

8-22-2008

DDASaccident780

Humanitarian Demining Accident and Incident Database
AID

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DDAS Accident Report

Accident details

Report date: 19/07/2011	Accident number: 780
Accident time: 11:26	Accident Date: 22/08/2008
Where it occurred: AF/0308/00000, MF3338, Jan Qadam Village, Bagram District, Parwan province	Country: Afghanistan
Primary cause: Field control inadequacy (?)	Secondary cause: Field control inadequacy (?)
Class: Excavation accident	Date of main report: None
ID original source: (28)	Name of source: UNMACCA
Organisation: [Name removed]	
Mine/device: AP blast (unrecorded)	Ground condition: hard
Date record created:	Date last modified: 19/07/2011
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 (?)

inadequate training (?)

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.

LESSONS LEARNED SUMMARY OF [Demining group] DT 24 DEMINING ACCIDENT

INTRODUCTION:

An investigation team was convened by AMAC Kabul to investigate the demining accident involving [the Victim] the Deminer from [Demining group] DT 24. The accident occurred at 11:26 hours on 22 August 2008 at minefield number AF/0308/00000/MF3338, located in Jan Qadam village, Bagram district of Parwan province.

SUMMARY:

During the years 1984 to 1988, the Russian forces used the Bagram Airbase as a military base; they created mine belts around it. minefield # AF/0308/00000/MF3338 located in this mine belt, which contaminated the area with AP PMN and PMN2 mines. After withdrawal of Russian troops, the Najib government forces contaminated this area with AP mines for second time in order to protect the Airbase from the attacks of opposition.

Clearance operation on this task started by [Demining group] DT-24 on 10th of March 2008, size of minefield is 29550m², about 5608m² area has been cleared and 616 AP mines has been detected in this task till the accident date. On 22 August 2008 while de-miner [the Victim] was working in his clearance lane from up downward direction. He used scraper as a standard tool for excavation, but the area was hard and bushy. The de-miner hit the mine directly on its top during excavation and caused the explosion. However the deminer had worn his PPE but has got some injuries on his finger and arm of his right hand.

CONCLUSIONS:

It is the conclusion of the investigation team that the carelessness of involved deminer, poor command and control and deviation from SOPs caused the accident happened.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The following points are to be considered:

- Such complicated areas should be prepared by machine first and then to be dealt manually.
- [Demining group] is recommended to seek the possibility of deployment of mechanical asset to the area and take action accordingly.

Victim Report

Victim number: 966	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: Long visor Short frontal vest	Protection used: Frontal apron; Long visor

Summary of injuries:

INJURIES: severe Arm; severe Finger

COMMENT: No Medical report was made available. "...injuries on his finger and arm of his right hand".

Analysis

The primary and secondary cause of this accident are listed as *Field Control Inadequacies* because the investigators determined that "poor command and control and deviation from SOPs caused the accident happened".

The "scraper" used for excavation by this group is a small mattock and has been involved in many accidents. It is not blast-resistant and not easy to use delicately, especially in hard ground.

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.