCTION:

An investigation team was convened by AMAC Kabul to investigate the de-mining accident involving [the Victim] the de-miner of [Demining group] DT-05. The accident occurred at 11:15 on 27 June 2009 at minefield number AF/0108/00560/MF0126, located in Qalai-e-Badal village, Paghman district of Kabul province.

SUMMARY:

Minefield # AF/0108/00560/MF0126 is located on the top of a mountain; it is a rocky and a steep sloping area and it will take around 45 minutes to reach to the site from admin area. This area was contaminated by Russian troops in 1981 to protect their positions from the attacks of Mujahedeen. LIS covered this area as one SHA in 2004, but during recent polygon survey operations, it has been divided to 7 minefields. So far 2 of the minefields have been completed there. Several accidents happened on animals in mentioned area; the recent accident occurred on 18th April 09, a nomad woman was injured.

On 18 April 2009 [Demining group] DT-05 started clearance operation on mentioned task, they cleared around 19830 sqm area and found/destroyed 4 anti-personnel mines and 2 UXO till the accident time. On 27 June 2009 at 11:15 am the deminer [the Victim] was working in his clearance lane, he found a signal behind some stones, the investigation of signal was impossible with bayonet so he informed the section leader and sought his advice. Section leader instructed him to use pick, but a stone in front of pinpointed signal did not let the pick to be used easily. Therefore, the deminer wanted to remove it, during this operation as the pick was used by force, it slipped over and touched the pinpointed signal and caused the accident. As the deminer was fully dressed with PPE, therefore, he got superficial injury on his right hand.

CONCLUSIONS:

The accident occurred because of carelessness of de-miner in terms of removing stone with pick in an impatient way. But the consequence of accident is a superficial injury to the right hand of the deminer because of being fully dressed with PPE.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The following points are to be considered:

- All the command groups are to make sure that the deminers are working to the approved procedures and also while giving any advice to the deminers, make sure that they are implementing the given advice correctly.
- The [Demining group] is recommended to further improve the command and control skill of the command group.
- The findings of internal and external investigation reports and lessons learned are to be further circulated among all the teams and make sure that the main contributing factors are well understood by all the deminers.

Victim Report

Victim number: 897	Name: [Name removed]
Age:	Gender: Male
Status: deminer	Fit for work: presumed
Compensation: Not made available	Time to hospital: Not made available
Protection issued: Frontal apron Long visor	Protection used: Frontal apron; Long visor

Summary of injuries:

INJURIES: minor Hand

COMMENT: No Medical report was made available. "superficial injury to the right hand".

Analysis

The primary cause of this accident is listed as *Unavoidable* because the Victim was working as directed (to approved SOPs) when the accident occurred. The secondary cause is listed as *Inadequate equipment* because the pick-axe is not a suitable tool to use for the delicate removal of stones. However, the ground conditions may have been such that a detonation was inevitable.

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, so ignoring the requirements of the IMAS. It is noteworthy that the Afghan national staff have been more responsible than those internationals who presume greater responsibility.