

2-17-1992

DDASaccident285

Humanitarian Demining Accident and Incident Database
AID

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DDAS Accident Report

Accident details

Report date: 18/05/2006	Accident number: 285
Accident time: not recorded	Accident Date: 17/02/1992
Where it occurred: not made available	Country: Kuwait
Primary cause: Inadequate equipment (?)	Secondary cause: Inadequate equipment (?)
Class: Detection accident	Date of main report: [No date recorded]
ID original source: KMOD 49/SER 35	Name of source: Various/AVS 2001:K8
Organisation: Name removed	
Mine/device: Type 72 AP blast	Ground condition: sandy
Date record created: 19/02/2004	Date last modified: 19/02/2004
No of victims: 1	No of documents: 1

Map details

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

Accident Notes

no independent investigation available (?)

inadequate investigation (?)

inadequate metal-detector (?)

Accident report

The details of Kuwait Boards of Inquiry are considered 'Commercial in Confidence'. The following summary is gathered from various documentary and anecdotal evidence made available during the research. All anecdotal evidence is drawn from sources who were in Kuwait at the time of the accident.

The demining group were a commercial company with a time penalty on their work. International staff were paid very well. The group worked in three-man teams with a two-man drill. They used the Schiebel AN-19 detector.

An ex-pat deminer was checking the edge of "iron bomb of 16 inch Naval shell crater" in a minefield when he trod on a Type 72 anti-personnel mine. The mine has a minimum metal content and he suffered a traumatic amputation of his lower leg. It is presumed that he had his detector in his hand at the time of the accident.

Sources among the ex-pat employees of the demining company at the time all agree that it was known that the Schiebel could not reliably locate Type 72 mines below the surface of the sand and that the management was fully aware of this fact.

Victim Report

Victim number: 361	Name: Name removed
Age:	Gender: Male
Status: deminer	Fit for work: presumed
Compensation: US\$500,000 (?)	Time to hospital: not recorded
Protection issued: Frag jacket	Protection used: not recorded
Helmet	
Short visor	
Trousers/leggings	

Summary of injuries:

AMPUTATION/LOSS

Leg Below knee

COMMENT

No medical report was made available.

Analysis

The primary cause of this accident is listed as "*Inadequate equipment*" because the victim was attempting to find a Type 72 mine with a detector that could not reliably locate it. This fact was known to management who had not taken measures to replace the detectors or change the methods used.

There is a paucity of reliable data for many of the accidents that occurred in Kuwait. If any reader has additional detail, please send it for inclusion.