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Geneva Diary: Report from the GICHD

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given in the [morning] in a classroom envi-
ronment teaching them assembly and basic
characteristics of the landmine and underwa-
ter detectors. Second, we had [each of] them assemble
[and] functions-check [the detectors],
and [then] sent [them] through a prac-
tice walk through-lane with but, inert,
UXO. Third, we identified the mere experi-
enced soldiers and [then] encouraged and al-
lowed them to train getting their own soldiers
properly trained and comfortable with the
new equipment we provided”. With this “train
properly trained and comfortable with the
equipment, they were able to assist getting their own soldiers
assemble [and] functions-check [the detec-
tors].

Obol’sConclusion

Bolos was also impressed by the level of
professionalism the Uzbek personnel showed.
“They formed a specialized engineer staff that
battalion for this,” he says. “They were all en-
gineers. They were familiar with some of the
equipment and they [were] very professional.

Ultimately, Bolos and his team had a
considerable impact on the Uzbek soldiers.
Through training military personnel how to
perform EOD operations, the U.S. has provid-
ed Uzbekistan with a sustainable method for
meeting their needs for new equipment to
face the landmines and other dangerous UXO.

Since his last trip to Central Asia, Bolos has
accepted a new assignment at Fort Camp-
bell, Kentucky, assuming command of an
EOD Battalion, but he still finds memories of his trips to the area.

“They took care of us,” Bolos says. “We were afforded the opportu-
nity to experience their culture and history dur-
ing our stay.”

For more information, please see the next issue of The Journal of ERW and Mine Action.

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