

1-13-2009

# DDASaccident739

Humanitarian Demining Accident and Incident Database  
*AID*

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# DDAS Accident Report

## Accident details

<b>Report date:</b> 11/07/2011	<b>Accident number:</b> 739
<b>Accident time:</b> 10:25	<b>Accident Date:</b> 13/01/2009
<b>Where it occurred:</b> CBU-425 Arab Salem, Area 6, Nabatiyah, Near Arabsaleem	<b>Country:</b> Lebanon
<b>Primary cause:</b> Management/control inadequacy (?)	<b>Secondary cause:</b> Inadequate equipment (?)
<b>Class:</b> Missed-mine accident	<b>Date of main report:</b> None
<b>ID original source:</b> None	<b>Name of source:</b> Press
<b>Organisation:</b> [Name removed]	
<b>Mine/device:</b> Submunition	<b>Ground condition:</b> not recorded
<b>Date record created:</b>	<b>Date last modified:</b> 11/07/2011
<b>No of victims:</b> 1	<b>No of documents:</b> 1

## Map details

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

## Accident Notes

inadequate investigation (?)

inadequate equipment (?)

inadequate survey (?)

## Accident report

No formal report of this accident has been made available to date. The report below is a compilation of press reports and email exchanges about the accident. They have been edited for anonymity.

This record will be revised if more information becomes available.

“A cluster bomb left over from the Israel-Hizbullah war in 2006 wounded a member of the demining team [Demining group] in south Lebanon on Friday. The National News Agency said [the Victim], 26, was wounded when the bomb exploded near the southern Lebanese town of Arabsaleem.”

[The Victim] was taken to al-Najda al-Shaabiya hospital in Nabatiyeh for treatment, NNA said.  
Lebanese de-mining worker wounded by war-left cluster bomb www.chinaview.cn . 2009-01-23 22:49:11

BEIRUT, Jan. 23 (Xinhua) -- A member of the Lebanese demining team [Demining group] was wounded Friday in south Lebanon when a cluster bomb left over from the 2006 Israel-Hezbollah war went off, the state-run National news agency reported.

[The Victim] was wounded when one of the cluster bombs exploded near the southern town of Arabsalim, and was taken to Nabatieh hospital, the report said.

www.chinaview.cn 2009-01-23 22:49:11

----- Forwarded by [Name removed]/United Nations -----

[Demining group] had an accident this morning - details below in [Name removed]'s email.

[Name removed] is informing UNIFIL J3 of the details to keep them informed although the accident occurred in Area 6, Nabatiyah which is outside the UNIFIL - AOR.

The responsibility for the investigation and reporting of this is technically that of LMAC since the handover of coordination responsibilities for the clearance organisations in South Lebanon 01 January.

In this instance however, UNMACC QA Officer [Name removed] is assisting in the investigation and reporting at the request of the LMAC.

Please let us know if we can provide any more information.

Regards,

[Name removed] Programme Officer  
United Nations Mine Action Coordination Centre, South Lebanon

----- Forwarded by [Name removed]/MACC/UNIFIL -----

Just to inform you that there was an accident at [Demining group] BAC Site CBU-425. This is the information so far:

1. Location - CBU-425 Arab Salem, Area 6.
2. Date/Time of Accident - Fri 13 Jan 2009, 10.25hrs.
3. Time of Evacuation - 10.33hrs, 10.55hrs - casualty arrived at Najdeh hospital, Nabatiyah.
4. Casualty - Lebanese Searcher, Team 12/13.
5. Injuries - traumatic amputation of right foot (below ankle), fragmentation injuries to left leg.
6. Reported cause of accident - detonation of submunition during BAC surface visual search.
7. Investigation team - Lt [Name removed] (LMAC) and [Name removed] (UNMACC).

Regards,  
[Name removed] UNMACC QA Department

## Victim Report

<b>Victim number:</b> 928	<b>Name:</b> [Name removed]
<b>Age:</b> 26	<b>Gender:</b> Male
<b>Status:</b> deminer	<b>Fit for work:</b> not known
<b>Compensation:</b> Not made available	<b>Time to hospital:</b> 30 minutes
<b>Protection issued:</b> Not recorded	<b>Protection used:</b> Not recorded

### Summary of injuries:

INJURIES: severe Leg

AMPUTATION/LOSS: Leg Below knee

COMMENT: No Medical report was made available.

### Analysis

The primary cause of this accident is listed as a *Management Control Inadequacy* because the Victim was engaged in a visual search of an area where there were subsurface submunitions, so was not equipped appropriately. The secondary cause is listed as *Inadequate equipment* for the same reason. The SL MACC accepted that the task could be conducted with a visual search, which is the *Inadequate survey* listed under notes.

The visual search of an area is not “clearance” as defined in the IMAS and increases the risk of civilian injury because it encourages them to think that the area is safe to use.

The handover of responsibility between the UNMACC and LMAC in Lebanon was reportedly fraught, with UNIFIL problems as well. Detailed accident reports are no longer shared.