

DDAS Accident Report

Accident details

Report date: 19/04/2006	Accident number: 80
Accident time: 09:20	Accident Date: 26/03/1997
Where it occurred: Rabay Sartan , Qalat Village, Dokan District	Country: Iraq
Primary cause: Unavoidable (?)	Secondary cause: Management/control inadequacy (?)
Class: Missed-mine accident (survey)	Date of main report: 30/03/1997
ID original source: MEA	Name of source: MAG
Organisation: [Name removed]	
Mine/device: Type 72 AP blast	Ground condition: not recorded
Date record created: 23/01/2004	Date last modified: 21/02/2004
No of victims: 1	No of documents: 1

Map details

Longitude: 44° 55' 43" E	Latitude: 35° 57' 56" N
Alt. coord. system:	Coordinates fixed by:
Map east:	Map north:
Map scale:	Map series:
Map edition:	Map sheet:
Map name:	

Accident Notes

inadequate medical provision (?)
incomplete detonation (?)
no independent investigation available (?)

Accident report

An internal report was prepared for the demining group by a "Mines Specialist" and dated 30th March 1997. The following summarises its content.

The victim was part of an advance team which was defining the perimeter of a suspected mined area, with the help of a local guide. The victim was putting in metal markers about 3m away from the existing mined-area boundary stakes. At 09:20 the victim stepped on a mine about 8m away from the existing boundary stakes. He suffered " a cracked bone and bruising to his left foot". He was released from hospital that day.

A 20m safe lane was cleared to the site of the accident on 30th March and no other mines were found.

Conclusion

The investigation concluded that the guide had insufficient knowledge of the area.

Recommendations

The investigator recommended that advance teams should seek the help of people who work outside the village (e.g. wood cutter or shepherds).

An appendix to the demining group's accident report described the detonation as a "deflagration". [There is no mention of the mine deflagrating in the report, but the light injuries may make this likely.]

Victim Report

Victim number: 111	Name: [Name removed]
Age:	Gender: Male
Status: deminer	Fit for work: not known
Compensation: not made available	Time to hospital: not recorded
Protection issued: Frag jacket	Protection used: not recorded
Helmet	
Short visor	

Summary of injuries:

INJURIES

severe Foot

COMMENT

See medical report.

Medical report

No formal medical report was available but the medic made a statement in which he said that after he had examined the victim, bandaged his foot and "put him in a car and took him to emergency hospital" the hospital did nothing to treat him.

After some deliberation the victim was then taken to Kurdistan Hospital where he was X-rayed and it was found that he had "suffered a cracked bone and bruising to his left foot which was then put in plaster". It was expected that the victim would recover in a month.

"There was no other damage to his body or clothing including his left boot, He was released from hospital that afternoon."

Analysis

The primary cause of this accident is listed as "*Unavoidable*" because it seems that the deminer was working properly (according to the group's SOPs) when the accident occurred.

The failure to carry out an adequate survey of the extent of the mined area was a failing of higher management, although it is not clear at what level (whether demining group of National MAC). Because survey is their responsibility, the secondary cause is listed as a *“Management/control inadequacy”*.