

# DDAS Accident Report

## Accident details

<b>Report date:</b> 19/05/2006	<b>Accident number:</b> 311
<b>Accident time:</b> 08:50	<b>Accident Date:</b> 26/08/2001
<b>Where it occurred:</b> Erbil Sector	<b>Country:</b> Iraq
<b>Primary cause:</b> Other (?)	<b>Secondary cause:</b> Other (?)
<b>Class:</b> Excavation accident	<b>Date of main report:</b> 08/09/2001
<b>ID original source:</b> JJ	<b>Name of source:</b> UN/JJ/AVS 2001:KI08
<b>Organisation:</b> Name removed	
<b>Mine/device:</b> M14 AP blast	<b>Ground condition:</b> rocks/stones wet
<b>Date record created:</b> 19/02/2004	<b>Date last modified:</b> 19/02/2004
<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>	<b>Coordinates fixed by:</b>
<b>Map east:</b>	<b>Map north:</b>
<b>Map scale:</b> not recorded	<b>Map series:</b>
<b>Map edition:</b>	<b>Map sheet:</b>
<b>Map name:</b>	

## Accident Notes

inadequate investigation (?)

## Accident report

A UNOPS MAP Board of Inquiry was instigated and the following BOI report provided. For unexplained "political" reasons, the original report was heavily edited before being provided. The following is further edited to allow it to be read smoothly.

The accident site was visited by the investigating team on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2001.

The victim had been employed as a deminer since July 1998. His last refresher training had been three weeks before the accident. His last rest-break had been 45 minutes prior to the accident.

The work-area was un-vegetated, flat ground that had been very well watered. Small rocks were present in the working lane. The working method was manual "full-excavation". The Team Leader was at another site because it was a "split task". The Deputy Team Leader was

on site and “within visual distance” of the victim. The Section leader was 35m from the victim at the time of accident.

The victim was conducting a “full-excavation” drill wearing a protective vest (RBR), a full-face visor with headband, and gloves. He was using a gardening tool/hand trowel and as he worked, he activated an M14 mine with the trowel.

He suffered “injuries to his left forearm consisting of 1-2<sup>nd</sup> degree burns, fragment wounds to the same arm and very small wounds to his chin”.

Medical attention was immediate and the victim was in a local hospital within 35 minutes.

There was no damage to the victim’s PPE.

### **Conclusion**

The BOI determined that the accident was caused by “human error”. The “ground was too wet” and the “Excavation not according to SOP”. The mine was within the top 10cm of the ground. The BOI reported a “Lack of close supervision by team leadership”.

### **Recommendations**

The recommendations of the BOI report made available for this database is reproduced below verbatim:

“SOP change. Retraining for staff on their duties for command and control, re assess methods of using digging tool, all teams refresher training on excavation method. No demining in ground that is excessively wet or muddy.”

## **Victim Report**

<b>Victim number:</b> 393	<b>Name:</b> Name removed
<b>Age:</b>	<b>Gender:</b> Male
<b>Status:</b> deminer	<b>Fit for work:</b> not known
<b>Compensation:</b> not made available	<b>Time to hospital:</b> 35 minutes
<b>Protection issued:</b> Frag jacket Long visor	<b>Protection used:</b> Long visor; Frag jacket

### **Summary of injuries:**

INJURIES

minor Face

severe Arm

COMMENT

No medical report was made available.

### **Analysis**

The Primary and Secondary causes of this accident are both listed as “*Other*” because there is not enough detail in the summarised report from the UNOPS MAP for an assessment of

events to be made. From the information given, the victim appears to have been working properly in an approved manner when the accident occurred.

The summary of the accident investigation provided on behalf of the MAC was so abbreviated that it contained no useful detail.

If any reader knows more about this accident, please share the details.