DDAS Accident Report

Accident details

Report date: 04/03/2011 Accident number: 603

Accident time: 11:00 Accident Date: 02/07/2008

Where it occurred: Shekhan Dara-i-Bala Country: Afghanistan

Village, Kalafgan District, Takhar Province

inadequacy (?)

Primary cause: Field control Secondary cause: Inadequate equipment

(?)

ID original source: DA17 Name of source: UNMACCA

Organisation: [Name removed]

Mine/device: PMN AP blast Ground condition: not recorded

Date record created: Date last modified: 04/03/2011

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 (?)

squatting/kneeling to excavate (?)

use of pick (?)

visor not worn or worn raised (?)

Inadequate detector pinpointing

Accident report

The only report of this accident that has been made available to date was in a UNMACA EXCEL spreadsheet. Text in square brackets [] is editorial. This record will be revised if more information is made available.

The EXCEL summary is reproduced below, edited for anonymity.

S. # 17, No.# Accident: DA 17

Demining group: [Demining group]

Date of Accident: 2nd July 2008 11:00

IMSMA ID: [None]

Accident/Incident: Demining accident

Name: [the Victim]

Type of Casualty: injured

Type of injury: Injuries in his face and both arms

Title: Deminer

Team No: MDG 22

Task No: [None]

Activity of Victim during accident: Prodding

Type Device: PMN

Equipment Damaged: [None]

Village, District, Province: Shekhan Dara-i-Bala Village, Kalafgan District, Takhar Province.

Investigation Completed Y/N: Y

Action Taken by NGOs (Y/N):Y

BOI Conclusions:

- 1. Poor supervision by the command group is considered the main contributing factor for this accident as the deminer was working with pick with visor up but nobody has controlled him.
- 2. Carelessness of the deminer is also another contributing factor to this accident as in such a heavy contaminated minefield, he was using pick and has failed to use the visor properly.

Victim Report

Victim number: 786 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: Not recorded Protection used: Not made available

Summary of injuries:

INJURIES: severe Arms; severe Face

COMMENT: No Medical report was made available.

Analysis

The primary cause of this accident is listed as a *Field Control Inadequacy* because the Victim was working with his visor raised (or not worn) and using a pick to investigate a metal-detector reading incautiously. The secondary cause is listed as *Inadequate equipment* because no alternative to a pick for starting a safe excavation in hard ground was made available.

It is possible that the Victim failed to pinpoint the metal-detector reading adequately (as has been reported in other accidents around this time) and so started to excavate on top of the mine.

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 in contravention of the requirements of the IMAS. The failure of the UN to share the Afghan investigators' work with others is regrettable.