

# DDAS Accident Report

## Accident details

<b>Report date:</b> 18/05/2006	<b>Accident number:</b> 235
<b>Accident time:</b> not recorded	<b>Accident Date:</b> 23/07/1997
<b>Where it occurred:</b> Gradina, Goradze	<b>Country:</b> Bosnia Herzegovina
<b>Primary cause:</b> Field control inadequacy (?)	<b>Secondary cause:</b> Inadequate training (?)
<b>Class:</b> Missed-mine accident	<b>Date of main report:</b> [No date recorded]
<b>ID original source:</b> Incident no.723	<b>Name of source:</b> other
<b>Organisation:</b> Name removed	
<b>Mine/device:</b> Goradze	<b>Ground condition:</b> rocks/stones
<b>Date record created:</b> 17/02/2004	<b>Date last modified:</b> 17/02/2004
<b>No of victims:</b> 1	<b>No of documents:</b> 1

## Map details

<b>Longitude:</b>	<b>Latitude:</b>
<b>Alt. coord. system:</b> GR: CP 233 491	<b>Coordinates fixed by:</b>
<b>Map east:</b> CP232 490	<b>Map north:</b>
<b>Map scale:</b>	<b>Map series:</b>
<b>Map edition:</b>	<b>Map sheet:</b>
<b>Map name:</b>	

## Accident Notes

inadequate equipment (?)  
safety distances ignored (?)  
protective equipment not worn (?)  
inadequate training (?)  
no independent investigation available (?)  
inadequate investigation (?)

## Accident report

Details of this accident were discovered in a document entitled "Synopsis of EA Military demining accidents 1997". The victim was a member of FWF/3 Corps ArBiH engaged in "mine-lifting".

As part of the Peace Accord, the three active armies were required to engage in humanitarian demining. They did this without keeping the country MAC informed of their working methods or giving them access to conduct accident investigations.

The document stated that the deminers were working on a bare and stony slope. They were "familiar with the ground" and the minefield record. The victim stood at the edge of the mined area, stepped into it and saw a GORADZE mine. He asked a deminer behind him (the report records that the second man was "unprotected") to confirm the identification and moved forward. As he did so he stepped on a mine that he had not seen. As he fell backwards he detonated a second mine that he had failed to detect.

The second unprotected deminer and an SFOR monitor (20m away) were uninjured.

The victim "suffered minor injuries to his legs" and "the diagnosis was that he would be fully recovered in three weeks".

The MAC spreadsheet recorded that the accident had involved two Goradze mines.

## Victim Report

<b>Victim number:</b> 307	<b>Name:</b> Name removed
<b>Age:</b>	<b>Gender:</b> Male
<b>Status:</b> deminer	<b>Fit for work:</b> presumed
<b>Compensation:</b> not made available	<b>Time to hospital:</b> not recorded
<b>Protection issued:</b> Not recorded	<b>Protection used:</b> not recorded

### Summary of injuries:

INJURIES

minor Legs

COMMENT

The accident report included the observation that the victim "suffered minor injuries to his legs" and that "the diagnosis was that he would be fully recovered in three weeks". No medical report was made available.

### Analysis

The primary cause of this accident is listed as "*Field control inadequacy*" because the victim stepped into a mined area without checking it adequately and was allowed to do so. (The presence of an SFOR monitor who did not prevent this raises questions about that individual's experience and competence.)

Unfortunately the record does not mention what protection (if any) the victim was wearing or what the mines that detonated were. That he both stepped on a mine then fell onto another and did not suffer severe injury is remarkable but the Goradze is very small with only 5g RDX as its main charge..