Hi all,

Somebody can give Margaret Buse e-mail to contact here about "journal of mine action" issues

Cheers

______________________________
DJAMA Alfred
Côte d'Ivoire
25 BP 1956 Abidjan 25
tél:(225)22-47-41-97
mobile:(225)05-80-69-14

MSN Hotmail : antivirus et antispam intégrés

#############################################################
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To switch to the Digest mode, E-mail to <network1-digest@mgm.org>
Send administrative queries to  <network1-request@mgm.org>
Subject: MgM Demining Network: Eritrea Disposes 16,000 Kg Unserviceable Munitions

Date: Saturday, February 12, 2005 3:59 AM
From: ACARLG@aol.com
Reply-To: <network1@mgm.org>
To: <network1@mgm.org>

Eritrea Disposes 16,000 Kg Unserviceable Munitions
The Daily Monitor (Addis Ababa)
February 11, 2005
Dagnachew Teklu
Addis Ababa

The Eritrean government has this week began disposing 16,000KG (16 tones) of unserviceable munitions with the support of the UN mission in the area.

UN officials said Thursday that the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea (UNMEE) Mine Action and Coordination (MACC) Explosive Ordnance Team is supporting the ongoing operation by the Eritrean Demining Authority (EDA).

"MACC was requested to provide technical advice and assistance with this task to be carried out over the period February 7 to 10 at the permanent demolition range of the Eritrean Ministry of Defence, located near the village of Sheiba," said Gail Sainte, UNMEE spokeswomen.

Sainte said that the items, being disposed consists mainly of mortar bomb, rifle and hand grenades, pyrotechnics, and small arms ammunition (SAA).

She also indicated that MACC regional liaison office located at Shilalo, Sector West of the Temporary Security Zone (TSZ) has been assisting the EDA with the planning of mined area clearance, survey, and making operations in support of the return of up to 20,000 IDPs into the Shilalo and surrounding area.

"This task has been given high priority and is expected to continue for some time. The Bangladeshi and Kenyan de-miners of the peacekeeping force have continued their demining operation in Sector West of the TSZ," she said.

Hundreds of thousands mines were buried during the Ethio-Eritrea war which claimed over 70,000 lives a few years ago.

Meanwhile, UN military officials denied Thursday troops' movement by the Eritrean side that has been reported over the week by the media and other diplomatic sources.

Brigadier General Abraham Wambugu, Deputy Force Commander of UNMEE said that the UN mission in the area has witnessed no troops' movement at the border area of the two countries.

"We are continuing our monitoring, but we haven't seen any troops' movement," he said.

There were reports over the week about troops' movement at the Ethiopia and Eritrean border.

"The general situation in the mission area remains militarily stable. There have been no significant changes in troops' location or dispositions," Sainte said.

She however said that the UN mission has conducted 619 ground and 13 air reconnaissance patrols throughout the area of responsibility (AOR).

Also on 9 February, the SRSG, Legwaila Joseph Legwaila met separately with Ethiopian Foreign Minister Seyoum Mesfin and US Ambassador to Ethiopia, Aurelia Brazeal to review the current situation in the peace process. The US government has still kept quiet on the newly introduced five peace proposal presented in November 2004 by Prime Minister Meles Zenawi to end its border row with Eritrea. International efforts
still continue to bring the two countries for dialogue. Two weeks ago the United Nations special envoy to Ethiopia and Eritrea, Lloyd Axworthy visited Ethiopia to discuss about the peace process.

Eritrea still rejects any dialogue with Ethiopia saying “no talk without physical border demarcation.”

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Hi Kevin,

I get a short digital movie of 2' with Chinese troops laying APM on the Vietnamese border in the 80's. There is a copy in my ex-computer in HIF Mine Dpt. Ask for a copy to Bill because it would take more delay if I send it from Dakar.

Best regard.

Manuel

Manuel Gonzal
Conseiller technique
Handicap International
DAKAR
IGEOD 128

-----Message d'origine-----
De : network1@mgm.org [mailto:network1@mgm.org]De la part de Kevin BRYANT
Envoyé : vendredi 11 février 2005 08:11
À : network1@mgm.org
Objet : MgM Demining Network: Photos

Can anyone help me out? I am putting together a presentation for HI personnel (non EOD/Demining) leaving for work in mine affected countries. To complete it I would like 2 photos:

1. Minelaying by hand
2. Minelaying by helicopter.

Failed miserably to find anything decent on the internet, so if anyone has a couple and don’t mind me using them, I would be grateful.

Kev
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Kev
Dear Sir,

Can you send me a document?

Regards

Naiden

Naiden Iliev, M.Sc.Econ
Head of explosive works
Recognising & Disarming of unexploded ordnance

Baltchik 8 D str
Sofia 1612
Bulgaria
mobile +359887470020

http://web.etel.ru/~saper/

#--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------#
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Send administrative queries to <network1-request@mgm.org>
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: MgM Demining Network: Five die in Afghan mine explosion
Date: Tuesday, February 1, 2005 4:00 PM
From: Mohammed Hussein Yussuf <m_khadar1@hotmail.com>
Reply-To: <network1@mgm.org>
To: <network1@mgm.org>

Did you try to recruiting guys from Russia? I,m sure in positive result.
Regards
M H Yussuf

>From: "A.Kostioukov" <fortenterprise@mtu-net.ru> >Reply-To: <network1@mgm.org> >To: <network1@mgm.org> >Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: Five die in Afghan mine explosion >Date: Tue, 01 Feb 2005 21:37:33 +0100 > >Re: MgM Demining Network: Five die in Afghan mine explosionHi Kev > >Did you try to recruiting guys from Russia? I'm sure in positive result. > >Regards > > Andrey > > ----- Original Message ----- > From: Kevin BRYANT > To: network1@mgm.org > Sent: Tuesday, February 01, 2005 8:13 PM > Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: Five die in Afghan mine explosion > > Did not think anyone wanted to go back to Afghanistan...that's why we (HI-B) are having difficulty recruiting a quality STA!! > > > > > Stay Safe, > > > > Kev Bryant > > > > > > > > > > > > > > > From: network1@mgm.org [mailto:network1@mgm.org] On Behalf Of Ken O'Connell > Sent: mardi 1 février 2005 16:41 > To: network1@mgm.org > Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: Five die in Afghan mine explosion > > > > Hi Roger, > > Don't know anything about the first incident, but I am sure that most Afghan vehicles that are in good condition look better than a charred wreckage. > > I do remember Kunar very well, were I fell victim to an MS3. Also, I remember the Arabs and their supporters in Asadabad, precursor to the Taleban. I also remember a big battle when the Harakat (Masood's Tajiks) and Hizbe-i-Islami (Hekmatyar's Pathans) joined forces to drive out the Arabs et al. Nasty. Doesn't surprise me these guys are back there, first area to drive the Russians out. > > Must admit, this is one country I would like to get back to. > > Cheers, > > Ken > > On 1/2/05 16:18, "Roger Hess" <rhess@mweb.co.za> wrote: > > Does anyone have any solid information on this? The details are a bit lacking. > > > > Cheers > > Roger > > > > > > ARGHANDAB: Five civilians died and at least nine others were injured on Sunday when their pick-up truck hit a mine apparently left over from Afghanistan's long wars, officials and witnesses said. > > The vehicle detonated the landmine after driving off the side of the road in a remote area near Arghandab in Kandahar province. An Associated Press reporter saw bloodstained clothes and shoes, lying around the charred wreckage of the white vehicle. > > Local police chief Zamarai Khan said that the five men were killed
and 10 other people, about half of them children, were taken to hospital in Kandahar for treatment. However, a man called Alizai, who witnessed the explosion, said that one child was among the five killed and that another nine people were hurt. It was unclear why the vehicle left the road, which appeared in good condition next to the scene of the accident. Alizai said that the area was known to be mined and the police chief said that the charge had probably been there for sometime.

Our Peshawar correspondent adds: Four Afghan employees of a foreign construction firm were injured when their vehicle was targeted by an improvised explosive device (IED) in the eastern Kunar province. Afghan sources in Jalalabad and Kunar's capital Asadabad told The News that the blast took place on the main Jalalabad-Asadabad road in Kunar. They said the incident occurred in Chowki district when the vehicle was returning to Jalalabad after the day's work. Of the four injured men, two had to be hospitalised in Jalalabad. No arrest had been made thus far and nobody has claimed responsibility for the attack. Kunar remains a high-risk area for US-led coalition troops and foreign and Afghan aid workers. A number of IED attacks have taken place on the Asadabad-Jalalabad road causing casualties. The staff of NGOs and international organizations is often advised to avoid travel to Kunar, where the Taliban and former Mujahideen leader Gulbaddin Hekmatyar's supporters maintain a significant presence.

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Regards
Andrey

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Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: Working in Minefields/ Dangerous job

Date: Friday, January 28, 2005 2:31 AM
From: Scott D Smith <scott@hectec.ca>
Reply-To: <network1@mgm.org>
To: <network1@mgm.org>

Al or whoever,

Where can i download this doc?

Scott

At 07:54 AM 1/28/2005, you wrote:
   Those who obtain our two-part, three volume reference/text on the Application of Technology to the mine problem will see that we concur that the future in countermine lies in robotic or autonomous systems once we solve the sensor problem.

   On Tue, 2005-01-25 at 07:29 +0100, ACARLG@aol.com wrote:
   >
   > Working in Minefields/ Dangerous job
   > By EIICHI MURANO
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Scott D Smith
Technical Director
HEC

Humanitarian
Engineering and
Consulting

Website: www.hectec.cc
<http://www.hectec.cc/> eMail: scott@hectec.cc
Phone (Namibia): +264 81 128 7805

PO Box 24394, Windhoek, Namibia, Africa 9000
engineering for necessity, elegance in simplicity
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> Editor's note: The world has long envied Japan's high-tech industry and artisan culture, but some people feel the country has lost its way since the economic bubble burst. Thankfully, that pioneering spirit is alive, whether it is in backstreet workshops, in manufacturing or in scientific accomplishment as attested by the recent spate of Japanese Nobel Prize winners. This series examines how Japanese technology and culture is felt in the world today.
> 
> --
> Albert M. Bottoms <amb@demine.org>

SCOT

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By EIICHI MURANO
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MgM People Against Landmines

PRESS RELEASE
24.01.2005

An Endless African Tsunami - The Man-Made Landmine Disaster Must Not Be Forgotten

Windhoek, Namibia -- The wave of emergency aid and charitable assistance to the victims of last months Asian tsunami disaster has again proved how powerful international solidarity can be in rendering assistance to people who find themselves in a catastrophic situation.

The focus of all international media on the event showed an enormously positive effect: Humanitarian aid and assistance for reconstruction, amounting to billions of dollars, have been pouring into the affected countries over the past few weeks.

This cannot be faulted in any way, but it has had an unfortunate and unintended, negative side effect: All other humanitarian disasters elsewhere in the world have simply been pushed into the background, beyond the limits of our collective conscience.

If one is to measure the true extent of any given humanitarian disaster by means of the number of people affected by it, then Africa, in effect, is experiencing a tsunami event every three to four months. Lack of nourishment, disease, civil wars and the deadly legacies of armed conflicts raging through the continent continues to take a deadly toll of hundreds of thousands of African lives every year.

MgM, a humanitarian demining organisation, have been clearing minefields, unexploded ordinance and other deadly but abandoned detritus of war in various former war zones in Africa since 1996. In rendering this humanitarian aid, this German NGO not only saves several thousands of peoples lives, but also enables the socio-economic rehabilitation of those millions of Africans living in countries formerly ravaged by war, such as Angola and Mozambique.

Above all, the clearing of landmines from the road networks and routes of transit has initiated and stimulated the amazing self-healing powers of these countries: Health services, free movement of people and goods, individual initiative and last but not least, the restoration of educational systems have been proven to be a direct consequence of this humanitarian assistance.

But in order to do so, MGM needs the unflagging support of the general public, the media and the political will of all concerned. The man-made disaster that are the thousands of minefields
littering formerly war-affected countries in Africa can only be undone by the involvement of every man and woman of good conscience. Restoring the human dignity by addressing this, one of the worst humanitarian disasters ever, deserves as much attention as any other humanitarian disaster elsewhere.

In the past year, MGM has cleared 3.5 million hectares of mine-affected land (most of it agricultural), removing and destroying more than 7,000 landmines and other explosive devices in the process. Some 350 kilometres of economically critical roads were re-opened in 2004, the first time these could be used in decades, allowing hundreds of thousands of formerly displaced people to return to their lands.

However, countless other internally displaced people still languish in refugee camps, waiting for assistance to cope with the landmine fields that still hold them hostage, long after armed conflict has ended. They should not be forgotten, and equally deserve to be helped as a matter of urgency.

More information and details of how to make an on-line donation can be found at: www.mgm.org <http://www.mgm.org/e/>

MGM Foundation People Against Landmines
Oberlinstr. 8
D-40625 Duesseldorf
Germany

Donations can also be made by international bank transfer to:

International Volksbank Krefeld e.G.
Konto 1000200030
BLZ 320 603 62
VIA SWIFT GENODE DD

More information and pictures you will find at: www.mgm.org <http://www.mgm.org/e/>

Press Contact:

More information and interviews can be arranged through:

Michael Ehlers
Tel.: +49 (0)931 66 32 16
Mobile: +49 (0)171 68 27 72 1
email: presscontact@mgm.org

MGM Foundation People Against Landmines
Office Germany
Oberlinstr.8
D-40625 Duesseldorf
Germany
Tel.: +49 (0)211/16788-41
Fax: +49 (0)211/16788-42
email: info@mgm.org
www.mgm.org <http://www.mgm.org/e/>
Dear all,

I just wanted to let you know that the International Network of Youth Against Landmines (INYAL) which I first mentioned on the MgM network in mid - 2004 is now up and running. You can view it at www.aplaceof.info/inyal . If anyone has any questions or would like to know more, please email me at antilandmines@mail2president.com.

Warm regards,

Jonathan Greenacre,
President, The Australian Youth Against Landmines Association

<-----Original Message----->

From: David Ramajo Casillas
Sent: 1/12/2005 6:30:21 PM
To: network1@mgm.org
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: US opens up to foreign EOD qualifications

Hello Roger,
I would be interested in get a copy.
Thanks,

Best regards,

Cap. David Ramajo Casillas
Centro Internacional de Desminado (Academia de Ingenieros)
Spain
dramajo@et.mde.es
Telf. 0034918562240
Yes Please, I woulsd also like a copy of the document ref US quals,
Thanks in advance,
John Owens
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I would be interested in get a copy.
Thanks,

Best regards,

Cap. David Ramajo Casillas
Centro Internacional de Desminado (Academia de Ingenieros)
Spain
dramajo@et.mde.es
telf. 0034918562240
Yes, it is a T55 bridge-layer and never had a turret and/or canon. All other guesses were astonishingly correct.

Hendrik Ehlers, Director
Operations + R&D
MgM Foundation - Humanitarian Landmine Clearance
HEC Foundation - Humanitarian Engineering & Consulting
website: www.mgm.org - email: he@mgm.org
mobile: +264 81 1277020 - fax: +264 61 243477

Did you ever give the answer to your "what is it" posted before Christmas?

Richard Beech
Countermine,
Dstl Fort Halstead
Tel: +44(0) 1959 892955

-----Original Message-----
From: Hendrik Ehlers [mailto:ehlers@mgm.org]
Nope, I never used it for clearance but only what it was built for. "Clearance" was done by a man who lost a leg with Krohn. It broke down because 70 tons was just too much for the engines. 50 would have been fine.... and stranded? Me? Never....

Hendrik

This isn't the "beast" that broke down in the middle of the minefield and had you stranded for some hours until rescue could be implemented ????

Derek

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"For those other than the recipient any disclosure, copying, distribution, "
"or any action taken or omitted to be taken in reliance on such information is"
"prohibited and may be unlawful."
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: US opens up to foreign EOD qualifications
Date: Wednesday, January 12, 2005 4:06 AM
From: ied-eod@o2.pl
Reply-To: <network1@mgm.org>
To: <network1@mgm.org>

Roger
I very interested.
I request you, please send a copy of the document.
Thanks,
Wojtek

Polish Association of Bomb Technicians
e-mail: ied-eod@02.pl

---- Wiadomość Oryginalna ----
Od: Roger Hess <rhess@mweb.co.za>
Do: network1@mgm.org
Data: Tue, 11 Jan 2005 10:15:06 +0100
Temat: MgM Demining Network: US opens up to foreign EOD qualifications

> To all;
> 
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If anyone would like a copy of the official document; let me know and I'll forward it.

Cheers

Roger

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Subject: MgM Demining Network: Document Copy
Date: Wednesday, January 12, 2005 2:49 AM
From: D.Pramod Kumar <dpramodk@yahoo.com>
Reply-To: <network1@mgm.org>
To: <network1@mgm.org>

MR Roger
I am interested to the document, I am working in Mine Detection Instrument R&D, I am staying in India but there is no limit to my work area. Therefore I request you please send Document copy to me.

Pramod Kumar Punde
805 Asia House
K G Marg
New Delhi
Telephone : 91 11 23368717
91....9810330095 (Mobile)

Roger

Do you Yahoo!?
Meet the all-new My Yahoo! - Try it today!
http://my.yahoo.com

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Send administrative queries to <network1-request@mgm.org>
Roger,

I would appreciate a copy of the document.

Thanks,
Walt

Walter F. Hess
Division Manager
Environmental Remediation
RONCO Consulting Corporation
11915 Main St.
Fredericksburg, VA 22408

Tel: (540) 372-6415
Fax: (540) 372-9618
Mbl: (202) 468-2037
whess@roncowash.com

-----Original Message-----
From: network1@mgm.org [mailto:network1@mgm.org] On Behalf Of Roger Hess
Sent: Tuesday, January 11, 2005 4:15 AM
To: network1@mgm.org
Subject: MgM Demining Network: US opens up to foreign EOD qualifications

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Hi Roger,

My name’s Paul Wright and at present the Operations Warrant Officer at 33 Engr Regt (EOD) in UK. I just happen to know a few people who would be very interested in the document, so I too would like a copy please. Happy New Year to you and all on the network.

Be safe.

Paul Wright

----- Original Message ----- 
From: "Roger Hess" <rhess@mweb.co.za> 
To: <network1@mgm.org> 
Sent: Tuesday, January 11, 2005 9:15 AM 
Subject: MgM Demining Network: US opens up to foreign EOD qualifications 

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To switch to the Digest mode, E-mail to <network1-digest@mgm.org>
Send administrative queries to <network1-request@mgm.org>
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: LM in Liberia
Date: Tuesday, January 11, 2005 12:00 PM
From: Arthur Tamba <atamba2002@yahoo.com>
Reply-To: <network1@mgm.org>
To: <network1@mgm.org>

Dear Sir:

Landmine crisis in Liberia at the moment is one that worries me, especially with the started repatriation of refugees and IDPs. There is no Mine Risk Education in Liberia nor is there any systematic humanitarian demining. Also, there is no victim assistance program taking place eventhough, there are about 35,000 war victims most of whom are child soldiers.

There is a serious threat to the peasant farmers who depend on farming for their daily living. At present, landmines are posting a serious threat in the following areas of Liberia: Grand Cape Mount County; Grand Bassa; Bomi county; Margibi county; Kpaya, Zorzor, Kolahun, Voijama, Foya, and Salayee, all of Lofa County. Others are Montserratado, Bone mines, and part of Nimba county.

Antivehicle mines are also reported to have been planted along the roadside from Gbarnga to Lofa Counties. According to UNOMIL reports in 1995, about 18,250 landmines plus unspecified UXO are in Liberia.

The Liberian populace is totally unaware of landmines which post a danger to it in the near future.

There has been no data collection mechanism on landmines casualties in Liberia. However, known incidents of landmines casualties suggest that from in 2003 alone, about 35 persons were reported killed while 8 was seriously injured. The escalating conflict at the time give a very limited access to acertaining facts on the groud regarding landmine casualties.

To conclude, landmine crisis in Liberia is one that is appalling and if nothing is done to help the situation, it be too late for people of Liberia, mainly rural dwellers.

Thanks and wish you well with this information.

Arthur Tamba
Executive Director
Liberia Campaign Against Landmine
BOX 4218
Monrovia Liberia
Cell: 00231 6515341

--- Hendrik Ehlers <ehlers@mgm.org> wrote:

> Dear Sir,
Very interesting indeed. Can you give us a brief overview on the current status of the Liberian landmine crisis?

Cheers

Hendrik Ehlers, Director Operations + R&D
MgM Foundation - Humanitarian Landmine Clearance
HEC Foundation - Humanitarian Engineering & Consulting
website: www.mgm.org - email: he@mgm.org
mobile: +264 81 1277020 - fax: +264 61 243477
m.org>

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Tired of spam? Yahoo! Mail has the best spam protection around
http://mail.yahoo.com

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Send administrative queries to <network1-request@mgm.org>
Subject: MgM Demining Network: RE: MgM Demining Network: Stranded, HINT 2

Date: Tuesday, January 11, 2005 9:57 AM
From: Beech Richard J <RJBEECH@mail.dstl.gov.uk>
Reply-To: <network1@mgm.org>
To: <network1@mgm.org>

Hendrik,

Did you ever give the answer to your "what is it" posted before Christmas?

Richard Beech
Countermine,
Dstl Fort Halstead
Tel: +44(0) 1959 892955

-----Original Message-----
From: Hendrik Ehlers [mailto:ehlers@mgm.org]
Sent: 07 December 2004 14:48
To: network1@mgm.org
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: Stranded, HINT 2

Nope, I never used it for clearance but only what it was built for.

"Clearance" was done by a man who lost a leg with Krohn.

It broke down because 70 tons was just too much for the engines.

50 would have been fine.... and stranded? Me? Never....

Hendrik
This isn't the "beast" that broke down in the middle of the minefield and had you stranded for some hours until rescue could be implemented ????

Derek

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"For those other than the recipient any disclosure, copying, distribution, " "or any action taken or omitted to be taken in reliance on such information is" "prohibited and may be unlawful."
Hallo Roger

It's interesting. Would you please to send copy for me.

fortenterprise@umail.ru

Best regards,

Andrey

----- Original Message ----- 
From: "Roger Hess" <rhess@mweb.co.za> 
To: <network1@mgm.org> 
Sent: Tuesday, January 11, 2005 12:15 PM 
Subject: MgM Demining Network: US opens up to foreign EOD qualifications

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> Cheers
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> Roger
>
> ######################################################################
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Send administrative queries to <network1-request@mgm.org>
We'll do our best to send you a set later this Spring.

On Mon, 2005-01-10 at 09:58 +0100, Emanuela Cepolina wrote:
> Hi,
> It would be very nice to receive a copy
> Thank you very much,
> emanuela cepolina
> PMAR lab,
> Department of Mechanics and Machines Design,
> University of Genova, Italy
>
> ----- Original Message -----
> From: "Albert M. Bottoms" <amb@demine.org>
> To: <network1@mgm.org>
> Sent: Sunday, January 09, 2005 1:49 PM
> Subject: MgM Demining Network: Open Announcement to the MgM Network and to
> John Stevens
> 
> >> John and other Members of the MgM Forum.
> >>
> >> This announcement is a solicitation for official recipients and forr
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> >> Through the good offices of the Office of Naval Research and the Naval
> >> Postgraduate School I have obtained some support to consolidate and to
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> >> appreciate any promulgation of the announcement of the anticipated
> >> appearance of this work.
> >>
Dear Sir,

Very interesting indeed. Can you give us a brief overview on the current status of the Liberian landmine crisis?

Cheers

Hendrik Ehlers, Director Operations + R&D
MgM Foundation - Humanitarian Landmine Clearance
HEC Foundation - Humanitarian Engineering & Consulting
website: www.mgm.org - email: he@mgm.org
mobile: +264 81 1277020 - fax: +264 61 243477
Dear friends:

I am Mr. Arthur Tamba, Executive Director of Liberia Campaign Against Landmine in Liberia.

I am appealing to any friendly country or organizations that can assist my organization in the training of my staff in all aspects of mines activity including Humanitarian Demining, MRE, and other related areas.

These are urgent needs of my organization for which I need support. This is the first landmine organization the have ever existed in Liberia.

Hope that you will hear my cries and come to aid.

Arthur Tamba
Executive Director
LiCAL
Monrovia- Liberia
Tel: 00231-6515341
email: atamba2002@yahoo.com/lical_liberia@yahoo.com

--- Emanuela Cepolina <ecapolina@dimec.unige.it> wrote:

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> Thank you very much,
> emanuela cepolina
> PMAR lab,
> Department of Mechanics and Machines Design,
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Thanks,

--
Albert M. Bottoms <amb@demine.org>

SCOT

#---------------------------------

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Few details were known about the explosion that killed the 7 Ukrainian and 1 Kazakh officers and soldiers, 14 military was injured and evacuated to Bahdad US hospital.
The U.S. military said late Sunday that the joint EOD team cleaning up the Iraqi ammunition dump.
Polish military spokesman Lt. Col. Artur Domanski said the explosion occurred at about noon, about six miles south of El-Suwaira. Eleven soldiers were wounded ≈ seven Ukrainians and four Kazakhs, he said.
Ukraine's Defense Ministry said the military from 72 Inf Bat. and Kazakh Eng.platoon were loading 35 air bombs when one of the devices exploded.
Ukraine serves in a Polish-led contingent in south-central Iraq and is the fourth-largest contributor of troops to the war effort with 1,650 soldiers. Kazakhstan has sent a 27-strong contingent of military engineers and is the only Central Asian nation to contribute troops.
On period 2003-2004 nine Ukrainian soldiers have died in Iraq, including three in combat, and more than 20 have been wounded.

Yuri Donskoy
Ukrainian Peacekeepers Association
Ukrainian Mine Action Coordination Center

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> 
> Thanks,
> 
> --
> Albert M. Bottoms <amb@demine.org>
Hi All;

Here’s a little something from Iraq that could have been a bad situation but turned out good (which is nice for a change), due to some very hard work and foresight of a few key people.

In the early days of the Iraq program; many people questioned whether the Mamba’s my teams and I had would actually survive an IED hit. However at the same time; there were others who shared my opinion that any armor between you and it was far better then no armor at all.

Through much coordination and effort, one of these people managed to bring in some Mamba’s for own his people.

Based on recent events; it seems that the Mamba hull does actually hold their own against IED’s, and in a very respectable manner. I was just sent these photo’s from a friend; this apparently is the third time they’ve taken IED strikes while driving their Mamba’s and no one has been killed.

I don't have the exact details of what type of IED this one was; but a brief comment was something like: "if we’d have been driving our Ford 350, it would have been toast".

It’s good to know the efforts this person went through to ensure his people were as safe as possible paid off, even though he no longer works there.

BTW: I understand that Regis is now doing a retro-fit program with the Mamba’s; installing modern Hino/Dyna engines and drive trains to phase out the old ADE versions; those should be quite nice to drive.

Cheers

Roger
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Send administrative queries to <network1-request@mgm.org>
Hi Mike;

Good to hear from you again Compadre; too bad it’s under these circumstances.

From what’s been passed on to me from his co-workers; Corey was a very dedicated soldier who loved the EOD field.

Being a soldier is a hazardous profession by design and we all know the risks are compounded we join EOD; however nothing can prepare us for situations like what happened in Mosul.

Doesn’t matter whether we personally knew him or not; He was one of us and will be missed, along with all the others.

Hope all is well wherever you’re at.

Roger

-----Original Message-----
From: network1@mgm.org [mailto:network1@mgm.org] On Behalf Of Mike Kelley
Sent: 09 January 2005 02:50 PM
To: network1@mgm.org
Subject: MgM Demining Network: Cpl. Corey M. Hewitt

For those who did not know,

Cpl. Corey M. Hewitt with the 705th EOD out of Ft. Polk, Louisiana was killed in the Mosul Mess Hall bombing.

He has been laid to rest in his home town of Bumpus Mills, Tennessee on Dec 30, 2004.

Just thought yall should know.

Take care,

Mike

====

WALK QUIETLY, AND CARRY A BIG FISH.
John and other Members of the MgM Forum.

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Albert M. Bottoms <amb@demine.org>
SCOT

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Just thought yall should know.

Take care,
Mike

-----
WALK QUIETLY, AND CARRY A BIG FISH.
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: MgM Demining Network: Models of landmines
Date: Saturday, January 8, 2005 11:00 AM
From: Robert Bob Veldkamp <r.veldkamp@t-online.de>
Reply-To: <network1@mgm.org>
To: <network1@mgm.org>

Peter Suttcliff, he was then the project manager for HELP UDT should know. haven't got any current contact information though.
Hope this helps you a bit anyway

Bob Veldkamp

"John Risseeuw" <John.Risseeuw@asu.edu> schrieb:
> In 2001 I visited the BiH Mine Action Center in Sarajevo and they had large
> vacuum-formed plastic landmine models on the wall, showing actual size,
> color, etc. of mines found there. They were about 2' x 3' and each
> contained 6 to 10 mine shapes. Does anyone know who made/makes these models
> and whether they are available for educational purposes? Thanks.
> 
> John L. Risseeuw, Professor
> Director, Pyracantha Press
> School of Art
> Box 871505
> Arizona State University
> Tempe, Arizona 85287-1505
> 480-965-3713 office; 480-965-8338 fax
> 
> 
> #############################################################
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Director, Pyracantha Press
School of Art
Box 871505
Arizona State University
Tempe, Arizona 85287-1505
480-965-3713 office; 480-965-8338 fax
I suspect this is the Scandinavian child who, according to television news reports, has since been re-united with his father in a hospital in the afflicted area.
Looks just like him, can't be sure 100% though.
- Deon Lamprecht
This child was reunited with his father two days ago!

----- Original Message -----  
From: "Dieter Guelle" <dieter.guelle@jrc.it>  
To: <network1@mgm.org>  
Sent: Wednesday, January 05, 2005 6:32 PM  
Subject: MgM Demining Network: FW: Looking for his family - Please send this to all

Dear All,

I forward this because this is an emergency case and this is an international forum. However it is not cc our business, sorry. Dieter

-----Original Message-----  
From: NPA Avi Sarkar [mailto:qm.npa.uxolao@laopdr.com]  
Sent: Wednesday, January 05, 2005 08:15  
To: Bowen Steven M; CARRUTHERS Alexander; damian.kean@undp.org; Dieter Guelle; Eric Gagnon; Joanna Shaw; Joerg Wetzig; Karin Svadlenak-Gomez; Kim Spurway; Marc Bonnet; Mayumi Yamada; Michael Sheinkman; Mick Hayes; NPA dalyan; NPA Harald Smesrud; NPA Lao PDR Olivier; NPA Lao Ski; NPA Ruth Bottomley; Paul Davies; STA Laos; Stuart Moran; TAVAGNUTTI, Nicolas; Tony Fish; UNDP TFM Justin Shone  
Subject: Fw: Looking for his family - Please send this to all

Maybe some of you might be of help to this little child.

Avi
Subject: Looking for his family - Please send this to all

Please forward this mail....to your database

Claus Kroyer
ck@cult.nu

Med venlig hilsen.

Arngrimur Baldursson
Adm. Direktør
Island Adventure Rejser ApS
Nørre Voldgade 22, st. tv.
1358 København K, Danmark
Tlf: 33 32 99 95 - Mobil 21 27 76 33
e-mail: ab@islandadventure.dk
hjemmeside: www.islandadventure.dk

Looking for his family.

The boy about 2 years, from Khoa Lak is missing his parents. Nobody knows what country he comes from. If anybody known him please contact us by phone 076-249400-4 ext. 1336, 1339 or e-mail: info@phuket-inter-hospital.co.th

Looking for his family.

FREE pop-up blocking with the new MSN Toolbar - get it now!
http://toolbar.msn.click-url.com/go/onm00200415ave/direct/01/
Thanks for the concern Dieter. The case has been solved. Hannes made big news and was finally reunited with his father a week ago. His mother is still missing.

http://www.streaming.telia.com/startmedia/default.asp?k=505&n=hannesexp_new.wmv&e=N

Please do not forward the message.

Daniel Eriksson
Subject: MgM Demining Network: FW: Looking for his family - Please send this to all
Date: Wednesday, January 5, 2005 9:02 AM
From: Dieter Guelle <dieter.guelle@jrc.it>
Reply-To: <network1@mgm.org>
To: <network1@mgm.org>

Dear All,

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-----Original Message-----
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To: Bowen Steven M; CARRUTHERS Alexander; damian.kean@undp.org; Dieter Guelle; Eric Gagnon; Joanna Shaw; Joerg Wetzig; Karin Svadlenak-Gomez; Kim Spurway; Marc Bonnet; Mayumi Yamada; Michael Sheinkman; Mick Hayes; NPA dalyan; NPA Harald Smedarud; NPA Lao PDR Olivier; NPA Lao Ski; NPA Ruth Bottomley; Paul Davies; STA Laos; Stuart Moran; TAVAGNUTTI, Nicolas; Tony Fish; UNDP TFM Justin Shone
Subject: Fw: Looking for his family - Please send this to all

Maybe some of you might be of help to this little child.

Avi

-------------- > >From: "Lilian Quek" <Lilian.Quek@pgs.com>
> >Subject: FW: Looking for his family - Please send this to all
> >Date: Wed, 5 Jan 2005 11:11:45 +0800

> >
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> >
> >
> >
> >
> >
> >
> >
> >------ Original Message ------
> >
> >From: Claus Krøyer <mailto:ck@cult.nu>
> >
> >To: Claus Krøyer <mailto:ck@cult.nu>
> >
> >Sent: Tuesday, January 04, 2005 11:12 PM
> >
> >Subject: Looking for his family - Please send this to all
> >
> >
> >
> >
> >
> >Please forward this mail....to your database
> >
> >
> >
> >
> >Claus Krøyer
> >
> >
Looking for his family.

The boy about 2 years, from Khoa Lak is missing his parents. Nobody knows what country he comes from. If anybody known him please contact us by phone 076-249400-4 ext. 1336, 1339 or e-mail: info@phuket-inter-hospital.co.th
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To switch to the Digest mode, E-mail to <network1-digest@mgm.org>
Send administrative queries to <network1-request@mgm.org>
Subject: MgM Demining Network: United States Bans Non-Detectable Landmines
Date: Tuesday, January 4, 2005 3:31 AM
From: Stevens, John E <SteveJE@state.gov>
Reply-To: <network1@mgm.org>
To: <network1@mgm.org>

> U.S. Department of State Media Note
> Office of the Spokesman
> Washington, DC
> January 3, 2005
> United States Bans Non-Detectable Landmines
> The United States has become the first major military power to terminate its use of any landmines that cannot be located with the standard metal detectors used by military and humanitarian deminers around the world. "The U.S. landmine policy recognizes that non-detectable landmines pose a particularly insidious threat to humanitarian deminers as well as innocent civilians in a post-conflict environment," remarked Lincoln P. Bloomfield, Jr., the Special Representative of the President and Secretary of State for Mine Action who also serves as Assistant Secretary of State for Political-Military Affairs. "Our action meets the first major goal in our new policy, which forswears the use by the United States of non-detectable mines now and all persistent mines after 2010."
> This prohibition on the use of non-detectable landmines covers both anti-personnel as well as anti-vehicle mines. The United States action surpasses the detectability requirements of both international landmine treaties: the Amended Mines Protocol to the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons to which the United States is a party, and the "Ottawa Convention" which relates to anti-personnel mines. To learn more about United States landmine policy and the U.S. Humanitarian Mine Action Program, visit www.state.gov/t/pm/wra.
> 2005/24
> [End]
> Released on January 3, 2005
>

******************************************************************************
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Send administrative queries to <network1-request@mgm.org>
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: [MREdiscussion] Landmines in Sri Lanka!

Date: Thursday, December 30, 2004 4:48 AM
From: Susan B. Walker <walker@icbl.org>
Reply-To: <network1@mgm.org>
To: <network1@mgm.org>

Apologies for duplicate postings

GVA, Thurs 1013H
Dear Hanoch,

Thank you very much for forwarding this report from Tim Horner and thanks for the update, Tim.

Our thoughts are with you at this tragic time and hope that all your local staff are eventually accounted for.

Recovery will be long and hard may be the understatement of the year, with over 80,000 deaths in 11 countries so far....

May the New Year bring comfort and healing to all concerned.

With kind regards,

Susan B. Walker
ICBL Intersessional Programme Officer

At 01:29 PM 12/30/2004 +0700, Hanoch Barlevi wrote:

Please see below a report that was sent by the UNDP mine action TA (Tim Horner) from the north of sri lanka.
cheers
hanoch

> -----Original Message-----
> From: network1@mgm.org [mailto:network1@mgm.org] On Behalf Of Tim Horner
> Sent: Wednesday, December 29, 2004 7:31 PM
> To: network1@mgm.org
> Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: Season's Greetings
>
> Dear Mike et al
> The situation in Sri Lanka is indeed quite bad.
> The current death toll here from the half a dozen or so tidal surgeson
Sunday morning, stands at over 13,000 and will no doubt rise. However, the relief effort is surprisingly well coordinated and efficient (I say surprisingly because I did a Masters at Cranfield in Disaster Management and we studied the confusion that generally follows the onset of a rapid disaster).

The Government structures have taken charge and UNOCHA has sent 6 personnel in to act as a coordination centre for international aid in support of the Government. The UN and NGO's are working as one, focused on the clear job in hand.

The initial local response has been excellent so far with political problems put aside, UNHCR / ICRC type support for the displaced was in the field hours after the onset.

One area of interest for our forum to learn from is the media stories about minefields being lifted and swept across the landscape by the wave action. This has put constraints on the response agencies because people are concerned about going into various areas for the fear of "displaced minefields".

A Sri Lankan Brigadier told me that minefields around a military base on the beach in Batticaloa (SE Sri Lanka) have been washed away, but he hasn't seen them and his information is third or fourth hand.

I have a team here in Jaffna (Northern Sri Lanka) looking for specific cases of mine or UXO movement. After 3 days of focused investigation we have found only 2 Type 72s laying among the debris of a village. We have found a few UXO and some lost munitions but no mines other than those 2 T72s where we weren't expecting them.

The media is portraying displaced mines as a significant obstacle to relief and rescue workers. They aren't. There may be isolated cases of mines and certainly ammunition moved from army OP's on the beaches (the army lost many soldiers who were manning beach bunkers and sentry points).

But I can verify the fact that significant mine migration in Jaffna due to Tsunami's is more media rhetoric than reality.

One last thing, although the death toll is so high, to my knowledge there were no deaths or injuries to any of the mine action expats in Sri Lanka.
Dear all,
I’ve been following the tsunami news minute by minute and I was also moving from a website to another until I read this on the UNICEF Homepage: ("There is also another deadly risk. UNICEF's Ted Chaiban in Sri Lanka also said landmines are posing a new risk to Sri Lankans, and to relief efforts. "Mines were floated by the floods and washed out of known mine fields, so now we don't know where they are and the warning signs on mined areas have been swept away or destroyed," he said, speaking from the UNICEF office in Colombo.

"The greatest danger to civilians will come when they begin to return to their homes, not knowing where the mines are," Chaiban added.) This is the end of the UNICEF news.

This is a quiet serious situation that should find rapid response and action by all parties concerned, either in Sri Lanka itself or in the other devastated areas in the tsunami region. I know that there are priorities, but still I believe that this "danger" must be given priority, too.
We already know that those mines were planted within the framework of the civil war between the Sinhalese majority and the Tamil minority and resulted in sixty thousand casualties in Sri Lanka and I now express my fears of an escalating number of casualties among civilians and even rescue teams (both civil and military), simply because we call them "indiscriminate and blind weapons" and they really are!
What do you think?
17 December 2004: 144 States Parties/Ratifs/Accs plus 8 Signatories

#40 Burkina Faso (16 Sept 98); #100 Mauritania (21 July 00);
#126 Afghanistan (a; 11 Sept 02); #127 Comores (a; 19 Sept);
#128 Cameroun (19 Sept); #129 Gambia (23 Sept);
#130 C.A.R. (a; 8 Nov 02); #131 Cyprus (17 Jan 03);
#132 Sao Tome & Principe (31 Mar); #133 Timor Leste (a; 7 May);
#134 Lithuania (12 May); #135 Guyana (5 August); #136 Belarus (3 Sept.);
#137 Serbia-Montenegro (a; 18 Sept); #138 Greece (25 Sept);
#139 Turkey (a; 25 Sept); #140 Sudan (13 Oct); #141 Burundi (22 Oct);
#142 Estonia (a; 12 May 2004); #143 Papua New Guinea (28 June);
#144 Ethiopia (17 December 2004).

RATIFY the AP MINE BAN TREATY * CLEAR MINES * HELP SURVIVORS
Jody Williams and the ICBL : 1997 Nobel Peace Prize Co-Laureates

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Send administrative queries to <network1-request@mgm.org>
Hi Manuel

Is that Farineau the one who was in the MINEX (Angers)?

Gregorio Lopez

-----Mensaje original-----
De: Manuel Gonzal [mailto:handicap.mines@sentoo.sn]
Enviado el: miércoles, 29 de diciembre de 2004 11:27
Para: network1@mgm.org
Asunto: Re: MgM Demining Network: Season's Greetings

Hi Mike,
Nothing yet, I have two friends there, Marc Farineau and Paul Boncz, if you get any news... Regards

Manuel Gonzal
Conseiller technique
Handicap International
DAKAR

IGEOD 128

-----Message d'origine-----
De: network1@mgm.org [mailto:network1@mgm.org]De la part de Mike Robinson Envoyé : mercredi 29 décembre 2004 07:55 À : network1@mgm.org Objet : Re: MgM Demining Network: Season's Greetings

Hello all, have we heard from our colleagues in Sri Lanka?
----- Original Message ----- 
From: "Yves CABARAUX" <yves.cabaraux@skynet.be>
To: <network1@mgm.org>
Sent: Tuesday, December 21, 2004 6:28 PM
Subject: MgM Demining Network: Season's Greetings

>
> Season's Greetings
> 
> 
> 
> Meilleurs Vouix
> 
> 
> 
> Beste Wensen
> 
>
Frohe Festtage

Yves CABARAUX
EOD/Demining
Consultant
Tel 32 82688753
GSM 32 478392351

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Mensaje analizado y protegido, tecnología antivirus www.trendmicro.es

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But I can verify the fact that significant mine migration in Jaffna due to Tsunami’s is more media rhetoric than reality.

One last thing, although the death toll is so high, to my knowledge there were no deaths or injuries to any of the mine action expats in Sri Lanka. The local staff will be a different matter with many living in isolated villages but we won’t have a clear picture until the dust settles.

Best regards

Tim
PS for regularly updated official information you can access the National Disaster Management center website www.lk.undp.org/ndmc

> Hello all, have we heard from our colleagues in Sri Lanka?
> ----- Original Message ----- 
> From: "Yves CABARAUX" <yves.cabaraux@skynet.be>
> To: <network1@mgm.org>
> Sent: Tuesday, December 21, 2004 6:28 PM
> Subject: MgM Demining Network: Season's Greetings
>
> >> Season's Greetings
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> >> Meilleurs Voux
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> >> Beste Wensen
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> >> Frohe Festtage
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> >>
> >> Yves CABARAUX
> >> EOD/Demining
> >> Consultant
> >> Tel 32 82688753
> >> GSM 32 478392351
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Send administrative queries to <network1-request@mgm.org>
Hi Mike;

We’ve heard from Tim Horner, who fortunately still seems to be in good form.

Cheers

Roger

-----Original Message-----
From: network1@mgm.org [mailto:network1@mgm.org] On Behalf Of Mike Robinson
Sent: Wednesday, December 29, 2004 9:55 AM
To: network1@mgm.org
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: Season's Greatings

Hello all, have we heard from our colleagues in Sri Lanka?
Hi Mike,
Nothing yet, I have two friends there, Marc Farineau and Paul Boncz, if you get any news...
Regards

Manuel Gonzal
Conseiller technique
Handicap International
DAKAR
IGEOD 128
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> Meilleurs Voux
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U.S. Department of State Media Note
> Office of the Spokesman
> Washington, DC
> December 20, 2004
> U.S. Surplus Milk Sale Funds Landmine Clearance in Angola
> The U.S. Department of State welcomes the innovative initiative by the
> Humpty Dumpty Institute, a New York-based non-governmental organization,
> to fund landmine clearance in Angola with proceeds generated by the sale
> of donated U.S. surplus powdered milk. This project will save lives and
> promote economic development in one of the world's most heavily
> mine-affected countries.
> The Humpty Dumpty Institute has arranged for the sale of U.S. nonfat dry
> milk in Angola made available under a U.S. Department of Agriculture food
> aid program, which allows foreign governments and organizations to use
> U.S. commodities in specific countries to support humanitarian objectives.
> Using the proceeds of the sale, the Humpty Dumpty Institute will apply
> approximately $620,000 to demine 1,500 kilometers of a major road network
> linking rich agricultural land with key commercial markets in Angola's
> Planalto region.
> In cooperation with The HALO Trust, a mine clearance organization, work
> has already started on this "Road Threat Reduction" project following the
> delivery and sale of the first tranche of nonfat dry milk in October 2004.
> The final shipment is expected later this month.
> In support of this novel approach to humanitarian mine action, the
> Department of State recently provided the Humpty Dumpty Institute with a
> grant to support the expansion of its mine action funding and
> implementation model to other mine-affected countries.
> The Humpty Dumpty Institute participates in the Department of State's
> Public-Private Partnership Program to support humanitarian mine action.
> Under this unique program, coordinated by the Office of Weapons Removal
> and Abatement, the State Department works with nearly 50 civic and
> non-profit organizations, corporations, schools, and other private groups
> to advance the cause of humanitarian mine action.
> To learn more about the State Department's humanitarian mine action
> program and its related Public-Private Partnership initiatives, visit
> www.state.gov/t/pm/wra. To learn more about the Humpty Dumpty Institute
> and its mine action projects, visit www.humptydumpty.net
> <http://www.humptydumpty.net>.
>
> 2004/1385
> [End]
U.S. Department of State Media Note
> Office of the Spokesman
> Washington, DC
> December 20, 2004
> Grants To Reinforce Humanitarian Mine Action
> The Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement in the Department of State’s
> Bureau of Political-Military Affairs has awarded over $5 million in grants
> to non-governmental and international organizations, educational
> institutions, and civic associations under a new Request for Applications
> procedure to reinforce humanitarian mine action. This is in addition to
> over $115 million that the Department invested in mine action in fiscal
> year 2004.
> Twenty grants for special projects and crosscutting initiatives were
> awarded to the following organizations:
> - Mines Advisory Group to conduct mechanical mine action support and mine
  clearance in Cambodia and Vietnam, respectively, mine risk education in
  southern Sudan, and to develop an abandoned and hazardous ordnance site
  survey methodology for Angola;
> - UNICEF to conduct community-based mine risk education programs in
  Afghanistan and Senegal;
> - United Nations World Food Program to demine roads in southern Sudan;
> - Vietnam Veterans of America Foundation to provide post landmine impact
  survey assistance to Lebanon’s National Demining Office;
> - Geneva International Center for Humanitarian Demining to study the
  synergy between humanitarian mine action and small arms/light weapons
  programs;
> - Marshall Legacy Institute to expand two mine detection dog
  public-private partnerships in Azerbaijan and Sri Lanka and to expand its
  Children Against Landmines (CHAMPS) mine detection dog sponsorship project
  from Wyoming to schools in other U.S. states and in foreign countries,
  particularly mine-affected ones;
> - Humpty Dumpty Institute to support its new model for monetizing surplus
  U.S. food aid in order to support humanitarian mine action;
> - Rotary International District 5030, via the International Trade
  Education Foundation, to increase awareness, action and funding for
  humanitarian mine action among Rotarians worldwide and to create and
  distribute a video depicting Rotarians involved in supporting mine action;
> - HALO Trust to match a contribution by an American citizen, Mr.George
  Begley, for demining in Afghanistan’s Shomali Valley;
> - Mine Action Information Center at James Madison University to develop
  curriculum and training materials to support U.S. Government mine action
  training, and facilitate a public-private partnership workshop to assess
  civil society’s role in humanitarian mine action and potential for
  supporting small arms/light weapons abatement.
> - Cranfield University to conduct mine action management training in order
  to enhance the capacity of Afghanistan’s and Iraq’s Mine Action Programs;
> and
> - Roots of Peace to expand its "Pennies for Peace" student program from
  Marin County, California to other schools in the United States, Japan and
  Europe to encourage school children to support humanitarian mine action.
> To learn about the U.S. Department of State’s humanitarian mine action and
> small arms/light weapons abatement programs around the world, visit
> www.state.gov/t/pm/wra <http://www.state.gov/t/pm/wra>.
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To switch to the Digest mode, E-mail to <network1-digest@mgm.org>
Send administrative queries to <network1-request@mgm.org>
Subject: MgM Demining Network: New "Landmine Action Smart Book" Educates Public About Global Landmine Problem

Date: Wednesday, December 22, 2004 9:53 AM
From: Stevens, John E <SteveJE@state.gov>
Reply-To: <network1@mgm.org>
To: <network1@mgm.org>

U.S. Department of State Media Note
Office of the Spokesman
Washington, DC
December 17, 2004

New "Landmine Action Smart Book" Educates Public About Global Landmine Problem

The Mine Action Information Center at James Madison University has released the second edition of "The Landmine Action Smart Book," a primer and reference tool on the humanitarian threat posed by persistent landmines and unexploded ordnance around the world. Publication of the Smart Book, which is designed for the general public, students and the media, was funded by the U.S. Department of State’s Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement. The well-illustrated 42-page Smart Book describes the global landmine threat, the nature of landmines, and the main pillars of humanitarian mine action: humanitarian demining, mine risk education for populations in mine affected areas, and landmine survivors assistance. It also provides information on the two international landmine treaties - the Amended Mines Protocol to the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons to which the United States is a State Party, and the "Ottawa Convention." In addition, the Smart Book examines research and development to increase the efficiency, speed and safety of humanitarian demining, including such cutting edge technologies as the U.S.-developed "HSTAMiDS" mine detector that combines ground penetrating radar with a metal detector, as well as explosive-detecting bacteria, bees and giant African pouch rats that may eventually augment the deminer's "toolbox."

"The Landmine Action Smart Book" will soon be available on-line at <http://maic.jmu.edu/researchtools.htm>. A limited number of printed editions are also available from the Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement. To receive a free copy, send an email request to GrayVC2@state.gov <mailto:GrayVC2@state.gov>.

The Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement in the Bureau of Political-Military Affairs currently manages humanitarian mine action programs in 31 countries around the world, encourages public-private partnerships to support mine action, and also oversees efforts to reduce illegal trafficking and increase international safeguarding of small arms, light weapons and shoulder-fired surface-to-air-missiles. To learn more, visit www.state.gov/t/pm/wra <http://www.state.gov/t/pm/wra>.

[End]

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Season's Greetings

Meilleurs Voux

Beste Wensen

Frohe Festtage

Yves CABARAUX
EOD/Demining
Consultant
Tel 32 82688753
GSM 32 478392351

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Send administrative queries to <network1-request@mgm.org>
Subject: MgM Demining Network: Vladimir Jankola/United Nations is out of the office.
Date: Sunday, December 19, 2004 3:01 AM
From: Vladimir Jankola <jankola@un.org>
Reply-To: <network1@mgm.org>
To: <network1@mgm.org>

I will be out of the office starting 17/12/2004 and will not return until 01/01/2005.

In the meantime, please direct any urgent matters on Sudan to Mr. Crispin Stephen,[stephenc@un.org] or [(+1-212) 963-6975]

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UNMEE to Downsize Military Staff
The Daily Monitor (Addis Ababa)
December 17, 2004

Addis Ababa

The United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea (UNMEE) has decided to downsize its military staff by letting the Kenyan Battalion return home by the end of January 2005.

The Kenyan Battalion that comprises about 550 soldiers will leave behind the Indian and Jordanian Battalions which would be carrying out UNMEE’s work in the Temporary Security Zone (TSZ).

"The remaining are expected to carry out UNMEE’s mandate and if the effects of this decision are felt, then necessary remedial changes will be taken," Legwaila Joseph Legwaila Special Representative of the Secretary General said.

Responding to questions whether the downsizing meant that the recent allegations by the Eritrean government did not worry UNMEE, he said that every allegation was of serious concern to UNMEE and due to that, an investigation is being conducted on the recent three separate allegations by the Eritrean government.

Concerning the allegations, it was stated that no evidence was found to say there was any trespassing.

"The area where the alleged burning is supposed to take place is a virtually unreachable area. There are a lot of mine fields there and that makes it difficult to just get over there. We made helicopter flights over the area and we could not see anything so we have decided to walk over there to check things out."

UNMEE Force Commander yesterday flew over with a helicopter with some soldiers to make a three day journey on foot to the alleged area.

"Even if we find the burnt sheds, it would be impossible to say who did the burning," Legwaila added.
Season's Greetings,

It is my sincere hope that your business relationships with The K-9 Center LLC of Oxford PA have been and will continue to be successful, as 2004 passes and we prepare to welcome in the new year.

Please keep in mind that the K-9 Center LLC has established a reputation as an excellent vendor with a commitment to integrity and to maintain the highest levels of training, honesty, ethical conduct, and deliver outstanding quality dogs.

Thank you for your time and I wish you a happy, healthy and prosperous new year.

Sincerely,
Cpl Alain Kaldewaay

Owner

http://www.k9-center.com
Hi Kevin,

Nice to see you in Nairobi,
I will send to you Kenyan photo's.

Best wishes

Yuri Donskoy
UMACC/UPVA

> Hi Nick,
> > Was going to respond but it seems that you have found your man!
> > Good to hear from you. Hows Lebanon? Found my leg yet!!!
> > Kev Bryant
> > kevin.bryant@handicap.be
> > ___________________________
> > De: network1@mgm.org de la part de Nick Guest
> > Date: jeu. 16/12/2004 18:22
> > w: network1@mgm.org
> > Objet : MgM Demining Network: Bart Weetjens
> >
> > Anyone,
> > Does anyone on the forum have any contact details for Bart Weetjens, of
> > Cricetomys Rat fame?
> > Any help would be appreciated.
> > Nick.
> > Nick Guest
> > PM/TOM
> > MAG Lebanon
> > Mobile: +961 3 864963
> > Office: +961 7 530727
> > www.magclearsmines.org

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Hi Nick,

Was going to respond but it seems that you have found your man!

Good to hear from you. Hows Lebanon? Found my leg yet!!!

Kev Bryant

kevin.bryant@handicap.be
All,
Thanks to everyone who sent contact details for Bart.
Much appreciated.
Regards,
Nick.

Nick Guest
PM/TOM
MAG Lebanon
Mobile: +961 3 864963
Office: +961 7 530727
www.magclearsmines.org
Hi Nick

You can contact him on apopo@ruca.ua.ac.be

Regards,

Ron Verhagen
Apopo

-----Oorspronkelijk bericht-----
Van: Nick Guest [mailto:staleb@terra.net.lb]
Verzonden: do 16-12-2004 18:22
Aan: network1@mgm.org
CC:
Onderwerp: MgM Demining Network: Bart Weetjens

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Any help would be appreciated.

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########################################################################
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: Bart Weetjens
Date: Friday, December 17, 2004 2:01 AM
From: William Waddilove <williamw@waddilove.co.uk>
Reply-To: <network1@mgm.org>
To: <network1@mgm.org>

Try
http://www.apopo.org/
Beautiful picture on website!

and there is the man in question:

Mozambique: APOPO mine detection rats
PO BOX 649, Maputo, Mozambique
Tel xx-258-31 80 99
Fax xx-258-172 20 56
E-mail apopomoz@intra.co.mz
Contact Frank Weetjens Mob. +258 82 31 80 99
Hope that helps
Regards
William

----- Original Message ----- 
From: "Nick Guest" <staleb@terra.net.lb>
To: <network1@mgm.org>
Sent: Thursday, December 16, 2004 5:22 PM
Subject: MgM Demining Network: Bart Weetjens

> Anyone,
> 
> Does anyone on the forum have any contact details for Bart Weetjens, of
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> Any help would be appreciated.
> 
> Nick.
> 
> Nick Guest
> PM/TOM
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> Mobile: +961 3 864963
> Office: +961 7 530727
> www.magclearsmines.org
> 
> 
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> 
> #############################################################
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From: Nick Guest <mailto:staleb@terra.net.lb>
To: network1@mgm.org
Sent: 16 December 2004 17:22
Subject: MgM Demining Network: Bart Weetjens

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Nick Guest
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Mobile: +961 3 864963
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Send administrative queries to <network1-request@mgm.org>
Dear Nick,

You can reach me and all APOPO management at

apopo@apopo.org

Please find other co-ordinates below.

Kind regards,

Bart Weetjens

APOPO vzw
C/O Sokoine University of Agriculture
PO Box 3078
Morogoro, Tanzania
tel + 255 23 2600 635
fax + 255 23 2600 636
mob + 255 744 272 572
apopo@ruca.ua.ac.be

www.apopo.org

________________________

Head office

APOPO vzw
C/O University of Antwerp
Groenenborgerlaan 171
2020 Antwerpen, Belgium
tel +32 3 265 34 57
fax + 32 3 265 34 74
mob +32 474 36 27 99

_______________________

Mozambique

APOPO Mine Detection Rats
PO box 649
Maputo
Mozambique
tel: +258 82 31 80 99

On 16 Dec 2004, at 18:22, Nick Guest wrote:

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> 
> Does anyone on the forum have any contact details for Bart Weetjens,
> of Cricetomys Rat fame?
> > Any help would be appreciated.
> >
> > Nick.
> >
> > Nick Guest
> > PM/TOM
> > MAG Lebanon
Hi Nick,

To the best of my knowledge Bart is still based in Tanzania, his details are;
bart.weetjens@lycos.com
apopo@ruca.ua.ac.be
Tel 255 23 2600635
Fax 255 23 2600636

If no luck there, his brother Frank who is based in Mozambique will know his whereabouts, his contact details are;
apopomoz@intra.co.mz

Good luck

Richard
DTW-Cambodia

-----Original Message-----
From: network1@mgm.org [mailto:network1@mgm.org] On Behalf Of Nick Guest
Sent: Friday, December 17, 2004 12:22 AM
To: network1@mgm.org
Subject: MgM Demining Network: Bart Weetjens

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Nick.

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www.magclearsmine.org

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Nick.

Nick Guest
PM/TOM
MAG Lebanon
Mobile: +961 3 864963
Office:  +961 7 530727
www.magclearsmines.org
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: What a year!!!
Date: Wednesday, December 15, 2004 12:01 PM
From: willy meurer <willke@primus.ca>
Reply-To: <network1@mgm.org>
To: <network1@mgm.org>

Toronto, Canada - December 15, 2004

Dear Mr. Ehlers,
Congratulations to you and the whole MGM crew for another successful year! That’s not only meant with respect to your necessary business operations but even more to the beneficial results of saving numerous human lives or prevent others from getting crippled.

There certainly is a reason for such ongoing gratifying results: "Successful people are always prepared to do all those things, which unsuccessful people are never prepared to do!"

It's a thousand pitties, that some mean spirited bureaucrats don't seem to understand the importance of such humanitarianism - as you mentioned in your report as follows: (Quotation:....They told us that our operations/ performance were not worth the US taxpayers bucks.....)

But this should come as no surprise! The most famous Albert Einstein certainly must have encountered some similar experiences, as he once stated: "Great spirits have always encountered opposition from mediocre minds!"

There is nothing to be added!

I wish you and your entire MGM crew a peaceful Christmas, a 'Happy turn of the year' and 'Good luck' for the upcoming year 2005!

Willy Meurer, Toronto
Email: willke@primus.ca
Web: http://www.aphorismen.de

on 12/15/04 9:22a.m., Hendrik Ehlers at ehlers@mgm.org wrote:

Dear All,
As it is typical for all HD operations in this part of the world, MgM has closed down operations orderly, cleaned, counted and stored all equipment, paid all outstanding bills and sent all staff away for the Christmas holidays plus annual leave. Operations
will resume on 10 January 2005.

Other than last year I will not publish the CNIDAH sheet showing all performance of all operators during 2004, but so much I can tell, we would look excellent again. According to the EU in Luanda, MgM performs with the lowest cost per sqm in Angola. I am a firm believer that this is due to the continuing unique combination of various customised mechanical means and MDDs. Voodoo continues to be highly effective on secondary roads and below. Apart from a few REST dogs, MgM now has the only dog capacity of any mine clearance operator in Angola. We are to expand in 2005.

The first dog to come in 2005 will be sponsored by a Japanese school class and will be named JASPER. Again we will buy at Karenswood in the UK. Alan Sims has provided us with extraordinary good dogs last year. Thanks Alan. Excellent job well done.

We also learned a lot working together with DANMINAR who we hired for special jobs exceeding our capacity. The main thing is that IMAS conform work slows MDDs so much down that they cannot work effective anymore. This is funny as on one side ex-NPA managers like Havard Bach set the stakes and on the other side the NPA dog programme in Angola has to close down because of the high stakes impeding cost effectiveness. MgM are positive to find a way to use GICHD accredited dogs within Voodoo to do 7 kms a day – and not 300 meters.

Our relationship with our donors has been excellent. We passed all audits with flying flags. Our special thanks goes to the German Government, the European Commission and our many private donors. The ongoing support of the Foreign Office GF07 Department under Mr Detlef Schroeder enables us to do continuous training out of our base in Ondjiva and has now connected Kunene with Kuando Kubango Province. Angola is very aware and grateful for the continuous German support. Thank you !!!

When we were just to announce that there is no Christmas bonus for our Angolan staff this year, the top German Rock’n’Roll Band helped out. Rock’n’Roll, yes, thank you !!!

Unfortunately we lost US DoS PM/WRA under Richard Kidd as a donor this year. They told us that our operations/performance were not worth the US taxpayers bucks. I personally have my doubts if the people who take such a decision are worth the US taxpayers’ bucks....

We will see what the future brings. There are some excellent people in that department, too. The work which was done with the US taxpayers’ money until August this year is truly worth to mention: The “unclearable” Úcua is finally cleared (in large parts thanks to Rotar MkII), the first ever road from Huambo to the coast was cleared, made transitable (see Voodoo) and opened in a huge governmental and media act (unfortunately without the presence of the financing US Embassy!!) and many many people in Kwanza-Sul this year went back home from IDP camps enjoying now a self-
determined life in peace and safety on ground free from mines cleared with US taxpayers monies. Big Thanks to the US taxpayer !!!

Anyhow, DoS has always been a small donor to MgM, but other divisions of the US Government work very well with us over years and for 2005 we are looking forward to some very exciting developments in terms of US DoD NVESD RDCOM testing of new equipment and training of personnel on specialist equipment for MgM and HALO. Testing equipment with MgM means equipment is used in real minefield scenario and challenges are as high as the positive impact of good results. This is such a nice programme, if it wouldn’t exist it should be invented. We will keep you informed. Big thanks to Sean Burke, Charlie Chichester and their fabulous crew !!!

Now I should mention all 150 MgM and HEC staff, but as I understood, they don’t really need it. What they need to go on with their truly amazing commitment are two points only:

a) During 2004 MgM Angola cleared officially 3.7 million sqm, 345 kms of road from 363 AP mines, 29 AT mines and 7.000 other pieces of ERW. Total Budget 3 million USD.

b) During 2004 continued since 1996: Zero accident injury to MgM staff or end-users.

There are many more tales to tell about MgM in 2004 (maybe you want to check details on www.mgm.org <http://www.mgm.org/> ), mainly about HaGe’s incredible move of equipment from our successfully concluded German funded project in Mozambique to Angola. Whow!!!

But instead of thinking of the merits and problems of the past, we better concentrate on the tasks ahead and for 2005 they are huge. We are about to double in staff. All operators in Angola will work on the huge and administratively highly challenging EU two year contracts.

But before we do that we will see our families and enjoy some nice holidays and a peaceful festive season. And that is what the MgM family wishes you, too. You and us made a lot of people happy last year and that is what you and us are going to do in 2005, too. What could be more rewarding?

Thank you all for your interest and support.
Yours truly,
Hendrik Ehlers, CEO
MgM HD & HEC RD
ehlers at mgm dot org
Subject: MgM Demining Network: What a year!!!
Date: Wednesday, December 15, 2004 9:22 AM
From: Hendrik Ehlers <ehlers@mgm.org>
Reply-To: <network1@mgm.org>
To: <network1@mgm.org>

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Thank you all for your interest and support.

Yours truly,

Hendrik Ehlers, CEO

MgM HD & HEC RD

ehlers at mgm dot org
John and Roger,

I understand the new UN policy on mine action may have something to say on "village demining". Perhaps it will pleasantly surprise you John?

No argument with any of what you say Roger. Pity Andy Smith is banned from this forum, I'm sure he would have something to say about neutrality! It is always a fine line - particularly in an Iraq type situation and in the end, its the people on the ground who make the decisions. We are in the business of saving limbs and saving lives - everyone's, combatants of all persuasions, the innocents and the guilty. They are all human beings.

Whilst not suggesting that humanitarian / donor funded clearance and EOD teams ride into combat zones with the troops, we shouldn't be far behind in today's confused situations.

Peter

----- Original Message ----- 
From: Roger Hess <rhess@mweb.co.za> 
Date: Friday, December 10, 2004 9:15 pm 
Subject: MgM Demining Network: Richards and Murph's remarks 

> Hi Peter; 
> 
> I'll don the flak-jacket & helmet with you. Some of Richard's 
> comments stated what many of us have realized over the years. Our 
> voices don't quite 
> carry as far as his does, so now hopefully the key points will be 
> heard. 
> I also read Murph's comments with great interest; one of which 
> automatically stood out to me: 
> 
> > The second major challenge is to protect demining teams conducting 
> > clearance operations, to include their base camps, on the 
> > clearance sites, 
> > and traveling to and from the projects. Within this second 
> > challenge of 
> > providing protection are additional considerations. 
> > Protection of the cleared facility/infrastructure after mine and UXO 
> > clearance operation is completed. 
> > 
> > At Last; someone has made it a priority instead of a taboo! 
> > 
> > While in Baghdad; I openly stated at a NMAA meeting that my teams 
> > and I 
> > were responding to IED calls when it threatened the UN agencies, which 
> > seemed to shock a few people. A couple days later, a message was 
> > sent out by 
> > the NMAA Ops Officer that no one was to respond to anymore IEDs as 
> > it went 
> > against our stance of neutrality. 
> 
> > This was already after various UN agencies and other aid groups
had been attacked and to add fuel to the fire; week after this memo was sent, the Canal Hotel was blown up.

So much for "a stance of neutrality".

While memos went back and forth about this; at the end of the day we still told the security guys to call us if there was an emergency, regardless of what was being said back and forth.

Sounds like someone has finally listened;.. Thank You, Murph.

Cheers

Roger

-----Original Message-----
From: network1@mgm.org [network1@mgm.org] On Behalf Of Peter Isaacs
Sent: Friday, December 10, 2004 8:19 AM
To: network1@mgm.org
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: "Mine Free: Not Anytime Soon."

I applaud Richard Kidd’s remarks and believe the title attached to last week's Nairobi Summit was unfortunate.

My understanding is that any discussion at the Summit, on altering the obligations under Article 5 of the Convention (to clear all AP mines within 10 years of ratification) was considered to be "too hot" and firmly discouraged.

Am now preparing for the flak!

PJII..
Hi Peter;

I’ll don the flak-jacket & helmet with you. Some of Richard’s comments stated what many of us have realized over the years. Our voices don’t quite carry as far as his does, so now hopefully the key points will be heard.

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Cheers

Roger

-----Original Message-----
From: network1@mgm.org [mailto:network1@mgm.org] On Behalf Of Peter Isaacs
Sent: Friday, December 10, 2004 8:19 AM
To: network1@mgm.org
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: "Mine Free: Not Anytime Soon."

I applaud Richard Kidd’s remarks and believe the title attached to last week’s Nairobi Summit was unfortunate. My understanding is that any discussion at the Summit, on altering the obligations under Article 5 of the Convention (to clear all AP mines within 10 years of ratification) was considered to be “too hot” and firmly discouraged.
Am now preparing for the flak!

PJI..
This is probably something from WW2 and was found in a house in Germany. Can it be some kind of a hand grenade? I’m sure someone on the net can identify this.

Regards

Freek Kruger
intended solely for the use of the individual or entity to whom they are addressed. If you have received this email in error please notify the system manager at postmaster@liw.denel.co.za.

**********************************************************************

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Am now preparing for the flak!

PJI..

----- Original Message ----- 

From: "Stevens, John E" <SteveJE@state.gov>
To: <network1@mgm.org>
Sent: Friday, December 10, 2004 3:10 AM
Subject: MgM Demining Network: "Mine Free: Not Anytime Soon."

> > Mine Free: Not Anytime Soon
> > Richard Kidd, Director, Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement
> > Article in the Nairobi Special Issue
> > Landmine Action Campaign Newsletter
> > November 1, 2004
> > Mine action is changing. This is not 1997 and what the international community has learned in the past seven years clearly indicates that the path forward is something different than a literal reading of the Ottawa Convention would suggest. The landmine impact survey process has demonstrated very clearly that only a small portion of the minefields, normally less than 20%, account for the vast majority of casualties and lost economic opportunities. The mine action community has a responsibility to profit from new knowledge and to adjust its approach accordingly.
> > The phrase "mine-free" is an inspiring statement of purpose, but a poor organizing principle given that no donor or collection of donors, no lending institution and no major impacted country has indicated a willingness to put up the huge amount of resources required to find and clear every last mine. With annual victim figures dropping towards 10,000,
> > it is hard to make the case that landmines continue to be a global scourge on the order of other issues such as HIV/AIDS, food security, malaria, etc. The initiative to "mainstream" mine action into development argues in favor of using "return on investment" as a criteria for mine clearance, and while this return is positive in many cases, it is not positive in (most) others.
> > There is substantial evidence to suggest that many of the mines now being cleared are inert, degraded by the effects of time, temperature and moisture. Why risk deminers' lives to clear land that no one will use? Why spend money to clear land that will not generate economic returns and why remove mines that Mother Nature has already rendered safe? Attempting to clear every last mine would be, in a world of pressing demands and
scarce
>> resources, an unfortunate waste of funds, funds that could save more
lives
>> and be more beneficial if applied elsewhere.
>> This realization should not be taken as a critique of any treaty or
policy
>> position, but rather as positive testimony to the power that knowledge
can
>> have in focusing scarce resources on activities where such resources
will
>> do the most good. Mine affected countries and the international
community
>> can work together to develop sound national strategic plans, plans that
>> set forth achievable visions and match resources to prioritized and
>> measurable outcomes. As the most pressing impacts of landmines are
>> removed, collective efforts can shift away from large-scale clearance
>> activities by outside organizations, allowing programs with greater
>> national ownership to come to the fore. These smaller, more balanced and
>> more sustainable programs would focus on mine risk education, marking of
>> suspected hazardous areas and limited clearance only in response to
newly
>> discovered threats or changes in land-use patterns.
>> Such an approach would allow for the most rapid reduction of hazards and
>> the lowest possible expenditure, surely a desirable outcome from any
>> perspective.
>>
>> [End]
>>
>>
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> Richard Kidd, Director, Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement
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> [End]
>

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Thank you. I am honored to be here today.

The main focus of my remarks will be on the challenges of conducting Humanitarian Mine Action in an environment where there is an active counterinsurgency movement or some other major threat. But first I want to take a moment to tell you about one of the world’s best kept secrets - the U.S. Humanitarian Mine Action Program. I also want to give you a brief snapshot on the new U.S. landmine policy that was announced in February of this year.

THE U.S. HUMANITARIAN MINE ACTION PROGRAM

I was being partially facetious when I told you that the U.S. Humanitarian Mine Action Program is a well kept secret. I know that a great many of you in this Conference do know something about it. Yet it’s a fact that relatively few other Americans and even fewer folks overseas know that the U.S. operates the world’s oldest and largest - by far - inter-agency program to support mine clearance, mine risk education, mine survivors assistance, and research and development to come up with even better ways to detect and clear mines for humanitarian purposes.

The U.S. Department of State is the lead agency in this program. Our colleagues at the U.S. Department of Defense’s Office of Special Operations and Low Intensity Conflict oversee the Pentagon’s large humanitarian mine action and landmine policy role, coordinating some of their efforts through the Humanitarian Demining Training Center at Ft. Leonard Wood, Missouri, and also working with the Humanitarian Demining R&D Program at the U.S. Army’s Night Vision and Electronic Sensors Directorate at Ft. Belvoir, Virginia. [Editor’s note: at this point Mr. McCloy acknowledged the presence in the audience of Mr. Rodney Robideau, Interim Director of the Humanitarian Demining Training Center, and of Ms. Maggie Buse, Editor of the Mine Action Information Center’s (MAIC) Journal of Mine Action; the MAIC was originally established and supported by the Department of Defense.]

Our colleagues at the U.S. Agency for International Development’s Leahy War Victims Fund are doing extraordinary things to restore dignity, mobility and a useful role in life to landmine survivors and other victims of conflict. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention also are part of this massive, inter-agency program.

The United States first became involved in mine action in Afghanistan back in 1988, and then broadened its assistance to Cambodia. Finally, someone said, "Hey, a bunch of us agencies are spending real money on the global landmine problem downrange and we need to coordinate this effort."

As a result, the inter-agency U.S. Humanitarian Mine Action Program was stood up in 1993. Since then, the U.S. has invested over $900 million - yes, over $900 million - in humanitarian mine action in nearly 50...
countries around the world. We expect that sometime next year, the United
States will reach the $1 billion dollar mark in investing in humanitarian
mine action.

Now, I’m with the U.S. Department of State and I’m here to help! I work in
what is called the Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement. We had a
reorganization over a year ago and combined our mine action program with
our small arms/light weapons and public-private partnership programs.

Why did we do that? Because we figure that persistent landmines left from
past conflicts, as well as AK-47s, RPGs, light mortars, etc. in the hands
of thugs, bandits, child soldiers and so forth are all a part of the same
threat to public health and public order.

My office is even trying to get a handle on MANPADS - shoulder-fired
surface to air missiles - so that they don’t fall into the hands of
terrorists. So whether it’s a landmine or some other conventional weapon,
if it’s under 100 millimeters, and if it’s a precursor to future conflict
or a remnant of a past conflict, we try to remove it or get it under
control.

At one time, the Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement (or its
predecessor, the Office of Humanitarian Demining Programs) was managing
mine action programs in 46 countries. Several have since graduated from
being mine affected. Costa Rica, Djibouti, El Salvador, Honduras, and
Moldova - even Kosovo province - are now safe from the humanitarian impact
of persistent landmines. All - repeat ALL - of these former mine affected
countries and Kosovo province went into the "win" column thanks in large
part to the U.S. Humanitarian Mine Action Program.

Presently we’re providing mine action assistance to about 30 countries,
some of which we’re also working on with small arms/light weapons and
MANPADS issues. Afghanistan is still one of the countries that receives
mine action assistance from us. Iraq is too. In fact, the United States
helped Iraq to establish the first national mine action center in its
history, get Iraqi managers and deminers trained to International Mine
Action Standards, and even helped Iraq set up its first ever mine action
non-governmental organization. Rodney Robideau was there during the first
few months to help get the Iraqi mine action center off the ground.

All of this normally comes as a surprise to many U.S. citizens, which is a
real shame. Because it is their tax dollars, facilitated by bi-partisan
support for our program in Congress, that has enabled some mine affected
countries to become "mine safe" and that is continuing to save lives and
limbs and restoring valuable land and infrastructure for productive use in
many others.

Of those U.S. citizens who do know something about the global landmine
problem, most only recall that the late Princess Diana was trying to get
rid of landmines "and, oh by the way, isn’t there some landmine treaty
that we refuse to sign?" As you might have guessed, that was my segue for
telling you about our new landmine policy!

THE NEW U.S. LANDMINE POLICY

Let me begin by first explaining the essence of what was behind its
formulation. Given the U.S.'s many, many defense commitments worldwide -
to about 100 countries I think - and our vast overseas troop presence, we
MUST continue to keep landmines in our stockpiles for the potential
defense of our men and women in uniform. At the same time, if we ever use
landmines, we don’t want to be a part of the global landmine problem. The
overwhelming preponderance of persistent landmines that threaten innocent
civilians today were manufactured, sold or transferred, and emplaced by
others, not by the U.S. and we don’t to add to the problem.

So here are the six basic elements of our new policy.
First, we’re setting an example among all the major military powers by
being the first to ban all "persistent" landmines - antipersonnel and
anti-vehicle. We pledge unconditionally that after 2010 the U.S. will
never leave its landmines behind on any battlefield anywhere. Period.
Second, we will eliminate the non-detectable landmines in our stockpiles
by the end of this year.

Third, we will seek a worldwide ban on the sale or export of persistent landmines.

Fourth, we'll only employ persistent anti-vehicle mines outside of Korea between now and 2010 if needed and if authorized by the President. U.S. persistent anti-personnel landmines are reserved exclusively for the potential defense of South Korea until after 2010. We'll destroy the persistent mines not needed for defending South Korea within 2 years.

Fifth, we will continue R&D on mines with superior control features such as "man-in-the-loop" and enhanced self-destruction/self-deactivation capability, which already pose virtually no threat to non-combatants, in order to develop and preserve our military capabilities.

Finally, the Administration will seek an increase in State's portion of the U.S. Humanitarian Mine Action Program to $70 million a year.

I've given you a quick rundown on the U.S. Humanitarian Mine Action Program and I've laid out the key points in the new U.S. landmine policy. Now I want to discuss the main reason that I'm here with you today, to discuss the challenges of conducting humanitarian mine action in a non-permissive, that is, conflict or counterinsurgency environment.

HUMANITARIAN MINE ACTION IN COUNTERINSURGENCY

Humanitarian mine action was originally developed to operate in permissive post-conflict situations where active hostilities have ceased and the prevailing security environment is sufficient for the successful conduct of internationally-funded emergency and reconstruction/developmental assistance operations.

Furthermore, humanitarian mine action has generally been conceived and perceived to be of a neutral character, since much of mine action worldwide has had a close association with other humanitarian assistance provided under the umbrella of the United Nations, which performs its missions under a general cloak of neutrality. Adding to this non-pejorative aspect is the fact that the initial general focus of much assistance provided through international humanitarian assistance organizations is focused on alleviating the suffering of communities and refugees.

The neutral role of the United Nations manifests itself in a general policy of not providing assistance to former belligerents - that is, the armed forces/Ministry of Defense of the host nation and the opposing insurgent armed combatants. This policy does not preclude assistance to either the government of the host nation, or to the areas under control of insurgent forces. It merely precludes direct assistance from the UN to the former opposing combatant forces. The UN’s policy is closely followed by the greater majority, but not all, of the international donor community. This is one of the major reasons that the general emphasis of the international donor community is to create indigenous mine action NGOs rather than to adapt or enhance an existing related capacity within host nation military organizations.

However, the United States is among the small group of international donors that will provide assistance to former combatant forces provided conditions are propitious to both the rendering of assistance and its successful application in pursuit of humanitarian benefits for the country assisted. The United States led the way for the international donor community in 1997 in Bosnia when it trained and equipped demining units of the three Entity Armies - Serb, Croat and Bosniak. The costs of the training and equipping of these teams was borne by the United States, while their ability to perform to international humanitarian mine action standards was accredited by the United Nations.

Our effort in Bosnia marked the first time that active military units had been so accredited by the UN. Subsequently, the United States has successfully created humanitarian demining-capable units within military
establishments of other conflict or insurgency-affected countries to include Armenia, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Jordan, Lebanon, Oman and most recently, Sri Lanka. This is not to say that risks or instability do not exist in post-conflict operations, because they do. These risks, however, are primarily associated with operating in an austere, resource-depleted environment where lawlessness and banditry are common in the absence of a widespread, effective law enforcement and justice establishment. Nonetheless, the efforts of the humanitarian assistance community are generally viewed as benign and the introduction of assistance is generally welcomed. In a counterinsurgency situation, however, the provision of assistance cannot be disassociated from the host nation government. This places the humanitarian organizations operating under the host government’s aegis at risk by virtue of their relationship to the government and, conversely, their non-relationship with the insurgents. This is particularly so in Iraq where the insurgents, driven by a volatile mixture of politics and religion, are attempting to eliminate western influence and assistance to the interim government through acts of terrorism and intimidation. In this environment, no exposed, unprotected organization associated with the Iraqi interim government can be considered safe without some form of active, deterrent security. For humanitarian mine action to function in the counterinsurgency environment now prevailing in Iraq requires that the current paradigm be adapted to fit the situation. This includes:

* Accepting the concept of "taking sides" and the fact that beneficial humanitarian mine action operations will likely be opposed with armed force and require a significant "security umbrella" to operate successfully.

* Shifting the focus of humanitarian mine action to the host nation's economic recovery/development projects.

* "Tailoring" humanitarian mine action projects to those that will be under the host government’s -- and its allies -- security fan during and after clearance operations.

Considerations for implementing this new/adapted humanitarian mine action paradigm are presented below. There are three essential roles for humanitarian mine action in a counterinsurgency situation:

* One, to enhance the host nation government’s image with the general population.

* Two, to contribute to national economic recovery and development programs.

* And three, to improve the quality of life for people suffering from the effects of the insurgency.

The missions or uses of humanitarian mine action in a counterinsurgency environment would normally be as follows:

* To clear "strategic value" infrastructure needed for economic recovery/development of the host nation. For example, demining oil producing/processing facilities, cotton mills, key lines of communication such as roads, railroads, bridges, airports, and so forth.

* To clear sites that are designed to foster increased employment opportunities/income generation such as local factories, construction projects, market places, and trading centers.

* To conduct clearance that enhances the freedom of movement of people, goods and services. These are clearance projects that contribute to the normalization of life by facilitating the return of refugees or internally displaced persons to their homes or that reduce transportation costs thereby reducing the cost of living and improving the quality of life.
Similarly, conducting clearance that improves or enhances delivery of government services to local population. An example of the latter would be clearing explosive threats to selected communities’ schools, playgrounds/athletic fields, local medical facilities, roads, and other common use facilities.

I’ve described the roles of humanitarian mine action in a counterinsurgency situation and the kinds of clearance projects that would typically fulfill those roles. Now for the other side of the equation.

What are the obstacles to effectively conducting humanitarian mine action in a counterinsurgency situation?

As I mentioned earlier, first and foremost, the onus on the association of the humanitarian mine action program and the host nation government -- in effect, “taking sides”. Demining teams and other humanitarian mine action operatives -- mine risk education, community liaison, victims assistance, etc. -- lose their neutrality cover and can become targets of insurgent forces.

The second major challenge is to protect demining teams conducting clearance operations, to include their base camps, on the clearance sites, and traveling to and from the projects. Within this second challenge of providing protection are additional considerations.

Protection of the cleared facility/infrastructure after mine and UXO clearance operation is completed.

Understanding that the security blanket in an insurgency is not all-encompassing and in many cases can only be applied selectively and for limited periods of time.

Finally, factoring in a reduction of available funding for humanitarian mine action due to increased security-related operating costs and decreased donor funding availability as donors seek to invest their mine action resources in more stable environments.

I’ve described the ideal roles of humanitarian mine action in a counterinsurgency and laid out the challenges for conducting mine action in such conditions.

Now let me briefly describe the solutions for ensuring effective humanitarian mine action in a counterinsurgency environment.

First, it is essential to involve the host nation government officials in prioritizing and selecting the humanitarian demining projects. By doing so, you will, hopefully, educate those officials in the proper application of humanitarian mine action, and gain their insights and support of the projects under consideration - that is, to make them part of the solution rather than part of the problem.

Second, in conjunction with the host government, you want to select humanitarian demining projects based on their contributions to economic recovery and development, while also ensuring that those projects contribute to improving the quality of life of significant portions of the population.

Third, it is important to publicize the host nation government’s efforts on behalf of the populace and the benefits accruing to the people.

Finally, it is also vitally important to ensure that the demining projects that are selected are within the “security fan” of the government during and after clearance operations are completed. The post-clearance importance of the facility/infrastructure to the host government and at-risk civilian population can have a major effect on countering insurgent attempts to reverse the results of government-sponsored efforts.

This concept has worked well in Sri Lanka but is still being ironed out in Iraq. To put it another way, if the demining project not only helps the host government but provides a direct and obvious benefit to the people too, then it makes it that much more counter-productive to the insurgents if they target that project.

That concludes my remarks. I’ve briefly described the U.S. Humanitarian Mine Action Program and my office’s role in it; I summarized the main
elements of the new U.S. landmine policy, and I've discussed the
challenges and some basic strategies for conducting humanitarian mine
action in a counterinsurgency environment.
Let me just do one very last thing and that is to encourage you all to
visit my office's website so that you can learn more about our mine action
and small arms/light weapons mitigation programs. Please take a second to
jot this down: our website is at www.state.gov/t/pm/wra
<http://www.state.gov/t/pm/wra>.
Thank you for inviting me to speak with you today and I will be delighted
to answer any questions that you may have now or later during this
conference.
[End]

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Send administrative queries to  <network1-request@mgm.org>
Greetings and many, many thanks to Yann, Mike, Billy, Roger, Gareth, Chris and Bob who so speedily and thoroughly answered my query, even by phone in some cases.

Information is still coming in but for the benefit of all I shall repeat the names of the companies that were mentioned so far:

- Maquettes SEDIAL (www.sedial.com/pages_f/cadre_principal_france.htm);
- Miltra Engineering Ltd. and Security Design & Developments Ltd. (www.miltra.com); and
- Amtech Aeronautical Ltd. (www.amtech-group.com/company_new.htm).

Thanks again for this kind assistance - and Vielen Dank to MgM for hosting this vital communications link.

With sincere regards,

JOHN

John E. Stevens
Foreign Affairs Officer
Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement (PM/WRA)
Bureau of Political-Military Affairs
SA-3, Suite 6100
2121 Virginia Ave., NW
U.S. Department of State
Washington, D.C. 20522

Tel: (202) 663-0083
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Email: SteveJE@State.Gov
PM/WRA website: www.state.gov/t/pm/wra

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Hi Didier;

Good to hear from you again and hope that everything is going well.

As you are still my best "French Connection", you probably have better access to their pubs then I do. Good point on the Yugo stuff though, I hadn't thought of that. Went through all my BiH stuff and the only fuze that is close is the UTU M-45.

I only had a paper copy, so forgive the quality of the scan. (Brian; please let us know if the measurements add up).

Yves;

Many thanks and look forward to any data you might have on-hand for the 21/28 fuze; my reference library is not bad, but could always use more additions.

Cheers

Roger

-----Original Message-----
From: network1@mgm.org [mailto:network1@mgm.org] On Behalf Of Didier LEONARD
Sent: Thursday, December 09, 2004 4:23 PM
To: network1@mgm.org
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: MgM Demining Network: Fwd: Unknown item

Hi Roger,

I was also in DRC and the fuze could be a Yugoslavian copy ... I found more yougoslavian mortar shells than french !!! but could be french too ...

Cheers

Didier

>From: "Roger Hess" <rhess@mweb.co.za>
>Reply-To: <network1@mgm.org>
>To: <network1@mgm.org>
>Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: MgM Demining Network: Fwd: Unknown item
>Date: Wed, 08 Dec 2004 16:54:51 +0100
>
>Hi Yves;
>
>
> I've been kicking around on that mine body; however I make the fuze out to be a French RYG-18 mortar fuze (maybe you have different nomenclatures then I do, see attached).
>
>
> Cheers
> 
> Roger
> 
> _____
>
> From: network1@mgm.org [mailto:network1@mgm.org] On Behalf Of Yves CABARAUX
> Sent: Wednesday, December 08, 2004 4:57 PM
> To: network1@mgm.org
> Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: Fwd: Unknown item
> 
> Answer from a EOD
> 
> Body belgian frag grenade Mod 51. Fuze from a french mortar 81 mm (Fuze mod 21/28. I was in Congo DR like STA. If you need more info about this mun
> send me a mail
> 
> That's all
> 
> Yves Cabaraux
> 
> EOD/Demining
> 
> Consultant
> 
> ----- Original Message ----- 
> From: Wolfgang Maschke <mailto:wm@mgm.org>
> To: network1@mgm.org
> Sent: Tuesday, December 07, 2004 3:47 PM
> Subject: MgM Demining Network: Fwd: Unknown item
> 
> Von: "BRIAN" <blewis1@mweb.co.za>
> An: network1@mgm.org
> Betreff: Unknown item
> 
> Can anybody please help to identify the following UXO.
> 
> It was handed in by a RDC solder in the DRC (Orientale province, Mahagi district, Kpandroma town) with the disarmament process.
> 
> I got more photos that I could forward to interested parties.
> 
> Thank you
> 
> Brian Lewis
> 
>
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didierleo@hotmail.com

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To switch to the Digest mode, E-mail to <network1-digest@mgm.org>
Send administrative queries to <network1-request@mgm.org>
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: Scale models (training aids) of landmines  
Date: Thursday, December 9, 2004 11:01 AM  
From: Leach Chris A <CALEACH@qinetiq.com>  
Reply-To: <network1@mgm.org>  
To: <network1@mgm.org>

A few years back we got some mines made up by Miltra Engineering  
(http://www.miltra.com/)  
Hope this helps!

Chris Leach, CEng MIMechE  
Research Engineer  
Humanitarian Demining Project Team  
QinetiQ  
Tel. +44 (0)1252 395213

-----Original Message-----  
From: network1@mgm.org [mailto:network1@mgm.org] On Behalf Of Stevens, John E  
Sent: 09 December 2004 15:21  
To: network1@mgm.org  
Subject: MgM Demining Network: Scale models (training aids) of landmines

Greetings. From time to time, various NGOs who are in our public-private partnership program to support humanitarian mine action seek life-sized scale reproductions of anti-personnel and anti-vehicle landmines that they may use in their public outreach efforts with the general public, a great many of whom have never seen a landmine (fortunately). We have just received another such request.

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I would be most appreciative if someone could pass me the name of any company or NGO that produces fairly realistic, 1:1 scale models of landmines for training/display/MRE purposes. For a variety of reasons, I am not interested in obtaining actual inert landmines.

Thanks in advance to anyone who may be able to assist.

Sincerely,

JOHN

John E. Stevens  
Foreign Affairs Officer  
Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement (PM/WRA)  
Bureau of Political-Military Affairs  
SA-3, Suite 6100
Hi John;

Try the following:

Maquettes SEDIAL 16 Rue des Granits 44100 NANTES – FRANCE –
Telephone: +33 (0) 2 40 43 91 11 – Fax : +33 (0) 2 40 43 66 03 (http://www.sedial.com/).

Or

Miltra Engineering Ltd, 207 Chester Road, Watford, Hertfordshire WD1 7RH, United Kingdom. e-mail to: syme@dial.pipex.com; Telephone + 44 1923 818342, Fax: + 44 1923 818342 (http://www.xga42.dial.pipex.com/)

Cheers

Roger

-----Original Message-----
From: network1@mgm.org [mailto:network1@mgm.org] On Behalf Of Stevens, John E
Sent: Thursday, December 09, 2004 5:21 PM
To: network1@mgm.org
Subject: MgM Demining Network: Scale models (training aids) of landmines

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Foreign Affairs Officer
Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement (PM/WRA)
Bureau of Political-Military Affairs
SA-3, Suite 6100
2121 Virginia Ave., NW
Mr. Stevens,

My name is Billy Cason and I'm the North & South American factory representative for a company called MILTRA Engineering, Ltd. and Security Design & Developments Ltd. both of which are British companies that manufacture high quality Mine and EOD Training Aids. You can view these items by going to their Web Site at www.miltra.com <http://www.miltra.com>.

We have a large variety of Mines, Bombs, Mortars and other types of munitions Training Aids. Some of our items are interactive and all are exact replicas of the original devices right down to their markings.

If I can be of any assistance in helping you or any of the other organizations in obtaining realistic training aids please contact me via return E-mail or at one of the numbers listed below.

Thanking you in advance,

Billy Cason  
CEO/Managing Director  

Special Communications, LLC.  
2838 Croix Court  
Virginia Beach, VA 23451-1365  
757-412-1001/1002 Fax/757581-1526 Cellular  

Web Site: www.specommllc.com <http://www.specommllc.com>  

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SPECOMM is an SBA Certified 8(a), Small Disadvantaged Business (SDB), Service Disabled Veteran (SDV) owned and HubZone certified business.
This company makes replica mines... now as to if they will sell to the public thats another story you'll have to ask them ... But it would be nice to see a company develop a cheap replica mine just so people can have a look at one ...

C&P from there site .... Amtech, working with the Canadian Centre for Mine Action Technologies and Defence R&D Canada, has developed a unique family of economical and realistic surrogate mine products. These products have been designed for a variety of de-mining equipment evaluation and de-miner training applications and include surrogates for five anti-personnel mine types (the PMA-1, PMA-2, PMA-3, PMN and Type 72A). The surrogates include a baseline model suitable for mechanical assistance / clearance equipment evaluation (referred to as the Mechanical Reproduction Mines or MRM's) as well as Signature Surrogates with a high degree of fidelity for mine detector evaluation, and Real-Time Training Surrogates that, once triggered, transmit an RF signal for instantaneous annunciation of a triggering event.

http://www.amtech-group.com/company_new.htm

Contact them at:
amtech.general@amtech-group.com
Attn: Dr. Alex Markov, President

Gareth Thomas.
Sensor Technology R & D
Creative Design Group.
Box 343 Glenevis Alberta.
Canada. T0E-0X0
we6@telusplanet.net
Tel/Fax ++ ( 780 ) 785-3115

----- Original Message ----- 
From: "Stevens, John E" <SteveJE@state.gov>
To: <network1@mgm.org>
Sent: Thursday, December 09, 2004 8:21 AM 
Subject: MgM Demining Network: Scale models (training aids) of landmines

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Bureau of Political-Military Affairs
SA-3, Suite 6100
2121 Virginia Ave., NW
U.S. Department of State
Washington, D.C. 20522

Tel: (202) 663-0083
Fax: (202) 663-0090
Email: SteveJE@State.Gov
PM/WRA website: www.state.gov/t/pm/wra

This message is sent to you because you are subscribed to the mailing list <network1@mgm.org>. To unsubscribe, E-mail to: <network1-off@mgm.org> To switch to the Digest mode, E-mail to <network1-digest@mgm.org> Send administrative queries to <network1-request@mgm.org>
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2121 Virginia Ave., NW
U.S. Department of State
Washington, D.C. 20522

Tel: (202) 663-0083
Fax: (202) 663-0090
Email: SteveJE@State.Gov
PM/WRA website: www.state.gov/t/pm/wra
All,

A few weeks ago there was some info about the laser sensor being developed by MIT for explosive detection. Could someone please forward this to me. Thanks.

Robert A. Mann
MSGt USMC EOD
MWSS-172, 1 MAW
632-5143
090-6861-4385
Hi Roger,

I was also in DRC and the fuze could be a Yugoslavian copy ... I found more yougoslavian mortar shells than french !!! but could be french too ...

Cheers

Didier

---

>From: "Roger Hess" <rhess@mweb.co.za>  
>Reply-To: <network1@mgm.org>  
>To: <network1@mgm.org>  
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: Fwd: Unknown item  
Date: Wed, 08 Dec 2004 16:54:51 +0100  

> Hi Yves;

> I've been kicking around on that mine body; however I make the fuze out to be a French RYG-18 mortar fuze (maybe you have different nomenclatures then I do, see attached).

> Cheers

> Roger

> ____

>From: network1@mgm.org [mailto:network1@mgm.org] On Behalf Of Yves CABARAUX  
Sent: Wednesday, December 08, 2004 4:57 PM  
To: network1@mgm.org  
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: Fwd: Unknown item  

> Answer from a EOD

> Body belgian frag grenade Mod 51. Fuze from a french mortar 81 mm( Fuze mod 21/28. I was in Congo DR like STA. If you need more info about this mun send me a mail

> That's all
Can anybody please help to identify the following UXO.

It was handed in by a RDC soldier in the DRC (Orientale province, Mahagi district, Kpandroma town) with the disarmament process.

I got more photos that I could forward to interested parties.

Thank you

Brian Lewis
Hi Roger,
I agree but that's just a question of size, the 21/28 fuze is used with small mortar 60, 81 mm short. V18 RYG with 81 long and 120 mm. The functionning are similar. I prepare some pictures for the next days.

----- Original Message ----- 

From: Roger Hess <mailto:rhess@mweb.co.za>
To: network1@mgm.org
Sent: Wednesday, December 08, 2004 4:54 PM
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That's all

Yves Cabaraux

EOD/Demining

Consultant
----- Original Message ----- 

From: Wolfgang Maschke <mailto:wm@mgm.org>

To: network1@mgm.org

Sent: Tuesday, December 07, 2004 3:47 PM

Subject: MgM Demining Network: Fwd: Unknown item

Von: "BRIAN" <blewis1@mweb.co.za>
An: network1@mgm.org
Betreff: Unknown item

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To switch to the Digest mode, E-mail to <network1-digest@mgm.org>
Send administrative queries to <network1-request@mgm.org>
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Brian Lewis
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: Ade Ridoutt
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2004 9:57 AM
From: Colin <cpwanley@hotmail.com>
Reply-To: <network1@mgm.org>
To: <network1@mgm.org>

Ade,
good to see you've learnt something while you've been plodding away in the industry.
Drop me a line sometime, cpwanley@hotmail.com.
Colin (ex Kurdistan)

C P Wanley MIExpE
UK Mob 07739 231510
-------Original Message-------

From: Ade Ridoutt <mailto:qasiaconsulting@yahoo.com>
Date: 12/07/04 07:44:49
To: network1@mgm.org
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: Unidentifyed Object

Roger, I have seen this type or very similar on numerous occasions in Kompong Thom Province in North Eastern cambodia and consistent with the BLU 24/66 series both in and out of the CBU containers in cardboards tubes with a spring ejection system. Just as an add on for you guys. Ade

Roger Hess <rhess@mweb.co.za> wrote:
Dear Åsa;

It's hard to say what your item is by the photo sent as the copy I get seems to be split; the BLU-24/66 series are about 70mm in diameter will have some type of protrusion or knob sticking out on one side where the shrouded fins would have attached to (also the fuze). If you can send a better photo (direct to me if needed, rather then plug up the net), I'll see what I can do.

Sgt1 A. Spannenburg
Thanks for the link & I don't want to sound snide, but please put a cap on the attitude. FYI: Scot did it that way so a few hundred people downloading via slow, long distance lines don't get their emails plugged up. That is why MgM put a 50-60k restriction on all attachments.

Cheers

Roger

From: network1@mgm.org [mailto:network1@mgm.org] On Behalf Of Wolfgang Maschke
Sent: Monday, December 06, 2004 4:58 PM
To: network1@mgm.org
Subject: MgM Demining Network: Unidentified Object

Von: Åsa Wessel <asawessel@hotmail.com>
An: wm@mgm.org
Betreff: Re: Unidentified Object

Hi, thanks for the help with my last e-mail. I have a problem getting this new one out...... Is the attachment still too big?

Thanks for all the help with identifying the RPG Type 69. Here is a new object also found in Nuba Mountains Sudan. Possible cluster bomb? We have found Mk 118 „Rockeye‰ in the area but nothing else. It has a smooth surface with no lines. Approximate diameter 60 mm. Maybe a BLU 24?
Any ideas?

Regards,

Asa Wessel

EOD Coordinator

NRMAO

Sudan

>From: Wolfgang Maschke <wm@mgm.org>
>To: Åsa Wessel <asawessel@hotmail.com>
>Subject: Re: Unidentified Object
Hella Åsa,

I see your mailo came through now. There is a maximum size of attachments allowed of 30 KB, yours are 300 KB. If it's possible for you please downsize your pictures to the allowed size and send your email again. If you can't I can do it for you.

regards

Wolfgang Maschke

MgM
Stiftung Menschen gegen Minen e.V.
Humanitarian Demining NGO

media department
online publishing www.mgm.org

geisberg 9b
D-97234 reichenberg
germany
tel.: 0931 66 32 16
fax.: 0931 66 20 74

Bitte besuchen Sie unsere Website www.mgm.org und informieren Sie sich über unsere humanitäre Arbeit und den aktuellen Stand unserer Minenräumoperationen.

Please visit our website www.mgm.org for more information regarding our humanitarian work and the current state of our demining operations.

Am 01.12.2004 um 06:54 schrieb Åsa Wessel:

>>This Object was found in Nuba Mountains located in the central part of Sudan.
>>
>>> It has a cylindrical shape and is painted in a green colour.
>>> Diameter and height approximately 7 ′ 10 cm. Under the metal casing it contains a large amount of fragmentations.
>>>
>>> Other objects found in the area: RPG 7, 82 mm Mortar bombs.
Mines: TM 57, Type 72, ATM 72, No 4 and POMZ.

I really appreciate all suggestions and ideas,

Regards Asa

This message is sent to you because you are subscribed to the mailing list.
To unsubscribe, E-mail to:
To switch to the Digest mode, E-mail to
Send administrative queries to

QAsia Company Ltd.
#6a, Street 294, Phnom Penh, Cambodia.
Tel/Fax: +855 (0)23-221-581
Mobile: +855 (0)12-456-112

<http://www.incredimail.com/index.asp?id=54475>
You are right, Pete, this is homemade construction. I'm sure.

Regards
Andrey

----- Original Message ----- 
From: <phindy@webhart.net>
To: <network1@mgm.org>
Sent: Tuesday, December 07, 2004 6:44 PM
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: Fwd: Unknown item

> Not sure what exactly model wise but looks like a PD projectile fuze and a
> homemade body or ap frag mine body?
> Pete
> 
> >> Von: "BRIAN" <blewis1@mweb.co.za>
> >> An: network1@mgm.org
> >> Betreff: Unknown item
> >> 
> >> Can anybody please help to identify the following UXO.
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> >> Thank you
> >> 
> >> Brian Lewis
> >
> 
> >
> >
> >
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> To switch to the Digest mode, E-mail to <network1-digest@mgm.org>
> Send administrative queries to <network1-request@mgm.org>
Answer from a EOD
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That's all
Yves Cabaraux
EOD/Demining
Consultant

----- Original Message ----- 

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To: network1@mgm.org
Sent: Tuesday, December 07, 2004 3:47 PM
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Von: "BRIAN" <blewis1@mweb.co.za>
An: network1@mgm.org
Betreff: Unknown item

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To switch to the Digest mode, E-mail to <network1-digest@mgm.org>
Send administrative queries to <network1-request@mgm.org>
Subject: MgM Demining Network: old stuff, good to read again
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2004 9:57 AM
From: Hendrik Ehlers <ehlers@ MGM.org>
Reply-To: <network 1@mgm.org>
To: <network 1@mgm.org>

New Developments in the U.S. Approach to Landmines

Lincoln P. Bloomfield, Jr., Assistant Secretary for Political-Military Affairs
On-The-Record Briefing
Washington, DC
February 27, 2004
(10:05 a.m. EST)

MR. BOUCHER: Ladies and gentlemen, welcome. A briefing today on U.S. landmine policy. The briefers for you will be our Assistant Secretary for Political-Military Affairs, Mr. Lincoln Bloomfield. He is speaking to you today as the Special Representative for the President and the Secretary of State for Mine Action.
We have with us as well Dr. Joseph Collins, the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Stability Operations, and Brigadier General Kevin Ryan, Director of Strategy, Plans and Policies of the U.S. Army Staff.

So, without further ado, let me introduce Assistant Secretary Bloomfield.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY BLOOMFIELD: Thank you, Richard. Good morning.
This morning I wish to announce the President's policy decisions and initiatives relating to landmines. There are several elements, but the thrust of the policy is that the United States will now accelerate, by its example, diplomacy and resources, the effort to end the humanitarian crisis caused by live landmines left behind in former conflict areas all over the world.
More specifically, under the new policy, the United States is committed to eliminate persistent landmines of all types from its arsenal by a date certain and is requesting a substantial increase in funding for our humanitarian mine action programs worldwide.
The President's policy serves two important goals: a strong push to end the humanitarian risks posed by landmines; and ensuring that our military has the defensive capabilities it needs to protect our own and friendly forces on the battlefield.
The new policy demonstrates that our humanitarian and military goals are fully compatible; one does not have to be achieved only at the expense of the other. We can and will prevent unnecessary harm to innocent civilians and, at the same time, protect the lives of American service men and women.
The President's approach departs from landmine policy formulations of the past. It addresses squarely the condition that has caused the humanitarian crisis of civilian casualties and continued hazards in cities, towns and farmlands around the world. That condition is called persistence, referring to a live landmine that sits, ready to explode, for months, years, and often decades, after the conflict that led to its use has ended.
We estimate that there are 60 million persistent landmines posing risks to innocent civilians in more than 60 countries today.
The President's policy applies to all persistent landmines, be they anti-personnel landmines or the larger anti-vehicle landmines.
Let me spell out the four key elements of the President's new policy:
The first element is the President's firm, specific and unconditional commitment that after 2010 the United States will not use persistent landmines of any type, neither anti-personnel nor anti-vehicle landmines.
The United States becomes the first major military power to make this comprehensive commitment regarding all persistent landmines. Any use of persistent anti-vehicle landmines outside Korea between now and the end of 2010 will require Presidential authorization. The use of persistent anti-personnel landmines during this period would only be authorized in fulfillment of our treaty obligations to the Republic of Korea.
In either case, use of these mines would be in strict accordance with our obligations under international agreements on the use of these weapons. Within two years, the United States will begin the destruction of those persistent landmines that are not needed for the defense of Korea.
The second element of the new policy is a firm commitment that within one year the United States will no longer have any non-detectable landmine of any type in its arsenal. The U.S. becomes the first major military power to make a commitment covering all landmines to the internationally recognized level of eight grams iron ore equivalent of metal content, assuring reliable detection by humanitarian deminers using the standard equipment in use today.
Third, the President has directed a concerted effort to develop alternatives to its current persistent landmines, both anti-personnel and anti-vehicle, incorporating enhanced self-destructing, self-deactivating technologies and control mechanisms, such as "man-in-the-loop" and on-off commands that would allow our forces to recover the munitions. These enhancements are to be brought forward within the decade.
The fourth major element of this policy is the President's decision to request from Congress a 50 percent increase in the budget for worldwide humanitarian mine action programs administered by the State Department, starting in fiscal year 2005, measured against the fiscal year 2003 budget level, to a total level of $70 million.
Additionally, the Administration will soon solicit international support for a worldwide ban on the sale or export of all persistent mines, with exceptions only for training deminers or countermine personnel, improving countermine capabilities, and the like.
The U.S. already has a statutory prohibition on transfers of anti-personnel landmines, and we will continue to obey the law.
Those are the key elements of the new policy. Before taking your questions, let me say a few words about the significance of this policy, and perhaps anticipate some of the questions you may have.
The Administration came to this position in drawing from 16 years of U.S. experience assisting mine-affected communities all over the world. The United States is already the world's largest contributor to humanitarian mine action, having provided close to $800 million to 46 countries over the past decade for landmine clearance, mine risk education and survivor assistance.
What we have seen, very simply, is that the landmines harming innocent men, women and children, and their livestock, are persistent landmines. Nor are these lingering hazards caused solely by the anti-personnel category of persistent landmines. We find that persistent anti-vehicle landmines are left behind following conflicts, posing deadly risks to innocent people and requiring remediation by ourselves and the many other parties engaged in humanitarian mine action.
And so the President's policy focuses on the kinds of landmines that have caused the humanitarian crisis, namely persistent landmines, and it extends to all persistent landmines because the roads and fields we are helping to clear, in the Balkans, Africa, Asia and elsewhere, are infested with lethal anti-vehicle landmines in addition to the live anti-personnel landmines.
Let me hasten to add that the President's decision to end U.S. military use of persistent landmines after 2010 is not to draw a connection between our military and the harm being done to civilians in mine-affected countries. The deadly landmines being painstakingly uncovered by the deminers of many nationalities, hard at work in at least 40 mine-affected countries today, are not mines left behind by U.S. forces, the only potential exception being U.S. mines left behind during the Vietnam conflict more than three decades ago.

Rather, the worldwide humanitarian crisis is very much the product of persistent landmines used by other militaries or non-state actors who did not observe international conventions relating to the use of these munitions. The U.S. military already follows the strictures of the Amended Mines Protocol and the Convention on Conventional Weapons, which specifies obligations to mark, monitor and clear persistent minefields after hostilities end.

So the question may be, "Why impose restraints on the U.S. use of persistent landmines if these American munitions are not the ones contributing to the humanitarian crisis?" The answer is that the Administration recognized that persistent landmines used indiscriminately by so many others have created a serious crisis with at least 300,000 innocent victims, by most estimates, and a terrible burden on the international community to help mine-affected countries clear these mines and help their societies recover from conflict, particularly their landmine survivors.

Under the President's policy, the United States will take even further measures to ensure these weapons do not threaten civilians by becoming the first major military power to adopt a policy ending use of all persistent landmines, and maintaining the international standard of detectability for landmines of any kind.

We are not seeking to impose our policy on other countries, but this policy correctly places the focus on the problems that can be caused by persistent landmines. We want to strengthen provisions in existing international arms control mechanisms relating to the use of persistent landmines of any kind, and compliance with the goal of ending the indiscriminate laying of persistent landmines anywhere in the world.

Now, as you may have inferred from the emphasis on persistence as the source of the humanitarian problem with landmines, there are other kinds of landmines on which the Administration's policy is not imposing restrictions. These munitions have reliable features that limit the life of the munition to a matter of hours or a few days, by which time it self-destructs. And in the unlikely event the self-destruct features fail, the battery will run out within 90 days, rendering it inert, and these batteries always expire.

The evidence is clear that self-destruct and self-deactivate landmine munitions do not contribute to the grave risks of civilian injury that we find with persistent landmines that can and do, literally, wait for decades before claiming an innocent victim.

To illustrate this point, if all landmines ever used had been destroyed within hours or days of being deployed, and in any case rendered inert after 90 days, there would be no humanitarian landmine issue in the world today. We would not see an estimated 10,000 civilian casualties every year. Refugees would not resist returning to their villages and farms for fear of mine explosions, and we would not need to mount a global humanitarian mine action effort.

At this point, let me invite my Defense Department colleague, Dr. Joseph Collins to address the military requirements aspect of the President's policy.

Dr. Collins.

DR. COLLINS: Thank you, Linc.

Ladies and gentlemen, the Office of the Secretary of Defense, the joint staff of our military services were active partners in the development of the policy that Secretary Bloomfield has outlined for you today. Let me say just a few words about the military aspects of landmines.
U.S. military forces presently carry a very large burden of security missions around the world. Recent history has shown that we cannot predict with confidence where, or against whom, our forces may be engaged in hostilities.

It is the considered judgment of our senior military commanders that they need the defensive capabilities that landmines can provide. These capabilities enable a commander to shape the battlefield to his or her advantage. They deny the enemy freedom to maneuver his forces. They enhance the effectiveness of other weapons systems, such as small arms, artillery or combat aircraft.

They act as force multipliers, allowing us to fight and win with fire -- with fewer forces, rather, against numerically superior opponents; and they also protect our forces, saving the lives of our men and women in uniform. At present, no other weapon system exists that provides all of these capabilities.

As Assistant Secretary Bloomfield mentioned, the President's policy calls for the development of more sophisticated, counter-mobility and tactical barrier capabilities in the future. But the United States Armed Forces will retain the ability to use self-destruct, self-deactivate landmines.

Secretary Bloomfield.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY BLOOMFIELD: Thank you.

In sum, the President's policy strikes an appropriate balance that accommodates two important national interests: It takes significant and comprehensive steps, by our example and by the increased commitment of funds backed by a strategic plan, toward surmounting the global problem caused by persistent landmines, while at the same time meeting the needs of our military for defensive capabilities that may save American and friendly forces' lives in combat.

Many Americans, and others, upon hearing of the new U.S. policy, will ask how the United States policy relates to the Ottawa Treaty banning anti-personnel landmines of all kinds. And while we have no desire to revisit or revive policy disagreements of the previous decade, we will not become a party to the Ottawa Treaty.

The Ottawa Convention offers no protection for innocent civilians in post-conflict areas from the harm caused by persistent anti-vehicle landmines, and it would take away a needed means of protection from our men and women in uniform who may be operating in harm's way.

We are hopeful that Americans will support the President's judgment that focusing on persistent mines, both anti-vehicle and anti-personnel landmines, addresses the root of the humanitarian crisis, which is indiscreiminately used persistent landmines of all types.

With that in mind, we will work with other nations within the treaty provisions of the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons to seek the end -- to end the discriminate use -- indiscriminate use of all landmines.

As a final note, it should be clear that the President's decision to increase substantially our humanitarian mine action funding is a positive call to action in cooperation with all our partners in humanitarian mine action. This $70 million Mine Action Program will be conducted on the basis of a comprehensive strategic plan with clear measures of performance. The intent is to provide relief to mine-affected areas of greatest humanitarian need and to accelerate their progress toward being declared mine safe.

We recognize that among the nations dedicated to mine action, there may be differing perspectives on landmine policy, based on respective national equities involved. But it is a high priority for this Administration to have effective coordination and partnership among donor nations, the UN and the international NGO community.

We should never let policy debates stand in the way of the strongest, most comprehensive and energetic possible global effort to help mine-affected countries and their people overcome the
burdens of persistent landmines still waiting to claim new victims under their feet. There are many Americans, and a large international community of people and organizations, who have dedicated tremendous effort to address this humanitarian crisis in recent years, and we respect and appreciate them all. In conclusion, as we carry out these policy and program initiatives directed by the President, we look forward to working with the Congress, our private partners in humanitarian mine action, and the international community to accelerate progress in ending this terrible problem around the world once and for all. Happy to take your questions. Sir.

QUESTION: How big a problem do the mines remain -- that remain in Vietnam pose? How often are there incidents?

ASSISTANT SECRETARY BLOOMFIELD: I don't have information on that. We are currently surveying, supporting survey activities in Vietnam, and we look forward to proceeding with an energetic program in Southeast Asia.

QUESTION: You don't have any kind of numbers on it at all?

ASSISTANT SECRETARY BLOOMFIELD: No --

QUESTION: Perhaps your colleague from Defense Department?

ASSISTANT SECRETARY BLOOMFIELD: But we wanted to be absolutely clear about the history of U.S. military use of landmines. And that's why I mentioned Vietnam. Ma'am.

QUESTION: I know you don't want to revisit the issue -- the arguments about the Ottawa Treaty, but a lot of critics of the U.S. policy say that the only reason you won't sign the treaty is because the U.S. wants to use the landmines that it wants to choose and that it's kind of a cherry-picking situation, a double standard. Is the only reason that the U.S. won't sign the Ottawa Treaty because it wants the flexibility to be able to use this for the military? And if you can issue the whole -- if you can address the double-standard issue.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY BLOOMFIELD: Obviously the Administration is not looking to impose any double standard. What the President has done is analyze the humanitarian crisis on its own terms. And what we found is that not only are anti-personnel mines a problem when they -- when their hazards linger indefinitely, but anti-vehicle mines are a major contributor as well. So the President has placed the focus on anti-personnel and anti-vehicle mines, if they are persistent. So persistence is really the common denominator. The judgment that some of the munitions in the U.S. military arsenal were still needed because they provided defensive capabilities in certain situations, as Dr. Collins described, is one that is a purely military judgment. And I think that the President, as Commander-in-Chief, listened closely to his senior military commanders who, after all, are bearing any number of security missions around the world, and that was weighed very closely. What we concluded is that, by allowing our military to use munitions that have self-destruct and self-deactivate features that have shown themselves to be very reliable in testing, and that have not shown themselves to be a hazard to civilians in these post-conflict societies, that we could achieve a great step forward in the push to end the humanitarian crisis, and we could also assure that our military commanders had this needed defensive capability for certain tactical situations, and that one goal did not have to be done at the expense of the other. And we believe that.

QUESTION: If I could just follow up. Is the Korean Peninsula the kind of primary military situation right now where the U.S. is using those type of landmines, or, in recent years with Afghanistan
and Iraq, have landmines also been a tool on the battlefield? I guess this is for the military.

**ASSISTANT SECRETARY BLOOMFIELD:** Well, I'm not sure I understand the exact thrust of your question, but clearly the defense of Korea is a major security priority for the United States of America, and this policy in no way affects, diminishes our commitment to the defense of Korea or our capacity to defend Korea. And we've made that very clear in briefings here in Washington and in Seoul within the last -- this week.

So Korea is certainly a situation where a million-man army to the north poses a grave risk to the Republic of Korea, but I would defer to the Pentagon to explain the military utility of landmines. It's not necessarily a weapon of choice. This policy in no way tries to accelerate or encourage the use of landmines. It is purely drawing a distinction between mines which have no life, in any case, after 90 days, and those which last for decades and which are clearly the cause of the humanitarian crisis.

Sir.

**QUESTION:** Speaking of Korea, what's the military use of a mine that expires in 90 days in a situation like Korea? It's for defense use. You don't have any means of telling when the enemy comes. What's the use of a minefield that's inert when it's needed?

**ASSISTANT SECRETARY BLOOMFIELD:** Well, there are persistent landmines in use in the Republic of Korea as well. And as I said, the President has directed the accelerated exploration of alternative and better technologies, and we'll be engaged in that discussion with our Korean allies as we go forward with the President's new policy. But there are both persistent and non-persistent landmines used in Korea. The minefields south of the Demilitarized Zone are in the control of, actually, the Republic of Korean Armed Forces.

**QUESTION:** Can I follow up? You said if I understood you correctly, you said that you'll give up all the persistent landmines after 2010.

**ASSISTANT SECRETARY BLOOMFIELD:** 2010.

**QUESTION:** What's the use of these self-destruction mines in Korea after --

**ASSISTANT SECRETARY BLOOMFIELD:** Well, I will defer to my Defense Department colleagues to explain the military utility.

General Ryan.

**GEN. RYAN:** Sir, I mean, you ask a good question about minefields in Korea. The self-destruct, self-deactivating minefield mine technology that we have right now is just for a localized combat or an operation of a limited duration, and that is the reason why we are devoting money and research to finding an adequate replacement for the persistent mine, the persistent anti-personnel, the persistent anti-tank mine. We don't have that yet.

So you're absolutely right. We can't replace the persistent mines in Korea with self-destruct technology that we have today because, as you pointed out, it would be -- you'd be constantly replacing it.

Does that answer your question, sir?

**QUESTION:** (Inaudible.)

**ASSISTANT SECRETARY BLOOMFIELD:** Sir.

**QUESTION:** In President Clinton's May 1998 pledge to sign the Ottawa Convention by 2006, if the Pentagon was able to develop and field alternatives to anti-personnel landmines, is this a policy announcement kind of an admission that that search for alternatives failed? And how much funding did the Pentagon dedicate to that effort to find alternatives so that they could sign Ottawa by 2006?

**ASSISTANT SECRETARY BLOOMFIELD:** Clearly, I cannot speak for the previous Administration.
And it's clear that when the Ottawa Convention was drafted, the United States Government and the previous Administration was not able to come to terms with the drafters of the Ottawa convention. The pledge, the pledge that you've cited, was conditioned on certain facts being done. And, again, I refer you to the Clinton Administration on those points. I can tell you that when this Administration took office there was not an actively funded program ongoing for alternatives, and President Bush has directed that there be an energetic push to explore the technologies that would allow commanders far greater control over these types of munitions.

Ma'am.

**QUESTION:** If I could just follow up on the Korea questions. Does this mean that the Pentagon is confident that there will be this new technology by 2010? And if there's not, will all the persistent landmines be pulled up in Korea?

**ASSISTANT SECRETARY BLOOMFIELD:** I can ask for a military answer to that, but I believe it's fair to say that the President has made it a decision, as President and Commander-in-Chief, that allows for a period of time during which any possibility of a capabilities gap will be addressed. So he has charted a course that will have to be energetically pursued, and we intend to do that. Did you want to add something?

**DR. COLLINS:** Yeah, I would. We are well along in the development of program to develop, in effect, a smart minefield, computerized with self-destruct, self-deactivate capabilities. The program is funded, it's working, and we're going to have to do a lot of work between now and 2010 to make sure that that all comes online. But this is not a case where -- there's no shell game here. There is a real program and a search for alternatives on that.

You made one point about mines in the ground in Korea being taken up. The United States has no mines in the ground in Korea.

**QUESTION:** There are no mines?

**ASSISTANT SECRETARY BLOOMFIELD:** The Koreans --

**DR. COLLINS:** The Koreans have mines there.

**QUESTION:** They're our allies, right?

**ASSISTANT SECRETARY BLOOMFIELD:** Absolutely.

**QUESTION:** I see.

**ASSISTANT SECRETARY BLOOMFIELD:** They own them, though.

**QUESTION:** They own the mines. All right.

Can I try you on something? It seems to me you have two categories. This Administration thinks there are two categories of landmines: those that are horrible and kill civilians, and those that are very useful in stopping aggression.

Why do you distinguish landmines from other horrible weapons? You wouldn't use mustard gas. That would deter attack, too. You wouldn't use biological weapons. That might cause a potential enemy to back up -- what is so -- and 150 countries disagree with you.

So, you know, so why this division, this decision to keep certain kinds of landmines when you wouldn't use certain types or keep certain types, or put in use certain types of other awful weapons that most of the world thinks are too horrible to use?

And secondly, if you have an answer to this, why won't the U.S. sign the treaty?

**ASSISTANT SECRETARY BLOOMFIELD:** Without trying to dispute all the premises in your question --

**QUESTION:** Go ahead.

**ASSISTANT SECRETARY BLOOMFIELD:** -- in fact, the President is singling out persistent mines of
all kinds as the root of the humanitarian crisis, so there is an exercise in saying these mines, whether they be anti-personnel mines or anti-vehicle mines, are not what we want the United States, as a major military power, to have in its arsenal.

He has established a timeframe by which time -- unconditionally, worldwide -- the U.S. will no longer use those mines of any kind. And so he has identified a munition which we no longer want to be associated with, and we hope that that will find favor and will influence the thinking of other major military powers, who, as yet, have not exercised restraint on the use of persistent landmines. So this is the beginning of a dialogue that has actually not been held.

With respect to the munitions that the United States Armed Forces uses -- as a State Department person I'll try to be careful about this, it's not entirely my business -- but I think it's fair to say that the Defense Department is quite serious about the utility, the safety, the appropriate use of all the munitions in its arsenal. And there is -- a case has already been articulated as to the conditions under which United States Armed Services personnel in harm's way may need the capabilities that are presently only provided by landmines to save their lives, the lives of allied soldiers in the field, and potentially, the populations that they're trying to defend.

The fact of the matter is that the safety devices on these landmines, the self-destruct and self-deactivate features, have been tested 60,000 times with no failure. So it's a perfect safety testing record.

The fact of the matter is, I will put it this way: As the Special Representative on this issue, who has been doing this now for three years and has had an interest beforehand, I have yet to encounter a single case where a self-destruct, self-deactivate landmine in the hands of the United States Armed Forces has ever been tied to a civilian -- innocent civilian casualty in the world.

I may be wrong, but no such case has ever come to my attention. So when you base that -- if you apply a collateral damage standard to this weapon system as compared to any others, these munitions in the hands of U.S. Armed Forces come out quite well, indeed.

Sir.

**QUESTION:** And what about the treaty? Can I elaborate?

**ASSISTANT SECRETARY BLOOMFIELD:** Yeah --

**QUESTION:** Because there's a feeling this Administration -- more than a feeling -- there's evidence this Administration has aversion -- has an aversion from the outset to international treaties. It doesn't want to sign the Test Ban Treaty, it's letting the START Treaty disappear, it killed the ABM Treaty, you won't sign this treaty. But in the Test Ban case, for instance, you at least continue a pledge made by the previous Administration to follow the same, you know, follow the provisions of the treaty voluntarily.

Can't you accommodate -- why not sign the treaty? Or, if you can't sign it, isn't there a way to accommodate to the treaty?

**ASSISTANT SECRETARY BLOOMFIELD:** Let me take that one on in two fronts.

This is an Administration -- as a member of this Administration, I can tell you that this Administration takes the literal terms of treaties dead seriously. Whatever the United States signs up to, we adhere to fully and unconditionally. That's the ethos that underlies each of the cases that you brought forward. And I won't go into the cases, but we didn't -- I don't think you characterized our actions as I would.

With respect to the Ottawa Treaty, I've already said it only applied to one part of the problem and ignored entirely anti-vehicle mines, the persistent anti-vehicle mines that, for example, we have found in a recent report have -- are found in up to 70 percent of the major roads in Angola. And so the buses full of people and the cars and trucks could trigger these mines. It is a clearly important dimension of the humanitarian problem, which the President is now addressing.
But the definition of anti-personnel mine, under the terms of the Ottawa Treaty, includes munitions, which, as I just said, have shown no evidence of posing a harm to civilians internationally in the hands of U.S. Armed Forces, and indeed, have shown some continued utility for our armed forces personnel around the world.

Without trying to make any kind of case for American exceptionalism, it's clear that the United States cooperates well with countries all over the world on many fronts. This is -- this should be evident on so many fronts.

In this case, we will continue to seek the full cooperation of countries around the world regardless of their political views or their policy views on the formulas pertaining to landmines. Unity of effort is essential to solve this problem, and that is the spirit behind the President's policy. And so we will be going forward in a constructive manner. We appreciate and respect all of the efforts to raise consciousness on this issue, even if we don't always agree on the formula.

Sir.

QUESTION: This is somewhat of a follow-on to your last comment, and I understand you speak only for this Administration, this country, and for the policy you've enunciated today. But am I correct that what you've announced today doesn't do anything to alleviate the possibility of harm from landmines already out there in, what you said, the 40 countries around the world where it's a continuing problem?

ASSISTANT SECRETARY BLOOMFIELD: On the contrary. By increasing our humanitarian mine action programs, from what was already the largest figure of any donor in the world to a figure of $70 million worldwide in fiscal years 2005, if the Congress finds favor with the President's proposal. We are clearly signaling the intent to join forces with all of the humanitarian mine action community, American and international, and the UN, according to a strategic plan to get the casualty rate down to zero.

Mine action works. There were 26,000 casualties a year when the crisis peaked in the 1990s. Today we think the figure is closer to 10,000 per year. It proves that these programs are effective. Of course, 10,000 mine action casualties, landmine casualties from persistent mines, is 10,000 too many, and that's the motivating force behind this comprehensive plan to attack the problem.

Sir.

QUESTION: But what seems to be the argument of the opposition is that the -- you're relying on the technological superiority of the U.S. arsenal and that, by doing that, you're sort of saying to the poorer countries of the world that, you know, we can handle landmines because we have sophisticated ones and you can't -- that's the argument being made by former Pentagon spokesman Ken Bacon and others -- and that what you need to do, you know, is to just set a flat line and, not at all, not sort of hide behind the technological superiority of the United States.

What's your answer to that?

ASSISTANT SECRETARY BLOOMFIELD: Well, let me refer back to something my colleague Dr. Collins said, which is that we have had -- we have had military engagements in recent years in this war on terrorism that no one anticipated even four or five years ago. There's an unpredictability in the international security environment.

I can't speak for the other countries that you cited, but it is a fact that the United States has several hundred thousand forces deployed outside our nation in over 100 countries on an annual basis. We have treaty commitments that will exceed 50 when our new NATO partners join.

That is a mark, first of all, of American credibility as a security ally, and I think the President, as Commander-in-Chief, has responsibly drawn a distinction between those landmines which are contributing to the problem -- and he has indicated that America will lead the way among major military powers to be the first to end use of all persistent landmines of any kind, unconditionally, by
a date certain -- and at the same time has taken munitions which have not -- which have been shown not to contribute to that humanitarian crisis and which are appropriate to a major military power with security responsibilities that are probably surpassed by no other nation today, like it or not.

And he has found a formula which we believe advances both the humanitarian and national security equities of the United States.

**MR. BOUCHER:** We're going to finish up. Let's do two more.

**QUESTION:** (Inaudible) the other major (inaudible) countries, including Russia and China? To your knowledge, do they use similar kinds of modern mines? And are you willing to sell that kind of equipment to others as well?

**ASSISTANT SECRETARY BLOOMFIELD:** On the first issue, I'm not going to -- I can't characterize the landmine policies of the countries you cited. Obviously, we're interested in the policies and the activities of major military countries in the world. And it is our hope that our example and our commitment to end all indiscriminate use of persistent landmines of any kind will lead to productive dialogues with all willing countries to see if we can raise consciousness about this problem and influence behavior in a positive way so that this entire humanitarian crisis can be brought to the speediest possible end.

Now, as far as transfer goes, the policy that I have articulated on behalf of the President today is that we will obey the law with respect to anti-personnel landmine transfers and we will seek an international ban on all persistent landmine transfers of all kinds, subject to the conditions that I enumerated.

**MR. BOUCHER:** Last one.

**QUESTION:** Yes. Obviously, persistence is the key criteria here in your new policy. There are other weapons systems that the United States uses, such as cluster bombs that fail to explode, and then they persist and they cause civilian casualties after a conflict ends.

What is this Administration going to do about weapons systems such as that?

**ASSISTANT SECRETARY BLOOMFIELD:** I'm not in a position to address policies other than the landmine policy that I have addressed today. I will merely say, since you've raised this issue, that the anti-personnel and anti-vehicle landmines that we propose to retain in the United States arsenal, and to improve and perfect with the President's directive to seek better technological solutions, stack up extremely favorably among the weapons of war, if you compare to bombs, artillery shells and all other sorts of kinetic fires.

War is a very damaging thing. And by the standards of collateral damage that you're alluding to, I hope it's clear that the United States is retaining weapons which have an exceedingly good record in that regard.

**MR. BOUCHER:** Okay. Thank you very much.

**ASSISTANT SECRETARY BLOOMFIELD:** Thank you.

2004/210

[End]

Released on February 27, 2004

Hendrik Ehlers, CEO
MgM HD & HEC RD

ehlers at mgm dot org
Asa,

That looks to me like a large ball bearing, possibly from a tank turret (we found similar items in Laos - along with BLU-24s, and it doesn’t look like one of those.)

Any dead tanks or heavy machinery nearby?

Tony Fish

Quoting Wolfgang Maschke <wm@mgm.org>:

> Von: Åsa Wessel <asawessel@hotmail.com>
> An: wm@mgm.org
> Betreff: Re: Unidentified Object
> 
> Hi, thanks for the help with my last e-mail. I have a problem getting
> this new one out..... Is the attachment still to big?
> 
> Thanks for all the help with identifying the RPG Type 69. Here is a new
> object also found in Nuba Mountains Sudan. Possible cluster bomb? We
> have found Mk 118 „Rockeye“ in the area but nothing else. It has a
> smooth surface with no lines. Approximate diameter 60 mm. Maybe a BLU
> 24?
> 
> Any ideas?
> 
> Regards,
> 
> Asa Wessel
> 
> EOD Coordinator
> 
> NRMAO
> 
> Sudan
> 
> 
> This mail sent by laopdr webmail (http://www.webmail.laopdr.com)
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: Fwd: Unknown item
Date: Tuesday, December 7, 2004 10:44 AM
From: Roger Hess <rhess@mweb.co.za>
Reply-To: <network1@mgm.org>
To: <network1@mgm.org>

Brian;

Off the cuff; it seems to be a French PD projectile fuze that has been grafted onto an improvised fragmentation sleeve. Were there any other parts handed in with this item?

If you could send a higher resolution photo to me direct, I’ll see if I can get the exact model of the fuze for you.

Cheers

Roger

From: network1@mgm.org [mailto:network1@mgm.org] On Behalf Of Wolfgang Maschke
Sent: Tuesday, December 07, 2004 4:48 PM
To: network1@mgm.org
Subject: MgM Demining Network: Fwd: Unknown item

Von: "BRIAN" <blewis1@mweb.co.za>
An: network1@mgm.org
Betreff: Unknown item

Can anybody please help to identify the following UXO.

It was handed in by a RDC solder in the DRC (Orientale province, Mahagi district, Kpandroma town) with the disarmament process.

I got more photos that I could forward to interested parties.

Thank you
Brian Lewis
Not sure what exactly model wise but looks like a PD projectile fuze and a homemade body or ap frag mine body?

Pete

---

> Von: "BRIAN" <blewis1@mweb.co.za>
> An: network1@mgm.org
> Betreff: Unknown item
> 
> Can anybody please help to identify the following UXO.
> 
> It was handed in by a RDC solder in the DRC (Orientale province, Mahagi district, Kpandroma town) with the disarmament process.
> 
> I got more photos that I could forward to interested parties.
> 
> Thank you
> 
> Brian Lewis
Nope, I never used it for clearance but only what it was built for. "Clearance" was done by a man who lost a leg with Krohn. It broke down because 70 tons was just too much for the engines. 50 would have been fine…. and stranded? Me? Never….

Hendrik

This isn't the "beast" that broke down in the middle of the minefield and had you stranded for some hours until rescue could be implemented ????

Derek
Can anybody please help to identify the following UXO.

It was handed in by a RDC solder in the DRC (Orientale province, Mahagi district, Kpandroma town) with the disarmament process.

I got more photos that I could forward to interested parties.

Thank you

Brian Lewis
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: Next question HINT 2

Date: Tuesday, December 7, 2004 5:13 AM
From: baxandrobyn <baxandrobyn@xtra.co.nz>
Reply-To: <network1@mgm.org>
To: <network1@mgm.org>

Hendrik,

This isn't the "beast" that broke down in the middle of the minefield and had you stranded for some hours until rescue could be implemented ????

Derek Baxter

-----Original Message-----
From: network1@mgm.org [mailto:network1@mgm.org]On Behalf Of Hendrik Ehlers
Sent: Tuesday, 7 December 2004 05:16
To: network1@mgm.org
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: Next question HINT 2

Okay, Hint #2:

This “Tank” never had a canon. It actually never even had a turning turret.

And yes, there are indeed pieces of the entire KMT series.

People say without it it was the fastest tank of its time.

Its starter is used as a backup of fresh air in my car.

Colin, where are you?

Hendrik Ehlers, Director Operations + R&D
Bit of a test for the FFER instructors this one eh? I'll have a go, just to join in the fun.

If we are gonna go with the Soviet slant, it seems to be rather too high to be on tracks, so I assume its a wheeled vehicle. Might even be a BRDM, but wouldn't be strong enough to push three KMT rollers would it?

I reckon it could be a BTR, possibly a BTR-60, or even a BTR 152.

Willie Lawrence
22 Worpleston Way

Glen Lorne

Harare

Residence ++263 (4)499 743

Mobile ++263 (0)91 908 524

From: "HEC" <hec05@mail2.mgm.org> 
Reply-To: <network1@mgm.org> 
To: <network1@mgm.org> 
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: Next question

Excellent, in your case the winning prize would be a free ride in an AC with >a 3 gear speedbox. But, the question was not where it is, nor what it has >put on, but what it is. > >Hint: You can find the pic somewhere else on the net, but the explanation of >the talented amateur, as usual, is wrong.. > > >Let's hear more, distinctive 2 man hatch hey? Excellent. > > >Hendrik > > > > >From: network1@mgm.org [mailto:network1@mgm.org] On Behalf Of >GZahaczews@aol.com >Sent: Friday, December 03, 2004 4:53 PM >To: network1@mgm.org >Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: Next question > > >Hendrik: > > > This looks like the old BTR series (BTR-50) armored personnel carrier fitted >with KMT-5 rollers that you showed me in Xangongo, Angola back in July 2001. >Not sure who you said had operated it at one time - MgM or NPA? So what is >the prize for the correct answer? > > > > >George > > > > >--------

--------------------------------------------------------------------

In a message dated 12/3/2004 7:25:22 AM Eastern Standard Time, <
ehlers@mgm.org writes: >>Who knows what this is? >> >> >> >> Answers only by non-MgM staff. >> >> >> >> Hendrik Ehlers, CEO >> MgM HD & HEC RD >> ehlers at mgm dot org >> >>

This message is sent to you because you are subscribed to

the mailing list <network1@mgm.org>.

To unsubscribe, E-mail to: <network1-off@mgm.org>

To switch to the Digest mode, E-mail to <network1-digest@mgm.org>

Send administrative queries to <network1-request@mgm.org>
Subject: MgM Demining Network: BLU's in Sudan
Date: Tuesday, December 7, 2004 4:15 AM
From: Roger Hess <rhess@mweb.co.za>
Reply-To: <network1@mgm.org>
To: <network1@mgm.org>

Ade;

Glad to see you finally chip in; you’ve been quietly monitoring for far too long when there is plenty of valuable input that you can contribute.

From what I can see from the photo; I agree that a BLU-24/B series would be the first guess with the smooth body; however the diameter given of the item was approximately 60mm, which is 10mm too small. The only cylindrical munitions I can find in my materials of this diameter are the baseball type hand grenades.

I’d be very curious to see a rope trick done to move it around remotely so we could see what the rest of the munition looks like (Asa?).

Cheers

Roger

From: network1@mgm.org [mailto:network1@mgm.org] On Behalf Of Ade Ridoutt
Sent: Tuesday, December 07, 2004 9:44 AM
To: network1@mgm.org
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: Unidentifyed Object

Roger, I have seen this type or very similar on numerous occasions in Kompong Thom Province in North Eastern cambodia and consistent with the BLU 24/66 series both in and out of the CBU containers in cardboard tubes with a spring ejection system. Just as an add on for you guys. Ade
Roger Hess <rhess@mweb.co.za> wrote:

Dear Esa;

It's hard to say what your item is by the photo sent as the copy I get seems to be split; the BLU-24/66 series are about 70mm in diameter will have some type of protrusion or knob sticking out on one side where the shrouded fins would have attached to (also the fuze). If you can send a better photo (direct to me if needed, rather then plug up the net), I'll see what I can do.

Sgt1 A. Spannenburg

Thanks for the link & I don't want to sound snide, but please put a cap on the attitude. FYI: Scot did it that way so a few hundred people downloading via slow, long distance lines don't get their emails plugged up. That is why MgM put a 50-60k restriction on all attachments.

Cheers

Roger

From: network1@mgm.org [mailto:network1@mgm.org] On Behalf Of Wolfgang Maschke
Sent: Monday, December 06, 2004 4:58 PM
To: network1@mgm.org
Subject: MgM Demining Network: Unidentified Object

Von: Esa Wessel <asawessel@hotmail.com>
An: wm@mgm.org
Betreff: Re: Unidentified Object

Hi, thanks for the help with my last e-mail. I have a problem getting this new one out..... Is the attachment still too big?

Thanks for all the help with identifying the RPG Type 69. Here is a new object also found in Nuba Mountains Sudan. Possible cluster bomb? We have found Mk 118 Rockeye in the area but nothing else. It has a smooth surface with no lines. Approximate diameter 60 mm. Maybe a BLU 24?

Any ideas?

Regards,

Asa Wessel
>From: Wolfgang Maschke <wm@mgm.org>
>To: Esa Wessel <asawessel@hotmail.com>
>Subject: Re: Unidentified Object
>Date: Wed, 1 Dec 2004 10:59:41 +0100
>
>Hella Esa,
>
>I see your mailo came through now. There is a maximum size of
>attachments allowed of 30 KB, yours are 300 KB. If it's possible for
>you please downsize your pictures to the allowed size and send your
>email again. If you can't I can do it for you.
>
>regards
>
>Wolfgang Maschke
>
>MgM
>Stiftung Menschen gegen Minen e.V.
>Humanitarian Demining NGO
>
>media department
>online publishing www.mgm.org
>
>geisberg 9b
>D-97234 reichenberg
>germany
>tel.: 0931 66 32 16
>fax.: 0931 66 20 74
>

Please visit our website www.mgm.org for more information regarding our humanitarian work and the current state of our demining operations.

Am 01.12.2004 um 06:54 schrieb Esa Wessel:

>>This Object was found in Nuba Mountains located in the central part of Sudan.
>>It has a cylindrical shape and is painted in a green colour.
>>Diameter and height approximately 7 4 10 cm. Under the metal casing it contains a large amount of fragmentations.
>>Other objects found in the area: RPG 7, 82 mm Mortar bombs.
>>Mines: TM 57, Type 72, ATM 72, No 4 and POMZ.
>>

>>I really appreciate all suggestions and ideas,

>>Regards Asa

>>Bottom with an attachmnet.JPG><Lid on the side.JPG><PICT0036.JPG><Unitentifyed Object.jpg>

---

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Send administrative queries to

QAsia Company Ltd.
#6a, Street 294,
Phnom Penh, Cambodia.
Tel/Fax: +855 (0)23-221-581
Mobile: +855 (0)12-456-112
Roger, I have seen this type or very similar on numerous occasions in Kompong Thom Province in North Eastern cambodia and consistent with the BLU 24/66 series both in and out of the CBU containers in cardboards tubes with a spring ejection system. Just as an add on for you guys. Ade

Roger Hess <rhess@mweb.co.za> wrote:
Okay, Hint #2:

This “Tank” never had a canon. It actually never even had a turning turret. And yes, there are indeed pieces of the entire KMT series. People say without it it was the fastest tank of its time. Its starter is used as a backup of fresh air in my car. Colin, where are you?

**Hendrik Ehlers, Director** Operations + R&D  
MgM Foundation - Humanitarian LandmineClearance  
HEC Foundation - Humanitarian Engineering & Consulting  
website: [www.mgm.org](http://www.mgm.org) - email: he@mgm.org  
mobile: +264 81 1277020 - fax: +264 61 243477

---

**From:** network1@mgm.org [mailto:network1@mgm.org]  
**On Behalf Of** William Lawrence  
**Sent:** Monday, December 06, 2004 4:58 PM  
**To:** network1@mgm.org  
**Subject:** Re: MgM Demining Network: MgM Demining Network: Next question2

Bit of a test for the FFER instructors this one eh? I'll have a go, just to join in the fun.

If we are gonna go with the Soviet slant, it seems to be rather too high to be on tracks, so I assume its a wheeled vehicle. Might even be a BRDM, but wouldn't be strong enough to push three KMT rollers would it?

I reckon it could be a BTR, possibly a BTR-60, or even a BTR 152.
Willie Lawrence
22 Worpleston Way
Glen Lorne
Harare
Residence ++263 (4)499 743
Mobile ++263 (0)91 908 524

>From: "HEC" <hec05@mail2.mgm.org>
>Reply-To: <network1@mgm.org> >To: <network1@mgm.org> >
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: Next question2 >Date: Fri, 03 Dec 2004 16:26:35 +0100 >

George, > > > >Excellent, in your case the winning prize would be a free ride in an AC with >a 3 gear speedbox. But, the question was not where it is, nor what it has >put on, but what it is. > >Hint: You can find the pic somewhere else on the net, but the explanation of >the talented amateur, as usual, is wrong.. > > > >Let's hear more, distinctive 2 man hatch hey? Excellent. > > > >Hendrik > > > > _____ > >From: network1@mgm.org [mailto:network1@mgm.org] >
On Behalf Of >GZahaczews@aol.com >Sent: Friday, December 03, 2004 4:53 PM >To: network1@mgm.org >Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: Next question > > > >Hendrik: > > > >This looks like the old BTR series (BTR-50) armored personnel carrier fitted >with KMT-5 rollers that you showed me in Xangongo, Angola back in July 2001. > Not sure who you said had operated it at one time - MgM or NPA? So what is >the prize for the correct answer? > > > >George > > > >-----
---

---

In a message dated 12/3/2004 7:35:22 AM Eastern Standard Time, >ehlers@mgm.org writes: > >Who knows what this is? > > > > > > > > > >Answers only by non-MgM staff. > > > >Hendrik Ehlers, CEO > >MgM HD & HEC RD > >ehlers at mgm dot org > >>

#####################################################

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Send administrative queries to <network1-request@mgm.org>
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: Unidentified Object
Date: Monday, December 6, 2004 11:16 AM
From: Roger Hess <rhess@mweb.co.za>
Reply-To: <network1@mgm.org>
To: <network1@mgm.org>

Dear Åsa;

It’s hard to say what your item is by the photo sent as the copy I get seems to be split; the BLU-24/66 series are about 70mm in diameter will have some type of protrusion or knob sticking out on one side where the shrouded fins would have attached to (also the fuze). If you can send a better photo (direct to me if needed, rather then plug up the net), I’ll see what I can do.

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Cheers

Roger

From: network1@mgm.org [mailto:network1@mgm.org] On Behalf Of Wolfgang Maschke
Sent: Monday, December 06, 2004 4:58 PM
To: network1@mgm.org
Subject: MgM Demining Network: Unidentified Object

Von: Åsa Wessel <asawessel@hotmail.com>
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Any ideas?

Regards,

Asa Wessel
Hella Åsa,

I see your mailo came through now. There is a maximum size of attachments allowed of 30 KB, yours are 300 KB. If it's possible for you please downsize your pictures to the allowed size and send your email again. If you can't I can do it for you.

regards

Wolfgang Maschke
MgM
Stiftung Menschen gegen Minen e.V.
Humanitarian Demining NGO
media department
online publishing www.mgm.org
geisberg 9b
D-97234 reichenberg
germany
tel.: 0931 66 32 16
fax.: 0931 66 20 74
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It's a BLU 24 we sent the info to her and other file photos yesterday.

Pete

> Von: Åsa Wessel <asawessel@hotmail.com>
> An: wm@mgm.org
> Betreff: Re: Unidentified Object
> 
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> 
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> 
> Asa Wessel
> 
> EOD Coordinator
> 
> NRMAO
> 
> Sudan
> 
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> >To: Åsa Wessel <asawessel@hotmail.com>
> >Subject: Re: Unidentified Object
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> >
> >Hella Åsa,
> >
> >I see your mailo came through now. There is a maximum size of
> >attachments allowed of 30 KB, yours are 300 KB. If it’s possible for
> >you please downsize your pictures to the allowed size and send your
> >email again. If you can’t I can do it for you.
> >
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Since I haven’t got a problem sharing information, which is already available on the internet, here’s a link to a site giving you the so called “FALLUJAH Story”.

http://littlegreenfootballs.com/weblog/lgf-fallujah-slideshow.php?imgIndex=1&autoShow=off

I thought we all were into giving each other information so we can ALL use it for our work and a better world.

And not just for our so called “friends”.

With Kind regards,

Sgt1 A. Spannenburg
Hi hendrik,
could be easy for me to answer but it wouldn’t be fair would it.
See your still up and running as well or even better as ever.
Thanks for your hospitality back in ’97 after my accident with the Wolf in Mongua.
It was quite a reasonable machine and enjoyed driving it myself
Bob Veldkamp

"HEC" <hec05@mail2.mgm.org> schrieb:
> George,
> 
> > Excellent, in your case the winning prize would be a free ride in an AC with
> > a 3 gear speedbox. But, the question was not where it is, nor what it has
> > put on, but what it is.
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> > 
> > Hendrik
> 
> > _____
> > 
> > From: network1@mgm.org [mailto:network1@mgm.org] On Behalf Of
> > GZahaczews@aol.com
> > Sent: Friday, December 03, 2004 4:53 PM
> > To: network1@mgm.org
> > Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: Next question
> > 
> > Hendrik:
> > 
> > This looks like the old BTR series (BTR-50) armored personnel carrier fitted
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ehlers at mgm dot org

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22 Worpleston Way
Glen Lorne
Harare
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Mobile ++263 (0)91 908 524 >From: "HEC" <hec05@mail2.mgm.org> >Reply-To: <network1@mgm.org> >To: <network1@mgm.org> >Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: Next question2 >Date: Fri, 03 Dec 2004 16:26:35 +0100 >George, >Excellent, in your case the winning prize would be a free ride in an AC with >a 3 gear speedbox. But, the question was not where it is, nor what it has >put on, but what it is. >Hint: You can find the pic somewhere else on the net, but the explanation of >the talented amateur, as usual, is wrong.. > >Let's hear more, distinctive 2 man hatch hey? Excellent. > >Hendrik > > > _____ > >From: network1@mgm.org [mailto:network1@mgm.org] On Behalf Of >HZahaczews@aol.com >Sent: Friday, December 03, 2004 4:53 PM >To: network1@mgm.org >Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: Next question > > >This looks like the old BTR series (BTR-50) armored personnel carrier fitted >with KMT-5 rollers that you showed me in Xangongo, Angola back in July 2001. >Not sure who you said had operated it at one time - MgM or NPA? So what is >the prize for the correct answer? > >George > > > It looks like an old BTR series (BTR-50) armored personnel carrier fitted with KMT-5 rollers that you showed me in Xangongo, Angola back in July 2001. Not sure who you said had operated it at one time - MgM or NPA? So what is the prize for the correct answer? -- Ehlers
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EOD Coordinator
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Wolfgang Maschke

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fax.: 0931 66 20 74

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Hint: You can find the pic somewhere else on the net, but the explanation of the talented amateur, as usual, is wrong....

Let’s hear more, distinctive 2 man hatch hey? Excellent.

Hendrik

From: network1@mgm.org [mailto:network1@mgm.org] On Behalf Of GZahaczews@aol.com
Sent: Friday, December 03, 2004 4:53 PM
To: network1@mgm.org
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: Next question

Hendrik:

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George
In a message dated 12/3/2004 7:35:22 AM Eastern Standard Time, ehlers@mgm.org writes:

Who knows what this is?

Answers only by non-MgM staff.

Hendrik Ehlers, CEO

MgM HD & HEC RD

ehlers at mgm dot org
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: Next question
Date: Friday, December 3, 2004 9:53 AM
From: GZahaczews@aol.com
Reply-To: <network1@mgm.org>
To: <network1@mgm.org>

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---------------------------------------------------------------------
-------------
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   Who knows what this is?

Answers only by non-MgM staff.
Hendrik Ehlers, CEO

MgM HD & HEC RD

ehlers at mgm dot org
The rollers are the KMT-5 system used by the former USSR, designed to defeat double impulse AT mines.

Gonz

-----Original Message-----
From: network1@mgm.org [mailto:network1@mgm.org] On Behalf Of phindy@webhart.net
Sent: 03 December 2004 13:05
To: network1@mgm.org
Subject: Spam:Re: MgM Demining Network: Next question

KMT series Mine roller?

Pete
Sudan
Someone's home-made mine-clearing vehicle cobbled up from a PT-76 Amphibious Light Tank with 76mm main gun removed and mantlet plated over. Distinctive "two man" turret hatch is the giveaway.


Looks like three (?) sets of KTM mine rollers on the front.

Sideskirts appear to be field expedient corrugated metal. Whitewash coloring would indicate possible UN use?
It looks like a rebuilt soviet T-55 ment for mechanical mine clearance.
My wild guess would be that it is collecting dust somewhere in southern Angola (close to Ondjiva) formerly used by Capanamoor.

Are Hauger
NPA

Who knows what this is?
Answers only by non-MgM staff.

Hendrik Ehlers, CEO

MgM HD & HEC RD

ehlers at mgm dot org
KMT series Mine roller?

Pete

Sudan
Who knows what this is?

Answers only by non-MgM staff.

Hendrik  Ehlers, CEO

MgM HD & HEC RD

ehlers at mgm dot org
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: Unidentified object Sudan
Date: Thursday, December 2, 2004 9:41 AM
From: NPA@hydro.com
Reply-To: <network1@mgm.org>
To: <network1@mgm.org>

Colleagues,

The item shown and described is the body from an Chinese RPG grenade model Type 69 "Bounding Airburst".
Good luck.

Best regards
Chris Olausson
Technical Advisor
NPA/ Iran
E-mail: NPA@hydro.com
Phone: 0098 9121 7955 17
Thuraya sat. phone: 0088 2165 2000 081

**********************************************************************
NOTICE: This e-mail transmission, and any documents, files or previous e-mail messages attached to it, may contain confidential or privileged information. If you are not the intended recipient, or a person responsible for delivering it to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any disclosure, copying, distribution or use of any of the information contained in or attached to this message is STRICTLY PROHIBITED. If you have received this transmission in error, please immediately notify the sender and delete the e-mail and attached documents. Thank you.
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Tony; Ken, & Are;

The three of you share the "Stud of the month" award for ID'ing that one.

I've handled the complete round in Iraq last year, which was also the first
time I'd seen one of those. I seem to recall that it was either Tony or
Colin who guided me towards to correct ID for it.

Åsa: FYI; Attached is a cut-down from one of Colin's photos and also a
cut-down from a cache I found in Baghdad.

Since this seems to be a common item but none of us seem have any good ID
data on this configuration (aside from Ken, Tony, and Are's brains); if you
can email me a good side copy with an X/Y measurement; I'd be happy to do a
CAD line drawing of this and distribute it around as a jpg file for future
reference.

I believe Col V is working on an update Ordata; so these are the types of
things we need to add.

Cheers

Roger
warhead on exit.

Part of the base fuze has broken off the example you have in the picture.

I don't have any more technical info to hand here, but I'm sure you'll find a picture of the complete item (and a small amount of info.) on Orddata 2. Look up Chinese rockets and/or the general search on RPG-7 shaped items. I seem to remember there's also a picture of it in Colin's fine work "Janes Explosive Ordnance Disposal".

Hope this is of some help

Tony Fish

----------------------------------------------------------------
This mail sent by laopdr webmail (http://www.webmail.laopdr.com)

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To switch to the Digest mode, E-mail to <network1-digest@mgm.org>
Send administrative queries to <network1-request@mgm.org>
Hi all,

Ken is undoubtedly correct. We found lots of these in Sri Lanka and called them DZG-1s (because that is the designation painted on the side of them). Sorry for my previous mis-ident.

Sean

Ken O'Connell <ken-bluesky@mgm.org> wrote:

Hi,

Pict 003 looks like the inside of an Chinese Rocket 75 mm apers bounding type 69, after checking the IRAQ Ordnance Identification Guide. I am sure there was a Russian version designated the RPG 40.

Regards,
--
Ken O'Connell,
Programme Director,
MgM Angola.

On 1/12/04 20:45, "Wolfgang Maschke" wrote:

> on behalf of Åsa Wessel.
> 
> Wolfgang Maschke
> 
> MgM
> Stiftung Menschen gegen Minen e.V.
> Humanitarian Demining NGO
> 
> media department
> online publishing www.mgm.org
> 
> Anfang der weitergeleiteten E-Mail:
> 
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Send administrative queries to
Win a castle <http://uk.rd.yahoo.com/eve=28672/*http://www.yahoo.co.uk/popularity> for NYE with your mates and Yahoo! Messenger
Hi All
I agree with Ken O'Connell,
This is the bounding fragmentation element of a APERS rocket used with the RPG launcher.
Found loads of these on the Iran-Iraq border.

Are Hauger
Middle East Desk
NPA

---Opprinnelig melding---
Fra: network1@mgm.org [mailto:network1@mgm.org]På vegne av Ken O'Connell
Sendt: 2. desember 2004 10:23
Til: network1@mgm.org
Emne: Re: MgM Demining Network: Unidentifyed Object

Hi,

Pict 003 looks like the inside of a Chinese Rocket 75 mm apers bounding type 69, after checking the IRAQ Ordnance Identification Guide. I am sure there was a Russian version designated the RPG 40.

Regards,
--
Ken O'Connell,
Programme Director,
MgM Angola.

On 1/12/04 20:45, "Wolfgang Maschke" <wm@mgm.org> wrote:

> on behalf of Åsa Wessel.
> W
> Wolfgang Maschke
> MgM
> Stiftung Menschen gegen Minen e.V.
> Humanitarian Demining NGO
> media department
> online publishing www.mgm.org
> Anfang der weitergeleiteten E-Mail:
> >> Von: Åsa Wessel <asawessel@hotmail.com>
> >> Datum: 1. Dezember 2004 06:54:57 MEZ
> >> An: network1@mgm.org
> >> Betreff: Unidentifyed Object
> >>
> >> This Object was found in Nuba Mountains located in the central part of
> >> Sudan.
It has a cylindrical shape and is painted in a green colour. Diameter and height approximately 7´ 10 cm. Under the metal casing it contains a large amount of fragmentations.

Other objects found in the area: RPG 7, 82 mm Mortar bombs. Mines: TM 57, Type 72, ATM 72, No 4 and POMZ.

I really appreciate all suggestions and ideas,

Regards Asa

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I believe you have there the bounding grenade from a Chinese 'type 69' rocket. I don’t know the correct technical name, but it’s probably something involving '40/80 fragmentation rocket'.

This is similar in most respects to an RPG-7 rocket aside from the warhead, which is parallel sided and carries the grenade.

We found a lot of these in Iran, Iraq and here in Sri Lanka.

The rocket is fitted with a 'spade' (looks like a spoiler or Berdan ring) behind the (low explosive) nose fuze, which stops it from burying itself in the ground and tilts it to the right attitude to launch the grenade. In a similar fashion to the Type 69 mine, a short burning fuze allows the grenade to get to the appropriate height before detonating.

The grenade is filled with HE (most likely TNT) covered with a shot matrix (the ball bearings) encased in resin. I believe the silver disc strengthens the grenade body, which allows it to to break the crimp on the back of the warhead on exit.

Part of the base fuze has broken off the example you have in the picture.

I don’t have any more technical info to hand here, but I’m sure you’ll find a picture of the complete item (and a small amount of info.) on Ordda 2. Look up Chinese rockets and/or the general search on RPG-7 shaped items. I seem to remember there’s a also picture of it in Colin’s fine work "Janes Explosive Ordnance Disposal".

Hope this is of some help

Tony Fish
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Regards,
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Programme Director,
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Wolfgang,

I once found something very similar in Afghanistan and it turned out to be a Valmara 69 without the outer casing and fuse. It had been turned upside down, had det cord stuffed down the center and then fitted with a MUV fuse. I suspect that you are looking at something similar here.

I hope this helps,

Sean

Win a castle  for NYE with your mates and Yahoo! Messenger
Hey Wolf

I will pass this on tomorrow to our EOD Ops here in Umm Serdiba. I haven't seen any of these around here but it looks to me like a locally made or production Mine but I don't know from where yet made to accept an MUV type fuze possibly? What is the thread diameter for the fuze well? ...if we get any thing on it from our sources here ill bring it to her location tomorrow. Does she have better pictures in her location?

Regards,

Pete

---

> on behalf of Åsa Wessel.
> Wolfgang Maschke
> MgM
> Stiftung Menschen gegen Minen e.V.
> Humanitarian Demining NGO
> media department
> online publishing www.mgm.org
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Subject: MgM Demining Network: Unidentified Object

Date: Wednesday, December 1, 2004 2:45 PM
From: Wolfgang Maschke <wm@mgm.org>
Reply-To: <network1@mgm.org>
To: <network1@mgm.org>

on behalf of Åsa Wessel.

Wolfgang Maschke

MgM
Stiftung Menschen gegen Minen e.V.
Humanitarian Demining NGO

media department
online publishing www.mgm.org

Anfang der weitergeleiteten E-Mail:

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Datum: 1. Dezember 2004 06:54:57 MEZ
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Send administrative queries to <network1-request@mgm.org>
Subject: MgM Demining Network: Magnetic Hand tool
Date: Wednesday, December 1, 2004 4:01 AM
From: Richard Smith <Richard@rcauk.fsnet.co.uk>
Reply-To: <network1@mgm.org>
To: <network1@mgm.org>

Dear All,

Some months ago some students took the idea of a magnetic hand tool for HD use and did some design work.

The spec was:
1. A Hand tool with powerfull magnetic head. (neodinium magnets were used in the prototype)

2. The ability to turn on/off. This was for:
   1. storage in a tool box with other metal tools without magnetising everything
   2. To allow object to be cleaned off the magnetic without having to pull them off with your hands.

3. Polycarbonate construction (with the exception of the magnets)
   The storage cover needs to be mild steel but had to store in a safe position (or be removed) away from the magnetic head in case of explosion.

The kids came up with (in my opinion) a very nice design and went on with another project to win a regional engineering design compitition for developing concept ideas into more practical designs.

It would be nice if the students involved got some real world feedback on their design.

Regards

Richard Smith
richard@rcauk.com
www.moonbuggy.com
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Guys

Please contact me direct for these docs, not here on the net.

cheers

s

Scott D Smith
Technical Director
HEC

Humanitarian
Engineering and
Consulting

Website: www.hectec.cc
<http://www.hectec.cc/> eMail: scott@hectec.cc
Phone (Namibia): +264 81 128 7805

PO Box 24394, Windhoek, Namibia, Africa 9000
engineering for necessity, elegance in simplicity
 Dear Scott,

I also would like to read "Telling the Fallujah Story to the World". Would it be great if you can forward it to me.

Thanks a lot!

Greetings
Klaas

-----------
Check out: www.telephonefm.com

-----------
S T R E A M M I N I S T E R

Klaas Glenewinkel
Schoenhauser Allee 36
10435 Berlin
t++49+30 447 35 425
f++49+30 446 53 872
mailto: klaas@streamminister.de
web:www.streamminister.de

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Scott D Smith wrote:

Friends

I found a very interesting document today.

This is a PowerPoint which I have also made a PDF
Telling the Fallujah Story to the World (Third cut)
IMEF & MNC-I EFFECTS Exploitation Team 20 Nov 2004
sample attached.

contact me for full doc. too large to post here.
PPT and PDF are about 2.5 meg each.
please specify what u want.

*give me an email address that can take it!!!*

If I don't know you, you don't get it!

s

**Scott D Smith**
Technical Director
**HEC**

Humanitarian
Engineering and
Consulting

Website:  [www.hectec.cc](http://www.hectec.cc)  eMail:  [scott@hsectec.cc](mailto:scott@hsectec.cc)
Phone (Namibia):  +264 81 128 7805

PO Box 24394, Windhoek, Namibia, Africa 9000
*engineering for necessity, elegance in simplicity*
Scott:

Please send me both of the files. We are a UXO/EOD Company in US and do WMD and Bomb Threat Training also. I am a retired US Army EOD Senior Supervisor (E-80 with 15 years UXO added. Check us out at the NAOC web site at www.naoc.org <http://www.naoc.org> . Thanks in advance.

Regards:

Robert T. Fay Sr.
Senior Vice President
Chief Operating Officer
ISSI Unexploded Ordnance, Inc.
Post Office Box 11,
Huntsville, AL 35804-0011
Voice 256-247-7050
Fax 256-247-7030
Cell 256-349-0831
Web Site: www.issiuxo.co <http://www.issiuxo.com> m

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Send administrative queries to <network1-request@mgm.org> <
mailto:network1-request@mgm.org>
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: BBC E-mail: New plea for global landmine ban
Date: Wednesday, December 1, 2004 4:01 AM
From: Robert Sherman <shermaro@comcast.net>
Reply-To: <network1@mgm.org>
To: <network1@mgm.org>

I guess the Kenyan President, who no doubt is a very fine fellow, doesn't realize that neither his country nor any other country has signed up to a global landmine ban.

Bob S,

-----Original Message-----
From: network1@mgm.org [mailto:network1@mgm.org] On Behalf Of Hendrik Ehlers
Sent: Tuesday, November 30, 2004 2:44 AM
To: network1@mgm.org
Subject: MgM Demining Network: BBC E-mail: New plea for global landmine ban

Hendrik Ehlers saw this story on BBC News Online and thought you should see it.

** New plea for global landmine ban **
Kenyan President Mwai Kibaki opens a landmine conference with an appeal for more countries to sign up to a ban.
< http://news.bbc.co.uk/go/em/fr/-/1/hi/world/africa/4049113.stm >

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Launch of the ICBL Landmine Monitor
2004 Report and the Somalia Coalition
to Ban Landmines

Hargeisa, Somaliland

The Landmine Monitor Report 2004 and the Somalia Coalition to Ban Landmines were launched on the evening of 20 November 2004 in Hargeisa, Somaliland with the excellent organization of the event by Dr. Ahmed Esa, Institute for Practical and Research Training (IPRT), and his team and Mr. Pascal Bangard of Geneva Call, as part of IPRT,s 3rd Reconstruction Strategies Conference (18-22 November). For the two days prior to the launch, ten Somali organizations met to discuss and agree on forming a Somalia Coalition to Ban Landmines (SCOBAL). The founding charter was drafted and signed on 20 November by 9 founding members. The Somalia Coalition to Ban Landmines will eventually include 15 ^ 20 civil society organizations. The meeting was held in Hargeisa, Somaliland, which is already the seat of the Somaliland Coalition Against Landmines (SCAL), so that the new coalition can learn from SCAL,s experience.

The timing of the ICBL,s launch of its sixth edition of the Landmine Monitor Report in Somaliland was significant, as it took place just one week before the opening of the ever-important „Nairobi Summit on a Mine-Free World‰ to be held from 29 November to 3 December 2004. At the AP Mine Ban Convention,s first Review Conference, world leaders will come together in Kenya to review the progress of the first five years since the Anti-Personnel (AP) Mine Ban Convention entered into force on 1 March 1999 and, most importantly, to declare their political will and resource commitments to finish the job of achieving a world free of anti-personnel mines, by adopting a high level Declaration and Action Plan for the coming five years.

The Landmine Monitor launch event began with Dr. Ahmed Esa, IPRT, introducing the purpose of the event and presenting the key global findings of the LM Report 2004, with detailed reports on the Somaliland and Somalia chapters. This was followed by an intervention by Pascal Bangard explaining the work of the Geneva Call in the region. A moving poetry reading by Somaliland,s award-winning poet, Mr. Abdi Adan Qays, followed in which he spoke passionately against the use of anti-personnel mines by saying that „the mines you plant, this death beneath the ground, may end up being the ones that members of your family then step on because their location is not known‰.
As it is the first time that ICBL has visited Somaliland and the background of the mine ban movement is not well known there, the ICBL’s representative, Susan B. Walker, then presented a short history of the anti-personnel mine ban movement focusing on the humanitarian imperative, the importance of the partnership between governments and civil society in addressing this global humanitarian crisis, the progress made during the past five years and the significance of the upcoming Nairobi Summit, in addition to summarizing the key findings of the Landmine Monitor Report 2004. She also stated that it is hoped that Ethiopia will deposit its instrument of ratification of the Convention in time to be announced at the Nairobi Summit, which would mean that all of sub-Saharan Africa would then be States Parties, with the exception of Somalia and Somaliland, which cannot join as their governments are not yet recognized.

The final speech was given by H.E., the Vice-President of the Republic of Somaliland, Ahmed Yusuf Yasin, who is also the head of the Mine Action Authority in Somaliland. He opened with a passionate statement in Somali about the dangers of anti-personnel mines and the death they cause. He then continued his official speech in English beginning with, “The Somaliland Government on its commitment to solve the landmine problem has approved a National Policy on Mine Action, which is the in the process of being approved by the House of Representatives. The Somaliland Government agreed to sign the Geneva Call ÒDeed of Commitment, as a means to monitor our already Declared Unilateral Compliance with the Ottawa Convention.” He continued by stating, “Somaliland has been peaceful for more than a decade now and a robust mine clearance program has been going on since 1998. The Somaliland Government, to its capability, has allocated a portion of its revenue for mine action. We have established a functioning mine action coordination body (SMAC) Unfortunately, despite our efforts, the international community has decreased funding assistance in solving the Somaliland mine problem. International community funding for Somaliland Mine Action has decreased nearly 60% since 2001. We cannot solve our mine problem without assistance from the International Community.”

The speeches were followed by a lively dance performance by four young Somali men and women, who sang about the hopeful future for Somaliland, now that peace has arrived in their homeland. The Landmine Monitor 2004 launch was attended by the Vice-President, the Minister of State for Health, dignitaries, traditional elders, women’s groups, university students, local and international NGOs (HALO, Danish Demining Group, Handicap International), media and a consultant to the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The national television of Somaliland aired a long report on the launch on the 2200H news, with footage of the Vice-President’s speech, Ahmed’s presentation of the LM 2004 findings and ICBL’s discussion with the Vice-President, regarding the global Landmine Monitor launch in Mozambique, as a long article on the Maputo launch had been published in the Somaliland Times that same day.
Translated copies of LM 2004 Somalia and Somaliland chapters were also distributed.

Anti-personnel mines are the cause of a global humanitarian crisis, including in Somaliland, with severe health, human rights, environmental, rehabilitation and socio-economic consequences in many of the poorest, war-torn or post-conflict countries in the world. These are also countries least able to deal with such a burden on their infrastructure. Just five years ago, following years of conflict, Hargeisa was a destroyed city with no roofs on the houses and every house was mined. At that time, there were two landmine incidents reported per day in Hargeisa City alone, which has thankfully decreased to an annual rate of approximately 100 per year throughout Somaliland, as reported in Landmine Monitor 2004.

The global launch of the LM Report in Mozambique, Somaliland and elsewhere in Africa, were of great importance, as they took place on the most mine-affected continent in the world. Among Africa’s more than 50 nations, some 28 countries plus two territories are mine-affected with a total population of more than 490 million people. In Africa alone, some 1,067 new mine casualties were reported in 2003, not counting the high number of unregistered mine incidents. According to ICBL’s Landmine Monitor Report 2004, globally 83 countries are mine-affected, including 52 States Parties to the Mine Ban Treaty.

ICBL’s representative closed by saying, „Continued success in the full implementation of the Convention will not only resolve this global humanitarian crisis, but will also underline the utmost importance of the Rule of Law and International Humanitarian Law. Collectively we have made history. Collectively we will work to ensure that place in history, by translating those unequivocal words on paper into life-saving reality on the ground. For the sake of the millions living in mined communities and the tens of thousands of new mine victims each year, we must and we will succeed in securing a world where children and adults can „walk, play and live without fear‰ that their next step may be their last.%

The day after the launch, the ICBL representative met with the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Somaliland, Dr. Edna Adan Ismail at her office at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in the morning. In her office, which was once a Security Office and a cell, she said, „I fight for life in that which was built to destroy human dignity and spirit, if not life.% In the afternoon, the ICBL representative met with the Minister of Foreign Affairs at the Edna Adan Maternity Hospital, which she has built through donations to help the women of her country, though no patients are turned away and a special ward has been set up for male and non-maternity patients. Since the hospital opened in 2002, they have even had 3 UXO injured young male patients, of which one of them died after they were injured playing with UXOs found in the city. One of the young boys who survived still comes to visit the staff at the hospital
testing Dr. Edna to see if she remembers him!

The Minister of Foreign Affairs reiterated Somaliland’s intention to join the Convention, as soon as the government is recognized. As an interim step, they have agreed to sign the Geneva Call’s Deed of Commitment and the signing ceremony will likely take place in Geneva in mid-December. The Vice-President and the Minister of Foreign Affairs will represent Somaliland at the signing.

The launch of the newest ICBL national campaign, the Somalia Coalition to Ban Landmines (SOCBAL), will be extremely important as Somalia is heavily mined and landmines are used in some parts by armed factions. No mine action has taken place in Somalia since 1993 and the new organization is expected to raise awareness both locally and internationally.

Speech By Susan B. Walker, ICBL Intercessional Programme Officer
"It is a sincere honor and pleasure to be here in Hargeisa and a privilege for me to assist in the launches of the Landmine Monitor Report 2004 and the Somalia Coalition to Ban Landmines with my good friend and colleague, Dr. Ahmed Esa, Institute for Practical and Research Training (IPRT), and Mr. Pascal Bangard of the Geneva Call. Thank you to IPRT for delaying the launch by 24 hours so I could arrive from Mozambique. It is timely and appropriate for the ICBL to launch its sixth edition of Landmine Monitor in Somaliland, just one week before the opening of the ever-important "Nairobi Summit on a Mine-Free World%" which will be held from 29 November to 3 December 2004. Next week world leaders will come together in Kenya to review the progress of the first five years since the Anti-Personnel (AP) Mine Ban Convention entered into force on 1 March 1999 and, most importantly, to declare their political will and resource commitments to finish the job of achieving a world free of anti-personnel mines, by adopting a high level Declaration and Action Plan for the coming five years.

Anti-personnel mines are the cause of a global humanitarian crisis, as you know only too well in Somaliland, with severe health, human rights, environmental, rehabilitation and socio-economic consequences in many of the poorest, war-torn or post-conflict countries in the world. These are also countries least able to deal with such a burden on their infrastructure. The devastating effect of antipersonnel mines, on anyone who steps on them, changes lives forever if one survives the blast. Children are even more vulnerable, as they are usually ripped apart and killed by them due to their small size, rather than disabled. These are some of the reasons that the work of the new Somalia Coalition to Ban Landmines is needed and will be important in raising awareness of the landmines problem and stigmatizing the use of this inhumane and indiscriminate weapon of terror.

The International Campaign to Ban Landmines (ICBL) is a coalition of 1400 NGOs in
90 countries that, through its advocacy activities, promotes the implementation of the 1997 Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production, and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and On Their Destruction. As Dr. Esa mentioned, the ICBL was honored to receive the Nobel Peace Prize in 1997. In the words of the Nobel Committee,s citation, „The ICBL and Jody Williams started a process which in the space of a few years changed a ban on anti-personnel mines from a vision to a feasible reality. ∑With the governments of several small and mid-sized countries taking the issue up and taking steps to deal with it, this work has grown into a convincing example of an effective policy for peace.‰ The real Prize for the ICBL will always remain the Convention, „without exceptions, without reservations and without loopholes‰.

At this time when there is a great deal of pessimism surrounding multilateral affairs world-wide, the AP Mine Ban Treaty serves as a beacon of hope that citizens and their governments, working in partnership, can make a difference. Anti-personnel mines continue to maim and kill for decades after wars have ended, but the international community has made great strides during the past 5 years to address this crisis, as outlined in this year,s Landmine Monitor Report 2004.

The Landmine Monitor Report is an unprecedented initiative of civil society to publish an annual report monitoring the implementation of the Convention banning anti-personnel mines and mine action activities in all countries worldwide and is widely recognized as the global reference on the situation of anti-personnel mines in the world. The global reporting network of Landmine Monitor includes 110 researchers in 93 countries. This year,s Landmine Monitor Report (available online on the ICBL website: http://www.icbl.org/lm) is a special five-year review, which was globally launched simultaneously on 17 November in three different locations, each with a thematic focus: in Brussels on the status of the Convention, in Cambodia on mine victim assistance and in Maputo on mine action. Launches in 24 other countries will follow in the coming days, including here in Somaliland tonight.

Extraordinary global progress in the war against anti-personnel mines has been made during the past five years, as documented in this year,s Landmine Monitor Report 2004, which confirms that the international norm established by the Convention is rapidly taking firm hold around the world. This progress includes: 143 States Parties and 9 Signatories or 80% of the world; a significant decrease in the use of anti-personnel mines by States [4 governments since May 2003 ^ Georgia, Myanmar (Burma), Nepal and Russia - compared to 15 in 1999] and armed non-state actors; a de facto ban on transfers; a dramatic decrease in production; and destruction of more than 37 million stockpiled mines by States Parties. Landmine Monitor has also identified about US$2.07 billion in donor mine action contributions from 1992-2003.

Most importantly, there has been a decline in the number of new victims each year.
However, the total number of landmine survivors requiring a lifetime of care, rehabilitation and assistance for social and economic reintegration still increases by 15,000 ^ 20,000 persons each year, with new victims being reported in 65 countries during the Landmine Monitor 2004 reporting period.

Speaking personally, my commitment to the AP mine ban movement is because of fifteen years of working in Southeast Asia with refugees, villagers and disabled persons, including literally tens of thousands of mine victims. I have experienced the horror of a 34 year old Cambodian man being killed by an AP mine 400 meters from me, leaving behind a wife and 3 small children and have carried a nineteen year old Cambodian boy to the hospital 2 hours after he was blown up by an AP mine. I have also had the joy of talking with one of our patients happily working in his radio repair shop, who thanked us for „giving him back his life‰. WHY? Because Handicap International,s Social and Economic Reintegration Programme had provided him with the opportunity to establish a livelihood. He was able to marry and have two children, which he said would never have happened otherwise. It is because of experiences like this that many of us are involved in this process, for the AP Mine Ban Convention was borne out of the utter and massive devastation caused by anti-personnel mines and the more than compelling humanitarian imperative to address this crisis. Those of you here tonight know this only too well, which is why ensuring that this Convention is fully implemented must remain high on each of our agendas and indeed on that of the international community. The Convention, indeed, provides a „Framework for a MineFree World‰ with a comprehensive ban on anti-personnel mines and obligations for all States Parties to destroy their stockpiles of antipersonnel mines within four years and clear mined areas within 10 years. While there is no extension allowed for stockpile destruction, there is a possibility for severely mine-affected countries to request an extension for clearance of mined areas. There is also an obligation for „Each State Party in a position to do so shall provide assistance for the care and rehabilitation and social and economic reintegration of mine victims and for mine awareness programs.‰ (Article 6.3) The ICBL believes that >all< countries, including mine-affected countries, are „in a position to do so‰.

The global launch of the LM Report in Africa, represented by the launch in Mozambique on Wednesday and tonight in Somaliland is of great importance and has symbolism in that it takes place on the most mine affected continent in the world. Among Africa,s 54 nations, some 28 countries plus the territories of Somaliland and Western Sahara, are mine-affected with a total population of more than 491 million people. In Africa alone, some 1,067 new mine casualties were reported in 2003, not counting the high number of unregistered mine incidents. According to ICBL,s Landmine Monitor Report 2004, globally 83 countries are mine-affected, including 52 States Parties to the Mine Ban Treaty.

A crucial milestone will be reached this year, with the Convention,s First Review
Conference, which will be the most important event in the Life of the Convention since the negotiations in Oslo in 1997, so brilliantly chaired by Amb. Jacobi Selebi of South Africa, followed by the signing of the Convention in Ottawa. We are continuing with determination and making a life-saving difference on the ground, where it counts. But more, much more, needs to be done in order to reach our goal of a world free of anti-personnel mines. As I mentioned in the beginning, world leaders will gather in Nairobi next week to review the progress of the past five years, which includes recognition of the contributions and sacrifices of humanitarian mine action operators. They will also adopt an Action Plan for 2005 –2009 to concretely address the challenges ahead, which will culminate in the ten-year deadline for clearance of mined areas that twenty-two mine-affected States Parties will reach in 2009.

Continued success in the full implementation of the Convention will not only resolve this global humanitarian crisis, but will also underline the utmost importance of the Rule of Law and International Humanitarian Law. Collectively we have made history. Collectively we will work to ensure that place in history, by translating those unequivocal words on paper into life-saving reality on the ground.

For the sake of the millions living in mined communities and the tens of thousands of new mine victims each year, we must and we will succeed in securing a world where children and adults can „walk, play and live without fear” that their next step may be their last.

Thank you.‰

>From: Robin Collins <robinco@sympatico.ca>  >Reply-To: <
network1@mgm.org>  >To: <network1@mgm.org>  >Subject: Re: MgM
Demining Network: LM report on Egypt >Date: Sun, 28 Nov 2004
22:35:11 +0100 > > > > hi every one, > > > > i think you need all to read
eypt reports in landmine monitor, before talking > > about any numbers.
> > > > egypt LM researcher > > > > please note the new
addresse, telephone, and fax. > > > > This is an edited pasting. > >
www.icbl.org/Im >LM Report 2004 >Egypt > >Key developments since
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States trained Egyptian Army deminers and provided equipment and
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antipersonnel mines. >An Arab Regional Seminar on Landmines was held
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My Email address is specomm@aol.com or Bcason5973@aol.com

Thanking you in advance,

Billy Cason
CEO/Managing Director

Special Communications, LLC.
2838 Croix Court
Virginia Beach, VA 23451-1365
757-412-1001/1002 Fax/757581-1526 Cellular

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SPECOMM is an SBA Certified 8(a), Small Disadvantaged Business (SDB), Service Disabled Veteran (SDV) owned and HubZone certified business.
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: IED from Iraq
Date: Tuesday, November 30, 2004 2:28 PM
From: Art Krenzel <phoenix98604@earthlink.net>
Reply-To: <network1@mgm.org>
To: <network1@mgm.org>

Scott,

I am one of your friends that you have not yet met. I have monitored the MgM Demining Network for several years with only occasional inputs.

I would like to obtain a PDF copy of TELLING THE FALLUJAH STORY TO THE WORLD if you would be so kind.

Thank you!

Art Krenzel, P.E.
PHOENIX TECHNOLOGIES
10505 NE 285TH Street
Battle Ground, WA 98604
360-666-1883 voice
phoenix98604@earthlink.net

----- Original Message ----- 
From: Scott D Smith <mailto:scott@hectec.ca>
To: network1@mgm.org
Sent: Monday, November 29, 2004 11:44 PM
Subject: MgM Demining Network: IED from Iraq

Friends

I found a very interesting document today.

This is a PowerPoint which I have also made a PDF Telling the Fallujah Story to the World (Third cut) IMEF & MNC-I EFFECTS Exploitation Team 20 Nov 2004 sample attached.

contact me for full doc. too large to post here.
PPT and PDF are about 2.5 meg each.
please specify what u want.

**give me an email address that can take it!!!**

If I don't know you, you don't get it!

Scott D Smith
Technical Director
HEC

Humanitarian Engineering and Consulting

Website:    www.hectec.cc
<http://www.hectec.cc/> eMail:    scott@hectec.cc
Phone (Namibia):  +264 81 128 7805

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_Telling the Fallujah Story to the World (Third cut) IMEF & MNC-I EFFECTS Exploitation Team 20 Nov 2004_

sample attached.

contact me for full doc. too large to post here.
PPT and PDF are about 2.5 meg each.
please specify what u want.

_give me an email address that can take it!!!_

If I don't know you, you don't get it!

s

Scott D Smith
Technical Director
HEC

Humanitarian
Engineering and
Consulting

Website: www.hectec.cc
<http://www.hectec.cc/> eMail: scott@hectec.cc
Phone (Namibia): +264 81 128 7805

PO Box 24394, Windhoek, Namibia, Africa 9000
engineering for necessity, elegance in simplicity
Operation Al Fajr: The ISF captured IED/VBIED making materials, the insurgents principle instrument of attack on innocent civilians.
Robin;

Thanks for posting that; however now I'm more confused then before (if that's possible). Possibly Ayman Sorour can shed some light:

> Egypt was accepted into the US humanitarian demining program in 1999 and received $1.5 million. [19] The program included training and provision of demining equipment. The training focused on mine detection and disposal, mine awareness, and survey and information management. The program ended in April 2003. [20] The US Department of Defense budget for the program for 2003 was $783,000.

> In 2003, Egypt adopted a national plan to develop the north coast and clear mines. The United States trained Egyptian Army deminers and provided equipment and other assistance between 2000 and 2003.

So the Egyptian Government received aid in 2000 and 2003, however;

> With the exception of a few commercially-funded mine clearance projects for oil and tourism in the east of the country, no humanitarian mine clearance activities took place in Egypt during 2003 or the first half of 2004. [13] There was also no survey, marking, or formal mine risk education during this time period. [14]

In addition to that;

> USAID has allocated an additional $750,000 for the technical secretariat of Egypt’s national committee. By September 2004, however, the Egyptian government had not requested these funds. [21]

Even setting the humanitarian aspect aside; when looking at bit from a commercial standpoint:

> This document also states that mines and UXO in the Western Desert deny access to the reserves of an estimated 4.8 billion barrels of oil and 13.4 trillion cubic feet of natural gas. [12]

When you look at the stats for the economy;

http://www.cia.gov/cia/publications/factbook/geos/eg.html#Econ

> Lack of substantial progress on economic reform since the mid 1990s has limited foreign direct investment in Egypt and kept annual GDP growth in the range of 2-3 percent in 2001-03. Egyptian officials in late 2003 and early 2004 proposed new privatization and customs reform measures, but the government is likely to pursue these initiatives cautiously and gradually to avoid a public backlash over potential inflation or layoffs associated with the reforms. Monetary pressures on an overvalued Egyptian pound led the government to float the currency in January 2003, leading to a sharp drop in its value and consequent inflationary pressure. The existence of a black market for hard currency is evidence that the government continues to influence the official exchange rate offered in banks. In September 2003, Egyptian officials increased subsidies on basic foodstuffs, helping to calm
a frustrated public but widening an already deep budget deficit.

Egypt's balance-of-payments position was not hurt by the war in Iraq in 2003, as tourism and Suez Canal revenues fared well. The development of an export market for natural gas is a bright spot for future growth prospects, but improvement in the capital-intensive hydrocarbons sector does little to reduce Egypt's persistent unemployment.

Granted it's not a booming economy; but having already received training, equipment, aid grants, and keeping in mind that a good source of revenue coming in; then why hasn't the Egyptian government chipped in a bit more to get a handle this?

There would be a much better chance of getting external assistance/funding if they showed some interest and even a little effort on their own behalf.

Cheers;

Roger

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Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: LM report on Egypt
Date: Tuesday, November 30, 2004 2:44 AM
From: Sean Moorhouse <sean.moorhouse@talk21.com>
Reply-To: <network1@mgm.org>
To: <network1@mgm.org>

Robin,

Whilst I have the highest regard for Landmine Monitor, I would take issue with the quoted claim from the Egyptian Ministry of Foreign Affairs that "...mines and UXO in the Western Desert deny access to the reserves of an estimated 4.8 billion barrels of oil and 13.4 trillion cubic feet of natural gas."

With the price for IPE crude running at about $44.57, if these were viable reserves, I am sure that every oil company on the planet would have put out commercial contracts to have the ground cleared in record time. The Egyptian claim thus sounds very dubious to me!

Yours,

Sean

---

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Hendrik Ehlers saw this story on BBC News Online and thought you should see it.

** New plea for global landmine ban **
Kenyan President Mwai Kibaki opens a landmine conference with an appeal for more countries to sign up to a ban.
< http://news.bbc.co.uk/go/em/fr/-/1/hi/world/africa/4049113.stm >

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Send administrative queries to <network1-request@mgm.org>
653 total IEDs were found and detonated in Fallujah. The average number of IEDs found and/or detonated across Iraq per month from July to October was 772.

Scott D Smith
Technical Director
HEC

Humanitarian
Engineering and
Consulting

Website: www.hectec.cc
<http://www.hectec.cc/> eMail: scott@hectec.cc
Phone (Namibia): +264 81 128 7805

PO Box 24394, Windhoek, Namibia, Africa 9000
engineering for necessity, elegance in simplicity
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: LM report on Egypt
Date: Sunday, November 28, 2004 4:35 PM
From: Robin Collins <robinco@sympatico.ca>
Reply-To: <network1@mgm.org>
To: <network1@mgm.org>

> hi every one,
> i think you need all to read egypt reports in landmine monitor, before talking
> about any numbers.
> egypt LM researcher
>
> please note the new address, telephone, and fax.
>
This is an edited pasting.

www.icbl.org/lm
LM Report 2004
Egypt

Key developments since 1999: In 2002, the government recast its approach to the
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[...]
Landmine Problem and Mine Action

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Egypt a mine-affected country. Egypt often cites a figure of 23 million
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that 16.7 million landmines affect 2,480 million square meters in the
Western Desert area (from Alexandria to the Libyan border and 30 kilometers
depth from the Mediterranean coastline) and 5.1 million landmines affect 200
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Western Desert include German S-type bounding fragmentation mines and
British Mk.2 mines. Antivehicle mines are thought to include German
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In 2004, Egyptian media reported that the International Atomic Energy Agency had discussed plans with the Egyptian government to provide it with technical support for mine detection projects in the western desert.[22]

Landmine Casualties

In 2003, seven people were seriously injured in five reported mine and UXO incidents; two required amputations.[23] There is no comprehensive data collection mechanism in Egypt and many mine incidents are likely to go unreported, especially among the nomadic Bedouin tribes in the Western desert.

Casualties continue to be reported in 2004. The NGO Protection has recorded 10 new casualties in five mine/UXO incidents from 1 January to 1 September.
2004. All of the incidents occurred in the Western Desert. Nine of the casualties were civilian and one was military; five of the civilian casualties were children under 18 years old.[24]

Between 1999 and 2002, there were at least 70 new mine/UXO casualties in Egypt: ten injured in 2002; three people killed and eight injured in 2001; five killed and seven injured in 2000; and 14 killed and 23 injured in 1999.[25]

The total number of landmine casualties in Egypt is not known. In February 1999, it was reported that landmines had claimed 8,313 casualties (696 killed and 7,617 injured); 5,017 were civilians. These figures are believed to only apply to casualties occurring in the Western Desert since 1982.[26]

[12] Ibid.
[14] Ibid.
[16] Interview with Amb. Mohamed Tawfik, Office Director of Minister of State for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Cairo, 26 April 2004.
[17] Ibid.
[18] Interview with one of the three citizens, Cairo, 27 April 2004.
Greetings. Please find attached two (2) documents regarding the U.S. position on the forthcoming First Review Conference ("Nairobi Summit") to the Ottawa Convention that begins next week on Monday, November 29. The first is a press statement from Adam Ereli, the U.S. Department of State's Deputy Press Spokesman; the second document contains a set of frequently asked questions (FAQs) that provide further background on the U.S. position on the Ottawa Convention and that reiterate key points on the U.S. landmine policy. We figured that MgM readers would appreciate being among the first to see this information.

With sincere regards,

JOHN

John E. Stevens
Foreign Affairs Officer
Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement (PM/WRA)
Bureau of Political-Military Affairs
SA-3, Suite 6100
2121 Virginia Ave., NW
U.S. Department of State
Washington, D.C. 20522

Tel: (202) 663-0083
Fax: (202) 663-0090
Email: SteveJE@State.Gov
PM/WRA website: www.state.gov/t/pm/wra

1. Press Statement
Adam Ereli, Deputy Spokesman
Washington, DC
November 26, 2004

First Review Conference of the Ottawa Convention in Nairobi
The First Review Conference for the Ottawa Convention will take place in Nairobi from November 29 to December 3. While the U.S. is not a party to the Convention and is not attending the conference, we share common cause with all those who seek to protect innocent civilians from indiscriminately used landmines.

We are proud of the U.S. role in reducing the threat to innocent civilians of landmines left in the ground after conflicts end. Since 1993 the U.S. has provided close to $1 billion dollars for these efforts. As the conferees in Nairobi mark this progress, there is important work that remains to be done. Eliminating civilian landmine casualties requires a comprehensive approach addressing landmines of every type that remain hazardous after a conflict has ended, including the larger anti-vehicle landmines that are not covered by the Ottawa Convention.

The United States ' landmine policy increases funding for humanitarian mine action substantially. It includes an unconditional commitment that U.S. military forces (despite worldwide treaty commitments and major ongoing operations) will cease the use of all persistent landmines,
anti-vehicle as well as anti-personnel, by the end of 2010. The United States will also eliminate from its inventory all non-detectable mines, which pose an extraordinary risk to civilians and deminers. The U.S. applauds the initiative and commitment of those gathering in Nairobi, and we reiterate our commitment to work with the international community to accelerate progress toward an end to the humanitarian harm caused by persistent landmines. We encourage states participating in the Review Conference to:

* Increase funding for humanitarian mine action, and harmonize their efforts with other key mine action programs worldwide.
* Examine their own policies on the continued use of persistent anti-vehicle landmines, which pose substantial dangers to innocent life yet are not covered under the Ottawa Convention.
* Agree to negotiate, at the Conference on Disarmament, a ban on the sale or export of all persistent mines, including anti-vehicle mines.
* Eliminate all non-detectable landmines, which pose a particular hazard to deminers.

###

2. Frequently Asked Questions concerning Non-participation of the United States at the First Review Conference of the Ottawa Convention in Nairobi and on the U.S. Landmine Policy

Question

* Why isn’t the U.S. participating in the First Review Conference of the Ottawa Convention to be held in Nairobi?

Answer

* The U.S. is not a party to the Ottawa Convention and has explained its reasons for declining to accede to the Convention.
* Although the U.S. is not a party to the Ottawa Convention, conference organizers have advised that we would, even as an observer, be expected to pay a significant portion of the conference costs. We could not accept this condition for our own attendance.
* Nonetheless, we welcome the humanitarian efforts of the countries and organizations gathering in Nairobi. As the conferees in Nairobi celebrate the important progress in mine action achieved in recent years, the U.S. is proud of its own role as the largest financial supporter of mine action, having provided over $900 million worldwide since 1993. We believe the record is clear that mine action works.
* We share common cause with all those who seek to protect innocent civilians from indiscriminately used landmines. And we remain committed to work with all willing partners to reduce the threat of all types of persistent landmines left behind after conflict.

Question

* Why won’t the U.S. sign the Ottawa Convention?

Answer

* The U.S. will not sign the Ottawa Convention because of concern for the safety and security of our men and women in uniform, and because of our responsibilities around the world for the security of friends and allies. The Ottawa Convention would remove from U.S. forces munitions our Commanders say they may need for these purposes, munitions that self-destruct or self-deactivate within hours or days of being used.
thus do not remain hazardous to innocent people after the military conflict has ended.

* The U.S. has ratified the Amended Mines Protocol to the Convention on Conventional Weapons (CCW), a separate international landmine treaty that establishes reasonable, transparent and verifiable standards for the use of landmines to minimize risks to civilians.

* At present, the United States maintains no minefields anywhere in the world, and has not exported anti-personnel landmines since 1992.

* At the same time, we are calling on other nations to join us in eventually banning all mines that are persistent and undetectable -- including those not covered by the Ottawa Convention, such as anti-vehicle mines -- to further reduce the threat of landmines to civilians.

* It is persistent mines of all sizes and shapes, left behind after conflict, that are killing and wounding innocents around the world.

* The U.S. also provides more funding by far than any other country to clear landmines, help mine accident survivors, and educate affected communities on the risks of mines. Our total contribution to the cause of humanitarian mine action is approaching $1 billion.

* In short, the U.S. is very focused on reducing and eventually eliminating the threat of landmines to civilians, but we have a responsibility to consider legitimate U.S. national security requirements around the world even as we seek to address humanitarian concerns.

Question

* What is the U.S. policy on landmines?

Answer

* The new U.S. landmine policy, announced in February 2004, addresses the threats to civilians posed by all mines, anti-personnel as well as anti-vehicle (the latter are not covered by the Ottawa Convention).

* As noted, the U.S. has ratified the Amended Mines Protocol to the Convention on Conventional Weapons (CCW), and is now pursuing a new protocol on anti-vehicle landmines within the CCW.

* Likewise, the U.S. is focused on the issue of "persistency," the feature that makes mines long lasting and thus so dangerous to civilians.

* Under our policy, after 2010 the U.S. will no longer use persistent landmines of any type, on any battlefield, for any purpose, anywhere in the world.

* Between now and then, the possible use of persistent anti-personnel landmines is restricted only to the fulfillment of our security treaty obligations to South Korea. Any possible use of persistent anti-vehicle landmines outside of South Korea would require Presidential authorization.

* The U.S. has already destroyed more than 3.3 million of its stockpiled persistent anti-personnel mines.

* We are also eliminating from our inventory all non-detectable mines. These mines pose an extraordinary risk to civilians as well as to deminers, since they cannot be easily detected with conventional metal
> * By the end of this year the U.S. will discontinue forever use of any
> mines that are non-detectable to conventional metal detectors.
> *
> * Moreover, after 2010 any landmine potentially deployed by the U.S.
> will include self-destruct and self-deactivate capabilities to ensure they
> do not remain behind on any battlefield, greatly reducing any threat to
> non-combatants.
> *
> * We are also pressing for a worldwide ban within the Conference on
> Disarmament on the sale or export of all persistent landmines so that
> other countries will join us in stopping the use of landmines that can
> remain active and threatening for years.
> *
> * Additionally, the U.S. has increased the Department of State's
> humanitarian mine action budget by 50% over 2003 levels, for a new total
> of $70 million per year.
> *
> Question
> *
> * What steps is the U.S. taking to alleviate the humanitarian impact
> of landmines around the world?
> *
> Answer
> *
> * The U.S. is committed to addressing the legacy and threat of
> persistent landmines and unexploded ordnance around the world.
> *
> * The U.S. is by far the world's largest donor to humanitarian mine
> action (HMA). In FY 2004, the U.S. provided over $160 million toward this
> cause, including a large supplemental mine action assistance program for
> Iraq.
> *
> * We are approaching $1 billion in total spent on mine action over the
> past decade in 46 mine-affected countries. That figure represents between
> one third and one-half of all of the money invested worldwide on mine
> action by all donor nations.
> *
> * The U.S. funds demining programs in places like Afghanistan and
> Cambodia, Bosnia and Angola. We support mine risk education campaigns in
> mine-affected communities to reduce landmine casualties. We also fund
> rehabilitation services for survivors of landmine accidents.
> *
> * U.S. funding is also devoted to research and development on new
> technology and techniques to clear mines more quickly and efficiently.
> *
> Our goal to help avoid deaths and injuries caused by landmines, and also
> to promote economic development and social reconciliation in mine-affected
> countries that have been beset by conflict.
> *
> END

**********************************************************************
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Send administrative queries to <network1-request@mgm.org>
(bullshit (political or otherwise) has always been a terrific fertilizer

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Why do people let them get away with it?
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Colin.

----- Original Message ----- 
From: <ACARLG@aol.com>
To: <network1@mgm.org>
Sent: Thursday, November 25, 2004 1:53 PM
Subject: MgM Demining Network: Africa: Well-Known And Invisible Killer
Littered Throughout Africa

> > Africa: Well-Known And Invisible Killer Littered Throughout Africa
> > UN Integrated Regional Information Networks
> > November 24, 2004
> > Nairobi
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eliminating an estimated 40 million landmines from the continent.
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> > At the African Union (AU) headquarters in Addis Ababa, a new "common
African position" was unveiled on 17 September 2004. It aims to ensure that
the continent becomes an anti-personnel mine (APM) free zone, with a
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>
> > Among the innovations that were agreed on was a call by African nations to
countries which have laid landmines throughout the continent during World War II to "devote a reasonable percentage of their military budgets" to clearing them.

In Egypt, for example, some 17 million landmines remain buried in the desert, a deadly legacy of World War II.

The new position was agreed ahead of the Nairobi Summit in November 2004 on a Mine-Free World that will look at the progress made in the last seven years since the Ottawa Convention was drafted.

Under the convention, which came into force in 1999 and was signed by 143 countries, nations that are party to the treaty must not use, stockpile, produce or transfer APMs. Still, even though African governments had backed the common strategy and some 48 joined the Ottawa Convention, a number of nations have not yet ratified the treaty. These include Egypt, Ethiopia, Libya, Morocco and Somalia.

Ethiopian officials told IRIN that ratification was in the pipeline and a draft was expected before their parliament meets in the coming months. They said delays in ratification had stemmed largely from security concerns along their borders due to conflicts against neighbouring countries like Eritrea in 1998 and Somalia in 1977.

However, Egypt, whose country is infested with an estimated tenth of the world's 200 million landmines, is still reluctant to agree to the convention.

"We do not believe in a total and free ban of landmines as long as many actors, including the major producers, are still out of the convention," an Egyptian diplomat told IRIN recently.

"There are three major shortcomings in the Ottawa Convention as far as we see it," the diplomat said on condition of anonymity. "There should be a real obligation, not moral obligation, to demine. States should have the right to get assistance where their countries have been mined and we also need to differentiate between landmines for protection, for national security and those landmines used for other purposes like terrorism. You should be given the right to defend yourself."

Some 30 countries in Africa report being affected by landmines and unexploded ordnance and 10, including Angola, Mozambique and Sudan, say they suffer a high level of casualties.

Said Djinnit, head of the Peace and Security Council at the AU, described the devastating effects of landmines on the continent and their impact on development at the conference.

"We have seen innocent people, women and children amputated, lose their limbs and other vital parts of their bodies - and end up handicapped," he told delegates. "We have also seen landmines destroy the healthy and productive part of our active population, destroy fertile land for agriculture, destroy transport networks and destroy important natural resources that support life."

Djinnit also told the conference, attended by diplomats, landmine experts and other officials, that the AU had been at the forefront of the campaign to ban landmines. Nonetheless, he said ending the scourge of landmines on the continent had "not been pursued with all the needed vigour and determination in Africa."
"Landmines continue to be the main impediment to post-conflict reconstruction and development in our countries," the AU official added. "Ridding the continent of this invisible and indiscriminate weapon is crucial for creating conditions for peace, security, stability and development in Africa, as well as reconciling and healing societies from the trauma of conflict."

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) told IRIN that the convention, seen as one of the most successful global treaties, could also be a template for other weapons legislation. The organisation believes a similar treaty could be designed around small or light arms proliferation, a major factor causing instability on the continent. The convention also contains the potential for enforcement. Under the Ottawa Convention, a system of verification exists, whereby countries believed to be using AMPs, could be subjected to international inspection. So far, said the ICRC, the verification system has never been triggered.

The ICRC also stated that sanctions could be imposed on countries where major concerns of non-compliance exist. While significant progress has been made, UN landmine experts also noted caution. Phil Lewis, of the UN’s Mine Action Service and also in charge of mine clearance for the UN peacekeepers monitoring the ceasefire between Ethiopia and Eritrea, spelled out key concerns that need to be addressed in adopting a common position. The geography, size and number of landmines pose tremendous problems, Lewis said.

"Within these huge distances, the actual number of mines laid may be few, but their effect is often disproportionate to these numbers," he said. "The fear of entering areas affected by a few mines remains psychologically the same."

He also noted that non-military forces have laid some mines with no record of where they were placed. Medical facilities are also weak, Lewis added. However, he praised the significant progress made in mine clearance and stressed that the continent has a huge movement of people willing to help demine.

Austria’s ambassador to the UN in Geneva, Wolfgang Petritsch, said progress made in the fight against landmines meant total eradication could be achieved. "This is doable," Petritsch, who is president designate of the Nairobi Summit, told IRIN. "With the achievements we have made in the last five years, we can rid the world of landmines and make a significant difference."
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Send administrative queries to <network1-request@mgm.org>
Subject: MgM Demining Network:  US urges ban on antitank mines but happy with anti-personnel varieties

Date: Saturday, November 27, 2004 3:01 PM
From: ACARLG@aol.com
Reply-To: <network1@mgm.org>
To: <network1@mgm.org>

Saturday November 27, 3:35 PM
AFP
US urges ban on antitank mines but happy with anti-personnel varieties

The United States, stung by insurgent attacks in Iraq, has urged the international community to consider banning all sales of anti-tank and other heavy landmines, but ruled out its participation in an international conference on mines designed to maim or kill people.

Members of the so-called Ottawa Convention will gather in Nairobi, Kenya, on Monday to review implementation of the 1997 accord that bans use, development, production, stockpiling and transfer of antipersonnel landmines.

As many as 143 nations have signed up to the accord, which took effect in March 1999.

But a group of 42 countries, led by the United States, Russia and China, have refused, citing the need to protect their troops in various theaters of deployment.

In a written statement released Friday, Deputy State Department Spokesman Adam Ereli gave no indication of change in the US approach and said US diplomats will not be attending the Nairobi gathering.

But he pointed out that important work still "remains to be done" to rid the world of the scourge of landmines that, according ban supporters, still kill and maim between 15,000 and 20,000 people around the world every year.

"Eliminating civilian landmine casualties requires a comprehensive approach addressing landmines of every type that remain hazardous after a conflict has ended, including the larger antivehicle landmines that are not covered by the Ottawa Convention," Ereli said.

He urged convention members to examine their use of non-self-destructing antivehicle mines and agree to negotiate, at the UN Conference on Disarmament, "a ban on the sale or export of all persistent mines, including antivehicle mines."

The proposal came after US defense officials have expressed their growing concern about the use of so-called improvised explosive devices by anti-American insurgents in Iraq.

US military experts have calculated that up to 60 percent of all attacks on US troops and Iraqi security forces in late 2003 began with the explosion of one or more such devices, which are often fashioned from unexploded antipersonnel or antitank mines taken from the old Iraqi arsenal.

Before the US-led March 2003 invasion of Iraq, this arsenal included an estimated 10 million such mines, according to GlobalSecurity.com, a local research organization.

US troops in Iraq travel primarily in Humvees and Bradley Fighting Vehicles, which could be vulnerable to devices handcrafted from antitank mines.

Ereli also urged conference participants to ban all non-detectable landmines, which he said "pose a particular hazard to deminers."

The US military is modernizing its landmine inventory, removing from it all non-self-destructing and non-detectable mines. This process is expected to be concluded by the end of 2010, officials said.
Earlier in the day, US Assistant Secretary of State Lincoln Bloomfield sought to assure members of the Ottawa Convention that they will find in the United States a "strong partner" in trying to prevent humanitarian tragedies caused by landmines.

But he reaffirmed the US decision to stay out of the convention because the Pentagon deems it necessary to have landmines at its disposal "either to save US forces in the field or to save allied forces or to save a population that we are protecting."

Meanwhile, an opinion poll unveiled last September by the Chicago Council on Foreign Relations showed that 80 percent of Americans disagreed with this position and said the government should support the landmine banning treaty.
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: MgM Demining Network: Egypt  
Date: Saturday, November 27, 2004 3:01 PM  
From: Ayman Sorour <lsce98@hotmail.com>  
Reply-To: <network1@mgm.org>  
To: <network1@mgm.org>  

hi every one,

i think you need all to read egypt reports in landmine monitor,before talking about any numbers.

egypt LM researcher

please note the new address, telephone, and fax.

Ayman Sorour  
Executive Director  
PROTECTION  
(f.k.a Landmines Struggle Center, Egypt)  
123 Bld de Strasbourg A4,  
94130 Nogent sur Marne, FRANCE  
P.O BOX 121 Embaba, Giza, EGYPT  
Tel / Fax.+33 1 48 75 36 57 / + 20 2 870 3548  
GSM.+33 6 76 19 69 84 / +20 12 32 39 033  

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<network1-request@mgm.org>
Thanks,

Mainly myself who wanted to know the old ATO just enlightened us...thanks for your help guys!

Pete

---

Hi Pete;

I’ll have to turn this over to Colin for the finer points of the Iranian #4/MK4 mines as I don't too much detail on those mines.

However as mentioned; if the detonators copper/brass colored: then it's very likely to be filled with a lead styphnate mixture as opposed to lead azide so your ATO should be able to relax a bit... as much as one can around any type of primary explosives that is.

Cheers;

Roger

-----Original Message-----
From: network1@mgm.org [mailto:network1@mgm.org] On Behalf Of phindy@webhart.net
Sent: Friday, November 26, 2004 11:37 AM
To: network1@mgm.org
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: Lead azide

Hey Roger!

Reason i was asking was I have to RSP about 4-8 Iranian No 4 type AP Mines per day and they have a brass coloured booster inside them and one of our guys Ex RLC Ammo tech was talking about led azide and its details/reactions which i would like to know more about for any mines that "do" contain it if i can find out which ones!

Thanks!

Pete

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Thanks!

Pete
Because Col Z and I spent some time over there establishing the facts. The original 21 million figure was a projection based on what they had already found having cleared some areas, but included all ammunition types, not just mines. There is a genuine language problem over the word “mine” which, as in many countries, is used to refer to several types of ammunition (such as shells and mortar bombs). The difference is that the Egyptians are well aware of this, and continue to deliberately muddy the waters in order to generate sensational statistics. Also, as I say, the numbers are only projections based on some pretty dubious calculations of land area, which assume that the entire Western Desert is as heavily contaminated as the priority areas they have already cleared.

Colin.

----- Original Message -----  
From: "Lawrence Carter" <lj.carter@auckland.ac.nz>  
To: <network1@mgm.org>  
Sent: Friday, November 26, 2004 7:15 AM  
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: Africa: Well-Known And Invisible Killer Littered Throughout Africa  

> Colin  
>  
> How do you know the stats are false?  
>  
> Thanks  
>  
> Lawrence  
>  
> ----- Original Message -----  
> From: "Colin King" <ck@ckingassociates.co.uk>  
> To: <network1@mgm.org>  
> Sent: Friday, November 26, 2004 5:59 AM  
> Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: Africa: Well-Known And Invisible Killer Littered Throughout Africa  
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> >> To: <network1@mgm.org>
> >> Sent: Thursday, November 25, 2004 1:53 PM
> >> Subject: MgM Demining Network: Africa: Well-Known And Invisible Killer
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"There are three major shortcomings in the Ottawa Convention as far as we see it," the diplomat said on condition of anonymity. "There should be a real obligation, not moral obligation, to demine. States should have the right to get assistance where their countries have been mined and we also need to differentiate between landmines for protection, for national security and those landmines used for other purposes like terrorism. You should be given the right to defend yourself."

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"This is doable," Petritsch, who is president designate of the Nairobi Summit, told IRIN. "With the achievements we have made in the last five years, we can rid the world of landmines and make a significant difference."
Many do, although some use Lead Styphnate as well or instead. For a start, I think virtually all US mine detonators contain Lead Azide (eg. M46 det used in the M14 and M19 contains 275 mg). South African mines using LZY dets (such as R2M2 and No 8) contain 119 mg of Lead Azide. In Russian detonator nomenclature, an "A" (eg TAT-8) designates Lead Azide – again, normally with Lead Styphnate as well.

Colin.
Hey Roger!

Reason i was asking was I have to RSP about 4-8 Iranian No 4 type AP Mines per day and they have a brass coloured booster inside them and one of our guys Ex RLC Ammo tech was talking about led azide and its details/reactions which i would like to know more about for any mines that "do" contain it if i can find out which ones!

Thanks!

Pete
Colin, Thanks for the indicment to egypt, but what about the countries like somaliland who has accepted and ratified The Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on their Destruction is a cornerstone in the effort to end the suffering and casualties caused by anti-personnel (AP) mines. such country doesnt have a international recognition and gets less fund to eridicate the AP mine and there is only two international organization such as DDG,Hallo trust, and UN Mine Action Unit which is realy the center of creating somaliland mine action center but gets less fund each year. so help somaliland mine action community and governmental organization so they can take part all effort of agains mine related problems Thanks M.H Yussuf Ex UNDP/SMAC Mine action Information chief Hargeisa
Networks — November 24, 2004 — Nairobi — They threaten the peace, stability and development of the world’s poorest continent and kill or mutilate 12,000 people each year. This was the reason that African governments agreed recently to a landmark initiative aimed at eliminating an estimated 40 million landmines from the continent. At the African Union (AU) headquarters in Addis Ababa, a new "common African position" was unveiled on 17 September 2004. It aims to ensure that the continent becomes an anti-personnel mine (APM) free zone, with a framework largely centred on the 1997 Ottawa Convention. The initiative also stresses inter-African cooperation as a vital issue in successful mine clearance and calls for more support for victims and greater transparency by governments. Among the innovations that were agreed on was a call by African nations to countries which have laid landmines throughout the continent during World War II to "devote a reasonable percentage of their military budgets" to clearing them. In Egypt, for example, some 17 million landmines remain buried in the desert, a deadly legacy of World War II. The new position was agreed ahead of the Nairobi Summit in November 2004 on a Mine-Free World that will look at the progress made in the last seven years since the Ottawa Convention was drafted. Under the convention, which came into force in 1999 and was signed by 143 countries, nations that are party to the treaty must not use, stockpile, produce or transfer APMs. Still, even though African governments had backed the common strategy and some 48 joined the Ottawa Convention, a number of nations have not yet ratified the treaty. These include Egypt, Ethiopia, Libya, Morocco and Somalia. Ethiopian officials told IRIN that ratification was in the pipeline and a draft was expected before their parliament meets in the coming months. They said delays in ratification had stemmed largely from security concerns along their borders due to conflicts against neighbouring countries like Eritrea in 1998 and Somalia in 1977. However, Egypt, whose country is infested with an estimated tenth of the world's 200 million landmines, is still reluctant to agree to the convention. "We do not believe in a total and free ban of landmines as long as many actors, including the major producers, are still out of the convention," an Egyptian diplomat told IRIN recently. "There are three major shortcomings in the Ottawa Convention as far as we see it," the diplomat said on condition of anonymity. "There should be a real obligation, not moral obligation, to demine. States should have the right to get assistance where their countries have been mined and we also need to differentiate between landmines for protection, for national security and those landmines used for other purposes like terrorism. You should be given the right to defend yourself." Some 30 countries in Africa report being affected by landmines and unexploded ordnance and 10, including
Angola, Mozambique and Sudan, say they suffer a high level of casualties. Said Djinnit, head of the Peace and Security Council at the AU, described the devastating effects of landmines on the continent and their impact on development at the conference. "We have seen innocent people, women and children amputated, lose their limbs and other vital parts of their bodies - and end up handicapped," he told delegates. "We have also seen landmines destroy the healthy and productive part of our active population, destroy fertile land for agriculture, destroy transport networks and destroy important natural resources that support life." Djinnit also told the conference, attended by diplomats, landmine experts and other officials, that the AU had been at the forefront of the campaign to ban landmines. Nonetheless, he said ending the scourge of landmines on the continent had "not been pursued with all the needed vigour and determination in Africa". "Landmines continue to be the main impediment to post-conflict reconstruction and development in our countries," the AU official added. "Ridding the continent of this invisible and indiscriminate weapon is crucial for creating conditions for peace, security, stability and development in Africa, as well as reconciling and healing societies from the trauma of conflict." The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) told IRIN that the convention, seen as one of the most successful global treaties, could also be a template for other weapons legislation. The organisation believes a similar treaty could be designed around small or light arms proliferation, a major factor causing instability on the continent. The convention also contains the potential for enforcement. Under the Ottawa Convention, a system of verification exists, whereby countries believed to be using AMPs, could be subjected to international inspection. So far, said the ICRC, the verification system has never been triggered. The ICRC also stated that sanctions could be imposed on countries where concerns of non-compliance exist. While significant progress has been made, UN landmine experts also noted caution. Phil Lewis, of the UN's Mine Action Service and also in charge of mine clearance for the UN peacekeepers monitoring the ceasefire between Ethiopia and Eritrea, spelled out key concerns that need to be addressed in adopting a common position. The geography, size and number of landmines pose tremendous problems, Lewis said. "Within these huge distances, the actual number of mines laid may be few, but their effect is often disproportionate to these numbers," he said. "The fear of entering areas affected by a few mines remains psychologically the same." He also noted that non-military forces have laid some mines with no record of where they were placed. Medical facilities are also weak, Lewis added. However, he praised the significant progress made in mine clearance and stressed that the continent has a huge movement of people willing
Austria's ambassador to the UN in Geneva, Wolfgang Petritsch, said progress made in the fight against landmines meant total eradication could be achieved. "This is doable," Petritsch, who is president designate of the Nairobi Summit, told IRIN. "With the achievements we have made in the last five years, we can rid the world of landmines and make a significant difference."
Pete;

Now there's a question that will take some serious research; any specific reason for the interest?

If you have some examples of detonators that you're trying to ID; then the type of metal used as the capsule will give you an idea of the compound inside.

Lead azide reacts with copper, zinc, cadmium, or alloys containing such metals, forming an azide that is way too sensitive. Detonator capsules for lead azide are normally made from aluminum as it does not react with it.

Lead Styphnate is also a very common primary explosive and it doesn't react with metals; so it can also use aluminum capsules. But if your capsule is copper, then it's likely to be Lead styphnate.

Mercury Fulminate is another common compound; but it reacts with aluminum and copper. It's more commonly used in percussion caps.

Cheers

Roger

-----Original Message-----
From: network1@mgm.org [mailto:network1@mgm.org] On Behalf Of phindy@webhart.net
Sent: Friday, November 26, 2004 9:37 AM
To: network1@mgm.org
Subject: MgM Demining Network: Lead azide

Hi Guys,

Anybody know which Mines if any use lead azide in the detonators?

Thanks,

Pete
the mailing list <network1@mgm.org>.
To unsubscribe, E-mail to: <network1-off@mgm.org>
To switch to the Digest mode, E-mail to <network1-digest@mgm.org>
Send administrative queries to <network1-request@mgm.org>
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Thanks,

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Colin, you might add to your indictment list that Egypt hasn't joined CCW either.

Bob S.

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From: network1@mgm.org [mailto:network1@mgm.org] On Behalf Of Colin King
Sent: Thursday, November 25, 2004 12:00 PM
To: network1@mgm.org
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: Africa: Well-Known And Invisible Killer Littered Throughout Africa

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To: <network1@mgm.org>
Sent: Thursday, November 25, 2004 1:53 PM
Subject: MgM Demining Network: Africa: Well-Known And Invisible Killer Littered Throughout Africa

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> To switch to the Digest mode, E-mail to <network1-digest@mgm.org>
> Send administrative queries to  <network1-request@mgm.org>
Colin

How do you know the stats are false?

Thanks

Lawrence

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From: "Colin King" <ck@ckingassociates.co.uk>
To: <network1@mgm.org>
Sent: Friday, November 26, 2004 5:59 AM
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: Africa: Well-Known And Invisible Killer Littered Throughout Africa

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> To: <network1@mgm.org>
> Sent: Thursday, November 25, 2004 1:53 PM
> Subject: MgM Demining Network: Africa: Well-Known And Invisible Killer Littered Throughout Africa
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> > UN Integrated Regional Information Networks
> > November 24, 2004
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The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) told IRIN that the convention, seen as one of the most successful global treaties, could also be a template for other weapons legislation.

The organisation believes a similar treaty could be designed around small or light arms proliferation, a major factor causing instability on the continent. The convention also contains the potential for enforcement.

Under the Ottawa Convention, a system of verification exists, whereby countries believed to be using AMPs, could be subjected to international inspection. So far, said the ICRC, the verification system has never been triggered.

The ICRC also stated that sanctions could be imposed on countries where major concerns of non-compliance exist. While significant progress has been made, UN landmine experts also noted caution.

Phil Lewis, of the UN’s Mine Action Service and also in charge of mine clearance for the UN peacekeepers monitoring the ceasefire between Ethiopia and Eritrea, spelled out key concerns that need to be addressed in adopting a common position. The geography, size and number of landmines pose tremendous problems, Lewis said.

"Within these huge distances, the actual number of mines laid may be few, but their effect is often disproportionate to these numbers," he said. "The fear of entering areas affected by a few mines remains psychologically the same."

He also noted that non-military forces have laid some mines with no record of where they were placed. Medical facilities are also weak, Lewis added. However, he praised the significant progress made in mine clearance and stressed that the continent has a huge movement of people willing to help demine.

Austria’s ambassador to the UN in Geneva, Wolfgang Petritsch, said progress made in the fight against landmines meant total eradication could be achieved.

"This is doable," Petritsch, who is president designate of the Nairobi Summit, told IRIN. "With the achievements we have made in the last five years, we can rid the world of landmines and make a significant difference."
Judith (and everyone),

Do you know the basis for the objection from the countries you mention? For what sort of munitions is the status of being an AP mine contended?

Adam
Hakkari Anti-Landmine Awareness Campaign (HALAC)
A group of activists has launched a grassroots anti-landmine campaign in Turkeys Kurdish region, where landmines and other abandoned explosives have killed hundreds of people since the beginning of the war in 1984.

Women and children continue to die at an alarming rate because of explosives that were planted during the war, said Rojbin Tugan, spokeswoman for the Hakkari Anti-Landmine Awareness Campaign. Although clashes between Turkish security forces and PKK militants have subsided, the landmines still cast a dark shadow over our future.

Local hospital officials estimate that at least 50 people, mostly women and children, have died or been wounded this year alone as a result of landmines and abandoned unexploded ordinances in the Hakkari province. Most recently, two children and an adult were killed and three others wounded in an explosion on October 5, 2004 in the Gelisen village of the Semdinli district in Hakkari, on October 5, 2004 (Read attached report).

You cannot walk down the streets of Hakkari without seeing a child who has lost an arm or a leg to a landmine or a buried grenade, said Ms. Tugan. Every week more children are maimed, adding to the toll of little innocent victims.

There are no known statistics or maps that show the number and locations of these planted and abandoned explosive devices. The group plans to conduct research to identify dangerous areas, keep statistics on casualties, and launch a public awareness campaign aimed at educating women and children on how to recognize and avoid dangerous places.

Adding to the urgency of the situation are the pending plans to repatriate hundreds of thousands of Kurds who were displaced during the war. The European Commission, in its October 6, 2004 report, urged Turkey to facilitate and expedite this process with international cooperation. But unless there is an extensive survey and removal effort throughout the region, such a move could have devastating consequences, with the number of casualties from hidden bombs certain to increase when destroyed villages are repopulated, Ms. Tugan said.

The Hakkari Anti-Landmine Awareness Campaign is appealing to the Turkish government to heed the calls by the Commission, make good on its commitments under the Ottawa Mine Ban Treaty and sign other relevant international conventions and make the necessary changes in the countrys laws. The group
An explosion killed two children and a man and wounded three more people on October 5, 2004 in what is known as the Serhatkale Camp near the Gelishen village of the Semdinli district of the Hakkari province.

Turkish government forces established the Serhatkale Camp in 1998 to combine five villages for security reasons. The population of the camp is 400 people living in 100 houses. It is impoverished.

The explosion occurred on a road in front of a house belonging to Mr. Bayram Aslan. An unexploded ordinance, believed to be a cannon shell lodged beneath the ground, caused the explosion.

Those killed were 12-year-old Selam Deren, 14-year old Hadi Yildiz and 24-year-old Bayram Aslan, all of whom died instantly. A three-year-old child, Sehriye Aslan, along with 60-year-old Ayse Aslan and 23-year-old Seyfi Gven, was wounded. The wounded were taken to the Hakkari State Hospital and are under treatment.

Except for Mr. Bayram Aslan, Mrs. Ayse Aslan and Sehriye Aslan, the casualties were from separate families and live in nearby houses. Their presence there was a coincidence. They were passing on the roadway used by all camp residents.

The loss of lives has created a deep sadness in the community, and increased the terror of abandoned unexploded ordinances and landmines. Many villagers say that they were afraid to go around the village for their daily tasks.

It was the most recent of frequent explosions in Hakkari, an area heavily polluted by anti-personnel landmines and other unexploded ordinances during the conflict between PKK guerrillas and Turkish security forces. The situation is a major concern to the regions residents. The bombs are deemed a serious problem because many internally displaced persons (IDP) are trying to return to their villages and normal lives.

These explosives must be surveyed and removed. As a first step, the areas that are suspected of being mined or having unexploded ordinances must be immediately marked with clear signs, understandable to area inhabitants, and entry to these locations must be banned.

Equally important is a public information campaign, in the language of the region, to create awareness among people about landmines. The approach to the language and style of the campaign is especially important, because many women and children in the area are illiterate and understand only Kurdish.

The use of new landmines must immediately end. After armed clashes, trained elements of security forces should be sent to the area to look for and remove any unexploded devices.

The ultimate goal needs to be complete elimination of such explosives. To
that end, it is crucial that the government live up to its duties and responsibilities under the Ottawa Mine Ban Treaty.

12.10.2004

Sincerely,

Rojbin TUGAN, Attorney-at-Law
On behalf of the Hakkari Anti-Landmine Awareness Campaign

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#Send administrative queries to network1-request@mgm.org
Subject: MgM Demining Network: Dragging Detector Heads?
Date: Saturday, November 20, 2004 3:48 PM
From: Roger Hess <rhess@mweb.co.za>
Reply-To: <network1@mgm.org>
To: <network1@mgm.org>

Attention all field deminers/supervisors/managers;

I was recently shown a briefing that was given to Commandant and Assistant Commandant of the US Army Engineer School that stated something very interesting; it seems that all of us who have ever used a Schiebel detector are literally dragging our detector heads over the ground in order to improve their performance.

Some quotes off the briefing are as follows:

>“The concern about “banging the head against rocks causes loss of sensitivity” is also bogus. As long as the head is not cracked (and that will not occur with “normal” usage), the head will maintain sensitivity. Of approximately 50,000 detectors in use around the world in operations from Afghanistan to Cambodia, we have >received no reports of these type of problems.

>Indeed, almost all the field deminers (Mozambique, S. Africa, Cambodia, Afghanistan, etc) that use the detectors daily drag the detector head on the ground or just >slightly above the ground. It is simply a matter of physics.”

I would like to set the record straight for the good Commandant about this claim.

Personally; I had massive problems with perfectly serviceable heads and felt the best way to improve its performance was to attach it onto a long pole and beat the ground with it in hopes that it would finally find a mine by detonating it. Almost all of the heads on the brand new PSS-12’s that we were issued for Somalia broke while still in the storage boxes. We never even had a chance to use them.

However I was later told by the factory reps after the fact that what happened to my men and I were unique cases.

Anyone care to share similar instances that can be backed up?

Cheers

Roger
Yes, it was Peter Gray - email address is:

grayp@isaf-hq.nato.int

You've been around a bit Willy since Angola and sensible to have a few months off every year. I might well do so too in 05.

All the best,

Peter
Hi Willy,

Pleased to hear you are in the land of the living. I was in Kabul 10 days ago and the info on Skyhawks was from a conversation I had with the Kiwi LO to UNMACA - Peter Gray.

Am currently in Sarajevo but “resident” in Tajikistan - a quiet backwater with minor mines problem.

All the best.

Peter

----- Original Message ----- 
From: Paul Williscroft <williscroft@xtra.co.nz>
Date: Wednesday, November 3, 2004 10:10 am
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: MY WORDS Re: MgM Demining Network: KORREKT! Re: DeminingNetwork: GOOD QUESTION ...

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> Regards Willy Williscroft
Dear Solomon,

I think you will find that the Royal New Zealand Air Force is far from "dissolved". It phased out its Skyhawks - perhaps this is what you are referring to. You my like to know that Britain’s Royal Air Force is also proposing to phase out quite a large proportion of its offensive airpower - like the RNZAF Skyhawks, mostly outdated. Does this mean we are closer to the idealistic situation you allude to? I think not!

PJI

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From: solomon akanga <maotsekanga@yahoo.com>
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2004 11:26 am
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network:  MY WORDS   Re: MgM Demining Network:KORREKT!   Re:  DeminingNetwork: GOOD QUESTION ...

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Send administrative queries to <network1-request@mgm.org>
Sehr geehrte Damen und Herren!

Austrian Aid for Mine Victims, the Austrian branch of the International Campaign to Ban Landmines (ICBL) kindly asks you to support the full implementation of the Ottawa Convention.

On the 28th of November 2004 the first review conference of the Ottawa Convention will start in Nairobi. We, the NGO's community, are very concerned about the full implementation of the ban on antipersonnel mines. Your support is needed urgently to influence the outcome of the review.

Though many States Parties, the ICRC, and other NGOs support the view that any mine capable of being detonated by the unintentional act of a person is an antipersonnel mine and is prohibited, the Ottawa Member States have been unable to achieve a clear understanding about the definition of an antipersonnel mine, because a small group of countries, including Germany, United Kingdom, France, Japan, and Denmark is lobbying against a common understanding on this issue.

With the petition for the full implementation of the Ottawa Convention we urge especially this small group of member states of the Ottawa Convention not to block any further the understanding that every mine which is likely
to be detonated by the presence, proximity or contact of a person is an antipersonnel mine and therefore prohibited by the Convention.

Please visit the website of our German colleagues www.landmine-petition.net <http://www.landmine-petition.net> and sign the petition NOW!

Thank you very much.
Sincerely,
Judith Majlath
Austrian Aid for Mine Victims
Austrian Section/International Campaign to Ban Landmines
Landmine Monitor Research Austria www.icbl.org/lm <http://www.icbl.org/lm>
Founder and Coordination Committee-Member of the Cluster Munition Coalition International
www.cmc-international.org <http://www.cmc-international.org>
tel/fax 0043 - 1 - 535 75 16

1997 Nobel Peace Prize Co-Laureate
*Join the Treaty * Clear Mines * Help Survivors *
Hi Peter, good to see that you are still in the business. I heard from David Smyth back March of this year at a meeting in Nairobi that you were in Dushanbe but wasn’t sure that you were still there. I am cutting back my time to about 6-8 months a year away from home. So I am on standdown until Jan 05 when I go back to Sri Lanka (SLK) with FSD again. The last 6.5 years have been a blast albeit frustrating at times, I went back to Angola twice after 1996 yes I do need my head read! Since then there has been Bosnia, the Albania/Kosovo border for 2 years, then a short stint in SLK. Then out to Iraq and that was fun, then back to SLK. And more recently a short stint in Uganda. I don’t suppose that Peter Gray was an RNZE officer about 6ft 3” tall and a bit of a jack the lad, if it was and you have an email address for him could you forward it. We worked together about 7 years ago, as young officers go he was at the top of the food chain and a good bloke. Sadly our defence forces are at a low ebb due to the governments slack attitude. But that bloke on the MGM forum was out of order and I had to say something. The MGM network has deteriorated of late and has become a means of espousing all sorts of political/leftie/greenie rubbish with less applicable tech stuff handled. OK mate gotta run good to hear from you, if you have a contact for Peter can you get it back to me. No problems if you don’t I can probably track it down via Sheila Black who is out there with the MAC. Take care.

Regards Willy

-----Original Message-----
From: network1@mgm.org [mailto:network1@mgm.org]
On Behalf Of peter.isaacs@undp.org
Sent: Tuesday, 9 November 2004 19:54
To: network1@mgm.org
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: MY WORDS Re: MgM Demining Network: KORREKT! Re: DeminingNetwork: GOOD QUESTION ...

Hi Willy,

Pleased to hear you are in the land of the living. I was in Kabul 10 days ago and the info on Skyhawks was from a conversation I had with the Kiwi LO to UNMACA - Peter Gray.

Am currently in Sarajevo but "resident" in Tajikistan - a quiet backwater with minor mines problem.

All the best.

Peter

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Regards Willy Williscroft

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From: network1@mgm.org [network1@mgm.org] On Behalf Of peter.isaacs@undp.org
Sent: Wednesday, 3 November 2004 01:23
To: network1@mgm.org
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: MY WORDS Re: MgM Demining Network: KORREKT! Re: Demining Network: GOOD QUESTION ...

Dear Solomon,

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PJI

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From: solomon akanga <maotsekanga@yahoo.com>
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2004 11:26 am
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: MY WORDS Re: MgM Demining Network: KORREKT! Re: Demining Network: GOOD QUESTION ...
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Peter,

Blackburn Beverley, now you are bringing back memories. Flew in one of those over Malaya (as it was then), the crew were on a mission to drop supplies to British troops in the jungle chasing down Communist insurgents. That was from RAF Seletar. I also was lucky enough to fly in other old girls such as the Avro Shackleton (even flew that a couple of times from RAF Changi), HP Hastings (Changi), SA Single and Twin Pioneers (Seletar), DeH Beaver (AAC – Changi), even the like of the Bristol Belvedere helicopter (Seletar) and Gloucester Meteor (Changi), Hawker Hunter and EE Lightning jets (both based at RAF Tengah). Life was fun for a 15/16 year old in those days in Singapore.

Thanks for the memories.

Ken

On 9/11/04 7:53, "peter.isaacs@undp.org" <peter.isaacs@undp.org> wrote:

> Bristol Freighters? You must be as old as me Ken! Ever go in a Blackburn Beverley. There is one outside the RAF museum at Hendon. I took my mother there many years ago. She said "is that a Spitfire?"
> Have been hearing about Angola from the new UNDP Technical Advisor here at a conference in Sarajevo. Seems that not much changes.
> All the best.
> Peter
> ----- Original Message ----- 
> From: Ken O’Connell <infijar.ken@mac.com>
> Date: Wednesday, November 3, 2004 10:18 am
> Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: MY WORDS Re: MgM Demining Network:KORREKT! Re: DeminingNetwork: GOOD QUESTION ...
> Hi Peter,
> They also phased out and sold off those beautiful transport planes, the Bristol Freighters. I had many a pleasant flight with the RNZAF from Singapore to RAAF Butterworth for our Summer Camp when I was in the ATC. The only plane I have ever been in where we were given cotton wool to plug our ears up against the noise. When we got stuck in a tropical storm the plane turned into a colander, and the toilet, well the less said the better just a good job none of us was carrying cholera.
>
Nice to hear you are still out there.

Cheers,

--

Ken O'Connell,
Programme Director,
MgM Angola.

On 2/11/04 13:22, "peter.isaacs@undp.org" <peter.isaacs@undp.org> wrote:

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Do you Yahoo!?
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Subject: MgM Demining Network: "Turkey Moves Forward to Demine Upper Mesopotamia"
Date: Tuesday, November 9, 2004 1:55 AM
From: KBiritan@aol.com
Reply-To: <network1@mgm.org>
To: <network1@mgm.org>

“Turkey Moves Forward to Demine Upper Mesopotamia”
http://maic.jmu.edu/journal/8.2/notes/koknar.htm
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Send administrative queries to <network1-request@mgm.org>
Albert M Bottom Esqr,

Dear Sir,

Thanks a lot, wish you well with continued endeavors, also thanks USDOS for this humanitarian initiatives. Meanwhile we thank you in anticipation,

Very Truly yours,

Ln. M.W. Faruqe,

Bangladesh CBL.

---

Albert M. Bottoms  amb@demine.org  http://www.demine.org
President, Society for Counter-Ordnance Technology
849 Coast Blvd AL506, La Jolla, CA 92037-4223 Tel. (858)456-4255

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YOUTH APPROACH for Development & Cooperation (YADC)
(Handbook for the Malaria Research Initiative)
YADC means: Youth Approach for Development & Cooperation
3/Ka, Purana Paltan, GPO Box 3772, Dhaka 1000, Bangladesh
Tel: +880-9557160, (H) 9566227
Fax: +880-9555321, OR +880-9551722 Cell: 0172-111536
Email: yadc@bangla.net or bangladesh@icbl.org

---
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Folks,

I was asked when we will switch the Archives on again. Well, the problem is that webcrawler go over the archives and read the emails copy the senderadresses for Spam d-bases. The people getting Spam then complain with us.

This is why we switched it off. We have not found a technical solution for this yet. Also, if it ever goes online again, I'd give it a week of bullshit cleansing and delete all stuff from people I don't like.....

So, the ones of you who still keep the original conversation starting in March 1996, well, if you want to keep the real archive as you have it, store it on a CD or DVD.

Best Regards

Hendrik Ehlers, CEO

MgM HD & HEC RD

ehlers at mgm dot org
Roger,

Our concepts originate from field experience. Like you, we approach this problem directly. That we have a solution for anything will be entirely based on practicality.

The points that you make are well received. These have been and will remain essential considerations for design. Your pointed question concerning the “poorly designed v-shape” deserves an answer. However, the complete answer remains proprietary and unproven. For what it is worth to you at this time, while angular deflection is an impotant factor, the design does not rely merely on deflection to defeat the effects of the blast.

We do expect to deliver to the field an effective vehicle platform providing crew survivability and continued mobility. The modular system will be highly adaptable and extremely durable. The blast load is the primary concern. Penetration of the hull by high velocity projectiles will likewise remain a foremost design consideration.

We are keenly aware that defeat of projectile velocities must include those levels that you have mentioned and we shall strive to defeat even greater levels of potential projectile penetration. The shaped charge attack is difficult to defeat but there are good reasons to believe that mitigation consistent with crew survival can be achieved. Of course there are always limits but we look to raising the threshold of attack failure to unprecedented heights.

You are correct! The user must be able to acquire the vehicle and use it! It shall remain a foremost design consideration that our vehicle will remain lightweight, simple and inexpensive. All indications thus far support this as entirely feasible. The price would remain close to $100K range. We strive to acquire non-government humanitarian support to help pay for these vehicles. It remains to be seen how successful our efforts will be.

We appreciate your helpful recommendations and will continue to strive against great adversity to complete this development work and get on to making the vehicle available. Government has distracted our progress but we shall remain on course. It is possible that we can get this field ready within the next calendar year. We know how badly you need safety and speed. These go hand-in-glove.

Your observations and recommendations are truly appreciated. We request that you send anything, no matter how trivial it may seem, to us for consideration in the design. Your keen insight to the problems and needs in the field remain our utmost concern.

Thanks to you for all that you do.

Reinhold Sommerstedt
On 04/11/04 05:03 AM, "Roger Hess" <rhess@mweb.co.za> wrote:

> Reinhold;
> 
> OK, now that you've hopped off the soap box and are trying to state your
> point without all the frothy stuff,.. maybe we can talk.
> 
> Most of the tank & APC crews I know can talk; in fact, I was just talking
> to a South African yesterday who drove a Casspir for many years during the
> bush wars and survived many AT mine blasts (and he can still talk very well,
> thanks to the design of his vehicle).
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> I'm not sure what you are basing your design on, however I'd seriously
> recommend speaking with some of the armoring technicians from Southern
> Africa. I'm not going to try and speak for them, however I do not believe
> the V-hull was only intended as a "Combat Design".
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> helps to avoid pockets that can trap the enormous amount gases that are
> generated during a large blast.
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> Aside from blast effects; if you want to design something that is going to
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> I'm not talking about SFF or Shaped Charge mines, but the type of
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> both under the road and along side it.
> 
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> would likely turn your vehicle into something that looks like a stay-puff
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> then we just have to accept that we will likely die.
> 
> While you're doing all of these designs; you need to keep the cost in mind.
> We already have sources for excellent new MPV's in the $200-$300k range and
> can often buy fully reconditioned former RSA MPV's for less then $100k (if
> the RSA government will buy off on the end-user statement).
> 
> When you have those issues sorted out; then come talk to us.
> 
> Cheers
> 
> Roger
> 
> -----Original Message-----
> From: network1@mgm.org [mailto:network1@mgm.org] On Behalf Of Reinhold
> Sommerstedt
> Sent: Thursday, November 04, 2004 11:38 AM
> To: network1@mgm.org
> Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: Reality.....
> 
> REALITY
> 
> It would be inappropriate to call this new vehicle an APC. While it may
> appear "FUNNY" to the observer it will save many lives and it will help to
> complete missions that are now not achievable.
The vehicle is designed to protect occupants and retain mobility. As for "serious damage" that will depend on the scale of the detonation. Our prototype will prove that continued mobility after encountering anti-tank blast. This is achieved by the fact that the wheel-triggered detonation occurs far enough away from the hull to prevent penetration and the effects of overpressure. The independent wheel avoid the disabling effects associated with conventional vehicles.

Should detonation occur directly beneath the hull the lift will be as expected but proprietary means of mitigation will prevent penetration. Translational shock is likewise mitigated. However, no claim is made that will defeat all blasts. There is no invincibility but there is substantial mitigation.

Conventional vehicles cannot survive with continued mobility. It is mobility that is needed to exit the landmine zone and armor to do so safely.

With respect for your reality test: We of course confess that a direct hit from a missile would likely succeed in total destruction. But most landmines would not severely injure occupants and the vehicle would continue its departure from the "kill zone."

The "V-shape" that you see is a design for combat. Because it is simple to construct and serves the purpose the shape is acceptable. Of course for humanitarian land mine clearing purposes the shape above the waist-line can be completely different than what is shown. Shape alone cannot defeat the blast. If they could talk, tank crews could explain this.

The shape is not the key feature. It is the novel automotive platform in combination with shape and other elements of design that mitigate the effects of the landmine blast.

How is this mitigation achieved? Systematic application of Distance, Deflection, Absorption, Resilience and Resistance.

Each of these elements are integrated within a system for the automotive platform. Many of the elements have been successful in the REALITY of the field but never integrated. It is our intent to provide this automotive platform that will better enable the safe deployment of a variety of useful techniques and equipment that make clearing operations safer and faster.

When the vehicle can be demonstrated and performance is proven it will be made available. We anticipate that the work will require about one year. If this can be in less time we will do so.

Thank you all for all that you do, We shall do what we can to help to protect deminers and to help deminers more readily complete their mission.

Reinhold

On 03/11/04 02:59 AM, "Joris.Bijkerk@winkelmannpalsis.de"

So here we go:
REALITY, as you suggest, must be dealt with. Removing 100 million land mines. That is REALITY! It is a ill see that I agree. To succeed we must confront REALITY.

Am I right that the figure of 100 million land mines was not considered as REALITY anymore?

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Lets talk about the funny APC / Protected Vehicle design of Mr. Sommerstedt:

Can anybody please explain to me how this design will prevent serious damage in case of a mine, might it be under the wheels or under the hull.

The V-shape, in my eyes is that badly designed that there will be almost no deflection. Please help me to understand!

Regards, Joris

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Subject: MgM Demining Network: Fwd: Begin destruction of Landmine in Bangladesh from today.
Date: Friday, November 5, 2004 6:04 AM
From: YOUTH APPROACH <yadc@bangla.net>
Reply-To: <network1@mgm.org>
To: <network1@mgm.org>

Hendrik Ehlers,
Director Operations + R&D
MgM Foundation - Humanitarian Landmine Clearance
website: www.mgm.org - email: he@mgm.org
mobile: +264 81 1277020 - fax: +264 61 243477

> Date: Wed, 03 Nov 2004 10:35:45 +0600
> To: "Tamara Malinova"<malinova@un.org>
> From: YOUTH APPROACH <yadc@bangla.net>
> Subject: Fwd: Begin destruction of Landmine in Bangladesh from today.
> Cc: yadcpdco@intechworld.net
> 
> >>Reply-To: "yadcpdco" <yadcpdco@intechworld.net>
> >>From: "yadcpdco" <yadcpdco@intechworld.net>
> >>To: <icblafrica@yahoogroups.com>, <icblamericas@yahoogroups.com>,
> >> <icblasiapacific@yahoogroups.com>, <icbleurope@yahoogroups.com>,
> >> <icblmeast@yahoogroups.com>
> >>Cc: "YOUTH APPROACH" <yadc@bangla.net>
> >>Subject: Begin destruction of Landmine in Bangladesh from today.
> >>Date: Tue, 2 Nov 2004 18:15:56 +0600
> >>X-Mailer: Microsoft Outlook Express 6.00.2800.1106
> >>
> >>To : Liz Bernstein & All ICBL Campaign Members.
> >>
> >>Dear all,
> >>
> >>As a State Party Bangladesh begin destruction of stockpile more than
> >>200,000 AP Landmine from today and the destruction of stockpile will be
> >>completed within the deadline March 01, 2005.
> >>
> >>Thanking you & wish a grand success in ensuing Nairobi Summit & ICBL
> >>Transition Committee.
> >>
> >>Yours truly yours,
> >>
> >>Ln. M.W.Faruque
> >>Bangladesh CBL.
> >>
> >>*******************************
> >>
> >>Youth Approach for Development & Cooperation (YADC)
> >>{(Free Mentoring MRISA/Campaign for Disarmament & Peace)
> >>3/Ka, Purana Paltan, GPO Box 3772, Dhaka 1000, Bangladesh
> >>Tel:+8802-9557160, (H) 9566227
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When you have those issues sorted out; then come talk to us.

Cheers

Roger

-----Original Message-----
From: network1@mgm.org [mailto:network1@mgm.org] On Behalf Of Reinhold Sommerstedt
Sent: Thursday, November 04, 2004 11:38 AM
To: network1@mgm.org
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: Reality.....

REALITY
It would be inappropriate to call this new vehicle an APC. While it may appear "FUNNY" to the observer it will save many lives and it will help to complete missions that are not now achievable.

The vehicle is designed to protect occupants and retain mobility. As for "serious damage" that will depend on the scale of the detonation. Our prototype will prove that continued mobility after encountering anti-tank blast. This is achieved by the fact that the wheel-triggered detonation occurs far enough away from the hull to prevent penetration and the effects of overpressure. The independent wheel avoid the disabling effects associated with conventional vehicles.

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On 03/11/04 02:59 AM, "Joris.Bijkerk@winkelmannpalsis.de" <Joris.Bijkerk@winkelmannpalsis.de> wrote:

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RUTHERFORD, Calif. - Heidi Kuhn tasted the fruits of her labors in September when she visited Croatia and sampled the first harvest from a vineyard that used to be a minefield.

``We ate the grapes,'' she says. ``We tasted peace.''

Kuhn is the founder of Roots of Peace, a humanitarian organization that is working to clear land mines and turn the earth back into farmland from Cambodia to Croatia - a project that has drawn the support of several Napa Valley vintners.

Over the past seven years, Roots of Peace, which Kuhn runs with her husband, Gary, has bankrolled the removal of hundreds of thousands of land mines and other unexploded ordnance in four countries and has helped plant vineyards and orchards in Afghanistan and Croatia, rice paddies in Cambodia and wheat fields in Iraq.

Last summer, Roots of Peace received $10 million through the U.S. Agency for International Development to work with various partners, including the University of California at Davis, to restore grape and raisin vineyards in Afghanistan. (No wine grapes are being planted in the Muslim country, where alcohol is forbidden.)

For Kuhn, removing a land mine is one ``small victory in the war on terrorism. Because a land mine is a seed of terror. Whether the boot of a soldier or the sandal of a child, it's an indiscriminate weapon of destruction.''

The organization's mines-to-vines project hires local mine-clearing companies to do the dangerous work, which often involves using modified tractors that can withstand explosions. Once the land is free of explosives, farmers move in.

``It's not just about de-mining for de-mining's sake,'' says Liz Bernstein, coordinator for the International Campaign to Ban Landmines. ``It's about returning the land to the community.''

In 2002, the International Campaign to Ban Landmines estimated that 15,000 to 20,000 deaths and injuries from land mines were occurring annually. Children particularly are at risk. Sometimes they pick up mines out of curiosity, with disastrous results.

There are still an estimated 50 million to 60 million land mines in 80 countries, but progress is being made, Bernstein says. A 1997 treaty to ban the devices has been ratified or supported by more than 140 countries. The United States is not among them. The Bush administration has said that it will instead use only ``smart'' mines that self-destruct after a certain period of time.

Kuhn, 46, lives in Marin County just north of San Francisco and has a background in TV journalism. In 1997, she was asked to host a reception for a group working on land mine removal. She had director-turned-winemaker Francis Ford Coppola send over some California wine for a toast.

``That night, I just lifted my glass and said, `May the world go from mines to vines.' And it just went quiet in the room and everyone said, `What did you say?''' Kuhn recalls. ``They said, `You need to take this out of your living room.'''
The next day, Kuhn started calling California vintners.

Among those supporting Roots of Peace is vineyard owner Diane Disney Miller, daughter of Walt Disney. She says she jumped at the chance to actually accomplish something in a world of intractable problems.

``A concrete thing you can do is to support the removal of land mines,'' Miller says. ``By doing that, you're making the land safe and welcome again for anything that the people want to do.''

Other supporters include Croatian immigrant Mike Grgich, founder of the Grgich Hills Cellar winery, and his nephew, winemaker Ivo Jeramaz, who came to the United States in 1986 and lost friends in the fighting in his homeland. Jeramaz and his uncle helped Kuhn locate mined areas that had the potential to be prime vineyards.

Tony Abrahim, an Afghan immigrant who runs the IMG Home furniture stores in California, is a big supporter of Kuhn's work in his native country, heavily mined after years of conflict.

``Every mine she takes from Afghanistan - that could be saving somebody's legs or a kid's eyes or hands or feet,'' he says.

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Good Read

Hendrik Ehlers, Director Operations + R&D
MgM Foundation - Humanitarian Landmine Clearance
website: www.mgm.org - email: he@mgm.org
mobile: +264 81 1277020 - fax: +264 61 243477
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Regards, Joris
Subject: MgM Demining Network: Reinhold &
Date: Wednesday, November 3, 2004 5:59 AM
From: Hendrik Ehlers <ehlers@mgm.org>
Reply-To: <network1@mgm.org>
To: <network1@mgm.org>

Reinhold and others

I use my right as creator of the network and cut out the submissions
arousing around who is who in the middle east conflict and related. I
encourage you to continue this directly between yourselves, but leave it off
this organ.

Thank you for understanding

Hendrik Ehlers, Director Operations + R&D
MgM Foundation - Humanitarian LandmineClearance
HEC Foundation - Humanitarian Engineering & Consulting
website: www.mgm.org - email: he@mgm.org
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> We are far from mine action, aren't we?

I do agree. All kinds of horrible things have happened and are happening out there, but for this network it may be better to keep to landmine issues.

Regards all (as someone used to say),

Lawrence
RS,

Let me know when you stop dreaming about clearing landmines, and really start doing it.

S

At 10:16 AM 11/3/2004, you wrote:
  DREAMERS, not REALISTS create the future. Every individual possesses these two vital components. Imagination without Understanding is like unto the bird that has no feet.
...
  EARTHWORK FOUNDATION: Landmine Clearing Project: The war is not over until the landmines are gone.
Thank god; someone finally asked a decent question!

Robert;

The easiest means to do this would be the old Conwep program; just simple change the depth of burst and it will show the effects. If you don’t have it, let me know off line and I can email a zipped copy to you.

Willy;

Good to finally hear from you again; how’s life?

To All;

I fully agree with Willy; can we please put a cap on the Über-tank issue and quell the well off-target political & historical statements?

Cheers

Roger

-----Original Message-----
From: network1@mgm.org [mailto:network1@mgm.org] On Behalf Of Mann Robert A
MSgt CFMO/EOD
Sent: Wednesday, November 03, 2004 11:10 AM
To: network1@mgm.org
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: IGNORANCE

Can somebody please send me the formula for determining the amount of tamping (in dirt) required per lb/kg of tnt equivalent to reduce the explosive arc of detonation by 50, 75, and 90%. Or tell me what pub it is in.

Robert A. Mann
MSgt USMC EOD
MWSS-172, 1 MAW
632-5143
090-6861-4385

-----Original Message-----
From: network1@mgm.org [mailto:network1@mgm.org]On Behalf Of John Crawford
Sent: Wednesday, November 03, 2004 4:13 AM
To: network1@mgm.org
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: IGNORANCE

Good day all,

Palestinian gunmen may or may not be "defenders", as Reinhold Sommerstedt says, but many of them seem to want to destroy Israel and
its people.

John Crawford
YOU KNOW NOTHING, THAT ONCE THE ITALIAN TROOPS WERE IN KENYA WAS ENOUGH TO LEAVE THEIR SHIT IN KENYA. YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE IN NAIROBI.

> From: Crawford John <john.crawford@psi.ch>
> Reply-To: <network1@mgm.org>
> To: <network1@mgm.org>
> Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: ARE YOU COMING TO NAIROBI?
> Date: Tue, 02 Nov 2004 20:13:18 +0100
> Good day again,
> Mr Solomon Akanga says that during the 2nd World War, "some .. intense fighting ... was staged in Kenya". But in fact, all or almost all the actual fighting was elsewhere in East Africa, with Kenya as a support area. As far as I can find out, Italian troops penetrated Kenya just once.
> Sorry, I can't come to the Nairobi meeting - I hope it goes well.
> John Crawford
> 
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Send administrative queries to  <network1-request@mgm.org>
WHAT MAKES YOU THINK THAT ISRAEL DOES NOT WANT TO DESTROY PALESTINE?, WHAT DO YOU EXPECT PALESTINE TO DO? DEFEND THEMSELVES, SO WHO ARE THEY? DEFENDERS.

>From: John Crawford <john.crawford@psi.ch>
>Reply-To: <network1@mgm.org>
>To: <network1@mgm.org>
>Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: IGNORANCE
>Date: Tue, 02 Nov 2004 20:13:18 +0100
>
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Hi Peter,

They also phased out and sold off those beautiful transport planes, the Bristol Freighters. I had many a pleasant flight with the RNZAF from Singapore to RAAF Butterworth for our Summer Camp when I was in the ATC. The only plane I have ever been in where we were given cotton wool to plug our ears up against the noise. When we got stuck in a tropical storm the plane turned into a colander, and the toilet, well the less said the better just a good job none of us was carrying cholera.

Nice to hear you are still out there.

Cheers,

--
Ken O’Connell,
Programme Director,
MgM Angola.

On 2/11/04 13:22, “peter.isaacs@undp.org” <peter.isaacs@undp.org> wrote:

> Dear Solomon,
>
> I think you will find that the Royal New Zealand Air Force is far from
> "disbanded". It phased out its Skyhawks - perhaps this is what you are
> referring to. You my like to know that Britain’s Royal Air Force is also
> proposing to phase out quite a large proportion of its offensive airpower -
> like the RNZAF Skyhawks, mostly outdated. Does this mean we are closer to the
> idealistic situation you allude to? I think not!
> >
> > PJU
> >
> ----- Original Message -----
> From: solomon akanga <maotsekanga@yahoo.com>
> Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2004 11:26 am
> Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: MY WORDS Re: MgM Demining Network:
> KORREKT! Re: DeminingNetwork: GOOD QUESTION ...
> >
> >> Some years back Newszealand disbanded its airforce wing of the
> >> military.This is an ideal state of affairs which we all should
> >> look foward to.Actually this was a revolutionary measure which was
> >> undertakenby the Newzealand government.Fighting towards this goal
> >> will herald the begining of amoment of re-evaluation by all
> >> governments of the world to do away with all this stuff of tanks
> >> doesnt matter if they are super abram etc, and all types of other
> >> array of weaponry.
> >>
> >>
> >>
> >> --------------------------
>> Do you Yahoo!?

>> Check out the new Yahoo! Front Page. www.yahoo.com/a

> 

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Send administrative queries to  <network1-request@mgm.org>
Subject: MgM Demining Network: Two Landmine/UXO gains: victory in Honduras; clearing an aerial pathway in Sudan

Date: Wednesday, November 3, 2004 4:16 AM

From: Stevens, John E <SteveJE@state.gov>

Reply-To: <network1@mgm.org>

To: <network1@mgm.org>

1. Media Note
Office of the Spokesman
Washington, D.C.
October 29, 2004

> Honduras Completes Landmine Clearance
> The United States welcomes the recent declaration by the Government of
> Honduras that it is now "mine free." This declaration reflects the
> dedication and effort of Honduran deminers who cleared 2,191 landmines,
> 214 pieces of unexploded ordnance, and 60,521 other remnants of war left
> from conflict during the 1980s scattered in nearly 1,479 square kilometers
> (571.05 square miles) on the borders with El Salvador and Nicaragua. As a
> result, the Government of Honduras estimates that more than 67,000
> families will move into this area and farm it. Honduras now joins two of
> its neighbors, El Salvador and Costa Rica, whose mine action programs were
> also supported by the United States, as former mine affected countries
> that are enabling their people to again walk and cultivate their land in
> safety.
> The United States is proud to have been a partner in making this Honduran
> success possible. Since 1995, the United States has provided
> approximately $1 million to Honduras for mine clearance, mine survivors
> assistance, a mine detecting dog program, and operational and logistical
> support for demining training conducted by U.S. and multinational teams.
> The Department of State has also fostered a successful partnership between
> the Polus Center for Social and Economic Development, the Julia Burke
> Foundation, and Grapes for Humanity, to create a center in Choluteca to
> treat landmine survivors and others with conflict-related health problems.
> Additionally, the U.S. Agency for International Development's Leahy War
> Victims Fund has provided over $700,000 to the Pan American Health
> Organization to meet the physical, social and economic development needs
> of mine survivors and others injured by war in Honduras and two other
> Central American countries.
> As standard practice, the United States assists mine affected countries to
> become "mine safe," a term that indicates that the most pressing
> humanitarian impacts of the landmines have been addressed, without
> asserting the impossible guarantee that each and every landmine has been
> removed.
> The Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement in the U.S. Department of
> State continues to provide humanitarian mine action assistance and support
> for small arms/light weapons mitigation to other countries in Central and
> South America as well as in Africa, Europe, the Middle East, Central and
> South Asia, and South East Asia. To learn more, visit
> www.state.gov/t/pm/wra.
> 2004/1180
> [End]

2. Media Note
Office of the Spokesman
Washington, D.C.
October 29, 2004

> United States Clears Unexploded Ordnance to Help Speed Relief Aid to
Sudan's Rumbek Region

The U.S. Department of State's Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement, working through its RONCO Consulting Corporation contractor, successfully completed a battlefield area clearance project by the vital dirt airstrip at Rumbek in southern Sudan. This will enable the United Nations' World Food Program (WFP) to safely improve the runway making it available to large transport aircraft, significantly increasing the volume of relief supplies provided to meet the needs of Sudanese civilians.

Rumbek is an important transit point for food, medicine and other critical items en route to needy populations in southern Sudan. Up to now, only small single and twin-engine aircraft could land at Rumbek. With the completion of the battlefield area clearance, WFP will be able to expand the airstrip so that larger aircraft such as C-130 transports can deliver greater amounts of aid.

The World Food Program is expected to begin runway and apron improvements in November.

Photos depicting the Rumbek airstrip in its present state immediately following completion of the battlefield area clearance project may be viewed online at http://www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/pix/b/37518.htm.

In 2002, the U.S. Department of State facilitated the safe return of displaced Sudanese to the Nuba Mountain region in Sudan by deploying its Quick Reaction Demining Force to clear landmines and unexploded ordnance there.

The Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement in the Bureau of Political-Military Affairs provides humanitarian mine action assistance and support for small arms/light weapons mitigation worldwide. To learn more, visit www.state.gov/t/pm/wra.

2004/1179

[End]

Released on October 29, 2004

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Send administrative queries to <network1-request@mgm.org>
On 02/11/04 01:19 AM, "Scott D Smith" <scott@hectec.cc> wrote:

RS

Well then, we're all sorted out I guess....
I wonder if rewritten doctrine is the same as tried and tested doctrine...
Too much reality can be hazardous to your health.
Are you aware of reality?

S

Reinhold Responds:

Thank you very much for your heartfelt response.

I hardly wished to imply that "we're all sorted out I guess...." That is hardly the case. That the US has altered its military doctrine will forever change the nature of warfare. Unfortunately when government principles are applied, warfare becomes even more hideous. Has not government established nuclear warfare? Government can and will do worse!

On the subject of Big tanks. Please allow me to summarize:

BIG TANKS: Big Load
BIG TANKS: Big Shoot
BIG TANKS: Big Target
BIG TANKS: Big Stop
BIG TANKS: Big Sink
BIG TANKS: Big Bang

BIGGER TANKS: Bigger

On the bright side; A true countervail will always overcome.

The monstrous Abrams or Merkava tank is stopped in its tracks by a small explosive device well-placed and carefully detonated by a child defender. With new-found
immobility the depleted uranium monster tank awaits its own utter destruction.

Countervail: Nuke the city!

If we had it all sorted out there would be no more war! It is REALITY that governments wage war to serve and protect the central banking power World Trade Cartel Monopoly. With a weapons system that would remove this, we would have it all sorted out.

Another wisened MGM correspondent wrote today that no super Abrams tank helped to prevent the attack on the World Trade Center.

I repeat the axiom: Governments Wage War for the preservation of the World Trade Cartel Monopoly. For this reason we are told by government that the mythical terrorists did the deed. Anyone with eyes can clearly see that those who blame the mythical terrorists were indeed the same ones that always do such deeds. They do these things so that all will cry out for the government to protect us! War by government is a Protection Racket.

To countervail the evil conduct of government one must overcome government. This requires a lot more power than war machines that purport to deliver Shock and Awe. The power to overcome government warfare exists. This power awaits the user to apply the force of countervail.

REALITY, as you suggest, must be dealt with. Removing 100 million land mines. That is REALITY! It is a daunting task requiring perhaps many centuries! STOPPING government additions to this catastrophe is even a greater problem! Landmines account for 70% or more of all battlefield casualties. Government intends never to stop. Governments are rewarded for continual warfare. NO TYRANT EVER RESIGNED BY REQUEST. Not even the WORLD’S LEADING TYRANT.

It is well merited to hold an healthy respect for the hazards of reality. However, one must never surrender to opposition that would remove the merit of that which is worthy. Always strive for what might be if one only chose to pursue it.

DREAMERS, not REALISTS create the future. Every individual possesses these two vital components. Imagination without Understanding is like unto the bird that has no feet.

Please understand that I make no small matter of REALITY. It appears to me that reality is taking a sharp turn. The change has come. The difference will be our doing.

I hope that you will see that I agree. To succeed we must confront REALITY.
It is my aim to help others to embrace REALITY and to help establish a NEW REALITY.

It is possible to more safely and more swiftly remove landmines from the Earth. And it is possible to stop government misconduct. These two public problems cannot be solved by government.

You wrote: "old coffee is much wiser. it has had time to perculate."

Perhaps this old coffee, thus made wiser, knows that it is time for a fresh brew!

EARTHWORK FOUNDATION
Private solutions for public problems.

Landmine Clearing Project:
The war is not over until the landmines are gone.

Reinhold Sommerstedt 702 369 0700

On 02/11/04 01:19 AM, "Scott D Smith" <scott@hectec.cc> wrote:

RS

Well then, we're all sorted out I guess....
I wonder if rewritten doctrine is the same as tried and tested doctrine...
Too much reality can be hazardous to your health.
Are you aware of reality?

S

At 08:41 PM 11/1/2004, Reinhold wrote:

Tanks, especially BIG tanks will become mere targets with increasing regularity. Already the countervail weapons have become more dangerous to the attacker than the defeat of the tank. The US military has already rewritten doctrine. FCS will dramatically change the nature of
war
fighting. This I am aware of and not ignorant.

Scott D Smith
Technical Director
HEC (Humanitarian Engineering and Consulting)
Website: www.hectec.cc
<http://www.hectec.cc/> eMail: scott@hectec.cc
Cell Phone: +264 81 128 7805
Skype: callto://scotthec
Fax: +264 61 243 477
Time Zone: GMT +1
PO Box 24394, Windhoek, Namibia, Africa 9000
engineering for necessity, elegance in simplicity

"old coffee is much wiser. it has had time to perculate."
Dear Solomon, I think you need to read your history more closely re: WW 2 and also look a little closer at the organisation of the NZ Defence Forces, oh and by the way there is no "S" in the name New Zealand. This country was named by a Dutch Explorer a long time ago and he never had an S in the original Dutch version of our countries name and to date we still have not added one!

Willy

-----Original Message-----
From: network1@mgm.org [mailto:network1@mgm.org]
On Behalf Of solomon akanga
Sent: Wednesday, 3 November 2004 00:26
To: network1@mgm.org
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: MY WORDS Re: MgM Demining Network: KORREKT! Re: DeminingNetwork: GOOD QUESTION ...

Some years back Newszealand disbanded its airforce wing of the millitary.This is an ideal state of affairs which we all should look foward to. Actually this was a revolutionary measure which was undertaken by the Newszealand government. Fighting towards this goal will herald the begining of a moment of re-evaluation by all governments of the world to do away with all this stuff of tanks doesnt matter if they are super abram etc, and all types of other array of weaponry.

Do you Yahoo!?
Check out the new Yahoo! Front Page. www.yahoo.com</a <http://www.yahoo.com>
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: IGNORANCE
Date: Wednesday, November 3, 2004 4:10 AM
From: Mann Robert A MSgt CFAO/EOD <Robert.Mann@kadena.af.mil>
Reply-To: <network1@mgm.org>
To: <network1@mgm.org>

Can somebody please send me the formula for determining the amount of tamping (in dirt) required per lb/kg of tnt equivilant to reduce the explosive arc of detonation by 50, 75, and 90%. Or tell me what pub it is in.

Robert A. Mann
MSgt USMC EOD
MWSS-172, 1 MAW
632-5143
090-6861-4385

-----Original Message-----
From: network1@mgm.org [mailto:network1@mgm.org]On Behalf Of John Crawford
Sent: Wednesday, November 03, 2004 4:13 AM
To: network1@mgm.org
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: IGNORANCE

Good day all,

Palestinian gunmen may or may not be "defenders", as Reinhold Sommerstedt says, but many of them seem to want to destroy Israel and its people.

John Crawford

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Dear all,

My point of view is that a "defender" is a "terrorist" who won the war, quiet often History books decide who is "defender" and who is "terrorist". We are far from mine action, aren't we?

Manuel GONZAL

-----Message d'origine-----
De : network1@mgm.org [mailto:network1@mgm.org]De la part de John Crawford
Envoye : mardi 2 novembre 2004 20:13
A : network1@mgm.org
Objet : Re: MgM Demining Network: IGNORANCE

Good day all,

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Thank you Peter and hello. As you so rightly point out the Royal New Zealand Air Force did phase out their Skyhawks. At the time they were very good strike aircraft. Whilst they may not have had the speed of an F 16 or Tornado their avionics was arguably in advance of any other strike aircraft of its vintage or any other A4 Skyhawk in the world. Our Defence Forces are struggling due to the Softly Softly touchy feely Greenie attitude of our Labour Government. The decision was not universally accepted by our Allies or Senior members of the Defence Forces. However given the size of the NZ Defence Forces our Air Force could never been considered as disbanded. We still operate a C 130 Squadron as well as P 3 Orion Sub hunters, Helicopters which seem to spend a lot of time in the Pacific (East Timor, Solomon Islands etc) We are still able to play our part down here in the South West Pacific, I am not sure where Solomon is from but if it is Kenya I think our capability and professional can do attitude will out strip anything that Kenya is capable of. I thought this was a Demining Forum, it seems to have degenerated into some sort of squabble network where people espouse all sorts of tree hugging garbble of late.

Regards Willy Williscroft

-----Original Message-----
From: network1@mgm.org [mailto:network1@mgm.org]On Behalf Of peter.isaacs@undp.org
Sent: Wednesday, 3 November 2004 01:23
To: network1@mgm.org
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: MY WORDS Re: MgM Demining Network: KORREKT! Re: DeminingNetwork: GOOD QUESTION ...

Dear Solomon,

I think you will find that the Royal New Zealand Air Force is far from "disbanded". It phased out its Skyhawks - perhaps this is what you are referring to. You my like to know that Britain's Royal Air Force is also proposing to phase out quite a large proportion of its offensive airpower - like the RNZAF Skyhawks, mostly outdated. Does this mean we are closer to the idealistic situation you allude to? I think not!

PJI

----- Original Message ----- 
From: solomon akanga <maotsekanga@yahoo.com>
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2004 11:26 am
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: MY WORDS Re: MgM Demining Network: KORREKT! Re: DeminingNetwork: GOOD QUESTION ...

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Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: MgM Demining. No E-vehicle will provide utmost protection
Date: Wednesday, November 3, 2004 4:10 AM
From: Paul Williscroft <williscroft@xtra.co.nz>
Reply-To: <network1@mgm.org>
To: <network1@mgm.org>

Dear Solomon, have you been in Iraq in the last 12 months. We can all hope for peace but I think your efforts would be better directed at teaching PINK PIGS TO FLY! Lets get real here and get back to the forum of discussing Demining Issues, problems and techniques etc.

Willy

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On Behalf Of solomon akanga
Sent: Wednesday, 3 November 2004 01:23
To: network1@mgm.org
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: MgM Demining. No E-vehicle will provide utmost protection

From what is happening in Iraq we can`t guys deceive ourseves that science can develop an E-vehicle this is impossible when i read an article suggesting this,my mind revisited whole concept of terrorism where the best intelligence machine in the world couldn`t stop the bombing of WTC.Such analogy goes on to Israel where the Merkava Tank has been undergoing continous upgrading however this hasnt stopped it to being successfully attacked by the palestinians (others will preffer calling them Palestinian Terrorists).Lets guys accept that way toachieve success in this is just to hope that peace sustained in the whole world will ensure the effects and tools of demining will wont be there to pre-occupy us.

Do you Yahoo!?
Check out the new Yahoo! Front Page. www.yahoo.com</a> <http://www.yahoo.com>
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: ARE YOU COMING TO NAIROBI?
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2004 2:13 PM
From: Crawford John <john.crawford@psi.ch>
Reply-To: <network1@mgm.org>
To: <network1@mgm.org>

Good day again,

Mr Solomon Akanga says that during the 2nd World War, "some .. intense fighting . . . was staged in Kenya". But in fact, all or almost all the actual fighting was elsewhere in East Africa, with Kenya as a support area. As far as I can find out, Italian troops penetrated Kenya just once.

Sorry, I can't come to the Nairobi meeting - I hope it goes well.

John Crawford

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(I'm breaking the first rule of lurking here in sticking my two cents in.)

"You state "Palestinian terrorists used [ command detonated mines] against
>the Israeli Merkava tanks." This statement reflects the narrow view that
>first, the Palestinians are "Terrorists" when in fact they are defenders.

This is a nice point, both in the narrow debating sense and in the broader
sense that it is symptomatic of the real war, which is rooted in attitude.
Attitude fuels adrenaline, which in turn fuels desperate action. Die,
terrorist/infidel/apostate!

The cook whose kitchen is invaded by ants views them as the aggressor in a
war between humans and insects, and tries desperately to kill the invaders.
Die, ant! This is war, at least from the human perspective.

The cook whose kitchen is visited by hungry ants views them as foragers
driven either opportunistically (crumbs on the counter reported by scouts),
or as refugees (from heat, rain, etc). This is coexistence (not necessarily
peaceful).

While the cook may still prefer the ants to behave themselves or go elsewhere,
the difference is one of attitude: invaders vs. foragers.

I view ants in the former light, but my wife the biologist sees them the
other way. If she had not, I would have remained blissfully unaware that
there was any other way.

While I continue to wage war on the ants myself, I confess to being impressed
with the alternative. If ants could not only talk my language but work
in a cooperative manner, I could see my little war easing up considerably.
Dumb ants!

Ants and attitudes -- hardy little critters, both.

Vaughan Pratt
"apparently after the 2nd world war no demining initiative was undertaken as we have also to know bulk of some of intense fighting of this war was staged in Kenya"

Care to tell us exactly where these "intense" battles of WWII were fought in Kenya?
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: MY WORDS   Re: MgM Demining Network: KORREKT!   Re: DeminingNetwork: GOOD QUESTION ...

Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2004 7:22 AM
From: peter.isaacs@undp.org
Reply-To: <network1@mgm.org>
To: <network1@mgm.org>

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Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2004 11:26 am
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From what is happening in Iraq we can`t guys deceive ourseves that science can develop an E-vehicle this is impossible when i read an article suggesting this,my mind revisited whole concept of terrorism where the best intelligence machine in the world couldn`t stop the bombing of WTC.Such analogy goes on to Israel where the Merkava Tank has been undergoing continous upgrading however this hasnt stopped it to being successfully attacked by the palestinians (others will preffer calling them Palestinian Terrorists).Lets guys accept that way toachieve success in this is just to hope that peace sustained in the whole world will ensure the effects and tools of demining will wont be there to pre-occupy us.

Do you Yahoo!?  
Check out the new Yahoo! Front Page. www.yahoo.com <http://www.yahoo.com>
Hi guys its not long before the above conference take off. Though Kenya isn't much affected by the phenomenon in comparison to their nations, we have our own share where severally we have British Soldiers coming to Kenya for trainings and severaly they leave this ordinances in residential areas mostly of pastoral people. Every now and then report point to numerous death as a result of this ordinances exploding mostly when tampered of by locals. Also apparently after the 2nd world war no demining initiative was undertaken as we have also to know bulk of some of intense fighting of this war was staged in Kenya, Because most of this mines stay long reports of people being maimed are quite common.

So guys with this short state of affairs who has taken the challenge to come to this conference?

Do you Yahoo!?  
Check out the new Yahoo! Front Page. www.yahoo.com <http://www.yahoo.com>
Some years back Newszealand disbanded its airforce wing of the millitary. This is an ideal state of affairs which we all should look forward to. Actually this was a revolutionary measure which was undertaken by the Newszealand government. Fighting towards this goal will herald the begining of a moment of re-evaluation by all governments of the world to do away with all this stuff of tanks doesn't matter if they are super abram etc, and all types of other array of weaponry.

Do you Yahoo!?
Check out the new Yahoo! Front Page. www.yahoo.com <http://www.yahoo.com>
RS

Well then, we're all sorted out I guess....
I wonder if rewritten doctrine is the same as tried and tested doctrine...
Too much reality can be hazardous to your health.
Are you aware of reality?

S

At 08:41 PM 11/1/2004, Reinhold wrote:

Tanks, especially BIG tanks will become mere targets with increasing regularity. Already the countervail weapons have become more dangerous to
the attacker than the defeat of the tank. The US military has already rewritten doctrine. FCS will dramatically change the nature of war fighting. This I am aware of and not ignorant.

Scott D Smith
Technical Director
HEC (Humanitarian Engineering and Consulting)
Website: www.hectec.cc
<http://www.hectec.cc/> eMail: scott@hectec.cc
Cell Phone: +264 81 128 7805
Skype: callto://scotthec
Fax: +264 61 243 477
Time Zone: GMT +1
PO Box 24394, Windhoek, Namibia, Africa 9000
engineering for necessity, elegance in simplicity

"old coffee is much wiser. it has had time to perculate."
"You state "Palestinian terrorists used [command detonated mines] against the Israeli Merkava tanks." This statement reflects the narrow view that first, the Palestinians are "Terrorists" when in fact they are defenders. You refer to the "Israeli Merkava tanks." These are of course American tanks with a different name."

Anyone who thinks that the Israeli Merkava is an American tank with a different name should stay out of the business of selling armored vehicles.

#############################################################
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My term: “Super tank “ is my term for the Abrams tank. I apologize for my informal manner but I just cannot get enthused about the names of these things. You will see a lot of tanks of all kinds. These are an extreme waste. There is a future. There will be fewer tanks. They will become dubious if not obscure.

Reinhold

On 01/11/04 11:41 AM, "GZahaczews@aol.com" <GZahaczews@aol.com> wrote:

   Rheinhold:

     What is an "American Super Tank?" During the course of a year in Iraq, I saw hundreds of tanks, some destroyed and some sitting in depots. I saw British Chieftains, Russian T-55s, T-62s, and some French tanks, but I don't recall ever seeing a "super tank" - American or otherwise.

     George
Herr AG,

You remain Korrekt! And I appreciate your communication. Of course you are correct. I am not involved in Abrams tank operations anywhere.

Ignorance is not merely inaction. It is not merely circumstance. In the face of the availability of knowledge, ignorance is an ACTION.

ig·no·rant adj
1. lacking knowledge and education in general or in a specific subject
2. unaware of something
3. caused by a lack of understanding or experience
4. Caribbean quarrelsome and aggressive

While you may see Abrams rolling around Iraq it does not mean that they are effective. In the end these will cease rolling and only the footfall will secure the land. Shock and Awe did not win a victory, it delivered defeat. Making a land desolate, there is no victory in this!

Already 70% of all war fighting casualties are caused by landmines. When the troops leave the battlefield the war is not over. The war is not until the landmines are gone.

You may think me unfamiliar with armor operations in Iraq will not alter the reality. Ground warfare has already met a sharp turn. War is Chaos.

Tanks, especially BIG tanks will become mere targets with increasing regularity. Already the countervail weapons have become more dangerous to the attacker than the defeat of the tank. The US military has already rewritten doctrine. FCS will dramatically change the nature of war fighting. This I am aware of and not ignorant.

A countervail to the BIG tank has arrived and it will succeed in altering the form of war fighting armor. There are many examples of this process occurring in history. As in the case of buggy whips, few believe the change will come so easily and so swiftly.

You state "Palestinian terrorists used [command detonated mines] against the Israeli Merkava tanks."

This statement reflects the narrow view that first, the Palestinians are "Terrorists" when in fact they are defenders. You refer to the "Israeli Merkava tanks." These are of course American tanks with a different name.

Because of the grand scale confusion CHAOS will rule the future. These conditions will not abate while central powers invade and occupy sovereign nations. There has never been a victory only a continual occupation. Tanks cannot secure these occupations.

As long as defenders are believed to be what they are not foolish people will send tanks to contain the resistance. Others, more foolish than the
sender (central power) will crew these coffins.

The problem with BIG tanks is more about logistics than battlefield realities. Sooner or later the supplier will run out of the means to support these operations. It is sort of like NASA holding back private exploration of Space by controlling the money for BIG expensive and horribly inefficient space craft. This year, after decades of believing the lie private space travel has been accomplished. No one can UN RING that bell.

You may be right about the present use of Abrams tanks but it is not combat, it is merely occupation. Shotguns kill a lot of frogs until the rounds are spent. There are more frogs.

Make no mistake. For every weapon there is always a countervail.

Big tanks lack the agility for war fighting and require more attention by the user than the target. Sort of like sending a trooper to fight with a ball and chain. At first it seems useful but soon it becomes the hazard.

An atrocious act itself, killing a lot of Iraqis with Big tanks is not a test of the armor. That is ridiculous!

Strykers? Are these better? Hardly!

HMMV, now there is a real death trap!

So when you sum it all up there is much lacking in the conduct of warfare as currently practiced.

The sword draweth nigh.

Thank you for your hard work

Reinhold

On 01/11/04 12:59 AM, "ACARLG@aol.com" <ACARLG@aol.com> wrote:

> "Or examine the question why these monstrosities remain stationary in Bosnia
> and now in Baghdad. Moreover, who, being well informed, would assume command
> or become a crewmember of a tank in current threat warfare? Future dead men.
> No current tank or other armored vehicle can sustain modern combat
> effectiveness."
> >
> > With all due respect, Herr Sommerstedt, bullshit! You’re obviously not
> > familiar with the current armor operations in Iraq. The M1A2 tanks in theater
> > are constantly "on call" for support missions, to the point that they’re
> > incurring something like 300% of their normal operational hours.
> > > There have been a few Abrams tank losses to large Command Detonated Mines
> > (which the US insists on calling I.E.D.s). However, these have been LARGE
> > charges - not unlike what the Palestinian terrorists used against the Israeli
> > Merkava tanks.
> > > Mine Proof Vehicles have their place in 21st century operations, but making a
> blanket declaration that the "tank is useless" only displays ignorance.
> 
> AG
>
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George
Hi,

I have read some of the emails. The little experience that I do have is as a sapper in 1978/79 in SWA/Angola border. Our task as part of the engineer corps was to ensure safe passage for all military vehicles on designated routes. Many of the mines that were lifted i.e. TM57 were connected with electrical detonators wired to a (Y) stick wrapped in copperwire, which was placed in a plastic bag including the battery separately but connected with the necessary wire connections. The mines were then placed in the middle of the two tyre tracks which would be hundred percent normal to the target i.e. between front and rear axle. Two mines would be placed back-to-back together and another two with pom-z underneath so as to serve as anti-lift device with loosely connected wires to these same mines.

Now a normal procedure to sweep a portion of the road is to ensure that no vehicle is close behind should a sapper miss the object i.e. (Y) stick. This (Y) stick would be placed in the vehicle track so as ensure detonation by number of ways., namely by an inexperienced Engineer, any vehicle, cattle. Percentage in the order 25%, determining factor was time. Typical mine i.e. a cheesemine would be a quick one placed in the tracks. More experienced person laying the mine would be the determining factor.

Once this setup denotes it will blast in the centre of vehicle and cause the most damage. Includes anti-mine vehicles too. I witnessed many mine incidents. Both hard and soft vehicles. Images 36KG of explosives designed for tanks. We lifted +_ 400 mines in the first four months in 79. Most of the TM57's were placed against tree then shot with a rifle to denote it. Precaution) Speed is always a factor the vehicle rolls and the loose objects creates havoc inside the vehicle. Some ignorant people felt the faster they travel they can avoid the impact.

I hope this helps.

-----Original Message-----
From: network1@mgm.org [mailto:network1@mgm.org] On Behalf Of wdmgm@ebonet.net
Sent: Saturday, October 30, 2004 8:04 PM
To: network1@mgm.org
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: Vehicle Mines

See also 'Taming the Landmine' by Peter Stiff, there is a statistic of Northern Namibia in the 70's-80's.

Hans Georg Kruessen
I have been casually looking into this and have based my "research" on photos I have found on the Internet. These photos are primarily of military vehicles and about 20% Demining and NGO stuff. Most from mil sites 30% from news sites. I have about 6 gig of pix in my library now.

General observations...
smaller vehicles (HMMW) is mostly front wheel dets.
larger vehicles (APC and construction machines - graders) are mostly rear wheel dets.
that is pretty general though. Speed of travel may be a factor in the result (damage and maybe front/rear).
I would also be interested if anyone has more data on this.

At 06:55 AM 10/19/2004, you wrote:
>I am looking into the threat of mines and vehicle protection. Has anyone got any statistics on the percentage of mines that detonate under / near the front wheels as opposed to the belly or rear wheels of a vehicle? I assume that most mines are set off by the front wheels but would like to know if there are any studies on the subject.

Regards,

Ashley
"Or examine the question why these monstrosities remain stationary in Bosnia and now in Baghdad. Moreover, who, being well informed, would assume command or become a crewmember of a tank in current threat warfare? Future dead men. No current tank or other armored vehicle can sustain modern combat effectiveness."

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Mine Proof Vehicles have their place in 21st century operations, but making a blanket declaration that the "tank is useless" only displays ignorance.

AG

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influence sensors are normally based on coils that are mostly sensitive to the magnetic signature of a tank. This signature consists of a sequence of voltage peaks induced on the coil. Also normal car engines can induce similar voltage peaks. In any case such sensors are sensitive to the engine position.

alfieri

----- Original Message ----- 
From: wdmgm@ebonet.net 
To: network1@mgm.org 
Sent: Saturday, October 30, 2004 8:03 PM 
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: Vehicle Mines

> See also 'Taming the Landmine' by Peter Stiff, there is a statistic of 
> Northern Namibia in the 70's-80's. 
> 
> Hans Georg Kruessen 
> 
> Quoting Scott D Smith <scott@hectec.cc>: 
> 
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> > 
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> > 
> > scott 
> > 
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> > got any statistics on the percentage of mines that detonate under / near
the front wheels as opposed to the belly or rear wheels of a vehicle? I assume that most mines are set off by the front wheels but would like to know if there are any studies on the subject.

Regards,

Ashley

ashley.dean@aigis.co.uk

Scott D Smith
Technical Director
HEC (Humanitarian Engineering and Consulting)
Website: www.hectec.cc
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Cell Phone: +264 81 128 7805
Skype: callto://scotthec
Fax: +264 61 243 477
Time Zone: GMT +1
PO Box 24394, Windhoek, Namibia, Africa 9000
engineering for necessity, elegance in simplicity

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#----------------------------------------------------------
EARTHWORK FOUNDATION Landmine Clearing Project

Dear Mr. Punde,

I am interested in your device. We are building a special vehicle capable of occupant survival and continued mobility after detonation of landmine. Your device would be useful.

Please send your particulars to this email address:

reinhold@wealthkeeper.net

Reinhold Sommerstedt  702 369 0700

On 30/10/04 11:03 AM, "D.Pramod Kumar" <dpramodk@yahoo.com> wrote:

> Mr.Ashley
> Since last two to three years I contine put it my
> Instrument on this MgM forum, My self is designer of this
> instrument its given advance warning of Land mines and
> IED's! Before reaching to planted point of such Explosive
> Divises,It’s only fitted on front bumper on vehicle,it
> will scanning the road ahead of your vehicle
> contineu,whenever such mines or IED’s come 900 metre ahead
> of your vehicle it will give automatic warning.It will scan
> under the surface of road seven feet.Therefore if you reach
> as soon as 900 meter before the such danger mine or IED's
> you will stop your vehicle and save yourself as well as
> save your vehicle and also other vehicle’s follow your
> vehicle.
> But due to Red tapisam in my country's Goverment and
> mysterious attitude of one joint secretary in the Ministry
> of Home of my Goverment,This joint Secretary is also
> Incharge of Police force Modernisetionof country's hole
> police force,He is Joint secretaty in this ministry of Home
> Insurgency and Terrorisam and also he is Indian
> Administration Service cader officer of 1976 batch,His Name
> is Mr.Harminder Singh Raj Singh and he is Sardarji.
> This my Instrument is not coming for international Police
> use in any were in the world.
> I was wrote so many time to verious world Orgnisation but I
> not get any reply yet exept one invitation from American
> Goverment,I was reply'd this Invitation but since last two
> years I not get any reply from American Goverment.as well
> as United Nation.
> Now any body Interested about this Instrument or technology
> they are well come to me.
> Pramod Kumar Punde
> New Delhi
> Telephone:- 91 98691 33240 (Celluler)
> Email:- jndpd@yahoo.com
--- Ashley Dean <ashley.dean@aigis.co.uk> wrote:
>> I am looking into the threat of mines and vehicle protection. Has any one
>> got any statistics on the percentage of mines that detonate under / near the
>> front wheels as opposed to the belly or rear wheels of a vehicle? I assume
>> that most mines are set off by the front wheels but would like to know if
>> there are any studies on the subject.
>> Regards,
>> Ashley
>> ashley.dean@aigis.co.uk

> "Yahoo! Messenger - Communicate instantly..."Ping"
> your friends today! Download Messenger Now
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> Send administrative queries to <network1-request@mgm.org>
Hi George
I was in Iraq not very long: from 7 of May. More of time we worked in Baghdad and located firstly in Green zone (CPA) and after that in Al-Mansur, not far from TV tower. What about locals, I,m sure, more of them are good guys. I had not any problems with them. We had walks in Baghdad,s streets with covered weapons and had many contacts with people. You are right, there is not very large number of Russians there, but I had met few. Maybe we had meeting there, for example in CPA in Saddam,s palace or in „Victoria‰. Best regards, Andrey

----- Original Message -----

From: GZahaczews@aol.com
To: network1@mgm.org
Sent: Saturday, October 30, 2004 9:03 PM
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: Iraq news?

Andrey:

I also came back from Iraq in September after a one year assignment there, and could not DISAGREE with you more. I did not see many Russians while I was there, but I do know that our British colleagues are also having a difficult time. (Does the name Bigley mean anything to you?)

George
Subject: MgM Demining Network: KORREKT! Re: Demining Network: GOOD QUESTION Re: MgMDemining Network: Vehicle Mines

Date: Sunday, October 31, 2004 9:59 AM
From: Reinhold Sommerstedt <reinhold@wealthkeeper.net>
Reply-To: <network1@mgm.org>
To: <network1@mgm.org>

PJL

Yes the German Tiger Tank did its work easily because the Sherman Tank was vastly inferior to the Tiger. However, the nature of armor combat promulgates increasingly heavier armor. That peaked with the German King Tiger Tank. This monster was designed as necessary to overcome the Soviet Countervail of big guns against the Tiger. Despite a marvelous response in design and execution that German behemoth failed to even arrive. Mostly because of the logistical realities and the shear WEIGHT of the armor required to resist the resistor. The King Tiger swiftly sank into the quagmire of the Russian Spring.

Germany sought to rescue the Russians from the Bolsheviks. The Americans sought to help the Bolsheviks. The silly Shermans were sent by the Americans merely to distract the German forces from more important duties in the Eastern Front. That thousand of US troops were sacrificed by Command Authority that knew that the Sherman tanks would fail was not their concern. It was the American Alliance with the Bolshevik Soviets that enabled the Communists to win the continual war at that time. BIG TANKS did nothing but cost the Germans more industrial strength which was the actual target. This was a war of attrition. Ten thousand German and Russian boys with RPG would have done more to help the German advance toward Moscow than the King Tiger.

In fact, it was none other than the heroic General George Patton that called for Rearming the German military and "go to Moscow and kill the Sons of Bitches." That is the Bolsheviks. He did not call for bigger tanks.

For a modern day version of this big tank question read the facts about deployment of Abrams in the theatrical "Gulf War." Or examine the question why these monstrosities remain stationary in Bosnia and now in Baghdad.

Moreover, who, being well informed, would assume command or become a crewmember of a tank in current threat warfare? Future dead men.

No current tank or other armored vehicle can sustain modern combat effectiveness. The HMMV of course is and always has been a death trap when used for combat. It makes a cute impression at the Country Club but no combat soldier would wish to commit suicide by driving one of these through a combat zone or even any part of Iraq or similarly occupied country.

In war fighting it is readiness, competence, agility and endurance that make victory. Those were former American Super Tanks that were sold to Saddam Hussein for oil, that were pulverized by the vast fusillade of DU rounds delivered by the Abrams tanks (which took 8 months to deploy) and air to ground missiles in the infamous Turkey Shoot in the Gulf. Power may win the day, especially if your pretended opponent waits for you to arrive and prepare, but it will not sustain victory. The super tank success proves this as plain as an elephant sinking into the quagmire.

However, I am willing to see arguments that would support the efficacy of
SUPER ARMORED VEHICLES except as they might encircle the capital building awaiting the fall of the LAST BOMB.

Thank you for your important point.
Reinhold

On 30/10/04 11:03 AM, "Peter Isaacs" <peter.isaacs@undp.org> wrote:

> Heavy tank - bad concept? Perhps you have been reading different military
> history. than I have. Try reading about German Tiger vs US Sherman contests
> in Normandy circa 1944 as an example.
>
> PJI
> ----- Original Message ----- 
> From: "Reinhold Sommerstedt" <reinhold@wealthkeeper.net>
> To: <network1@mgm.org>
> Sent: Tuesday, October 26, 2004 2:10 AM
> Subject: MgM Demining Network: GOOD QUESTION Re: MgM Demining Network:
> Vehicle Mines
>
> >> Ashley,
> >> Excellent question! I have not seen any scientific assessments. I
> >> think that it is safe to assume that the count used to be mostly FRONT
> >> wheels. The underbelly blast is a new phenomena based on the
> >> technology of proximity switches and the guerilla resistance in Iraq
> >> and elsewhere. The limited resources of a poor nation resisting
> >> occupation necessitates the expediency that has always brought
> >> advancement.
> >>
> >> The VERY HEAVY Abrams Tank was proven to be a bad concept in WW II.
> >> The disaster of the unprotected Humvee tells the other side of the
> >> plight of the war fighter.. A conventional vehicle cannot survive the
> >> blast and most certainly cannot protect the occupants., We hope to
> >> mitigate this. What then do deminers have for protection? Not enough!
> >>
> >> We are developing e vehicle that can help provide a large protection.
> >> A copy attached.
> >> I would like to hear if you get any report of statistics. Please send
> >> any response that you are willing to share with me. It will help win
> >> the hearts and minds of supporters.
> >>
> >> EARTHWORK FOUNDATION is a nascent organization. We have a large goal
> >> and a daunting task it is! I wish that I could say that "help is on
> >> the way" But that would be unkind. The large task to acquire large
> >> funding takes large amounts of time.. But we are optimistic.
> >>
> >> Deminers and survivors give us the humility we need to focus on the
> >> task of providing protection. The vehicle is capable of losing two ad
> >> even three wheels yet maintain mobility and safety the occupants.
> >> Continued mobility is essential. Of course there is much more to do in
> >> mine clearing than ride a strong vehicle. These new concept vehicles
> >> will provide a safe and speedy transit to the work site and into the
> >> fray. Equipment deployed in this manner should prove to be much more
> >> durable and effective.
> >>
> >> Reinhold Sommerstedt 702 369 0700
> >>
On Oct 18, 2004, at 10:55 PM, Ashley Dean wrote:
I am looking into the threat of mines and vehicle protection. Has any
one got any statistics on the percentage of mines that detonate under /
near the front wheels as opposed to the belly or rear wheels of a vehicle? I
assume that most mines are set off by the front wheels but would like to know
if there are any studies on the subject.

Regards,

Ashley

ashley.dean@aegis.co.uk
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Date: Saturday, October 30, 2004 2:03 PM
From: Peter Isaacs <peter.isaacs@undp.org>
Reply-To: <network1@mgm.org>
To: <network1@mgm.org>

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To: <network1@mgm.org>
Sent: Tuesday, October 26, 2004 2:10 AM
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> there are any studies on the subject.
> Regards,
> Ashley
> ashley.dean@aigis.co.uk
Interesting pics, if the message is a little confused. Presumably from the text of your message (and your response to this website) Earthwork Foundation is an NGO, looking for humanitarian funding? If so, why the guns?

Bob K

-----Original Message-----
From: network1-report@mgm.org [mailto:network1-report@mgm.org] On Behalf Of Reinhold Sommerstedt
Sent: 25 October 2004 22:10
To: network1@mgm.org
Subject: MgM Demining Network: GOOD QUESTION Re: MgM Demining Network: Vehicle Mines

Ashley,
Excellent question! I have not seen any scientific assessments. I think that it is safe to assume that the count used to be mostly FRONT wheels. The underbelly blast is a new phenomena based on the technology of proximity switches and the guerilla resistance in Iraq and elsewhere. The limited resources of a poor nation resisting occupation necessitates the expediency that has always brought advancement.

The VERY HEAVY Abrams Tank was proven to be a bad concept in WW II. The disaster of the unprotected Humvee tells the other side of the plight of the war fighter. A conventional vehicle cannot survive the blast and most certainly cannot protect the occupants. We hope to mitigate this. What then do deminers have for protection? Not enough!

We are developing e vehicle that can help provide a large protection. A copy attached.
I would like to hear if you get any report of statistics. Please send any response that you are willing to share with me. It will help win the hearts and minds of supporters.

EARTHWORK FOUNDATION is a nascent organization. We have a large goal and a daunting task it is! I wish that I could say that "help is on the way" But that would be unkind. The large task to acquire large funding takes large amounts of time. But we are optimistic.

Deminers and survivors give us the humility we need to focus on the task of providing protection. The vehicle is capable of losing two ad even three wheels yet maintain mobility and safety the occupants. Continued mobility is essential. Of course there is much more to do in mine clearing than ride a strong vehicle. These new concept vehicles will provide a safe and speedy transit to the work site and into the fray. Equipment deployed in this manner should prove to be much more durable and effective.

Reinhold Sommerstedt 702 369 0700
This message is sent to you because you are subscribed to
the mailing list <network1@mgm.org>.
To unsubscribe, E-mail to: <network1-off@mgm.org>
To switch to the Digest mode, E-mail to <network1-digest@mgm.org>
Send administrative queries to  <network1-request@mgm.org>
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: Iraq news?
Date: Saturday, October 30, 2004 2:03 PM
From: GZahaczews@aol.com
Reply-To: <network1@mgm.org>
To: <network1@mgm.org>

Andrey:

I also came back from Iraq in September after a one year assignment there, and could not DISAGREE with you more. I did not see many Russians while I was there, but I do know that our British colleagues are also having a difficult time. (Does the name Bigley mean anything to you?)

George
See also 'Taming the Landmine' by Peter Stiff, there is a statistic of Northern Namibia in the 70's-80's.

Hans Georg Kruessen

Quoting Scott D Smith <scott@hectec.cc>:

> Ashley,
> 
> I have been casually looking into this and have based my "research" on
> photos i have found on the Internet.
> These photos are primarily of military vehicles and about 20% Demining and
> NGO stuff.
> Most from mil sites 30% from news sites.
> I have about 6 gig of pix in my library now.
> 
> General observations...
> smaller vehicles (HMMV) is mostly front wheel dets.
> larger vehicles (APC and construction machines - graders) are mostly rear
> wheel dets.
> that is pretty general though. Speed of travel may be a factor in the
> result (damage and maybe front/rear).
> 
> I would also be interested if anyone has more data on this.
> 
> scott
> 
> At 06:55 AM 10/19/2004, you wrote:
> > I am looking into the threat of mines and vehicle protection. Has any one
> > got any statistics on the percentage of mines that detonate under / near
> > the
> > front wheels as opposed to the belly or rear wheels of a vehicle? I
> > assume
> > that most mines are set off by the front wheels but would like to know if
> > there are any studies on the subject.
> >
> > Regards,
> >
> > Ashley
> >
> > ashley.dean@aigis.co.uk
> >
> > Scott D Smith
> > Technical Director
> > HEC (Humanitarian Engineering and Consulting)
> > Website: www.hectec.cc
> > eMail: scott@hectec.cc
> > Cell Phone: +264 81 128 7805
> > Skype: callto://scotthec
Mr. Ashley

Since last two to three years I continue put it my Instrument on this MgM forum. My self is designer of this instrument its given advance warning of Land mines and IED's! Before reaching to planted point of such Explosive Divises, It's only fitted on front bumper on vehicle, it will scanning the road ahead of your vehicle. 

whenever such mines or IED's come 900 metre ahead of your vehicle it will give automatic warning. It will scan under the surface of road seven feet. Therefore if you reach as soon as 900 meter before the such danger mine or IED's you will stop your vehicle and save yourself as well as save your vehicle and also other vehicle's follow your vehicle.

But due to Red tapiasam in my country's Goverment and mysterious attitude of one joint secretary in the Ministry of Home of my Goverment, This joint Secretary is also Incharge of Police force Modernisation of country's hole police force, He is Joint secretary in this ministry of Home Insurgency and Terrorism and also he is Indian Administration Service cader officer of 1976 batch, His Name is Mr. Harminder Singh Raj Singh and he is Sardarji. This my Instrument is not coming for international Police use in any were in the world.

I was wrote so many time to verious world Organisition but I not get any reply yet except one invitation from American Goverment, I was reply'd this Invitation but since last two years I not get any reply from American Goverment as well as United Nation.

Now any body Interested about this Instrument or technology they are well come to me.

Pramod Kumar Punde
New Delhi
Telephone:- 91 98691 33240 (Celluler)
Email:- jndpd@yahoo.com
        punde54@hotmail.com

--- Ashley Dean <ashley.dean@aigis.co.uk> wrote:
> I am looking into the threat of mines and vehicle protection. Has any one
> got any statistics on the percentage of mines that detonate under / near the
> front wheels as opposed to the belly or rear wheels of a vehicle? I assume
> that most mines are set off by the front wheels but would like to know if
> there are any studies on the subject.
> >
> Regards,
Hello everyone

I have been asked by GICHD to assist in a study to investigate the environmental impact of demining machines.

This work will concentrate on considering the impact of machines on the cost-effectiveness of mine clearance and will also consider the environmental impact of machines. I am writing this email to solicit responses on the second of these issues, i.e. environmental impact. It is intended to sub-divide this issue into 2 subsidiary components as follows

1. Short term Impacts i.e. unintended consequences that affect the subsequent progress of manual deminers

2. Long term Impacts i.e. effects on the subsequent use of the processed land

Please find attached a questionnaire and some explanatory notes.

I'd be grateful for any responses

Cheers

Bob Keeley
Scoping questionnaire for measuring the environmental impact of demining machines

Explanatory Notes

Introduction

Machines are an asset to demining operations. They can expedite the very slow process of manual demining by preparing ground. However, it is possible that there are circumstances where machines cause such dramatic damage to the soil over which they operate, that their advantages are nullified.

The decision whether to deploy a machine on a mine clearance task, and the specific machine appropriate to the circumstances, is, at present, a matter of engineering judgement, gained by experience and knowledge of the characteristics of the machine in question. For example, common sense would suggest that to use a powerful sapper where little productive top soil exists is thin and delicate, would risk destroying the soil structure. In other examples, the judgement might be less clear; some areas would favour the use of machines only in certain periods of the year – not at the height of wet or dry seasons, for example. Even where machines do cause damage, it may also be possible to introduce suitable and cost-effective environmental remediation techniques.

The environmental effects of mechanical application is therefore a topic upon which light needs to be shed. The GICHAD recognises that there may be a potential threat of serious damage to soil posed by inappropriate mechanical application. However, the Centre recognises the need to quantify the scope of the problem and establish the true environmental cost of the application of machines in humanitarian mine action.

GICHAD are therefore carrying out a sub-study on mechanical mine clearance, in order to investigate possible mechanisms for identifying and measuring the environmental impact of demining machinery, leading to guidelines as to how such damage could be avoided, and to investigate methodology for assessing the cost-effectiveness of mechanical demining equipment, building on the work carried out in the mechanical and manual demining studies. This questionnaire is intended to assist in the formulation of the sub-study.

Aim

The aim of the attached questionnaire is to seek initial comments on the type and extent of environmental impacts resulting from the use of mechanical demining equipment, in order to identify the most significant environmental phenomena for further study.
Hello all,

just forwarded the wrong email to the MgM network. Please delete the mail with the subject: 'MgM Demining Network: morto' immediately.

Thx and sorry for this.

Wolfgang Maschke

MgM
Stiftung Menschen gegen Minen e.V.
Humanitarian Demining NGO
media department
online publishing www.mgm.org

géisberg 9b
D-97234 reichenberg
germany
tel.: 0931 66 32 16
fax.: 0931 66 20 74

Bitte besuchen Sie unsere Website www.mgm.org und informieren Sie sich über unsere humanitäre Arbeit und den aktuellen Stand unserer Minenräumoperationen.

Please visit our website www.mgm.org for more information regarding our humanitarian work and the current state of our demining operations.

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To switch to the Digest mode, E-mail to <network1-digest@mgm.org>
Send administrative queries to <network1-request@mgm.org>
Subject: MgM Demining Network: Calculations
Date: Monday, October 25, 2004 5:10 PM
From: Moerman Luc <eod.mo@skynet.be>
Reply-To: <network1@mgm.org>
To: <network1@mgm.org>

Moerman Luc
Zuidstraat 1
8980 Passendale

Does anybody still have the program-file that was presented by one of the members of the forum. It was able to calculate speed of shockwave and pressure at a certain distance of the point of explosion. I seem to remember that the data to be filled in was the quantity of explosives and the distance from the centre of the explosion.

It had nothing to do with safety distances or other like the US EOD-calculator.

Hoping to get it back on my PC,

Moerman Luc
BDO
Belgium

******************************************************************************
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Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: Vehicle Mines
Date: Monday, October 25, 2004 5:10 PM
From: Scott D Smith <scott@hectec.cc>
Reply-To: <network1@mgm.org>
To: <network1@mgm.org>

Ashley,

I have been casually looking into this and have based my "research" on photos I have found on the Internet. These photos are primarily of military vehicles and about 20% Demining and NGO stuff. Most from mil sites 30% from news sites. I have about 6 gig of pix in my library now.

General observations...
smaller vehicles (HMMV) is mostly front wheel dets.
larger vehicles (APC and construction machines - graders) are mostly rear wheel dets. that is pretty general though. Speed of travel may be a factor in the result (damage and maybe front/rear).

I would also be interested if anyone has more data on this.

scott

At 06:55 AM 10/19/2004, you wrote:
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Regards,

Ashley

ashley.dean@aegis.co.uk

Scott D Smith
Technical Director
HEC (Humanitarian Engineering and Consulting)
Website: www.hectec.cc
<http://www.hectec.cc/> eMail: scott@hectec.cc
Cell Phone: +264 81 128 7805
Skype: callto://scotthec
Fax: +264 61 243 477
Time Zone: GMT +1
PO Box 24394, Windhoek, Namibia, Africa 9000

engineering for necessity, elegance in simplicity
There are, just study "Taming The Landmine" by Peter Stiff, the number one coffee table book on the topic anyhow.

Hendrik Ehlers, CEO
MgM HD & HEC RD
ehlers at mgm dot org

-----Original Message-----
From: network1@mgm.org [mailto:network1@mgm.org] On Behalf Of Ashley Dean
Sent: 19 October 2004 07:55 AM
To: network1@mgm.org
Subject: MgM Demining Network: Vehicle Mines

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Regards,

Ashley

ashley.dean@aigis.co.uk

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Reinhold Sommerstedt  702 369 0700
On Oct 18, 2004, at 10:55 PM, Ashley Dean wrote:
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> > ashley.dean@aigis.co.uk
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Send administrative queries to  <network1-request@mgm.org>
Hi Dave

I came back from Iraq at September, but had work not in mine clearance. It was not very dangerous. More danger was Iraqi football: if they took the game, they started shooting in the sky. By such way in one day in May were killed 17 civilians in Baghdad. Locals are friendly for Russians, England and other, but not for Americans (sorry, but this is reality). If you needs more information, connect me directly fortenterprise@umail.ru.

Best regards,

Andrey

----- Original Message ----- 
From: "Dave & Jayne Humphreys" <dcjlh@hotmail.com> 
To: <network1@mgm.org> 
Sent: Tuesday, October 19, 2004 9:55 AM 
Subject: MgM Demining Network: Iraq news?

> Anyone working for MAG, Tetra Tech or Armor group care to give us an 
> update on security, the job and life in general in theatre?? Here in 
> Sydney Australia its Magpie mating season and hard hats are derigurer on 
> the ranges! Just a thought 
> Regards Dave 
> 
> ############################################################# 
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To switch to the Digest mode, E-mail to <network1-digest@mgm.org> 
Send administrative queries to <network1-request@mgm.org>
Subject: MgM Demining Network: Vehicle Mines  
Date: Tuesday, October 19, 2004 1:55 AM  
From: Ashley Dean <ashley.dean@aigis.co.uk>  
Reply-To: <network1@mgm.org>  
To: <network1@mgm.org>  

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Regards,

Ashley

ashley.dean@aigis.co.uk

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Anyone working for MAG, Tetra Tech or Armor group care to give us an update on security, the job and life in general in theatre?? Here in Sydney Australia its Magpie mating season and hard hats are deriguer on the ranges! Just a thought
Regards Dave
1. In principle, I support "blue sky" research. It provides the basis for future systems.

2. The presence of a "plume" of vapor raises again the question that has bothered my colleague, Dr. Robert Rowntree. If these mines and other explosive devices are to work in areas subject to flooding (and they do) then how does the vapor escape? What are the mechanisms that give the dogs and other bio-systems their opportunity?

We had hoped to have a panel consider these matters at the SIXTH Symposium in Monterey last May, but no one expressed an interest.

On Tue, 2004-10-12 at 23:22, Russell Gasser wrote:
> Photoluminescence spectroscopy is a brand new technique, several years
> away from exploitation and of unknown sensitivity. It relies on a very
> specific "narrow-band" response that may well be difficult to find amongst
> background signals in the real world.
> >
> > Until we know how to exploit the existing vapour/particle techniques we
> > should ask why we want to develop more of these methods, except as "blue
> > sky" research.
> >
> > What we already have are methods that can detect explosive
> > vapour/particles at the ten picogram level (roughly) for portable sampling
> > and probably better than this for animals using REST. Gas chromatographs
> > are not very portable but are significantly more sensitive.
> >
> > What we know is that not all mines have a vapour plume above them which
> > can be reliably detected every day. And, at a guess without and hard
> > evidence to back it up, I would suggest that some metal cased munitions
> > are so hermetic that they have minimal levels of external vapour.
> >
> > We really have not much idea, beyond the tried and tested methods of
> > MECHEM, about how to sample efficiently for area reduction, how big an
> > area should be cleared when we get a positive result and so on.
> >
> > What is really needed urgently, in my view, is to do the research on how
> > to sample suspect areas and collect vapour/particles. We have so little
> > information about what weather conditions work or don't work, whether to
> > collect samples before, during or after vegetation cutting, what are the
> > factors that lead to a negative result above a known mine on some days.
> > And we don't even have very much more than "trial and error" work on the
> > detailed design of collectors and filters.
> >
> > Fluorescence spectroscopy may well, in ten years, turn out to be very
> > useful. But the basic research to take it forward from an idea that can
> > be patented to a field-useful piece of equipment at an affordable price
> > that offers real cost efficiency gains should come from the relatively
> > large "security" research budgets as it has obvious applications for
> > detecting parcel bombs, car bombs etc. Once a working prototype that can
> > be taken to a mined area is available then we will be able to make a
> > better informed judgement.
Russell.

Al,

I felt just the same, this is why I brought it up and also posted it to a number of independent scientists for comment. Wouldn't it be nice?

Hendrik Ehlers, CEO
MgM HD & HEC RD
ehlers at mgm dot org

-----Original Message-----
From: network1@mgm.org [mailto:network1@mgm.org] On Behalf Of Albert M. Bottoms
Sent: 10 October 2004 10:38 PM
To: network1@mgm.org
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: photoluminescence spectroscopy

This strikes me as being really significant. What might be the limitations? Is the technique useful against IED, buried mines, and the like?

Al Bottoms
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Fluorescence spectroscopy may well, in ten years, turn out to be very useful. But the basic research to take it forward from an idea that can be patented to a field-useful piece of equipment at an affordable price that offers real cost efficiency gains should come from the relatively large "security" research budgets as it has obvious applications for detecting parcel bombs, car bombs etc. Once a working prototype that can be taken to a mined area is available then we will be able to make a better informed judgement.

[Steps off soap box and thanks audience for listening.....]

Russell.

> Al,
> 
> I felt just the same, this is why I brought it up and also posted it to a number of independent scientists for comment. Wouldn't it be nice?
> 
> Hendrik Ehlers, CEO
> MgM HD & HEC RD
> ehlers at mgm dot org
Thia strikes me as being really significant. What might be the limitations? Is the technique useful against IED, buried mines, and the like?

Al Bottoms
Good day everyone,

I'm away from home at the moment, and I can't check my records, but I think this idea has been described at conferences. If I remember correctly, and simplifying perhaps too much, it will recognise explosives (and other substances) but only on outer surfaces. It cannot tell what is inside an object, nor what is a few cms deep in the ground.

If explosive diffuses out of a mine, then the method has a chance; but can that be relied on?

Best regards, John Crawford

-----Original Message-----
From: network1@mgm.org
To: network1@mgm.org
Sent: 12/10/04 7.26
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: photoluminescence spectroscopy

Al,

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Al Bottoms

#%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%#
This message is sent to you because you are subscribed to the mailing list <network1@mgm.org>. 
Before we left Ondjiva in the morning, we quickly checked on the latest work of our EOD Response Team. While digging a water captivation pit in the centre of town, an elderly lady had found an arms cache hidden by UNITA. ERW removal today in Angola is something so closely related to the day to day life of the resettling population, it is almost one. When we arrived at Luanda later that trip, this story was even in Journal de Angola, the largest newspaper of the country.

The two Landcruiser were again carefully checked and equipped and after my first tire had exploded on the second day, just outside of Ondjiva, we now traveled according to MgM SOP with two spare tires each. The place where it happened was more or less where Sgt Mandingo was killed. A place where anytime over the last 12 years I would have been very frightened to sit and wait for assistance from my team. But Angola is in peace from the second after Savimbi died. Instantly people dropped their weapons and became peace loving civilians and police carry only rubber batons (and empty pistols). Thinking about it now makes it seem quite unreal. So, whatever we prepare for, we prepare for a camping trip in a country with great untouched nature, we are not traveling in the mindset of passing through a third-world post-conflict area. In former Pseudo-Stalinist Angola, there is no more negative atmosphere anymore. So, we travel light now.

The 100 kilometres to Xangongo are full of history for me. A road on a dam running through plains which are flooded during the rainy seasons from December to April. Wide expanses with an old tradition of cattle breeding. The Kwanyama Tribe withstood the Portuguese longer than any other tribe. This also because the German Schutztruppen in then German Southwest Afrika supplied them with firearms. Funnily enough, this is why Germans are especially liked in this part of the world. When our chartered survey plane crashlanded in Naulila in 2001, this became especially apparent. We had crashed next to the tombs of some German officers killed at the beginning of
WWI. Quite some time ago, but reason enough to give us food, drinks and shelter until the rescue team arrived the next day.

In order to allow the water from the plains, called Oshanas, to flow along its natural course the dam has a number of culverts. These where popular places for ambushes, so along the road you still find groups of tanks and armoured vehicles shot into pieces. Some became prey of South African Airforce, others of landmines and the largest collection of scrap was caused by a friendly field of TM57 when trying to help hide a convoy sideways into the bush. Then there are civilian truck wrecks all over the place, many of their drivers I knew personally. When we started to work in this province in 1992, there were maybe 100 vehicles, probably less. Anyhow 54 of them were under my command and we knew the remainders for their fuel, oil and spare part demands. What a drama, returning from the once-a-month piss-up at the Governor’s place and being told by some old lady that somebody had fiddled on the road. That meant instead of 1 hour home, 5 or 6 or more hours prodding through every pothole and tensely looking for that sniper behind every bush.

Mongua is more or less the half-way town before Xangongo. At the entrance of the 10 house village plus roundabout, there always was a house saying in large letters: Mongua Bar. How often did I feel insulted by that mean joke. As we pass it today, the door is open and it looks like cold beer. But it is too early, we will keep this for an other day.

I used to live a nice life as a competition hang-glider pilot. I was financed through my little construction company 'Pyramids etc’ building stands at Exhibition Halls in Switzerland twice a year. It was my mother who said I should do something that made more sense. She said she had heard on the radio, that the NGO Cap Anamur was looking for volunteers to clear landmines in Angola using decommissioned east-German tanks. Swords to ploughshares and only prerequisite: Speaking Portuguese. With my childtime friend Hans Georg we found we fulfilled the prerequisite, both from our many journeys through Brazil. Then zap, we found ourselves in charge of a clearance operation. We had no idea of landmines, explosives or similar. I had been a conscript in the German Army during 12 months as a radar operator on the Hawk’s IFF system, HaGe instead drove old people around. Both activities had no great influence on our job with Cap Anamur. It seems crazy today, but it was also fate knocking at the door. We both were vivid
allrounders with an excellent school education and the need to do something good for us and others. We are from the Baby Boomers generation and grew up in internationalism rather than patriotism. So, our motto was not “Noblesse oblige”, but in the sense of the German constitution, where “Property obliges to share” we felt that “Knowing is obligation to help.” Okay, there was also the non-withstanding smell of adventures.

Charismatic, but not very practical Chief of Cap Anamur Dr Rupert Neudeck had decided to save the world and clear landmines in Somalia. He asked the German Army how to do this and so he got a boatful of ex-NVA pioneering equipment including pontoon bridges etc and set out to sea. But Somalia didn’t want him. So he ordered the vessel to go to Angola instead. Somebody in Luanda told a CCA rep that Xangongo was a good place to go. He was right, some 42,000 AT mines in three belts were waiting to be cleared. The ship arrived in Namibe and thousands of tons were brought from the coast over the mountains to the plains. Huge amounts of equipment got lost on the trail. When the first camp was ready it started to rain and they learned that they had built in the middle of an Oshana. When the local population was recruited to carry the camp to a drier location, more equipment was socialised. When we arrived in Xangongo for the first time, everybody else was packing. Savimbi had lost the elections and war was just restarting. That is the explanation how two no-knows became heads of a large clearance operation: everybody else left.

Well, there were three more people. The nurse and the mechanic of a second project far away in the Himba mountains and our manic explosives “engineer”, Uwe Silge an ex-NVA tank driver. He later lost his leg while harvesting dets from APs in intact minefields with the Krohn machine in Mozambique. Aiko the mechanic still is in the mountains and tries to train happy stoneage people to become unhappy techusers. Thankfully he has had no success. The nurse is Dr Edith Fischnaller, last week she made it to be the chairperson of Cap Anamur and after all these years of deepest dislike towards Neudeck and his crew – with her I would work together again.

Silge trained us. He showed us how to find (ask people) and defuse (turn that thing out or leave it in) and blast (hey!) mines in less than a week, then we took our teams and went off by ourselves. Mine Clearance is not that difficult at all. We had one map only. Actually the map belonged to our liaison officer White Horse and we were allowed to glance at it from time to time. It had nothing to do with reality, but looked rather nice. We had a camera to make pictures, but did not really dare to do this outside the camp. We did not really collect mines data, people would have thought we are spies and lock us up. We did not have GPS, no notebook, no nothing. Everything was forbidden and therefore very dangerous. How we worked those days makes a book for itself, here and now I will spare you the details. But
one more thing is worth to mention. In all the confusion and danger, in hundreds of days non-stop curfew, we were always respected and were safe – mainly thanks to Governor Mutindi and Brigadier Fabiano, people who had a vision of peace and respect towards the representatives of international solidarity. It is important to remember that the war was not started by the Kuanyamas and their neighbours, but that they became victims of an international training war of the competitors of the then cold war. And also served as one of the world’s largest dump for time-ex war technologies.

Anyhow, we merrily cleared along, up to 1,200 TM57 and TM62b per day that we blew or stored inside our camp in order to have explosives for our bulk ammo demolitions, usually in the area of 60 tons blown with one 90 sec time fuze into one mine and have the rest go sympathetically. One day HaGe, who was just repairing the roof of the Ovahimba Hospital 260 kms away, heard the Oumpf of the detonations, he radioed us straight away as people were running away thinking war had returned. Must have been a rather low cloud level that day. The noise we made was great. To the Sisters of Mary at Chiulu Hospital it was the bells of peace – despite the cracks in their chapel. The noise we made was so loud that one day even a Learjet from the UN roared in. On board was a demining assessment team. We didn’t even know they were in country. Actually they were in Luanda. Luanda was a city on another planet so far away at that time, I saw it only in 1996 for the first time. We got visited by very important people. It was Paddy Blagden, Hovard Bach, Guy Lukas, David Hewittson and some other people who until today make the Who is Who of HD. They were quite surprised to find a full-blasting well-organized operation, but had their reservations about our hairstyle and the complete lack of military attitude. The famous quote about our camp was: ‘This looks just like at Kassel DocumentaÇ (then the largest exhibition of large art objects in the world) The group’s hearts were soon taken by some afternoon monster blasts for the occasion. That was the funny part. We then learned that we were not alone, there was a world at work demining. Other than CCA, Neudeck had told us we were not the only mineclearance NGO on planet, there was a HALO, MAG and a starting NPA. There were SOPs and other strange things.

The least funny part was when we were asked for our work documentation like maps of cleared areas with GPS coordinates etc. We suddenly realized that we had worked completely outside the professional scheme. When we required computers, GPS, maps etc, it was denied. As Neudeck had said: ‘If somebody does not believe we cleared all the mines, well, than they just can go and do it again.’ Well said, I am busy with that until today.

When the Learjet ready to take off again, the tarmac was still very hot. So the pilot pulled full throttle for a minute or two to get full push. This is how Paddy Blagden became famous in Southern Angola, as the man who made all roofs of all houses behind the runway fly into the river Kunene.

On this trip we stop in Xangongo not for sentimental reasons. We stop because of the MgM Dog Training unit, just next to the former Cap Anamur camp that is now used by Sankt Barbara as ghostly storage area only.
Al,

I felt just the same, this is why I brought it up and also posted it to a number of independent scientists for comment. Wouldn't it be nice?

Hendrik Ehlers, CEO
MgM HD & HEC RD
ehlers at mgm dot org

-----Original Message-----
From: network1@mgm.org [mailto:network1@mgm.org] On Behalf Of Albert M. Bottoms
Sent: 10 October 2004 10:38 PM
To: network1@mgm.org
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: photoluminescence spectroscopy

This strikes me as being really significant. What might be the limitations? Is the technique useful against IED, buried mines, and the like?

Al Bottoms
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On Sun, 2004-10-10 at 12:52, Hendrik Ehlers wrote:

> UF RESEARCHERS SHINE LIGHT ON NEW EXPLOSIVES DETECTION METHOD
> Oct. 7, 2004
> Contact Information <http://www.napa.ufl.edu/2004news/tntdetect.htm>
> GAINESVILLE, Fla. --- A team of University of Florida researchers has
> invented a way to rapidly detect traces of TNT or other hidden explosives
> simply by shining a light on any potentially contaminated object, from a
> speck of dust in the air to the surface of a suitcase.
> "We have to find explosives quickly, inexpensively and, particularly,
> reliably," said Rolf Hummel, a UF professor emeritus of materials science
> and engineering who heads the lab where the method was invented.
> The development provides instantaneous results, gives no false positives,
> can be used remotely and is portable -- attributes he says will make it
> indispensable at all levels of law enforcement, from local police to
> homeland security.
> The method uses photoluminescence spectroscopy, a technique that casts light
> on a material and measures the range and intensity of the wavelengths of
> light the material produces in response. The wavelength of the emitted light
> varies depending on the chemical structure of the material.
> Using photoluminescence to reveal the presence of TNT is similar to how
> "black light" uses ultraviolet radiation to make white clothes glow, but in
> this case the black light is a laser, Hummel said. "Once you shine a laser
> at the sample, the laser then re-emits (it) at specific wavelengths that are
> different for each material -- it's a kind of a fingerprint."
> TNT’s fingerprint is a sharp, distinct photoluminescent peak at a specific
> wavelength within the electromagnetic spectrum, the researchers discovered.
> The electromagnetic spectrum encompasses the entire range of light and sound
> waves, from long-wavelength radio waves to short-wavelength gamma rays. The
> peak occurs just outside the longer-wavelength, or red, portion of the
> spectrum that includes visible light. TNT shares this characteristic peak
> with other explosive materials, such as plastic explosives and
> nitroglycerin, but not with safe materials.
> The key to this common attribute, Hummel said, lies in the explosives'
> chemical makeup -- they all contain at least two "nitro groups," molecules
> made up of one nitrogen atom bound to two oxygen atoms. The peak is a narrow
> spectral line and would be easy to miss if you don't know where in the
> spectrum to search, Hummel said.
> The UF discovery of TNT’s signal was prompted by a request from the U.S.
> Army Research Office that challenged universities to find a way to make
> inexpensive, quick and reliable explosive-detection systems. Out of
> curiosity, one of Hummel’s graduate students tested TNT in the lab’s
> photoluminescence spectrometer. With its high resolution, the machine
> scanned across the entire light spectrum and caught the explosive’s elusive
> signal. "That's why we detected it the first time," Hummel said.
> "This is a very complex phenomenon," said Chuck Schau, a scientist at
Raytheon Missile System's Radiation Technology Laboratory who also was conducting experiments on explosive detection using photoluminescence but initially did not observe the TNT peak discovered by the UF team. Raytheon is now interested in following up on this discovery, he said. That development may include a future for this detection technology that goes beyond airport lines and into uncovering dangerous materials on a much larger scale -- though that technology may be years away.

"If I see a ship approaching, I'd like to know if it's packed with explosives," Schau said. It's in the field of remote detection that this is exciting. This really looks like it may give us a leg up on that."

Sample collection for explosives is familiar to anyone who has recently passed through an airport: a swab brushed across an object, such as a suitcase, clothing or even a person, or puffs of air blasted across a filter that can trap tiny amounts of airborne explosives. The advantage of photoluminescence-based explosive detection is that it can be remotely applied, and requires neither time-consuming and expensive machines nor trained dogs, said Hummel, who has applied for a patent on the technique.

"My major aim is that I would like to help and make a contribution towards secure life, airports and transportation," he said. "Just shine a laser on a car, ship or person and see if that specific wavelength comes back -- that's my goal."

Fwd by Hendrik Ehlers

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LUANDA, Sept 24 (Reuters) - Aid agencies are racing against the clock to airlift tens of thousands of Angolan refugees back home before the start of the rainy season, a senior U.N. official said on Friday.

The first airlift of Angolan refugees from Namibia was launched this week and around 6,000 people, mainly from Zambia, had already been flown home but the situation is becoming more difficult.

"Using airlifts has allowed us to bring more people back before the rainy season which we wouldn't be able to do if were totally reliant on land," Thomas Vargas, senior protection officer at UN High Commissioner for Refugees, told Reuters.

But he added: "Many of the roads will be impassable and even the airlifts will have to be suspended at some point because the runways will get in such a bad state. It's a race against the clock."

The World Food Programme's country director in Zambia said three aircraft a day were flying Angolan refugees home from camps in western Zambia.

More than 400,000 people fled to neighbouring countries during Angola's 27-year civil war. Since the conflict ended in April 2002, around 250,000 have returned, leaving about 200,000 Angolans in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Zambia, Namibia and the Congo Republic.

The UNHCR began a programme of organised voluntary repatriation last year to encourage those who have yet to do so to make the often difficult journey home.

"In a lot of situations it is not possible to bring people back by land because of landmines, and because of the state of the roads and the bridges," Vargas said.

The International Organisation for Migration (IOM), UNHCR's partner for transportation in several Angolan provinces, said the biggest challenge was reintegrating the returnees who had made it back home.

"Many people left Angola more than 20 years ago, many don't speak Portuguese. Around 60 percent are children so they're coming back to a new country they never knew before which is a challenge for them and their parents," said Ronulo Peixoto, IOM's information officer.

But the government was doing its best to help, Peixoto said.

"They are trying to do something. They are supporting the returnee projects
as much as they can, politically because they don't have many funds at their disposal," he said.

Angola is rich in oil and diamonds but most of its 13 million people live on less than a dollar a day.
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The key to this common attribute, Hummel said, lies in the explosives' chemical makeup -- they all contain at least two "nitro groups," molecules made up of one nitrogen atom bound to two oxygen atoms. The peak is a narrow spectral line and would be easy to miss if you don't know where in the spectrum to search, Hummel said.

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Fwd by Hendrik Ehlers

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Friends,

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Please send enquiries and responses to pranav@foreignaid.com.

Thanks.

Pranav Gupta, President
ForeignAID Ratings LLC
Tel: (201) 993-8727
Fax: (270) 398-3290
www.foreignaid.com
pranav@foreignaid.com

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Subject: MgM Demining Network: FW: Local NGO Evaluator in Angola Needed
Date: Friday, October 8, 2004 4:05 PM
From: Hendrik Ehlers <ehlers@mgm.org>
Reply-To: <network1@mgm.org>
To: <network1@mgm.org>

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Dear Friends and Colleagues,

---------------Five minutes later we sat in some shaded ruin with bullet holes all over, there were friendly people, music from Cabo Verde, nice indigenous beer advertisement paintings on the wall, yes, and almost-cold beer. I loved Angola ever since.

Today, though, the border has various customs facilities on both sides, processes are controlled by the Crown Agents, nobody is armed but the chaos goes on and there still is the occasional slash of a whip for the children trying to do ant trail smuggling via sixpacks of beer cans. We got through both sides in 40 minutes. The only other time I recall I passed faster is when both sides realized I had documented and stamped (and therefore legal) 4 tons of explosives plus kilometers of detcord on one truck and large amounts of Blasting Caps Nr8 on the other vehicle... I went through in a rush...

The next 40 kms to Ondjiva used to be the killing-fields during the South Africa induced civil war of Namibia. South African Police and Army followed insurgents into Angola, now when doing mine-clearance here you regularly dig up human skulls and bones. These 40 kms used to be the target of UNITA terror activities and members of my crew in 92 to 94 drove daily patrols to enable the preparation for today's tar road. Unita would hang two South African claymores back-to-back into the trees over the donkey trails at the side of the road. Here it was that I learned how good a detector the human eye is. Our sappers like Sgt. Mandingo would see the slightest nightly disturbances of soil next to the road by passing them at 40km/h from a car early in the morning. He took out their nicest booby traps regularly, until UNITA caught him with a Portuguese road engineer one morning and tortured them gently to death. I gave an interview to the Namibian TV about this and found myself on top of the provincial UNITA blacklist. This is when I learned what fear is. The recurring question was: What is the merit of speeding down a road at 160 km/h that usually could only be driven at 20 km/h? It does not make a difference in terms of hitting an AT mine (we had about one terror blast per month on this stretch), but you are a more difficult target for an RPG7. On the other side, if you hit an AT at 20 km/h, you might have a fair chance to survive somehow, but rolling with 160 km/h plus blast acceleration into the bush is a clear ticket to a hopefully better world. Using armoured trucks solves the conundrum only partially, as you have to leave the Casspir or Wolf to repair the blown wheel and are easy prey – especially if you work for a charity and being unarmed is number one doctrine. Anyhow, initially long-haired, mostly Hawaii-shirted and always unarmed I made 12 years in Angola without getting into serious trouble once.

Today these 40 kms do not take three hours anymore and a fine Autobahn takes you into Ondjiva in 30 minutes or less. It is one of the many good things that the local Governor of Kunene Province, His Excellency Pedro Mutindi has achieved for his people. Throughout the war in Kunene, the Bavaria of Angola, kept a separate peace with UNITA. This was based on nothing else but the fact that Mutindi in 1992 walked on foot 20 kms in full uniform but unarmed into UNITA territory. They came to an agreement that occasional acts of war were necessary to show their respective superiors that one still was there, but one would avoid major complications to each other. And so it went...
for 10 years, while the government built roads, bridges, schools, health-posts etc. This is so much better than the rest of Angola that many people share my idea of Mutindi being a role model for an African leader – despite of the fact that he never was democratically elected. Mutindi has always been in favour of mine clearance. The clearance project in his province, even during the harder times of the war, proved often against the wishes of his own military. Then in 2002, he drove his 4x4 over an aged AT mined in his brother’s garden at Humbe. It was one of two TM57s that had been forgotten when an AT mine field was moved in 1982. The AT only partially deflagrated and he only lost one foot. His first words to me after the accident were: “How good it hit me and not some farmer from around. This is because I as a member of the government have the power to do more for mine clearance and save other people from suffering this horrible fate.” His life has changed dramatically since. He got a fine high-tech foot, took Miss Kunene 2000 as his latest wife, hardly leaves his house and I have not seen him for two years now. An Angolan proverb is: The mine is a prison. Governor Mutindi is a good example for such. If you suffered the attack of such a hidden killer, you lose all confidence, there might be another one just waiting for you and as a consequence you imprison yourself in a few safe square-meters inside your house… He is a very nice and charismatic man and whoever met him, and there are quite a number of people on this network who have, can only wish for his very best.

The MgM base camp Angola is 250 x 250 meter large fenced area next to the now fully licensed International Airport of Ondjiva, next to the Hotel Villa Okapale and the Governor’s residence. When we started this base in 2000 (we took it over from NPA who left it empty with the exception of lots of rubbish causing discussion until date), we were the only ones around, now we find ourselves in the middle of a rapidly growing commercial zone. We still have our own generator, but are connected to a power-line. We have our own water wells and can function autonomously. There are separate office buildings for medical, communications, human resources, management, mapping and logistics. We have a large school-building with air-condition, two classrooms, video-projectors, IT training section, a professional kitchen and two conference rooms out of which one informally serves as the TV and VIP bar. VIP means mainly ourselves and the occasional international visitors.

There are further houses for MgM national and international management, a large workshop with machinery of all kind, lots of storage in containers (full of some interesting equipment, useful kit and useless junk … any body want pipe bending and cutting kits? We have over 100), RubbHalls, steel barns etc. There is the temporary staff corner with concrete platforms for a large number of tents, further catering and hygienic compounds. The camp is so large that we have our own Voodoo training road, dog test areas, explosive storage and a fenced-away sensor test area. All of it professionally connected to water, sewerage, electricity and via the wireless LAN through our Bluesky satellite internet server. The initial installation was USD 7,000, monthly costs are USD 330 for 24 hour double ISDN, this is really good! Our staff has now 24 hours free internet access – for work-related and educational purpose only. We also have plans to connect school-children between schools in Germany, the US and Ondjiva. We will install a webcam and you can see the sunsets over Ondjiva or have a look how busy is the workshop.

Initial funding for this base camp came from the German Government and US DoS. The sensor test area was financed by the EU Esprit project DEMINE. Later we used it for testing some other techniques including the famous PWS. At least one hundred people on this network have been to Angola, many of them a number time. All of them became witness to a strange fact: Angola, either you love it or you hate it. Either you love it or you become insane.
The list of people having to leave the country at short notice, because of erratic behaviour and/or on massive paranoia trips is rather long and includes names well known in the mine clearance industry. (Frank where are you now? I hear you are better and developing RATTS. Best of luck.... Ken) Angola brings out the best and the worst of many people.

In the meantime we shifted our dog training camp to Xangongo and will either build a complete new site along the Kunene river or use the A1 NPA facility in Lubango. Both camps in Ondjiva and future MDD Centre at Xangalala are laid out in such a way, that they can serve other purposes once MgM’s job in Angola will be done. When that will be? No idea, but not before 2010....

When we arrived Ondjiva, there was Ken O’Connell and his management team, some five mechanics and two retired MDDs only. Between the projects and during refresher training the camp is buzzing with up to 200 people, but now everybody is working in the field and the camp is empty. The beautiful and overworked Iolanda Silva our Base Manager, Human Resources & Local Finances, Adelino Chief Paramedic, moaning Ivan and speedy Zé running Logistics with Nando the Chief Mechanic gave us a brief overview the situation of all MgM projects in Southern Angola. Sounds rather uneventful, we will see. I was just about to relax on top of the water tower overlooking the area, when three trucks thunder into the camp and the chatter of 48 MgM men fills the air. I forgot, our new EOD team is just returning from some survey missions to deserted ammo dumps in the area. The German Government was kind enough to fund this brigade for three months in Kunene on Emergency Bulk EOD tasks. After this they will return to Kibala, a formerly US DoD funded project probably to be taken over by the EU from of January. In the times where donors are forced to more bureaucracy then ever, this gesture of flexibility of the German Ministry of Foreign Affairs deserves some special applause.

Ken has a little surprise for us. On his desk there is a switch. This white plastic box (about the size of a No6) looks like it is used as an anti-lift device. Typically South African in make up, it has a pressure release button, safety pin, and housing for a detonator that will be activated when the pressure on the button is released, firing a striker into the det. The det then setting off attached detcord to some explosive device close by. Actually we also found out that this was found by our team in Úcua, far from the usual areas in Angola where old South African devices are located. By coincidence I see the page of a book opened on his desk, it showed a portrait of his beauty surgeon. Ken’s sister said that he was the only man looking more attractive after a mine blast than before. And here it was, an MS3. Check the former NVESD and now GICHD’s Accident Database, Ken is No 1.

When night falls over Ondjiva, it is the same thought returning whenever I am down here: How nice it is to live in an area without industry, without pollution, without noise. Some hours later I wake up from the pondering noise of some large trucks idling outside our camp. I swear to myself for some minutes and then decide to get up and send these noisy criminals away. When I open the door of my room, the trucks are not parking outside, they are standing right inside and in front of the workshop. It is our 8x8 Tatra and the Monster MACK with the articulated 60 ton Olifant tank trailer. They had just returned from a 2800 km trip from the North and are loaded with packed containers and machinery. The number of potholes and breakdown that they have overcome must be somewhat astronomically especially judging by the state of the bogies on the trailer. This is what I love about my job, when all return home safely from a hell-of-a-mission that did good. It makes me feel proud of what we are doing.

The next morning takes us back to the Killing Fields along the border. First we go to Chiede. This town, 25 kms east of the Sta. Clara (Namibian Border crossing) and Ondjiva saw an exceptional amount of activity during the later
stages of the internal conflict. UNITA used to regularly attack this town, fortified by the FAA. On retreating they would lay a number of blast APs (mainly SA manufactured Type 72 or R2M series) and SA Claymore copies (MS803) to hinder pursuit. These caused many casualties, including three women returning to the town from their hiding places. Their graves remain near where they fell as a testimony to the effectiveness of these mines. Cap Anamur initially cleared the old minefield around the town in 1994. MgM decided to check the areas cleared since confidence in this clearance was not high. Seven mines were found in the first two days. The latest Chairman of MgM, Michael Ehlers, here initiated our latest international awareness and children solidarity campaign in order to create a movement called "Paths to Schools – free from Mines." Nothing but bits of mines were found for the next five months. The manual clearance team suspended this clearance. A dog team had been despatched two days before the visit to carry out area reduction. Since the team was new, the dog team and EOD operators having only worked one day together and this being the dog teams first live task, a few teething problems had to be ironed out. The dog team had the EOD Operators clear 5mt x 5 mt boxes so they could carry out "area reduction". Almost right. The operator of the Hydrema Bush Clearer had not started his vehicle since manual operations had stopped, consequently the battery was flat. New battery is coming from his pay-check. Operational instructions were given, so let’s see what this team are like when we return to Ondjiva at the end of this trip. Great show for the bosses... Poor Hydrema operator, he got my full flak...

Then we had a rather surreal trip 70 kms on the border line between Namibia and Angola. Imagine a double lane dirt track with occasional metal stakes in the middle. The right lane is Namibia, the left one Angola. Both sides look the same, but feel entirely different. Somewhere a waterhole and an adjacent height measure. Somewhere there is a border stone saying "Marco 25" and that was reason enough to have a military camp on this height and defend it with some erratic mine fields. This type of war seems so senseless and stupid. Defending Bismarck’s almost two-century old pencil marks in the middle of a reality called no-where. The team are clearing a minebelt around an old border Police Station. The minefield is in Angola, the Administration area is in Namibia. Permission had to be obtained to allow this. The team have now located the belts and are now rolling them up. Good work. As an aside, on the first day of operations on this site the team found an anti-tank mine next to the road/border. This was pulled and moved to a “safe area” for demolition. As they dug a hole for the demolition they found another anti-tank mine. Bit of a surprise!!

Eventually we will have to check the border road, verifying with a dog team. Our medical specialist, Ilke Metzger, was satisfied with the level of competence of the field Paramedics and their equipment. A simulated CASEVAC didn’t go at all to plan, the field team being far too nervous with so many expat. managers observing them. It is a permanent conundrum and I decided to trust our internal quality control and give up the bossy accident simulations – at least in real minefields. As a matter of fact, the biggest risk in MgM minefields is me myself and not the daily working operators. After I almost blew the crew for a silly TV stunt in Ambriz in 2000 (I unscrewed an MUV from an TMS7 side-well without cutting the tripwire thus causing the wire almost to be pulled out...), responsible MgM Team Leaders defuse everything I could possibly touch prior to my arrival on the scene. Took me a while to find out...

The final demolition of the day went very well and sent us happily on our way, over the hill to the nearest shade to have a well-needed cool drink. Our teams are short of explosives at the moment, new explosives are being procured, however cross-border licenses are taking time, due to illicit imports at other border crossings along the Namibian – Angolan frontier. The
Team leader here showed his expertise by carrying out his demolition by only using an electric detonator and detcord to initiate the demolition.

It was planned to go to another operational site the day after visiting the border area. As it turned out this was another Angolan holiday, so we gave ourselves a well earned rest where we tested the facilities of the VIP Centre in the Camp.
Subject: MgM Demining Network: Annual Project Tour Report, Part 1
Date: Sunday, September 19, 2004 2:38 PM
From: Michael Ehlers <me@mgm.org>
Reply-To: <network1@mgm.org>
To: <network1@mgm.org>

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

Two things have happened to this Network at the same time:
a) Communication broke down
b) Many more people signed up,

It doesn't really make sense to me, but anyhow, heartfelt thanks and a warm welcome to all new subscribers. This network exists since 8 years and it has seen its ups and downs. Whenever it was down, I used to shout at you and say: Where are your contributions? This time we do it differently. The management of MgM are doing the annual project tour, and we will tell you what our realities are like. It would be nice if you join in with something like: 24 hours in Cyprus, How nice smell the Balkans (seen from the eyes of an MDD), "Jeezas, they almost got me!", the story of an M14 that almost got away etc. So, here we start with me whining about my lost youth and how "the bad times were the good times" or as the Spaniards say: "Under Franco I was younger!" (Cheers to Paddy, too)

Hendrik Ehlers,  
Director OPS MgM + HEC-R&D  
Intl. Desk Windhoek, Namibia

www.mgm.org  
cel +264 81 1277020  
fax +264 61 243477

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

Like other directors of mine clearance operations, from time to time I visit all of our projects. This year this is rather easy as all of them are in Angola. During 2004 MgM successfully closed a programme along the Limpopo Railway in Gaza Province, Mozambique, funded by the German Government over three years. We could easily have continued endlessly, but without a donor this proved to be rather difficult... This concentration on Angola has its very good aspects, mainly that my friend and co-founder/co-managing director HaGe Kruessen is back with our Angolan operations and giving them the sharp edge we all missed. For the ones who know this marvelous person, yes, he again is residing in some shabby place on the Ilha in Luanda .... happy as a teddy bear...

My office in Windhoek, Namibia, is the desk for administration, logistics, finance and R&D (via the HEC Foundation) to all MgM operations including the test & trial deployments of HEC with NVESD. Currently there is the very successfully running deployment of MAXX V1 to Rwanda and the training of some US operators on MAXX+ has just been concluded. We are busy on TanTra (a modified BV206 that Thommo, former MAG, once asked for). MA:Pda (Mine Action Pda) is not moving through the development phase as planned, software development is not our strongest point. We are also busy on modification of plant into a more effective road clearance system, and the most important part of the development we now called Fuzzy Dogs. What this is I will tell you later.
This office in Windhoek is buzzing and buzzing with the support to some 12 different operations in Angola. Support in terms of money, spares, staff, paper work, contracts, translations, ops data pooling, reporting, studying trends, tragedies, panic, boredom and good work. With the never ending ring of the cellphone, ring of the skype (our choice of voice over IP, see www.skype.com), tutuut of the HF SelCall and streams of faxes and emails coupled with airport pickups, meetings and deadlines. Preparing for the large EU Angola tender 2005/2006 gave it an extra edge....

So two days ago Ilke, Angola Desk Officer (and my partner in love), and I saddled the horses and started a three-week trip all over Angola. The horses are 174 of them hidden inside a Paris-Dakar type Toyota Landcruiser GX Turbo, partly funded by Deborah Netland’s office, partly by MgM and partly – like the sound system – by myself. It is a mean machine with a special suspension kit, inside roll-cage, winch, fixed storage, extra-tank, satphone on the move incl. email, power systems, compressor, fridge, radios, tools and emergency gear of all type. It also has nice stickers, one of them saying "Powered by US DoS". We are being accompanied on this trip by another vehicle of this type belonging to Ken O'Connell, the MgM Country Director for Angola. The US Government has always been generous on funding for operations vehicles to MgM, apart from the two MPVs we got by the end of last year, this year they funded new vehicles for our dog and survey teams. Helps a lot, thank you.

So, with a total of 210 litres of Diesel, 120 litres of bottled mineral water (Ilke has a kidney problem) and half-a-ton of canned food we took off. Yes, and a wooden crate with six bottles of finest South-African red wine. Just to match with the space-age camping gear including my best bush-friend ever, the collapsible gas-driven 12V hot-shower and its rubber foot-mat. With us we have Raphael Scriba, Owner, Director and Cameraman of Power&Glory Films. Raffa is German, but based in Africa since ages. Not only has he already done a lot of work with MgM (and Lenie Riefenstahl), he traveled Angola already back in 86... and survived. Raphael is quite a character (he is from the same tribe in Germany as HaGe and me) and he travels with three things only: the metal box with chargers, tapes, tools, cables and some underwear, the tripod and ultimately his baby, the rather large professional Betacam, always in the old green canvas bag and always in his arms....

>From Windhoek to the northern border it is some 700 kms over a fairly good but narrow tar road and takes some 9 hours including filling up etc. When you stop at any of these strange pseudo-German bakeries for an egg-salad bread-roll, it takes you back at least 50 years in time. As a little record for Africa, there is not a single pot hole in this road. Although Windhoek is the capital, the population is under 200.000 of the 1.8 million Namibians. Around one million live in an area some 50 kms around Oshakati next to the border with Angola. This area is called Ovamboland after the tribe of Ovambo. Thanks to the Berlin Congo conference in 1883/84 under Reichskanzler Bismarck, the border cut with a ruler on a map runs in the middle of Ovamboland and there are few places where you can see how silly it is to have borders at all. About lousy maps: Hi dearest Dr.Guy Rhodes, welcome to the Network again. Maybe Cyprus would be another example about stupid borders. I've never been there, but I know Thommo is. Whereas Windhoek is a modern city as clean, safe and neat as Regensburg, there are hardly any two-story buildings in Oshakati, almost everybody has electricity and a cellphone, but water has to be fetched from public wells and carrying water on their heads remains a strong virtue of the Ovambo women. When I came here first in 1992, the place was one scrap-yard of the South African Police and Army forces, emotional and physical garbage just everywhere. When we brought in our first white painted MPVs (Wolf Turbo III) as used by the former South African AntiTerror(?) Police Force named Koevoet (Crowbar), people ran away yelling: The devil is back, the devil is back! Today the
place is still very simple, rural, but busy, relaxed and clean. The Namibia Government has done good job up here.

Immediately after Independence in 1989 a joint commission cleared the mined areas around military and police installations in northern Namibia. They cleared by rolling over the mines with Olifant tanks. The low clearance rate kept the Namibian Defence Force NDF and the Explosives Police busy for a couple of years and various accidents happened. One of them even during and hand-over ceremony... Finally they were cleared, along with the areas around power pylons of the Ruacana line. In a joint effort the NDF with US DoS financed Force21 supervision and Ronco dog QA ,Namibia was declared free-from-mines. That was a rather bold, but also rather true statement until...some fifth columnists spoilt the statement by bringing mines in from Angola arms caches in to the Kavango area and Caprivi Strip. His Excellency the Foreign Minister under Bismarck was a certain Von Caprivi. They planted AP mines of mainly South African origin (R2M2) in churches, shebeens, paths to water sources and entrances to school. Koos Theyse (head of Namibian Explosive Police) even found South African refurbished mines of Soviet Block origin. It was during an MgM MMD verification mission that I came for the first time to see scraping areas with a garden rake as emergency clearance. It gave me lots of food for thoughts ever since, but fear that I still have not grasped all angles of its application which would allow it to be part of MgM operations.

To be fair, none of the above-mentioned stakeholders should be blamed for some erratic landmine-planting assassins. With the death of UNITA chief Savimbi, and Angola all of a sudden braking out in peace, this danger has seized attention. Currently US DoS funds training and equipment for a joint effort of the Explosives Police under Col. JT Theyse, as Chief Inspector of Explosives, and Major Kotokeni of NDF MineClearance Brigade, for road verification in this north-eastern Namibia. This is quite a massive job as the Caprivi strip is some 500 kms long. The other really serious explosives problem of Namibia is found in the same area. It is all the ERW the South African Army either did not clear from their test and training ranges or simply dumped when they left. As no records are available this is quite some serious task. The Namibian accident statistics now have shifted entirely from mine to ERW, so again, the right steps have been taken.

The border post Oshikango/Sta.Clara (Namibia-Angola) itself is like from another planet. It was the 9th of October in 1992 when I saw it for the very first time and I will forget this moment never in my life. Here I was, young volunteer from Germany, no idea of the reality of chaos, war, horror, power of weapons, power of the guy on the other side of the gun barrel, terror of landmines, torture, killing and related. It was not my first time in Africa. I had travelled Egypt in 1978 and had seen the scars of war in Suez and slept between mine-fields on the Beach of Hughada... next to the concentration-camp like fenced Club Med. I also spent years on my own riding on a horse through Darfur, most of the time around Nyala and Jebel Marra. It was a paradise and I am really shocked what is happening there now. And like former Yugoslavia that I know as land of beauties from my childhood, I am very reluctant to go there and see my paradise in ashes. As I said, it was not my first time in Africa, but this time it was not the same. Crossing from Egypt to Sudan on a steamer’s roof over Lake Assuan is an enlightening experience, coming to the end of the road in Namibia (Oshikango) and peering into Angola (Sta. Clara) was another one, it scared me almost to death. From tar the road changed to dirt with crater holes. The Namibian side had a container office, Angola had a three-legged table under a tree. It was just before the elections. On the left of the 5-metre wide entering area marked by a string with empty cans, there were suspiciously looking UNITA soldiers, the same on the right for the MPLA group. I passed in the middle with
wobbling knees, swearing at the day when I decided to become "humanitarian".
My bro HaGe was rather cool. We had spent years in Brazil and spoke
Portuguese fluently. Five minutes later we sat in some shaded ruin with
bullet holes all over, there were friendly people, music from Cabo Verde,
nice indigenous beer advertisement paintings on the wall, yes, and
almost-cold beer. I loved Angola ever since.

Hendrik Ehlers,
Director OPS Mgm + HEC-R&D
Intl. Desk Windhoek, Namibia
ehlers at mgm dot org
www.mgm.org
cel +264 81 1277020
fax +264 61 243477
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: Unidentified Object
Date: Wednesday, September 15, 2004 5:16 AM
From: MITC <mitcbewre1@btconnect.com>
Reply-To: <network1@mgm.org>
To: <network1@mgm.org>

Hwey...num nuts.....

By the way this is Kev Billinghurst........

All the best....and keep your head on...

-----Original Message-----
From: network1@mgm.org [mailto:network1@mgm.org]On Behalf Of phindy@webhart.net
Sent: 14 September 2004 13:20
To: network1@mgm.org
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: Unidentified Object

Hi Pete,

I am not sure what is that, because the correct text is not visible due to low resolution of the photographs, but to me, it seems that it doesn't says "MEDNASomething" but "MEPNA something" and that could be "MEPNA TAHKA" or "MEPNA TOHKA", but I need somebody to confirm all the letters on the object. "MEPNA TOHKA/TAHKA" would be some kind of mark for the border between two counties. Of course, it can be a mine in the shape of the mark too. :)

Here is the sentence I have found on some serbian web site:
"Od ove trompe granica ide pored Mesne zajednice 'Stara radnihka kolonija' ipoklapa se sa granicom između katastarskih opština Stanovo i Kragujevac do trompe sa Mesnim zajednicama 'Stara radnihka kolonija' i '21.oktobar' (mepnabelega br.19), produava dalje istom granicom do raskrsnice Krušnjak put kroz Spomen park i ulice Lovahke, odnosno trompe sa Mesnim zajednicama '21.oktobar' i 'umarice'."

As I can see, they sometimes use word mepna for the border between counties.

Greetings from Croatia and take care

Zoran

P.S. This mail is also in the attachment, in the form of a picture, in case that you can not see special croatian/serbian letters in this text.
Hi Pete,

I am not sure what is that, because the correct text is not visible due to low resolution of the photographs, but to me, it seems that it doesn't say "MEDNASomething" but "ME Đ NA something" and that could be "ME Đ NA TA ĐKA" or "ME Đ NA TO ĐKA", but I need somebody to confirm all the letters on the object."ME Đ NA TO ĐKA/TA ĐKA" would be some kind of mark for the border between two counties. Of course, it can be a mine in the shape of the mark too. :)

Here is the sentence I have found on some serbian web site: "Od ove trome Đe granica ide pored Mesne zajednice "Stara radniđka kolonija" ipoklapa se sa granicom između katastarkih opština Stanovo i Kragujevac do trome Đe sa Mesnim zajednicama "Stara radniđka kolonija" i "21.oktobar" (me Đe nabelega br.19), produžava dalje istom granicom do raskrsnice Krušneg puta kroz Spomen park i ulice Lovađke, odnosno tromešate sa Mesnim zajednicama "21.oktobar" i "Omarice".

As I can see, they sometimes use word me Đe na for the border between counties.

Greetings from Croatia and take care! & 8230;

Zoran

P.S. This mail is also in the attachment, in the form of a picture, in case that you can not see special croatian.serbian letters in this text.
This message is sent to you because you are subscribed to the mailing list <network1@mgm.org>.
To unsubscribe, E-mail to: <network1-off@mgm.org>
To switch to the Digest mode, E-mail to <network1-digest@mgm.org>
Send administrative queries to <network1-request@mgm.org>
Hello all,

It is a marker of sorts, indicating the border between two areas, possibly private property divisions.

Mike Robinson

----- Original Message ----- 
From: "Mate Gaal" <Mate.Gaal@bam.de>
To: <network1@mgm.org>
Sent: Tuesday, September 14, 2004 12:56 PM
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: Unidentified Object

> Hello,
> "medna ??aka"
> "medna" means "border(ing)"
> "??aka" could be "traka" = "tape"
> It looks very similar to what we saw in CROMAC-CTDT used to hold the
> bordering tape which separates lanes. That thing was about 7x7 cm. The
> thing in the middle, that should be a wedge, if I'm right.
> Although I'm not 100% sure, I hope this helps.
> Mate
> phindy@webhart.net wrote:
> >Hendrik,
> >>I think thats some sort of underground hill/mountain water warning,
> >>location, marker for a well etc...im not sure but i put it to some people
> >>i know where i live in zagreb.
> >>pete
> >>
> >>>
> >>>Folks,
> >>>
> >>>
> >>>I got this from Croatia asking if it is a landmine.
> >>>
> >>>Could be, could be a marker more likely, too.
> >>>
> >>>Well, I don't know (last time I was in Croatia is 30 years ago), but I
> >>>am sure some of you do.
> >>>
> >>>
> >>>Thanks
> >>>
> >>>Hendrik Ehlers, CEO
> >>>
> >>>
> >>
> --
> Mate Gaal, Dipl.-Phys.
> tel. +49-30-8104-4616
> fax. +49-30-8104-1837
>
> BAM - Federal Institute for
> Materials Research and Testing
> Lab. VIII.33
> Unter den Eichen 87
> 12205 Berlin
> Germany
>
> This message is sent to you because you are subscribed to
> the mailing list <network1@mgm.org>.
> To unsubscribe, E-mail to: <network1-off@mgm.org>
> To switch to the Digest mode, E-mail to <network1-digest@mgm.org>
> Send administrative queries to  <network1-request@mgm.org>
The item is a survey marker used by map makers
Hello,

"medna ??aka"
"medna" means "border(ing)"
"??aka" could be "traka" = "tape"

It looks very similar to what we saw in CROMAC-CTDT used to hold the bordering tape which separates lanes. That thing was about 7x7 cm. The thing in the middle, that should be a wedge, if I’m right.

Although I'm not 100% sure, I hope this helps.

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>>
>>Thanks
>>
>>Hendrik Ehlers, CEO
>>
>>
--

Mate Gaal, Dipl.-Phys.
tel. +49-30-8104-4616
fax. +49-30-8104-1837

BAM - Federal Institute for Materials Research and Testing
Lab. VIII.33
Unter den Eichen 87
12205 Berlin
Germany
This message is sent to you because you are subscribed to
the mailing list <network1@mgm.org>.
To unsubscribe, E-mail to: <network1-off@mgm.org>
To switch to the Digest mode, E-mail to <network1-digest@mgm.org>
Send administrative queries to <network1-request@mgm.org>
Hi, you should contact Eddie and Pat to identify it for you, as they are the "experts" on the Balkans. But better yet, you should get them to jump up and down on it, who knows, maybe where're lucky.

Robert.

Do you Yahoo!?
New and Improved Yahoo! Mail <http://us.rd.yahoo.com/mail_us/taglines/100/> http://promotions.yahoo.com/new_mail/static/efficiency.html> - 100MB free storage!
Hendrik,

I think thats some sort of underground hill/mountain water warning, location, marker for a well etc...im not sure but i put it to some people i know where i live in zagreb.

pete

> Folks,
> 
> > I got this from Croatia asking if it is a landmine.
> > Could be, could be a marker more likely, too.
> > Well, I don’t know (last time I was in Croatia is 30 years ago), but I am sure some of you do.
> >
> >
> > Thanks
> >
> >
> > Hendrik Ehlers, CEO
> > MgM HD & HEC RD
> > ehlers at mgm dot org
> >
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I got this from Croatia asking if it is a landmine. Could be, could be a marker more likely, too. Well, I don’t know (last time I was in Croatia is 30 years ago), but I am sure some of you do.

Thanks

Hendrik Ehlers, CEO
MgM HD & HEC RD
ehlers at mgm dot org
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: Network
Date: Monday, August 23, 2004 5:11 PM
From: YOUTH APPROACH <yadc@bangla.net>
Reply-To: <network1@mgm.org>
To: <network1@mgm.org>

Dear Sir.

Please link us with your website and enable us to shoulder you in due course,

Thanking you in anticipation,

Very truly yours,

G.F. Majhar—Coordinator (yaw).

Ln. M.W. Faruque—Chief Coordinator.

At 02:07 PM 8/22/2004, you wrote:
>Dear Faruque
>
>Thank you for your email.
>
>I was wondering whether you would be interested in joining the network when
>we have it set up. I noticed your name, Youth Approach for Development &
>Cooperation (YADC) and so it seems that you would qualify as youth! I will
>start working on the website soon. We have a number of interested people,
>but you would be the first from Bangladesh!
>
>Would you like me to put a link through to you on our website?
>
>Warm regards,
>
>Jonathan Greenacre
>President, The Australian Youth Against Landmines Association
>
>Be a change for good
>
>------Original Message------
>From: network1@mgm.org [mailto:network1@mgm.org] On Behalf Of YOUTH
>APPROACH
>Sent: Friday, 20 August 2004 3:03 PM
>To: network1@mgm.org
>Subject: MgM Demining Network: Congratulation for UXO News Letter
>
>
>Congratulation!
>Wish you well with future endeavors for UXO issues.
>Thanking you in anticipation,
>Very truly yours,
>Ln. M.W. Faruque
>Bangladesh CBL
>__________________________________________________
>
>Youth Approach for Development & Cooperation (YADC)
>{Free Mentoring MRISA/Campaign for Disarmament & Peace}
>3/Ka, Purana Paltan, GPO Box 3772, Dhaka 1000, Bangladesh
>Tel:+8802-9557160, (H) 9566227
Youth Approach for Development & Cooperation (YADC)
(Free Mentoring MRISA/Campaign for Disarmament & Peace)
3/Ka, Purana Paltan, GPO Box 3772, Dhaka 1000, Bangladesh
Tel:+8802-9557160, (H) 9566227
Fax:+8802-9555321, OR +8802-9551722 Cell:0172-111536
Email:<yadc@bangla.net> or <mrisa@dhaka.net>

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To switch to the Digest mode, E-mail to <network1-digest@mgm.org>
Send administrative queries to <network1-request@mgm.org>
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: MgM Demining Network: International Youth Federation
Date: Sunday, August 22, 2004 4:07 AM
From: luis alburez <alburezl@hotmail.com>
Reply-To: <network1@mgm.org>
To: <network1@mgm.org>

Congratulation!
Wish you well with future endeavors for UXO issues.
Thanking you in anticipation,
Cheers,
Sincerely
LUIS ALBUREZ

>From: "Jonathan Greenacre" <antilandmines@mail2President.com>
>Reply-To: <network1@mgm.org>
>To: <network1@mgm.org>
>Subject: MgM Demining Network: International Youth Federation
>
>To Whom It May Concern
>
>My name is Jonathan Greenacre from The Australian Youth Against Landmines Association (TAYALA). We are currently setting up the International Federation of Youth Against Landmiens, a network of youth working on landmine issues. We want youth across the world to be able to learn from each other's experiences in order to provide more direct effective relief to landmine victim around the world.
>
>Any youth interested in helping the construction of this body should write back to me at this address. This is a very exciting pioneering project and provides an outstanding opporunity for young people across the world to co ordinate efforts to rid the world of landmines and assist victims of this hideous weapon of war. We already have made contacts with youth workers in Canada, South Africa, Tanzania, New Zealand and Burma and are very rapidly growing.
I look forward to hearing from those interested.

Warm regards,

Jonathan Greenacre

President, The Australian Youth Against Landmines Association

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To switch to the Digest mode, E-mail to <network1-digest@mgm.org>

Send administrative queries to <network1-request@mgm.org>
Subject: MgM Demining Network: Network
Date: Sunday, August 22, 2004 4:07 AM
From: Jonathan Greenacre <antilandmines@mail2president.com>
Reply-To: <network1@mgm.org>
To: <network1@mgm.org>

Dear Faruque

Thank you for your email.

I was wondering whether you would be interested in joining the network when we have it set up. I noticed your name, Youth Approach for Development & Cooperation (YADC) and so it seems that you would qualify as youth! I will start working on the website soon. We have a number of interested people, but you would be the first from Bangladesh!

Would you like me to put a link through to you on our website?

Warm regards,

Jonathan Greenacre
President, The Australian Youth Against Landmines Association

Be a change for good

-----Original Message-----
From: network1@mgm.org [mailto:network1@mgm.org] On Behalf Of YOUTH APPROACH
Sent: Friday, 20 August 2004 3:03 PM
To: network1@mgm.org
Subject: MgM Demining Network: Congratulation for UXO News letter

Congratulation!
Wish you well with future endeavors for UXO issues.
Thanking you in anticipation,
Very truly yours,
Ln. M.W. Faruque
Bangladesh CBL

Youth Approach for Development & Cooperation (YADC)
(Free Mentoring MRISA/Campaign for Disarmament & Peace)
3/Ka, Purana Paltan, GPO Box 3772, Dhaka 1000, Bangladesh
Tel:+8802-9557160, (H) 9566227
Fax:+8802-9555321, OR +8802-9551722 Cell:0172-111536
Email:<yadc@bangla.net> or <mrisa@dhaka.net>

This message is sent to you because you are subscribed to
the mailing list <network1@mgm.org>.
To unsubscribe, E-mail to: <network1-off@mgm.org>
To switch to the Digest mode, E-mail to <network1-digest@mgm.org>
Send administrative queries to <network1-request@mgm.org>
At 11:03 AM 8/20/2004, you wrote:
>"Jonathan Greenacre" <antilandmines@mail2President.com>

Congratulation,
Wish you well with future endeavors and in solidarity we will shoulder you in due course.
Very truly yours,
G.F. Majhar,
Youth Against War(yaw).
Bangladesh CBL

Youth Approach for Development & Cooperation (YADC)
(Free Mentoring MRISA/Campaign for Disarmament & Peace)
3/Ka, Purana Paltan, GPO Box 3772, Dhaka 1000, Bangladesh
Tel:+8802-9557160, (H) 9566227
Fax:+8802-9555321, OR +8802-9551722 Cell:0172-111536
Email:<yadc@bangla.net>  or <mrisa@dhaka.net>

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Send administrative queries to <network1-request@mgm.org>
Jonathon

Good luck with your project. If ever you are near Sarajevo, let me know!

Regards

Fred
also at fred.pavey@sfor.nato.int
>From: "Jonathan Greenacre" <antilandmines@mail2President.com>
>Reply-To: <network1@mgm.org>
>To: <network1@mgm.org>
>Subject: MgM Demining Network: International Youth Federation
>MIME-Version: 1.0
>Received: from mc3-f35.hotmail.com ([64.4.50.171]) by mc3-s18.hotmail.com with Microsoft SMTPSVC(5.0.2195.6824); Wed, 18 Aug 2004 12:39:22 -0700
>Received: from ckunft.de ([82.212.219.20]) by mc3-f35.hotmail.com with Microsoft SMTPSVC(5.0.2195.6824); Wed, 18 Aug 2004 12:36:22 -0700
>X-Message-Info: vGzX0e+ktu7PsOL459xROBn+xmjj+vsR05WLJZD5pPk=
>X-SpamCatcher-Score: 10 [X]
>X-SpamCatcher-Score: 10 [X]
>X-ListServer: CommuniGate Pro LIST 4.2
>List-Unsubscribe: <mailto:network1-off@mgm.org>
>List-ID: <network1.mgm.org>
>Message-ID: <list-1760939@ckunft.de>
>Precedence: list
>X-Original-Message-ID: <redirect-1760937@ckunft.de>
>Return-Path: network1-report@mgm.org
[A51D7AE0:01C4855A]
>
>To Whom It May Concern
>
>My name is Jonathan Greenacre from The Australian Youth Against
>Landmines Association (TAYALA). We are currently setting up the
>International Federation of Youth Against Landmines, a network of youth working on landmine issues. We want youth across the world to be able to learn from each other's experiences in order to provide more direct effective relief to landmine victim around the world.

>Any youth interested in helping the construction of this body should write back to me at this address. This is a very exciting pioneering project and provides an outstanding opportunity for young people across the world to coordinate efforts to rid the world of landmines and assist victims of this hideous weapon of war. We already have made contacts with youth workers in Canada, South Africa, Tanzania, New Zealand and Burma and are very rapidly growing.

>I look forward to hearing from those interested.

>Warm regards,

>Jonathan Greenacre

>President, The Australian Youth Against Landmines Association

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Subject: MgM Demining Network: Congratulation for UXO News letter
Date: Friday, August 20, 2004 1:03 AM
From: YOUTH APPROACH <yadc@bangla.net>
Reply-To: <network1@mgm.org>
To: <network1@mgm.org>

Congratulation!
Wish you well with future endeavors for UXO issues.
Thanking you in anticipation,
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Unexploded Ordnance (UXO) E-Newsletter For August 2004

Welcome to UXOInfo.com's free monthly e-newsletter on Unexploded Ordnance (UXO). UXOInfo.com is the largest site on the Internet for UXO related news and information. If you have not checked out the site, we encourage you to do so at www.uxoinfo.com. In addition to bringing you the latest UXO news and information, the site also provides the following:

1. UXO Contracting Opportunities  
2. Ordnance / UXO Photo Gallery  
3. Documentation Sharing  
   1. UXO Regulations, Policy and Laws  
   2. UXO Site Inventory  
   3. Questions and Answers

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20 July 2004
Explosive Garbage and UXO Thefts Could be Related
Savannah, Georgia - Police evacuated several homes and businesses for
several hours after a trash bin containing UXO exploded when sanitation workers
were picking up the garbage. The driver of the garbage truck was unharmed, but
the explosion blew the face off the trash container and shattered the rear window
of the garbage truck as it threw the truck forward several feet, knocking out a
fence. The Army EOD unit from nearby Hunter Army Airfield responded to the scene
and assisted police in removing four high explosive 20mm rounds that were still in
the truck after the explosion.

Police are investigating a potential link between the UXO discarded in
the garbage with a local father and son who were arrested the day earlier
on federal weapons charges. A few days before the explosion occurred,
the two suspects were retained by Fort Stewart military police after game
wardens caught the two wondering on an aerial gunnery range. Fort
Stewart authorities reported the incident to the ATF and later released
the men. The ATF conducted a search of their home and discovered
several unregistered firearms. The two suspects were then arrested. The
story does not end there. Several days later, police responded to a
burglary report at the same house shared by the two federal firearms
suspects and discovered an unexploded AT-4 anti-tank rocket.

The two men have been charged with illegally possessing automatic
weapons, high-capacity magazines, as well as harassing an endangered
gopher tortoise with a rottweiler. However, they have not been charged
with the exploding garbage incident or the AT-4 discovery due to the on-
going investigation.
Panama Uncovers UXO at Construction Site Near The Panama Canal

PANAMA CITY, Panama - A dispute that the U.S. military considers closed has surfaced again as the Panamanian government builds a road through a former U.S. Army range. The road under construction is near the Bridge of Americas goes and runs through the former Army range known as Empire Range. Prior to the turn over of the Canal and U.S. military bases in Panama to the Panamanian Government in 1999, the U.S. military controlled more than 75,000 acres of land. The land included over 7,000 acres of range area including two Army ranges (Empire and Pina), and an Air force bombing range known as Balboa West.

Under the terms of the 1977 Panama Canal Treaty, the U.S. was required to restore the land to its original condition "to the extent practicable". The U.S. did conduct several studies on the former ranges and conducted limited UXO clearance operations in a few select areas including the area proposed for the construction of a new set of canal locks. The U.S. claimed their efforts met the terms of the treaty and added that further cleanups would be too dangerous and harmful to the environment, because the jungle would have be bulldozed.

Reportedly, the Panamanian Government did hire a local contractor to sweep the construction area for UXO using magnetometers. The contractor was able to locate 72 UXO. However, construction workers reportedly still encountering UXO. The contractor blamed miscommunication between the road builders and the clearance crew on why all the UXO was not discovered during the sweep, stating that road crews must have been working in areas not yet swept.

Download Panama UXO related documents from 1999: Evaluation Of UXO Detection and Interrogation Technologies For Use in Panama <http://207.5.17.69/uxoinfo/downloads/Panama_techeval.html>

Unexploded Ordnance Assessment of U.S. Military Ranges in Panama <http://207.5.17.69/uxoinfo/downloads/Panama_techeval.html> from
INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP 2004
System & Tools for UXO and Mine Detection
September 28 - 29, 2004
Eningen, Germany

http://www.vallon.de/ http://www.forceware.de/
Vallon GmbH, Germany, one of the leading manufacturers of mine
detectors, bomb locators and evaluation software and its subsidiary
company ForceWare GmbH, supplier of tools for EOD, demining and
security equipment invite the international demining community to their
workshop at their works at Eningen, Germany.

1. International guest speakers
2. Field demonstrations
3. Presentation of the new dual sensor mine detector
4. Experience exchange
5. Social events

The participation in the workshop is free of charge. During the workshop
free meals and drinks are offered.

For more information and registration please contact
mailto:vallon@vallon.de <mailto:vallon@vallon.de> or visit
their website http://www.vallon.de/cont_e/news/workshops.html.

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at advertising@uxoinfo.com <mailto:advertising@uxoinfo.com> or call
Focus and Leap, Inc at 410-496-7723.

---

28 July 2004
**More UXO Found in Clamshell Driveways - This Time CWM Filled**

In the May 2004 UXO E-Newsletter, we reported on numerous UXO
discoveries in clamshell covered driveways in Delaware (Explosive Driveways - UXO Found in Cover Material). This time another UXO discovery has been made in the driveway cover material on a poultry farm west of Bridgeville. Unlike previous discoveries, this one had significant consequences for the responding EOD personnel. Three airmen assigned to the 436th Civil Engineer Squadron's Explosive Ordnance Disposal Flight at Dover Air Force Base were hospitalized when they tried to render safe a 75mm shell discovered in the clamshell driveway fill. The three were treated for burns they received from chemical warfare materiel (CWM) agent that apparently leaked from the UXO during the response process. Aberdeen Proving Ground (APG), Maryland officials have contained the round and have conducted tests on the agent confirming the fill to be mustard agent.

**CWM Round Found in Delaware Driveway**

Nearly 100 explosive devices have been found in Sussex County driveways between February and April alone. Recent discoveries include 14 hand grenades found at a poultry farm in Laurel and a WWI French rifle grenade. Investigators believe the explosives were moved around by a local hauler who sold clamshells picked up from a processing plant in Milford. The Army Corps of Engineers Baltimore District plans to launch an investigation to find out how the items are making their way onto the driveways and also to educate the local public on the hazards of UXO. OSHA officials are planning to inspect the clamshell processing plant as well as a clamshell hauler to ensure worker safety precautions are in place.

---

**08 August 2004**

**UXO and Scrap Recycling – An International Problem**

In past UXO e-newsletter stories, several range residual (range scrap) stories have been reported including incidents involving misidentified
items. The United States is not the only country dealing with UXO and range scrap related problems. Authorities questioned villagers in Southwest China when they tried to sell more than 100 UXO items including unexploded grenades and bombs to a scrap dealer. The villagers claimed they found the items at a construction site in the capital city of Guiyang. It was not immediately clear if the villagers were aware that the items were UXO. However, the scrap dealer recognized the objects as UXO and contacted authorities. Luckily none of the UXO detonated or caused injuries.

13 August 2004
More WWII UXO Uncovered in Singapore
The Singapore military uncovered a Japanese bomb from WWII at a construction site several miles from the city's financial center. UXO discoveries in Singapore are quite common at construction sites and beaches. Last year a cache of 843 UXO were discovered near a former colonial-era British military base. Japanese forces captured Singapore in 1942 and Britain regained control at the end of the war and ran the island until 1963, two years before Singapore became independent.

26 July 2004
Civil War UXO Found at Inlet in South Carolina
Murrells Inlet, South Carolina - Workers at a construction site uncovered a rare 100+ year old round believed to have been fired from a Parrot Gun. The UXO was found at a new subdivision on U.S. Highway 17 just south of Murrells Inlet. A construction worker reportedly transported the round in his truck (editor's note - some people just do not think) to the local sheriff's office after it was uncovered. The bomb squad was then brought in to safely dispose of the item after the sheriff's office and
nearby buildings were evacuated.

The shell's origins are a mystery, but researchers speculate that the unexploded Parrot round may have been ammunition left from a skirmish between Confederate blockade runners and the US Navy during the Civil War. The 3 Inch Parrot Round is this month's featured munition item.

---

Munition of the Month - August 2004: 3 inch Parrot Round

New Feature - Munition of the Month
Introducing a new feature in the monthly UXO e-newsletter - the Munition of the Month. This month's munition is the 3 Inch Federal Parrot Round. Each month we will showcase a new munition (suggestions welcome).

Filler Type and Weight
Black Powder bursting charge

Body Type and Weight
Hollow iron projectile filled with Black Powder as a bursting charge and lead shot.

Source
Civil War Artillery .ORG

Description
The Federal Parrott shell is 3.63 inches in diameter, for firing from a 20-pounder Parrott Gun with a 3.67 inch bore. The cutaway image depicts the case shot balls embedded in a sulphur matrix, which was friable and less effective than the more yielding coal-tar. Note that the bursting cavity was simply drilled through the shot
and matrix. This particular round is equipped with a Bormann time fuse which has a maximum burning time of five seconds.

08 August 2004

**SERDP AND ESTCP Symposium & Workshop Call For Poster Abstracts**

Each year the Strategic Environmental Research and Development Program (SERDP) and the Environmental Security Technology Certification Program (ESTCP) host a 2.5 day Symposium & Workshop featuring a comprehensive technical program illustrating how SERDP's research & development and ESTCP's demonstration & validation efforts are assisting the Department of Defense (DoD) to address increasingly complex environmental challenges. This Partners in Environmental Technology Technical Symposium & Workshop promotes the many different partnerships among federal agencies, private industry, and academia, as well as with technology developers, end users, and regulators.

The 2004 Symposium & Workshop will be held November 30-December 2 at the Marriott Wardman Park Hotel in Washington, D.C. Currently, abstracts for consideration for poster space are being accepted. The deadline for submission is August 23. Both federal and non-federal submissions will be considered. For details, refer to the abstract guidelines at www.serdp.org or www.estcp.org. Online registration for the Symposium is now under way. **Project-of-the-Year Awards Showcase Cutting-Edge Technologies at SERDP and ESTCP Symposium.**

Each year as part of the Opening Plenary Session of the Symposium, SERDP and ESTCP Project-of-the-Year Awards are presented in recognition of successful research and technology developments with significant benefits to DoD. In 2003, the SERDP Project of the Year for
Unexploded Ordnance was awarded to Mr. George Robitaille of the U.S. Army Environmental Center for establishing the UXO Standardized Test Sites. Technology testing and demonstration are performed on sites at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland, and Yuma Proving Ground, Arizona. The test sites promote the full characterization of detection and discrimination technologies, tracking performance as the system develops, comparing performance of different systems, and comparing performance in different environments. The standardized procedures and performance metrics developed as part of this project help to ensure that comparisons of UXO sensor technologies are consistent and valid. Mr. Robitaille, with the contributions of a large project team, has created a resource for site managers in need of technology, as well as an invaluable test bed for the research community.

Additional information about this award-winning project can be found by visiting http://www.serdp.org/symposiums/symposiums.html#PastSymposium.

Story submitted by the SERDP Office.

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Technical data on ordnance including filler information, explosive weights, photos and schematics. The developers of UXOInfo.com have completed the design of the technical ordnance information database. Data from ordnance technical manuals and publications (unclassified - publically available) will be uploaded into the database for easy access. For now check out the Grenade category for a good sample. Look for more ordnance to be added in the future. Also, UXOInfo.com is looking for more photos and images to populate the database, so please consider donating images and pictures to UXOInfo.com.

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<http://www.uxoinfo.com>

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- **Number of Page Views:** 22,137
- **Total User Sessions:** 9,272
- **Total User Sessions:** 9,272
- **Number of Documents Available for Downloading or Viewing on the Site:** 175
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<http://www.focusandleap.com>
To Whom It May Concern

My name is Jonathan Greenacre from The Australian Youth Against Landmines Association (TAYALA). We are currently setting up the International Federation of Youth Against Landmines, a network of youth working on landmine issues. We want youth across the world to be able to learn from each other’s experiences in order to provide more direct effective relief to landmine victim around the world.

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I look forward to hearing from those interested.

Warm regards,

Jonathan Greenacre
President, The Australian Youth Against Landmines Association

Get the FREE email that has everyone talking at http://www.mail2world.com
Hi Sean,
Many Thanks

Manuel

-----Message d'origine-----
De : Sean Moorhouse [mailto:sean.moorhouse@talk21.com]
Envoyé : jeudi 15 juillet 2004 15:41
À : network1@mgm.org
Objet : Re: MgM Demining Network: Fwd: Ispra NOSE Workshop Report

-Manuel,

I think you mean the Swedish Rescue Services Agency.
Their website is
http://www.srv.se/funktioner/frameset/?om_id=35
and there is an email contact on that page.

Yours,

Sean
Hi Manuel!

The web address is http://www.srv.se then click on English and find your way to demining. If you want more information make contact with Pehr Lodhammar on e-mail per.lodhammar@srv.se or his mobile +46 706122788

WBR
Peter Soderberg
ArmorGroup

Hi all,

I would like to get the address or web site of:

Swedish Rescue Service Board

Regards

Manuel

Manuel GONZAL
Référent technique déminage
Handicap International
14 av Berthelot
69361 LYON
FRANCE
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: Fwd: Ispra NOSE Workshop Report
Date: Thursday, July 15, 2004 9:40 AM
From: Sean Moorhouse <sean.moorhouse@talk21.com>
Reply-To: <network1@mgm.org>
To: <network1@mgm.org>

-Manuel,

I think you mean the Swedish Rescue Services Agency.
Their website is
http://www.srv.se/funktioner/frameset/?om_id=35
and there is an email contact on that page.

Yours,

Sean
Hi all,

I would like to get the address or web site of:

Swedish Rescue Service Board

Regards

Manuel

Manuel GONZAL
Référent technique déminage
Handicap International
14 av Berthelot
69361 LYON
FRANCE
At 12:17 PM 7/8/2004, you wrote:
>John Vellone
>
>Canadian Appropriate Technologies in Mine Action Competition
>catimac@ewb.ca | www.catimac.ca | www.ewb.ca | www.minesactioncanada.com
>
>Engineers Without Borders / Ingénieurs Sans Frontières Canada
>188 Davenport Rd, 201, Toronto, ON, M5R 1J2
>Phone: 416-481-3696 | Fax: 416-222-0166
>
>Dear Sirs,

Acknowledged with thanks the receipt of your good message,
Wish you well with future initiatives and solicit your continued patronization,
Very Trly Yours,
Ln. M.W. Faruque, Bangladesh CBL
Gazi Forhad Majhar, Coordinator (yaw)

Youth Approach for Development & Cooperation (YADC)
(Free Mentoring MRISA/Campaign for Disarmament & Peace)
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Tel: +8802-9557160, (H) 9566227
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Send administrative queries to <network1-request@mgm.org>
On behalf of John Crawford (see below).
The report is downloadable at: http://www.mgm.org/e/profsArea/otherDocs/Ispra2004.doc

regards

Wolfgang Maschke

MgM
Stiftung Menschen gegen Minen e.V.
Humanitarian Demining NGO

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tel.: 0931 66 32 16
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Bitte besuchen Sie unsere Website www.mgm.org und informieren Sie sich über unsere humanitäre Arbeit und den aktuellen Stand unserer Minenräumoperationen.

Please visit our website www.mgm.org for more information regarding our humanitarian work and the current state of our demining operations.

Anfang der weitergeleiteten E-Mail:

Von: Crawford John <john.crawford@psi.ch>
An: 'Claudio Bruschini ' <Claudio.Bruschini@epfl.ch>, "network1@mgm.org " <network1@mgm.org>
Betreff: Ispra NOSE Workshop Report

Dear Claudio,
Welcome back!

Herewith is my report on the Ispra Workshop. I have formatted in what I hope is an acceptable way, bearing in mind the samples you sent me. Since I don't know Word very well, I would encourage you to take a critical look at it. One thing I am not satisfied with is the Table of Contents, which I have not been able to get Word to format as I wanted. You will see that the left and right edges are a little bit ragged. If you can tidy them up, I would be interested to know how you did it.

Best, John
Greetings MgM Community,

Something to fill the void on this quite network.

My name is John Vellone, and over the past year I have been a director of the Canadian Appropriate Technologies in Mine Action Competition (CATIMAC).

The Competition was devised to educate students in a non mine affected country (Canada) about the landmine problem. It encourages them to deeply consider technological solutions to some of the challenges facing mine action operations in the field. I'll address this upfront, because we posted last year and got burned for only being based in Canada. The reason we are based in Canada is because of our limited capacity to run the competition (Run by Mines Action Canada jointly with Engineers Without Borders Canada). If another NGO wants to mimic the idea in their region, they are free to do so and my contact info is below.

The Competition is entering its 8th year, so it is not a fledgling idea and to date it has been a success. Successful in terms of educating and engaging post-secondary students in Canada, and successful in bringing simple designs towards fruition. A prize winner from last year, a novel Dog Cooling Device, has modest potential of increasing the length of time MDDs can operate in high ambient temperature environments (resulting in some welcome savings in operational costs) and is scheduled to begin field testing in Bosnia later this summer.

The Competition runs based on a simple philosophy: active demining professionals know the technical problems they face day-to-day (and maybe even have some ideas on how to solve them). Our role at the Competition is to act as a bridge between your experience and knowledge of the problems, and the students who are eager to help.

**The reason I am writing to the MgM list is to solicit help from the demining community. We need your help generating problem statements for next year's competition.** Please take 10 minutes and draft an email detailing a problem you have seen in the field (be sure to include the relevant country for the problem).

To view and provide comments on last year's problem statements visit http://www.minesactioncanada.com/competition/home/catimacproblems.cfm?lang=e.

If you can help us out, please send a message to the listserv or to John Vellone (johnv@ewb.ca).

Regards,
John Vellone
Canadian Appropriate Technologies in Mine Action Competition
With all due respect this seems a strange comment. Is it not best to share experiences on the most cost-effective and safe way to work with the common goal of as much safe clearance as possible?

Best Regards,

Stephen Crabbe

"Peter Curran" <kiwi@virconn.com> schrieb:
> Has mine clearance become a competition?
> ----- Original Message ----- 
> From: Hendrik Ehlers 
> To: network1@mgm.org 
> Sent: Wednesday, June 23, 2004 8:39 AM 
> Subject: MgM Demining Network: CNIDAH OPS Results Angola 2003 
> 
> Friends, see attached official numbers.
> 
> MgM in Angola in 2003 accounts for roughly half of the national clearance. This is remarkable as we work only with a fraction of staff (200 Angolan with 2 expats in country) and funding than the other players. Our brothers and sisters from NPA. HALO and MAG, according to official CNIDAH numbers, work on three times staff and 3 to 4 time the annual budget.
> 
> From my point of view the strangest fact amongst this is that other than most organisations, we are not bound to one specific area, but stretched from bottom to top. It is a nightmare in terms of logistics, but we made it. How come our output is so high? I only guess, it is because we use men, machines and dogs in a rather balanced and effective manner. And I know we can get much better still.
> 
> Currently MgM in partnership with emergency teams from Danminar K9 and excellent new Karenswood dogs under our Ronco trained Mozambican Akai Muzuzu dog chief, represent the only operational canine capacity in Angola. Together with our fleet of armoured graders, this is a real tool.
> 
> My big thanks to all donors, supporters, critics and staff of MgM.
> 
> Hendrik Ehlers, CEO
> 
> MgM HD & HEC RD
> 
> ehlers at mgm dot org
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: CNIDAH OPS Results Angola 2003  
Date: Wednesday, June 23, 2004 9:57 AM  
From: Aksel Steen <akst@npaid.org>  
Reply-To: <network1@mgm.org>  
To: <network1@mgm.org>  

Congratulations to you Hendrik and the whole MgM team in Angola,

MgM have really done a great job in Angola achieving the results you can show for last year. Unfortunately can't I agree totally with your statement as the guys that have compiled the figures haven't really been able to do the mathematics according to normal standards. If you have a look at the different figures in the table you will see that the total amount is bigger than what is stated in the total and that also the summary or the different figures don't add up. NPA alone has actually alone done almost the double of MgM (as it should being the double in staff) with 1,9 million m2 compared to MgM's 1.05 million m2.

This is not meant to put you down in any way Hendrik, and it really shouldn't either with your teams great performance, just to show that others also are performing in Angola with the same big logistical challenges as you guys. Looking forward to see how you will manage to become even better as you state and I'm sure the rest of the guys working in Angola will take you up on the challenge and by that helping Angola getting reed of the landmines even faster which is the ultimate goal for all of us!

Aksel Steen-Nilsen  
Mine Action advisor  
NPA

From: network1@mgm.org [mailto:network1@mgm.org] On Behalf Of Hendrik Ehlers  
Sent: 23. juni 2004 08:40  
To: network1@mgm.org  
Subject: MgM Demining Network: CNIDAH OPS Results Angola 2003

Friends, see attached official numbers.

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My big thanks to all donors, supporters, critics and staff of MgM.

Hendrik Ehlers, CEO

MgM HD & HEC RD

ehlers at mgm dot org
Wouldn't it be good if it was.

Look at the benefits competitions are bringing to: DARPA (prize money for autonomous robots), NASA (prize money for private sector space products) and X-Prize (prize money for first private spaceship to reach space... twice....)

Maybe extra funds should be given each year to the best clearance rates/$ in country!

scott

At 10:06 AM 6/23/2004, you wrote:

Has mine clearance become a competition?

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From: Hendrik Ehlers <mailto:ehlers@mgm.org>
To: network1@mgm.org
Sent: Wednesday, June 23, 2004 8:39 AM
Subject: MgM Demining Network: CNIDAH OPS Results Angola 2003

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Hendrik Ehlers, CEO
MgM HD & HEC RD
ehlers at mgm dot org

Scott D Smith
Technical Manager
HEC (Humanitarian Engineering and Consulting)
Main Website: www.mgm.org <http://www.mgm.org/>
R&D Website: www.hectec.cc
<http://www.hectec.cc/> eMail: scott at mgm dot org
Cell: +264 81 128 7805
Fax: +264 61 243 477
PO Box 24394, Windhoek, Namibia, Africa 9000
Has mine clearance become a competition?

----- Original Message ----- 

From: Hendrik Ehlers <ehlers@mgm.org>
To: network1@mgm.org
Sent: Wednesday, June 23, 2004 8:39 AM
Subject: MgM Demining Network: CNIDAH OPS Results Angola 2003

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Hendrik Ehlers, CEO

MgM HD & HEC RD

ehlers at mgm dot org
Subject: MgM Demining Network: Re MACC SL Website
Date: Wednesday, June 23, 2004 2:39 AM
From: Karen McClure <mcclure@un.org>
Reply-To: <network1@mgm.org>
To: <network1@mgm.org>

Dear All

Further to my last mail if anyone has a link to other mine action websites on their own website we would appreciate it if you would add our site to your links. Likewise we are happy to link your site to ours on your advice.

Thank you
Best Regards
Karen

Karen McClure
Public Information Officer
Mine Action Coordination Centre Southern Lebanon
P O Box 300, Tyre
Lebanon
Tel +961 3 532 764
Fax +961 7 349 459
Email: mcclure@un.org
Subject: MgM Demining Network: The Forum Archives
Date: Wednesday, June 23, 2004 2:39 AM
From: Hendrik Ehlers <ehlers@mgm.org>
Reply-To: <network1@mgm.org>
To: <network1@mgm.org>

Dear Friends

As the current archive of 8 tears of forum contains the email addresses of the subscribers, we had to switch it off temporarily. Some mail address robots started to scan the archive in order to find live addresses to send Spam to. In future we will have a cleaned and crawler proof version as “Best of” with a text search feature.

Thank you

Hendrik Ehlers, CEO
MgM HD & HEC RD
ehlers at mgm dot org
Subject: MgM Demining Network: MACC Southern Lebanon website
Date: Wednesday, June 23, 2004 2:39 AM
From: Karen McClure <mcclure@un.org>
Reply-To: <network1@mgm.org>
To: <network1@mgm.org>

Dear All

The Mine Action Coordination Centre in Southern Lebanon launched its website last Friday 18 June 2004. The site focuses on the project 'Operation Emirates Solidarity'; the principal coordination role of the MACC SL since it was established in January 2002. It can be viewed on www.maccsl.org

Best Regards

Karen McClure
Public Information Officer
Mine Action Coordination Centre Southern Lebanon
P O Box 300, Tyre
Lebanon
Tel +961 3 532 764
Fax +961 7 349 459
Email: mcclure@un.org
Friends, see attached official numbers.

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My big thanks to all donors, supporters, critics and staff of MgM.

Hendrik Ehlers, CEO

MgM HD & HEC RD
ehlers at mgm dot org
RESULTADOS OPERACIONAIS DE DESMINAGEM, REFERENCIAIS AMO DE 2003

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Luanda, 30 de março 2004

# This message is sent to you because you are subscribed to the mailing list <network1@mgm.org>.
# To unsubscribe, E-mail to: <network1-off@mgm.org>
# To switch to the Digest mode, E-mail to <network1-digest@mgm.org>
# Send administrative queries to <network1-request@mgm.org>
On behalf of Adopt-A-Minefield, I would like to respond to your email 

"Justice Prevails" dated May 30th. The amount currently under investigation is approximately $185,000, not $800,000. As you correctly point out, there is an ongoing investigation and this is being coordinated by UNDP with active involvement from us and other international organizations.

Keith Kelly
keith@landmines.org.uk

Megan Burke
mburke@unausa.org
Subject: MgM Demining Network:  Re[2]: MgM Demining Network:  pmn markings
Date: Friday, June 4, 2004 9:32 AM
From: Naiden Iliev <mon100@mail.ru>
Reply-To: <network1@mgm.org>
To: <network1@mgm.org>

Dear Sir,

Thank you. I just arrived inert soviet PMN, year of production 1975. I am EOD expert from Bulgaria and inert landmine collector. If you need info for bulgarian landmines, let me know. You are a editor in Janes Landmine and mine clearance?

Greetings

Naiden

-----Original Message-----
From: "Colin King" <ck@ckingassociates.co.uk>
To: <network1@mgm.org>
Date: Tue, 25 May 2004 11:16:33 +0200
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network:  pmn markings

> > Low resolution images attached - just get in touch direct if you need higher
> > resolution.
> > Regards,
> > Colin King.
> >
> > ----- Original Message ----- 
> > From: "Naiden Iliev" <mon100@mail.ru>
> > To: <network1@mgm.org>
> > Sent: Sunday, May 23, 2004 8:59 PM
> > Subject: MgM Demining Network: pmn markings
> >
> > > > Hello everybody
> > > > Somebody can send me the photo of soviet PMN parkings on the rubber top
> > > > and bottom?
> > > > And i look for photo of soviet PMN - old model, manufacture before 1965
> > > >
> > > > Greetings
> > > >
> > > > Naiden
> > > >
> > > > ##===============================================================================
> > > > This message is sent to you because you are subscribed to
> > > the mailing list <network1@mgm.org>.
> > > To unsubscribe, E-mail to: <network1-off@mgm.org>
> > > To switch to the Digest mode, E-mail to <network1-digest@mgm.org>
> > > Send administrative queries to <network1-request@mgm.org>
Dear Ashley,

M14 tetryl 29g
PMD6 TNT 200g

Regards
Görgen ekberg
EOD IS
SWEDEC
SWEDEN

ps we have all information in EOD IS database
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: Question, PMD-6, M-14
Date: Thursday, June 3, 2004 8:53 AM
From: Manuel GONZAL <mgonzal@handicap-international.org>
Reply-To: <network1@mgm.org>
To: <network1@mgm.org>

Dear Ashley,

M14 tetryl 28g
PMD6 TNT 200g

Regards
Manuel

-----Message d'origine-----
De : Ashley Dean [mailto:ashley.dean@aigis.co.uk]
Envoyé : jeudi 3 juin 2004 14:46
À : network1@mgm.org
Objet : MgM Demining Network: Question, PMD-6, M-14

Dear All,
Can any one tell me what type of explosives and what charge sizes are found in these two AP mines: PMD-6, M-14.
(the reason I am asking is we make a mine boot that offers some protection and I am researching certain mine threats)

Regards,
Ashley
Subject: MgM Demining Network: YES  Re: MgM Demining Network: Machine Status
Date: Thursday, June 3, 2004 8:46 AM
From: Reinhold Sommerstedt <reinhold@wealthkeeper.net>
Reply-To: <network1@mgm.org>
To: <network1@mgm.org>

Dear Bill,

For some time we have advanced development of an autonomous vehicle capable of continued operation following an anti-Tank landmine blast. There are numerous other advantages. This same vehicle would also be capable of telecommunicated remote-control.

Recent US military evaluations for development project were affirmative but politically problematic.

We continue alternative paths toward final development.

EARTHWORK FOUNDATION Las Vegas, Nevada
Our efforts will benefit greatly from your stated requirements.

Please call if you are so inclined.

Reinhold Sommerstedt  (702) 369 0700

On 6/2/04 7:30 AM, "Artemus Noid" <BPatLckMtn@worldnet.att.net> wrote:

> All,
> > The board has been dreadfully quiet of late- curious to hear what folks
> > are up to regarding machines lately. In particular, are things still
> > primarily teleoperated or is anyone trying to work in some autonomy.
> >
> > Regards- Bill
> >
> >>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>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Dear All,
Can any one tell me what type of explosives and what charge sizes are found in these two AP mines: PMD-6, M-14.
(the reason I am asking is we make a mine boot that offers some protection and I am researching certain mine threats)

Regards,
Ashley

Ashley Dean
ashley.dean@aigis.co.uk
Two years ago I wondered for a fraction of the second how the hell the unknown son of Savimbi knew me, now it is the Nigerian scam mafia wanting to make me a rich man. Life could be nice……

Respected Mr. Hendrik Ehlers I am Major Joshua Amadu (retired), I presently head the contract selection committee of the Federal Ministry of Defence here in Nigeria. My duty is to locate suitable contractors or individuals (engineers and service personnel) who are well qualified to handle small military contracts. I have been mandated by my colleagues in the committee to locate an engineer who is well experienced in the demining field, who could represent our interest in visiting the country (as a contractor in the demining field) and inspect the bomb blast site of the January 1st 2002 bomb blast at the Ikeja Military Cantonement. For the inspection of the site the Committee have approved US$12.5 MILLION (TWELVE MILLION FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS), but the actual inspection cost is US$2MILLION. Upon your visit we will present you before the defence ministry and the presidency as the contractor who is to visit the bomb site and make the inspection visit. You will then prepare a report of your findings from your visit of the site and suggestion and hand over to our committee, your contract ends there. You will be paid the sum of US$4million as your payment for the inspection visit and the balance is for us the contract committee and our colleagues in the Presidency. I require you to contact me as soon as possible if you are interested to carry out this inspection visit. All other information remain classified until I receive your positive reply. Yours faithfully, MAJOR JOSHUA AMADU (RTD)
All,

The board has been dreadfully quiet of late—curious to hear what folks are up to regarding machines lately. In particular, are things still primarily teleoperated or is anyone trying to work in some autonomy.

Regards– Bill

#-----------------------------------------------
This message is sent to you because you are subscribed to
the mailing list <network1@mgm.org>.
To unsubscribe, E-mail to: <network1-off@mgm.org>
To switch to the Digest mode, E-mail to <network1-digest@mgm.org>
Send administrative queries to <network1-request@mgm.org>
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: Justice prevails
Date: Wednesday, June 2, 2004 10:26 AM
From: Mate Gaal <Mate.Gaal@bam.de>
Reply-To: <network1@mgm.org>
To: <network1@mgm.org>

Dear Mr. Ehlers,

If they are only *allegedly* suspended only to be *investigated* in only an *alleged* scam, than I find your comment in the last paragraph inappropriate. And the "*black sheep*"... I'm sure that the ambiguity is unintentional.

Regards,
M.

Hendrik Ehlers wrote:

In the alleged scam around the fraud and theft of some US$800k of the three Adopt-a-Minefield funded projects in Mozambique discovered in April 2004, four key players allegedly have been suspended to be investigated.

On one hand it is a shame to see how some black sheep can bring the entire HD community in bad light, on the other side it is good to see that justice prevails.

Hendrik Ehlers
Director of MgM
Menschen gegen Minen
MineClearance NGO
ehlers@mgm.org

--
Mate Gaal, Dipl.-Phys.
tel. +49-30-8104-4616
fax. +49-30-8104-1837

BAM - Federal Institute for
Materials Research and Testing
Lab. VIII.33
Unter den Eichen 87
12205 Berlin
Germany
Subject: MgM Demining Network: mine accident in Albania
Date: Wednesday, June 2, 2004 10:25 AM
From: Manuel GONZAL <mgonzal@handicap-international.org>
Reply-To: <network1@mgm.org>
To: <network1@mgm.org>

On Tue, 25 May 2004 14:25:44 +0200
  "Manuel GONZAL" <mgonzal@handicap-international.org>
  wrote:
  >Dear all,
  >Please let me inform you about the accident in Albania.
  >Investigations results could give more details.
  >Regards
  >Manuel Gonzal
  >
  >Manuel GONZAL
  >CT Déminage/Département Mines
  >HANDICAP INTERNATIONAL
  >14 avenue Berthelot
  >69361 LYON cedex 07
  >FRANCE
  >tel (33)4.78.69.79.61
  >fax (33)4.78.69.79.90
  >cel (33)6.75.20.72.13

  <<Press release 26 Accident during a demining training in Albania 25-05-2004.doc>>
In the alleged scam around the fraud and theft of some US$800k of the three Adopt-a-Minefield funded projects in Mozambique discovered in April 2004, four key players allegedly have been suspended to be investigated.

It is the Director of IND, the National Demining Institute of Mozambique, Mr Nuvunga and Mr Xerindza of IND International Relations.

The other two persons allegedly involved are Mr Philippe Mozima National Director of NPA Mozambique and Mr Mukupela, the Demining Coordinator of UNDP in Mozambique.

With falsified operations and financial reports, the funds in questions allegedly were transferred to a private account for private distribution.

On one hand it is a shame to see how some black sheep can bring the entire HD community in bad light, on the other side it is good to see that justice prevails.

Hendrik Ehlers
Director of MgM
Menschen gegen Minen
MineClearance NGO
ehlers@mgm.org
The Namibian in today’s edition writes:

+++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++

John Auffrey passed away tragically on 24 May 2004 in Monrovia, Liberia.

“You have given more of you to more of us than anyone could ever expect, it is but one more reason that so many of us give you our respect”

Namibia and the United States of America salute you.

Helena Brandt your beloved wife.

+++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++

MgM salutes, too. With John we did not only lose a very fine man, an excellent representative of the US Embassy to Namibia, but also a friend of warm humor and art.

Thank you very much and Farewell

Hendrik Ehlers

CEO of MgM & HEC

ehlers at mgm dot org

www.mgm.org
Corriere della Sera , Milan, 24th May

TIRANA Two people were killed and at least twelve injured by a landmine explosion in a school at Kukes, in the North of Albania. An instructor from an international NGO was giving a lesson to warn students of the dangers of mines present in the territory. But, for reasons still to be ascertained, a mine believed to have been disactivated and used for educational purposes exploded. The Albanian Ministry of Defence is organising rescue by helicopter: it takes five hours to reach Kukes from Tirana by car. The previous week, in a village a short distance from Kukes, four people were killed by the explosion of an antitank mine found in woods near to the Macedonian border.
Hello

Colleagues, whether someone from you saw the Soviet mine PMN with booster plug which has precisely such form?

Greetings
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: pmn markings
Date: Tuesday, May 25, 2004 5:16 AM
From: Colin King <ck@ckingassociates.co.uk>
Reply-To: <network1@mgm.org>
To: <network1@mgm.org>

Low resolution images attached - just get in touch direct if you need higher resolution.

Regards,

Colin King.

----- Original Message -----  
From: "Naiden Iliev" <mon100@mail.ru>  
To: <network1@mgm.org>  
Sent: Sunday, May 23, 2004 8:59 PM  
Subject: MgM Demining Network: pmn markings

> Hello everybody
> 
> Somebody can send me the photo of soviet PMN parkings on the rubber top and bottom?
> And i look for photo of soviet PMN - old model, manufacture before 1965
> 
> Greetings
> 
> Naiden
> 
> #############################################################
> This message is sent to you because you are subscribed to
> the mailing list <network1@mgm.org>.
> To unsubscribe, E-mail to: <network1-off@mgm.org>
> To switch to the Digest mode, E-mail to <network1-digest@mgm.org>
> Send administrative queries to  <network1-request@mgm.org>
> 


Very interesting article about humanitarian demining in Yugoslavia by Valeckiy
Sorry but only Russian version.

http://armor.kiev.ua/army/engenear/razminir-ov.shtml

Do you Yahoo!? 
Hello everybody

Somebody can send me the photo of soviet PMN parkings on the rubber top and bottom?
And i look for photo of soviet PMN – old model, manufacture before 1965

Greetings

Naiden
Unexploded Ordnance (UXO) E-Newsletter For May 2004

Welcome to UXOInfo.com's free monthly e-newsletter on Unexploded Ordnance (UXO). UXOInfo.com is the largest site on the Internet for UXO related news and information. If you have not checked out the site, we encourage you to do so at www.uxoinfo.com. In addition to bringing you the latest UXO news and information, the site also provides the following:

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   1. UXO Regulations, Policy and Laws
   2. UXO Site Inventory
   3. Questions and Answers

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1 April 2004

**GAO Continues to Bash Chemical Weapon Stockpile Demil Program**

The General Accounting Office (GAO) provided scathing testimony before the Subcommittee of the House of Representatives on the progress of the Army's Chemical Weapon Stockpile Demil (Chem-Demil) Program. The GAO testified that because of program delays it is questionable if the United States (U.S.) would be able to meet the revised deadline of December 2007 to destroy 100% of the Stockpile as required under the Chemical Weapons Convention. Current estimates show that the Army will not complete destruction of the entire stockpile until after the year 2012.

As of March 2004, the Chem-Demil Program had destroyed an estimated 8,691 tons (27.6 percent) of the total 31,500 tons of the original agent stockpile stored at nine sites in the U.S. and the Pacific Ocean at Johnston Atoll. According to the GAO, since their last testimony in October 2003, the program has destroyed very little additional agent (about 1.5 percent).

The progress made at each of the four sites that have begun chemical agent destruction operations are outlined below:

1. Johnston Atoll has destroyed its entire stockpile and is closed;
2. Tooele, Utah, has reduced its stockpile by about 47.1 percent;
3. Anniston, Alabama, has destroyed 5.1 percent of its stockpile; and
4. Aberdeen, Maryland, has destroyed 7.9 percent of its stockpile.

Schedule delays stemming from ongoing incidents during operations,
environmental permitting issues, concerns about emergency preparedness, and unfunded requirements have led to increased program costs and very little agent destruction over the last 6 months. The GAO estimates that if the delays persist, the cost of the program will rise substantially higher than the October 2003 estimate of $25 billion. On the positive side, the GAO did acknowledge the Program's leadership has stabilized under new organization but that the complex management structure between the Army and DoD "raises concerns about the roles and responsibilities of the different parts of the program".


2 April 2004

**GAO Also Criticizes Conventional Weapon Demil Program**

The GAO issued a report on the Army Materiel Command (AMC) managed conventional weapons stockpile demil program. The report criticizes AMC's guidance that requires at least 50 percent of the excess conventional ammunition demilitarization budget be set-aside for commercial firms that use resource, recovery, and recycling processes. While the guidance came about as a result of a request by the Chairman of the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee to look to commercial firms for environmentally friendly processes that could be used to help demilitarize excess ammunition, the AMC initiated and expanded this effort without considering the impact on government facilities that have similar environmentally friendly demilitarization processes.

The GAO reported that increased use of commercial firms to perform demilitarization resulted in the retention and underutilization of more environmentally friendly resource, recovery, and recycling capabilities at
government facilities. To add fuel to the fire, the GAO also reported that additional costs were being incurred when some commercial firms undertook ammunition demilitarization for the Army. This generally occurred in situations where the contractor coordinated with government facilities to perform the work. The GAO asserted that the Army could have demilitarized the ammunition for less had it overseen the work itself.

The GAO again stressed the need for a greater emphasis on cost-effectiveness and efficiency in deciding the appropriate mix of government and commercial demilitarization capacities instead of setting aside a predetermined 50 percent of the demilitarization budget for commercial firms. The report also referenced the Army's own *Closed Disposal Technology Study* which shows that approximately 70% of the budget going to government facilities with the remaining budget going to commercial contractors is a more cost effective approach for the program over a 10-year period.

The GAO recommend that the Army to take the following three steps:
1. discontinue the practice of setting aside an arbitrary 50 percent of the budget to commercial firms;
2. implement a more analytically based approach to demilitarization workload; and
3. discontinue the practice of paying a commercial firm to have ammunition demilitarized by government employees when the work can be overseen by the Army for less cost.

In their response, DoD agreed with the recommendations and identified steps that it is taking to implement them. The Army also reported that the policy requiring the 50 percent split would be rescinded by 2005.

View the GAO report on UXOInfo.com - File: GAO_ConWeapons_Demil_April04.pdf <http://207.5.17.69/uxoinfo/downloads/GAO_ConWeapons_Demil_April04pdf>.
UXOInfo.com is proud to announce the UXO Resume Response Line Link to UXO Resume Response Line <http://uxoinfo.com/uxoinfo/eodjobprofile.cfm> - an on-line employment referral service specifically designed for the UXO industry. Through the UXO Resume Response Line, the skills of UXO professionals are matched with the needs of UXO remediation and consulting companies.

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uxojobs@uxoinfo.com <mailto:uxojobs@uxoinfo.com>
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10 April 2004
Fishing Trawler Dredges Up Unexploded WWII Mine

Essex, United Kingdom - A fishing vessel dredged up a 1,500lb WWII German mine while trawling off the Dengie Flats, at the mouth of the River Blackwater, 2 miles off the Essex coastline. A Royal Navy bomb disposal team was called to respond to the nine-foot-long unexploded anti-ship mine. The mine known as the GC mine is the biggest and most powerful mine used in the war and was designed to break apart the hulls of ships. The mines are encased in stainless steel.

07 May 2004
Explosive Driveways - UXO Found In Cover Material

Wilmington, Delaware - Delaware residents in Sussex County have been known to use clamshells as driveway cover. At less than $18 a ton, clam shells have become a popular alternative to stone, asphalt and concrete which can cost as much as 10 times more to cover the same area. However since February EOD and bomb disposal teams have responded to an increasing number of incidents involving UXO and related debris which is believed to be from shells harvested from old deep sea dump sites that were active during WWI and WWII. Authorities have removed over 100 items from yards and driveways near Bridgeville, Delmar, Laurel, Gumboro, and Rehoboth Beach areas. Last month EOD removed thirteen WWI French rifle grenades from a poultry farm in Laurel, Delaware. If controls are even in place to limit the harvesting activities at these old munitions dump sites, they are obviously not effective.

8 May 2004
UXO Found at Baltimore Construction Site - Authorities Open an Investigation

Baltimore, Maryland - Authorities shut down the Harbor Tunnel and 13 miles of Interstate 895 when construction workers uncovered UXO at a former shipyard and ship scrapping company. Twelve UXO in all were uncovered from the site. The largest UXO discovered was a 4,000 lbs WWII era bomb. The Army's 767th Ordnance Detachment (EOD) from Fort Meyer in Arlington, Virginia responded to the discovery. The EOD technicians had the bombs transported to Aberdeen Proving Grounds to be destroyed. Authorities opened a criminal investigation to
determine who buried the UXO. One early theory was that the UXO may have come from the 1946-built aircraft carrier USS Coral Sea or other military ships scrapped over the decades along the industrial waterfront. However, that theory faded when the Army EOD unit reported that some of the bombs had been manufactured during different time periods, one as late as the Vietnam War. According to the EOD unit responding, the UXO could have been buried on the industrial site as recently as the mid-1990s.

UXO recovered from Baltimore Site - Army photo
The Maryland Port Administration bought the 10 acres of waterfront property in November 2000, from a ship-scraping company, Kurt Iron & Metal Co. Throughout its history until the late 1990s several ship-scraping companies used the area to dismantle and decommission military vessels. Seawitch Salvage, Inc., another ship dismantling company who used the area to decommission vessels including the Coral Sea, a 972-foot-long WWII aircraft carrier, was linked to several serious environmental problems including several fires, pollution of the harbor and workers mishandling asbestos. In 1997, the owner of the salvage company was convicted of federal safety and environmental violations.

The area surrounding the property has a long history as an industrial area. The land just east of the site was used by the Bethlehem-Fairfield Shipyards during World War II to build 384 lightly armed cargo vessels called Liberty Ships. The news of findings quickly reached Washington D.C. where U.S. Rep Blumenauer, D Oregon stated that "The discovery in Baltimore highlights the need for more attention and more resources to go for both cleaning up [military ordnance] and getting a better handle on how many sites are contaminated." Congressman Blumenauer has been a top supporter in Washington for an increasing awareness towards UXO.
Munition of the Month- May 2004: Cartridge, 60mm, Illuminating, M721

New Feature - Munition of the Month

Introducing a new feature in the monthly UXO e-newsletter - the Munition of the Month. This month's munition is the M721 60mm Mortar Illumination round. Each month we will showcase a new munition (suggestions welcome).

Filler Type and Weight
Illuminating (weight unknown)

Body Type and Weight
The body is White w/ black markings  The mortar weighs 3.76 lbs.

Source
TM43-0001-28 April 1994

Description
The cartridge is an illumination round for the 60mm M224 mortar system. The mortar has a mechanical time super quick fuze with an expulsion charge, a candle/parachute assembly and 4 increment propelling charge, and an ignition charge. The round provides 400,000 average candlepower illumination for about 40 seconds. At a pre-set time after exiting the gun tube.

This month's UXO story from the Front Lines In Iraq:
30 January 2004
More IED Fatalities in Iraq

Bayji, Iraq -- An improvised explosive device (IED) detonated along a roadside killing two American security contractors and injuring another. The three contractors
program managed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in Huntsville, Alabama.

As of May 2004, the USACE CEA program has destroyed approximately 97,000 tons of ammunition and related material.

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We are also accept news stories from our users for posting.

Now Available From UXOInfo.com
Mulvaney's On-Line Ordnance Technical Information System
Technical data on ordnance including filler information, explosive weights, photos and schematics. The developers of UXOInfo.com have completed the design of the technical ordnance information database. Data from ordnance technical manuals and publications (unclassified - publically available) will be uploaded into the database for easy access.
For now check out the Grenade category for a good sample. Look for more ordnance to be added in the future. Also, UXOInfo.com is looking for more photos and images to populate the database, so please consider donating images and pictures to UXOInfo.com.

<http://uxoinfo.com/uxoinfo/mulaney_categories.cfm>

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Site Statistics

Reporting Period: 01 - 30 April 2004
Number of Hits: 122,056 (New High)
Number of Page Views: 31,826 (New High)
Total User Sessions: 11,180
Number of Documents Available for Downloading or Viewing on the Site: 155
Number of ordnance/UXO/Fuze Images in photo galleries: 495
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advertising@uxoinfo.com  <mailto:advertising@uxoinfo.com>
New Phone Number for UXOInfo.com 410.496.7723

<http://www.focusandleap.com>
Folks,

you might remember that some time ago we (EUDEM2 project) published and put online the first version the study:

"Metal Detectors for Humanitarian Demining: a Patent Search and Analysis".

Version 2.0 is now ready at:

http://www.eudem.vub.ac.be/publications/files/MDPatentSearch/v2.0/

This second revision represents a major improvement with respect to the previous releases: a large number of patents (nearly 200) have been added, with about 20 of them are directly related to Metal Detectors (for demining applications).

Also, all patent related information has been collected in a database system in order to facilitate data entry, data extraction, report generation and searching. From the user point of view this translates in particular into easier browsing and searching.

All patents are available online as PDF files linked from the main document. A CD-ROM version, which also contains all patents, will shortly be available from Karin de Bruyn at the VUB (kdebruyn@vub.ac.be).

Hope that this will be useful for your work!

Yours,

Claudio Bruschini for the EUDEM2 Team

--

Claudio Bruschini, PhD
Ecole Polytechnique Federale de Lausanne (EPFL) & Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB)
Tel. +41 21 69 33911, Fax 35263
E-mail: Claudio.Bruschini@epfl.ch

    http://www.minedet.etro.vub.ac.be/
Mail: EPFL-IXC-LAP, Batiment IN-F, CH-1015 Lausanne, Switzerland

############################################################
This message is sent to you because you are subscribed to
the mailing list <network1@mgm.org>.
To unsubscribe, E-mail to: <network1-off@mgm.org>
To switch to the Digest mode, E-mail to <network1-digest@mgm.org>
Send administrative queries to <network1-request@mgm.org>
Gary as discussed its an Israeli 260 impact fuse apparently copy of US fuse 23 or 25. I haven’t found anything on those by the way! RSP etc on its way via e-mail. Regards Dave Humphreys.

> From: Wolfgang Maschke <wm@mgm.org>
> Reply-To: <network1@mgm.org>
> To: <network1@mgm.org>
> Subject: MgM Demining Network:  Re. MgM Demining Network: Help Needed
> Date: Tue, 04 May 2004 15:43:00 +0200 
> 
> attachment file size was to large for the network. picture and text of the 
> doc see below.
> 
> regards 
> 
> Wolfgang Maschke 
> MgM media team 
> 
> >>
> 
> General Purpose Bombs 
> 
> The M117 (Figure 25) is a 750-pound general purpose bomb which may be
> employed in several different configurations. The basic M117 dates from the
> Korean War and uses a low-drag tail fin for medium and high-altitude
> deliveries. The M117R (Retarded) uses a special fin assembly providing
> either high-drag or low-drag release options. For low altitude deliveries,
> the tail assembly opens four large drag plates which rapidly slow the bomb
> and allow the aircraft to escape its blast. The M117 (Destructor) looks
> similar to the M117R but uses a magnetic influence fuze which enables the
> bomb to function as a mine. The M117D is released in a high-drag
> configuration for ground implant or shallow water mining. It detonates when
> an object passing near the bomb triggers the fuze. The M117 series was used
> extensively during the Vietnam War, and B-52G aircraft dropped thousands of
> tons of M117 and M117R bombs during Operation Desert Storm.
> 
> In 1968 Israel company IMI started manufacture 100 kg Air Bomb designed by
> company. In the same time IMI start assembling 250 kg (_82) and 360 kg
> (M117) Air Bombs, the cases for this Air Bombs were bought in USA. All
> three
> kinds of these bombs were the major IDF AF ammunition during combat
> 
> >>
> 
> From: "UNIFIL-CDCC" <unifil-cdcc@un.org>
> Date: Dienstag, 4. Mai 2004 9:43 Uhr
> To: network1@mgm.org, staleb@terra.net.lb
> Subject: Re. MgM Demining Network: Help Needed
> 
> >>
Dear Gary I hope you can find some usefull info in attached file

(See attached file: For Gary.doc)

Dear All,

Can anyone please provide me with any information on the attached picture of a Bomb Fuse. It is on a M117A3 750lb HE US Bomb,

Any help would be appreciated.

Thanks in advance

Gary Fenton
PM/TOM
MAG Lebanon
Mobile: +961 3 864963
Office: +961 7 530727
www.magclearsmines.org


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To unsubscribe, E-mail to: <network1-off@mgm.org>
To switch to the Digest mode, E-mail to <network1-digest@mgm.org>
Send administrative queries to <network1-request@mgm.org>
Windhoek. The life of Captain Timothy Alan Eysselinck came to an abrupt end on 23 April 2004. His friends will know how to contact the family.

Farewell

Hendrik Ehlers, Chairman MgM
Director OPS + HEC-R&D
Intl. Desk Windhoek, Namibia
ehlers at mgm dot org
www.mgm.org
cel +264 81 1277020
fax +264 61 243477
Subject: MgM Demining Network: Re. MgM Demining Network: Help Needed  
Date: Tuesday, May 4, 2004 9:43 AM  
From: Wolfgang Maschke <wm@mgm.org>  
Reply-To: <network1@mgm.org>  
To: <network1@mgm.org>  

attachment file size was too large for the network. picture and text of the doc see below.  
regards  
Wolfgang Maschke  
MgM media team  

>>  
General Purpose Bombs  

The M117 (Figure 25) is a 750-pound general purpose bomb which may be employed in several different configurations. The basic M117 dates from the Korean War and uses a low-drag tail fin for medium and high-altitude deliveries. The M117R (Retarded) uses a special fin assembly providing either high-drag or low-drag release options. For low altitude deliveries, the tail assembly opens four large drag plates which rapidly slow the bomb and allow the aircraft to escape its blast. The M117 (Destructor) looks similar to the M117R but uses a magnetic influence fuze which enables the bomb to function as a mine. The M117D is released in a high-drag configuration for ground implant or shallow water mining. It detonates when an object passing near the bomb triggers the fuze. The M117 series was used extensively during the Vietnam War, and B-52G aircraft dropped thousands of tons of M117 and M117R bombs during Operation Desert Storm.  

In 1968, the Israel company IMI started manufacture 100 kg Air Bomb designed by company. In the same time IMI start assembling 250 kg (82) and 360 kg (M117) Air Bombs, the cases for this Air Bombs were bought in USA. All three kinds of these bombs were the major IDF AF ammunition during combat operations 1969-70 and 1973-74.  

From: "UNIFIL-CDCC" <unifil-cdcc@un.org>  
Date: Dienstag, 4. Mai 2004 9:43 Uhr  
To: network1@mgm.org, staleb@terra.net.lb  
Subject: Re. MgM Demining Network: Help Needed  

Dear Gary I hope you can find some useful info in attached file  

(See attached file: For Gary.doc)
Dear All,

Can anyone please provide me with any information on the attached picture of a Bomb Fuse. It is on a M117A3 750lb HE US Bomb,

Any help would be appreciated.

Thanks in advance

Gary Fenton
PM/TOM
MAG Lebanon
Mobile: +961 3 864963
Office: +961 7 530727
www.magclearsmines.org
Hi Gary

According to "Ordata" this bomb has safety device MK-26 or MK-31. To my regret I don't know bowels of this devices and can't recommend nothing, except detonating this bomb on site. "Ordate" recommended the same. If you have any difficulties in calculation of safety measures for this demolition, send me directly plan of the site and the ground conditions. Please take in view present Internet problems and use fortenterprise@hotmail.com.

Best regards,
Andrey

----- Original Message ----- 
From: "STA Lebanon" <staleb@terra.net.lb>
To: <network1@mgm.org>
Sent: Monday, May 03, 2004 9:22 AM
Subject: MgM Demining Network: Help Needed

> Dear All, 
> > Can anyone please provide me with any information on the attached picture of 
> > a Bomb Fuse. It is on a M117A3 750lb HE US Bomb, 
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To switch to the Digest mode, E-mail to <network1-digest@mgm.org>
Send administrative queries to  <network1-request@mgm.org>
Gary, be careful: this bomb may be complicated by magnetic/seismic sensitive fuze.

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To: <network1@mgm.org>
Sent: Monday, May 03, 2004 9:22 AM
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Thanks in advance

Gary Fenton  
PM/TOM  
MAG Lebanon  
Mobile: +961 3 864963  
Office: +961 7 530727  
www.magclearsmines.org
All,

Belvoir has updated their website with some goodies out of our stable.

MAXX V1, currently working in Rwanda

<http://www.humanitarian-demining.org/demining/clearance/maxx.asp?version=view> MAXXplus, currently traveling via Belvoir to its first mission

Rotar MK II, currently working in Angola


enjoy

Hendrik Ehlers, Chairman MgM
Director OPS + HEC-R&D
Intl. Desk Windhoek, Namibia
ehlers at mgm dot org
www.mgm.org

cel +264 81 1277020
fax +264 61 243477
The fuze are similar to the N° 162 UK. These fuzes were used with the 4"2 mortar. For more please contact me with my email address
Yves

----- Original Message ------

From: Wolfgang Maschke <mailto:wm@mgm.org>
To: network1@mgm.org
Sent: Thursday, April 22, 2004 3:30 PM
Subject: MgM Demining Network: Fwd: ID

On behalf of Görgen Ekberg (just helped him with the file size (30 K allowed))

Wolfgang Maschke
MgM media department

forwarded:

Von: "Görgen Ekberg" <gorgen.ekberg@mil.se>
Datum: 22. April 2004 08:52:09 MESZ
An: network1@mgm.org
Betreff: ID

Hi again, i need help with this mortar, what kind of fuse it is , and how does it work? and i need pictures on the fuse, anything would be great.

Görgen Ekberg    SWEDEC
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Send administrative queries to  <network1-request@mgm.org>
Justice has finally been done Ahdin.

Best regards,

Peter

PS - did you get that exchange to S America??

----- Original Message ----- 
From: Ahdin Orahovac <Ahdin_O@bhmac.org> 
Date: Tuesday, April 20, 2004 10:28 am 
Subject: MgM Demining Network: Orahovac case - court procedure completed

> Dear friends,
> 
> I am pleased to inform you that after almost 4 years court
> procedure in
> Cantonal Court in Sarajevo is completed yesterday, and final
> deccissionis - not gilty.
> 
> I want to thank all of you for support, and MGM network which provide
> acces to me from many colleagues all around the world.
> 
> Wish you all the best
> 
> Ahdin Orahovac
> 
> 
> 
> #/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/#/
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Wolfgang Maschke
MgM media department

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> An: network1@mgm.org
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> Hi again, i need help with this mortar, what kind of fuse it is ,and
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> great.
> Görgen Ekberg SWEDEC

> ATTACHMENT part 2 image/jpeg x-mac-type=4A504547; x-unix-mode=0644; x-mac-creator=3842494D; name=L15A3.jpg

Dear Görgen Ekberg
The model of the mortar is 120mm mortar you can find more details by going to google.com and search for 12mm mortars it will give you sites that includes details of 120mm mortar

best regards

Dhanuhska Jayamaha

UNDP - Mine action

Sri Lanka

Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network:  Quiet network / dogs to find trip-wire
Date: Friday, April 23, 2004 2:21 AM
From: Frans H Campher <canine@icon.co.za>
Reply-To: <network1@mgm.org>
To: <network1@mgm.org>

Dear John,
My name is Frans Campher I am from South Africa, for those who wants to know a little more about my background, I have attached my Resume. As much as I would like to be able to say dogs can detect tripwires 100% which I wil gracefully admit, it is not the case. Even if a detection rate of "99%" could be reached and taking in consideration the amount of ground that the dogs cover, then statistically we are already looking at a lot of body bags. (I suppose one can also reason if the dog pulls a trip wire and detonates a mine he actually found it.)

However with a bit of initiative it would still be possible to use dogs effectively within a trip wire scenario. This could be done by working the dogs parallel next to the base line instead of sending the dogs diagonally into the mine field. The dog could clear a width of 50 cm al along the base line. The base line can then be progressed inwards. It would then be possible for the de-miners to still do the normal tripwire drill and a visual inspection all along the base line, prior to sending the dogs. Of cause there will be practical scenarios, pertaining to the terrain were this can not be done, but then the next best option (tool) can be utilized. The dog is only one of many aids and not a ultimate tool in this effort against mines.

I believe wherever and whenever it is possible dogs should be combined with mechanical means. The machines gets rid of the tripwire threat while the dogs indicate dangerous pieces such as fuses. The dogs can also be used as a QA tool at the same time. I have documented case were a Flail missed two Cuban box mines (one at 5cm and the other one at 8cm) in a 10 000 sgms task. Not a Mechanical but rather a Human failure, but unfortunately that is the way it sometimes happens out there in the real world, luckily there was a dog QA available, the area had a lot of metal in it and the dogs could compliment the speed of the mechanical capacity, other wise the honor could also have gone to a manual QA.
This was a true example of a productive toolbox combination between Mechanical clearance and mine dogs. Doing a good task assessment and by selecting the right tools for the job one could get a lot of good mileage out of it.

This is my first contribution to this great forum, and I want to thank Hendrik and his team for making this interaction and the flow of information possible.
Regards
Frans Hendrik Campher

----- Original Message -----  
From: "John Crawford" <john.crawford@psi.ch>
Good day,

I remember from a conference talk that dogs are _not_ good at finding trip wires. Can I ask you for some more information about this?

Regards, John Crawford

"EKSTATIK´ the other ©rt of ART" wrote:
>
> Hello,
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> I`m a mdd-trainer and i just want tell you
> that you can use dogs to find trip-wire.
>
> reards
> carlos batista
> www.min-action.de.vu
>
> ----- Original Message ----- 
> From: "Crawford John" <john.crawford@psi.ch>
> To: <network1@mgm.org>
> Sent: Thursday, April 15, 2004 4:35 PM
> Subject: MgM Demining Network: Quiet network
>
> > Good day all,
> >
> > Partly because there has been so little activity recently, here are two
> > questions:
> >
> > 1) I am involved in an effort to detect trip wires by radar.

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Send administrative queries to <network1-request@mgm.org>
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: Quiet network / dogs to find trip-wire
Date: Friday, April 23, 2004 1:35 AM
From: Frans H Campher <canine@icon.co.za>
Reply-To: <network1@mgm.org>
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Regards
Frans Hendrik Campher

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Wolfgang Maschke <wm@mgm.org> wrote:

On behalf of Görgen Ekberg (just helped him with the file size (30 K allowed))

Wolfgang Maschke
MgM media department

forwarded:

> Von: "Görgen Ekberg"
> Datum: 22. April 2004 08:52:09 MESZ
> An: network1@mgm.org
> Betreff: ID
>
> Hi again, i need help with this mortar, what kind of fuse it is ,and
> how does it work? and i need pictures on the fuse, anything would be
> great.
> Görgen Ekberg SWEDEC

> ATTACHMENT part 2 image/jpeg x-mac-type=4A504547; x-unix-mode=0644; x-mac-creator=3842494D; name=L15A3.jpg

Dear Görgen Ekberg
The model of the mortar is 120mm mortar you can find more details by going to google.com and search for 12mm mortars it will give you sites that includes details of 120mm mortar

best regards

Dhanuhska Jayamaha

UNDP - Mine action

Sri Lanka

Yahoo! Messenger <http://uk.rd.yahoo.com/mail/tagline_messenger/> - Communicate instantly..."Ping" your friends today! Download Messenger Now <http://uk.rd.yahoo.com/mail/tagline_messenger/>
Wolfgang Maschke
MgM media department

forwarded:

Von: "Görgen Ekberg" <gorgen.ekberg@mil.se>
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Send administrative queries to <network1-request@mgm.org>
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: MgM Demining Network: pic on AZ111 A2
Date: Thursday, April 22, 2004 9:30 AM
From: Dave & Jayne Humphreys <dcjih@hotmail.com>
Reply-To: <network1@mgm.org>
To: <network1@mgm.org>

Same same however the link below is to the Iranian defence Industries website which has a picture and a contact us link... to the horses mouth so to speak?!
http://www.diomil.com/amunition/fuse.htm
regards Dave.

>From: "Are Hauger" <areh@npaid.org>
>Reply-To: <network1@mgm.org>
>To: <network1@mgm.org>
>Subject: MgM Demining Network: SV: MgM Demining Network: pic on AZ111 A2
>Date: Wed, 21 Apr 2004 17:00:23 +0200
>
>Hi Görgen
>I found the fuze you mention in Jane's Ammunition Handbook 2003-2004,
>But it is only a picture of the fuze sitting on the mortar. I have
>contacted a colleague currently
>working in Iran, an he is keeping his eyes open.
>Are Hauger
>NPA
>
>-----Opprinnelig melding-----
>Fra: network1@mgm.org [mailto:network1@mgm.org]På vegne av Görgen Ekberg
>Sendt: 21. april 2004 10:42
>Til: network1@mgm.org
>Emne: MgM Demining Network: pic on AZ111 A2
>
>
>Hi i am looking for pictures or drawings on AZ111 A2 fuse, the fuse fits on
>a 60 mm mortarbomb from Iran.
>Its a copy from USA M49A2.
i would be grateful for any information and pictures.
>Görgen Ekberg SWEDEC
>
>*****************************************************************************
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>To switch to the Digest mode, E-mail to <network1-digest@mgm.org>
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We've 100s of NEW questions! Play Millionaire online to win $$$$.

*****************************************************************************
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Are Hauger
NPA
Subject: MgM Demining Network: re Dog-trainers to find fish-wire; radar
Date: Wednesday, April 21, 2004 11:00 AM
From: Crawford John <john.crawford@psi.ch>
Reply-To: <network1@mgm.org>
To: <network1@mgm.org>

Dear Andrey,

Your statement is much too strong. In fact radar _can_ detect non-metallic objects such as trip-wires. I accept that the return is weaker, but I insist that it is there - details on request. One problem in detecting metal trip-wires is the clutter from (non-conducting) vegetation.

You might like to contemplate the fact that we can easily see by eye completely transparent, colourless objects such as beer glasses; the physics is similar. We find it harder to see plate-glass windows, but that is another story.

Regards, John Crawford

-----Original Message-----
From: A. Kostioukov
To: network1@mgm.org
Sent: 21.04.04 08:47
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: re Dog-trainers to find fish-wire

Hi Hendrik
I'm absolutely agreed. Only one thing: radar can't detect non-metal wires.
Best regards,
Andrey

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Send administrative queries to <network1-request@mgm.org>
Good day everyo,

It really is a good day this time . . . . :=)

I'd like to join all the others who are pleased about this verdict. Congratulations and best wishes for the future!

John Crawford

-----Original Message-----
From: Ahdin Orahovac
To: network1@mgm.org
Sent: 20.04.04 16:28

I am pleased to inform you that after almost 4 years court procedure in Cantonal Court in Sarajevo is completed yesterday, and final decision is - not guilty.

###################################################################

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Hi i am looking for pictures or drawings on AZ111 A2 fuse, the fuse fits on a 60 mm mortarbomb from Iran.
Its a copy from USA M49A2.
i would be grateful for any information and pictures.
Görgen Ekberg SWEDEC
I think from previous messages about MDD's some will know my background, Military, MDD trainer, instructor, handler, 21+ years specialist dog trainer etc etc etc.

Hendrik is quite right in his statements, we can reliably (thats 100% in scientific trials with independent organisation testing) detect ISSUED tripwire. Thats rubber coated copper wire. In a variety of configurations including buried, in vegetation, tight, slack, whatever. We trained the dogs on scent of these ISSUED wires therefore it is the scent of the wire (rubber coat) that we are expecting the dogs to locate.

HOWEVER, I stress ISSUED, as Hendrik says an improvised wire is totally different and I would state un-detectable unless the dog is trained on that particular scent and even then I would be very very sceptical of teams stating they can detect such things as fishing line used as a tripwire. We train to 0.0025g of explosive and 6 inches of ISSUED wire but would not say our dogs could find fishing line, cotton etc used as a tripwire.

In fact we state our dogs cannot detect tripwires for that very reason, whilst they are trained on the issued wire as a confidence/safety bridge for the handler our SOP's clearly state that teams cannot detect them. That way humans in the team will go through full tripwire drills and not be complacent and expect the dog team to do the job for them.

Paul

John Crawford <john.crawford@psi.ch> wrote:

Good day,

I remember from a conference talk that dogs are _not_ good at finding trip wires. Can I ask you for some more information about this?

Regards, John Crawford

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carlos batista
www.min-action.de.vu

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1) I am involved in an effort to detect trip wires by radar.

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Send administrative queries to

Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: Orahovac case - court procedure completed
Date: Wednesday, April 21, 2004 2:47 AM
From: W E Lawrence <willielawrence@hotmail.com>
Reply-To: <network1@mgm.org>
To: <network1@mgm.org>

Dear Ahdin,

The wheels of justice seem to run very slowly indeed in BiH! But I am very happy for you that the right decree has at last been reached.

I hope that you will now be able to put this episode behind you and get on with your life. - In the end right has won and you are the winner.

Does this mean that the wine will flow this weekend?

Best regards

Willie Lawrence

W E Lawrence

22 Worpleston Way
Glen Lorne
Harare
Zimbabwe

++263 4 499 743
++263 91 908 524 (Mobile)

----- Original Message -----

From: Ahdin Orahovac <mailto:Ahdin_O@bhmac.org>

To: network1@mgm.org

Sent: Tuesday, April 20, 2004 4:28 PM

Subject: MgM Demining Network: Orahovac case - court procedure completed
Dear friends,

I am pleased to inform you that after almost 4 years court procedure in Cantonal Court in Sarajevo is completed yesterday, and final decision is not guilty.

I want to thank all of you for support, and MGM network which provide access to me from many colleagues all around the world.

Wish you all the best

Ahdin Orahovac
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: MgM Demining Network: Orahovac case - court procedure completed
Date: Wednesday, April 21, 2004 2:47 AM
From: MJ Pavey <maltesethreat@hotmail.com>
Reply-To: <network1@mgm.org>
To: <network1@mgm.org>

Dear Ahdin,

Excellent news - for the whole demining community!

Best regards (and to all the MAC staff too)

Fred Pavey

TA MAC Mostar/Bihac 2000

>From: "Ahdin Orahovac" <Ahdin_O@bhmac.org>
>Reply-To: <network1@mgm.org>
>To: <network1@mgm.org>
>Subject: MgM Demining Network: Orahovac case - court procedure completed
>Date: Tue, 20 Apr 2004 16:28:44 +0200
>MIME-Version: 1.0
>Received: from mc4-f5.hotmail.com ([65.54.190.141]) by mc4-s13.hotmail.com with Microsoft SMTPSVC(5.0.2195.6824); Tue, 20 Apr 2004 07:32:17 -0700
>Received: from ckunft.de ([82.212.219.20]) by mc4-f5.hotmail.com with Microsoft SMTPSVC(5.0.2195.6824); Tue, 20 Apr 2004 07:31:09 -0700
>X-Message-Info: ty1e6HHaEcq8AcEKZ1HW6m8NDyepT/kUsMZXMPj06to=
>X-SpamCatcher-Score:   1 [X]
>X-ListServer: CommuniGate Pro LIST 4.1.8
>List-Unsubscribe: <mailto:network1-off@mgm.org>
>List-ID: <network1.mgm.org>
>Message-ID: <list-1411155@ckunft.de>
>Precedence: list
>X-Original-Message-ID: <redirect-1411149@ckunft.de>
>Return-Path: network1-report@mgm.org
>X-OriginalArrivalTime: 20 Apr 2004 14:31:10.0635 (UTC) FILETIME=201C6FB0:01C426E4
>
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> acces to me from many colleagues all around the world.
>
> Wish you all the best
>
> Ahdin Orahovac
>
>

---

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Hi Hendrik
I'm absolutely agreed. Only one thing: radar can't detect non-metal wires.
Best regards,
Andrey

----- Original Message ----- 
From: "Hendrik Ehlers - MD of MgM & HEC" <hec01@mail2.mgm.org>
To: <network1@mgm.org>
Sent: Tuesday, April 20, 2004 6:28 PM
Subject: MgM Demining Network: re Dog-trainers to find fish-wire

Good that Carlos explains his background prior to making an incorrect statement. That makes him much easier to understand. But: As there is no such thing as THE TRIPWIRE, there is no THE METHOD to detect it.

Tripwires are made from a large variety of materials which have nothing in common but their function. There are a wide range of metal wires, some of them (Russian origin) not detectable by metal detectors (we sent a sample to Ebinger years ago). Others are hydraulic hoses, barbed wire, fishing line, cotton, you name it.

Depending what dog trainer you speak to, MDDs detect the sound of the wire in the wind, the electromagnetic difference (trained through electric shock), the not-natural feature (whatever that means), explosive molecules creeping along the wire from the source to the end, smell of oxidation (and possibly the odor of fish) and some dogs allegedly can detect the "wires" visually.

I like the radar idea, please contact us after/if surviving the field tests.

Hendrik Ehlers, Chairman MgM
Director OPS + HEC-R&D
Intl. Desk Windhoek, Namibia
ehlers at mgm dot org
www.mgm.org
cel +264 81 1277020
fax +264 61 243477

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Good day,

I remember from a conference talk that dogs are _not_ good at finding trip wires. Can I ask you for some more information about this?

Regards, John Crawford

"EKSTATIK´ the other @rt of ART" wrote:

> Hello,
>
> I´m a mdd-trainer and i just want tell you
> that you can use dogs to find trip-wire.
>
> reards
> carlos batista
> www.min-action.de.vu
>
> ----- Original Message ----- 
> From: "Crawford John" <john.crawford@psi.ch>
> To: <network1@mgm.org>
> Sent: Thursday, April 15, 2004 4:35 PM
> Subject: MgM Demining Network: Quiet network
> 
> >> Good day all,
> >>
> >> Partly because there has been so little activity recently, here are two
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> >>
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Subject: MgM Demining Network: re Dog-trainers to find fish-wire
Date: Tuesday, April 20, 2004 10:28 AM
From: Hendrik Ehlers - MD of MgM & HEC <hec01@mail2.mgm.org>
Reply-To: <network1@mgm.org>
To: <network1@mgm.org>

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Hendrik Ehlers, Chairman MgM
Director OPS + HEC-R&D
Intl. Desk Windhoek, Namibia
ehlers at mgm dot org
www.mgm.org
cel +264 81 1277020
fax +264 61 243477

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Subject: MgM Demining Network: Orahovac case - court procedure completed
Date: Tuesday, April 20, 2004 10:28 AM
From: Ahdin Orahovac <Ahdin_O@bhmac.org>
Reply-To: <network1@mgm.org>
To: <network1@mgm.org>

Dear friends,
I am pleased to inform you that after almost 4 years court procedure in Cantonal Court in Sarajevo is completed yesterday, and final decision is – not guilty.
I want to thank all of you for support, and MGM network which provide access to me from many colleagues all around the world.
Wish you all the best
Ahdin Orahovac
Subject: MgM Demining Network: FW: Landmine Info & how time flies....
Date: Tuesday, April 20, 2004 5:57 AM
From: Hendrik Ehlers - MD of MgM & HEC <hec01@mail2.mgm.org>
Reply-To: <network1@mgm.org>
To: <network1@mgm.org>

Dear Ashraf

I took the liberty to fwd your questions to the MgM Network.

Dear Network,

Ashraf is not a network member, please cc the Network when answering directly.

Cheers

Hendrik Ehlers, Chairman MgM
Director OPS + HEC-R&D
Intl. Desk Windhoek, Namibia
ehlers at mgm dot org
www.mgm.org
cel +264 81 1277020
fax +264 61 243477

-----Original Message-----
From: Dr A. El-Hamalawi [mailto:A.El-hamalawi@lboro.ac.uk]
Sent: 20 April 2004 04:30 AM
To: ehlers@mgm.org
Subject: Landmine Info

Dear Hendrik,

I'm a University professor at Loughborough University in the UK at the civil and building engineering department. I am currently doing some work with a final year student on a way that I thought of to get rid of unexploded mines and reduce their hazard using waves, especially in areas with large amounts of mines. I however require some properties of mines such as stiffness of the springs used, typical mass to detonate them, etc (mainly antipersonnel mines, and perhaps anti-vehicles too).

I looked at a few journal papers and Jane's Mines handbook, in addition to your website and thought that I might be able to get some help from you, or perhaps you could point me in the direction of someone who could help. I'll summarise the info I need below :) :

- At what depth are Anti-Personnel (AP) mines usually placed ? The ones I saw in Kuwait used to be within half a metre in 1992 when I worked there, but I'm not sure if this has changed (this was 12 years ago when I was there!)

- Are the rough dimensions and weight of mines used during the second world war (in places like Egypt for instance) similar to current AP mines, or would they be majorly different ?

- What is a typical stiffness (k) and damping coefficient (c) of the spring that detonates the mines ? if these are not available, what is the typical deformation needed before a typical AP mine detonates ?
- Some mines have Belville springs as deforming mechanisms. Is there any info about the stiffness and damping coefficients of these springs?

I would obviously share any data and research I am doing with you and anyone interested. If you require any further info about this or would like to discuss this further, then please do e-mail me. I appreciate your help in advance and look forward to hearing from you.

Best wishes :)

Ashraf

--------
Dr A. El-Hamalawi BEng, PhD (Cambridge),NASCE,MCGS,RegEES
Assistant Professor in Geomechanics
Department of Civil and Building Engineering
Loughborough University,
Loughborough LE11 3TU
United Kingdom

Tel: +44-1509-223206
Fax: +44-1509-223981

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Send administrative queries to <network1-request@mgm.org>
Hello,

I'm a mdd-trainer and i just want tell you that you can use dogs to find trip-wire.

reards
Carlos Batista
www.min-action.de.vu

----- Original Message ----- 
From: "Crawford John" <john.crawford@psi.ch>  
To: <network1@mgm.org>  
Sent: Thursday, April 15, 2004 4:35 PM  
Subject: MgM Demining Network: Quiet network

> Good day all,  
> > Partly because there has been so little activity recently, here are two questions:  
> > 1) I am involved in an effort to detect trip wires by radar. In my understanding, there are two conventional ways to deal with them:  
> > a) Use a hand-held "feeler" - a feather or similar - which will react to the presence of a trip wire, but is too weak to pull hard on it.  
> > b) Use an armoured machine to take out vegetation, wires and all.  
> > But are there other methods? (Someone asked me this today, and I had no answer.)  
> > 2) I was told the other day that during blasting operations in quarries, mobile phones and other radios must be switched off, for fear that enough voltage could be built up in electrical cables to set off the explosives prematurely. But it seems to me to be hardly possible to set off anything with the watt or so available from these gadgets. Does anyone know more about this?  
> > > Best regards,  
> > > John Crawford  
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Send administrative queries to <network1-request@mgm.org>
Hendrik,

I just love it.

"don't think you really need your insurance broker phoning to offer a new product seconds prior to a 10ton go....."

Your work is appreciated.
First met MgM in at a publicity stall in a market square in Tubingen in Germany.
Information flow increased when changed from my German to the volunteers English!

Keep up the good work, I am learning a lot.
William
(member of the HE fan club)
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: Quiet network  
Date: Friday, April 16, 2004 10:32 AM  
From: RCAUK <richard@krsmith.freeserve.co.uk>  
Reply-To: <network1@mgm.org>  
To: <network1@mgm.org>  

Dear John,

Mobile phones have been controversial in a number of situations, if you go to a petrol station in the UK there are big signs up asking you to turn it off for fear of igniting petrol fumes.

In my experience there are a couple of reasons for caution. 

A lot of these precautions come from historical practices when radio gear of much higher powers than your standard mobile phone were used. My first car phone was 15W, a big leap from the typical 4W max of your normal hand held phone. Another concern is resonant circuits, these can occur in the most unlikely of circumstances and you can get quite large voltages induced, however this is a rare occurrence but not unheard of. There are the odd story of folk who after dental work can 'hear' radio stations through their teeth. I am not sure how much truth there is in these stories.

I personally think a big reason for the caution with mobile phones and the like is fear of litigation (especially in the US and UK). If there is a possible risk, however slight, however remote then you have to put a sign up warning against it, just to cover yourself.

Searching for trip wires using radar sounds very interesting, could you send me some technical info on the radar head you are thinking of using?

Richard Smith

Robotic Control and Automation
Richard@rcauk.com

----- Original Message ----- 
From: "Crawford John" <john.crawford@psi.ch>  
To: <network1@mgm.org>  
Sent: Thursday, April 15, 2004 3:35 PM  
Subject: MgM Demining Network: Quiet network

> Good day all, 
> 
> Partly because there has been so little activity recently, here are two questions:  
> 1) I am involved in an effort to detect trip wires by radar. In my understanding, there are two conventional ways to deal with them:
>    a) Use a hand-held "feeler" - a feather or similar - which will react to the presence of a trip wire, but is too weak to pull hard on it.
>    b) Use an armoured machine to take out vegetation, wires and all.  
>    But are there other methods? (Someone asked me this today, and I had no answer.)
> 2) I was told the other day that during blasting operations in quarries,
mobile phones and other radios must be switched off, for fear that
enough voltage could be built up in electrical cables to set off
the explosives prematurely. But it seems to me to be hardly possible
to set off anything with the watt or so available from these gadgets.
Does anyone know more about this?

Best regards,

John Crawford

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Send administrative queries to  <network1-request@mgm.org>
Subject: MgM Demining Network: The power of love  
Date: Friday, April 16, 2004 10:32 AM  
From: Hendrik Ehlers - MD of MgM & HEC <hec01@mail2.mgm.org>  
Reply-To: <network1@mgm.org>  
To: <network1@mgm.org>  

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John,  
The power of a lightning, a VHF or HF nearby can easily activate an electric blast cap number8 type. Not to forget that your cable can work like an antenna or spool.

One way around it is to use "intrinsically safe" equipment, eg special Motorola VHF/UHF battery packs. The other way is to use time-fuze instead.

But I really think it is casted into the SOPs in order to honor the traditional (and safe!!!) ways of doing blasts, where everything in universe concentrates on the countdown to the very moment of a big bang. Comms stop once final safety is established. I don't think you really need your insurance broker phoning to offer a new product seconds prior to a 10ton go.....

Cheers

Hendrik

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Hi John

Metal trip wires are well detectable by metal detectors. Sometimes not the worse method is in looking by both eyes.

What about different transmitters and mobile phones, according to instructions it must be switched off. But now I took electric igniter and tried to activate it by mobile telephone. I think it's possible only in one case: if you will connect your line to accumulator. But I can't recommend you such experiments with real charge.

Best regards,
Andrey

----- Original Message ----- 
From: "Crawford John" <john.crawford@psi.ch> 
To: <network1@mgm.org> 
Sent: Thursday, April 15, 2004 6:35 PM 
Subject: MgM Demining Network: Quiet network

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I would like to bring to your attention a position for a "Seconded National Expert" that is open to people from Accession and Candidate Countries to the European Union (basically those countries joining this year and those at a certain stage of applying to join).

The work will be focussed on testing and evaluation of metal detectors and other sensors and is planned to last 12 months.

For details on the job (reference IPSC-J11), please go to http://ipsc.jrc.cec.eu.int/, then "opportunities...", "...more information", "Action 2004", "list of Actions". Scroll down to IPSC-J11 and click on it.

Here you can also find application forms, remuneration details, eligibility criteria (such as which nationalities are eligible). The application deadline is 28 May 2004.

Tom Bloodworth

Institute for the Protection and Security of the Citizen (IPSC)
European Commission – Joint Research Centre (TP723)
I – 21020 Ispra (VA), Italy
Tel. +39 0332 78 9131
Fax +39 0332 78 5469
e-mail thomas.bloodworth@jrc.it
<mailto:thomas.bloodworth@jrc.it> web http://humanitarian-security.jrc.it <http://humanitarian-security.jrc.it/> <http://demining.jrc.it/>
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Best regards,

John Crawford
All,

The question why it was quiet on the network over the last weeks is easy to answer:

a) it is not true, the network has been so busy, we had to shut it down. Unfortunately 100$ of submissions were SPAM.

b) It is because of you. Yes YOU! You did not contribute....

In the meantime we have taken lots of technical measures and are ready once again to host the international exchange of know-how, expertise, excellence and opinion.

Over the last weeks I had ample opportunity to chat over other networks and I would like to answer the most common questions in public:

Yes, I am a real person of flesh and blood and I write all messages etc which are signed by me myself. No, the MgM Network is not sponsored by any donor, it is run by volunteers and robots within MgM on our own server. Yes, there are (currently three) persons banned from this network for life and for undisclosed reasons. Yes, that is the reason why the network after 8 years of total freedom is monitored now. Yes, that could happen to anybody else breaking my totally subjective, unfair, ill-judged and personal rules, too. And yes, all discussions about the latter are omitted from this network, too.

And one more reminder: In order to overcome the SPAM issues the new network address for contributions to be sent to is network1@mgm.org (see that little "1"?). Just check the size of your mails prior to hitting the send button. Even the limit is plus/minus 50k now, it still allows to send full accident reports plus pictures as done yesterday. If your submission is too large, it will not be distributed but sent back to you. Make it smaller and send again. A pic with 20k is good enough to be viewed on screen in detail. If you need help on making it smaller, send it to Wolfgang the network-master via wm@mgm.org. Just ask him, he will help you with pleasure.

Hey. what a nice day!

Hendrik Ehlers, Chairman MgM
Director OPS + HEC-R&D
Intl. Desk Windhoek, Namibia
ehlers at mgm dot org
www.mgm.org
cel +264 81 1277020
fax +264 61 243477

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03 March 2004

Ordnance Turns Up In Scrap Yards All Around the World

Fort Myers, Florida - For unknown reasons, an old Navy training missile (specific nomenclature not known) ended up at Garden Street Iron and Metal Inc., a recycling scrap yard. A worker was blow-torching what appeared to look like a piece of corroded steel and aluminum pipe when sparks began to fly. Soon after the sparks appeared, smoke shot out of the device. A crane nearby was brought in to grab the cylindrical shaped item as it continued to burn.

The local fire department and Southwest Florida Bomb Squad were called in to inspect the item. Suspecting the item to be military ordnance, the Army's 766th EOD Unit, based at Cape Canaveral Air Force Station, were asked to respond. The device was relocated and properly disposed of by the EOD unit. Reportedly, there were no numbers or markings on the UXO and it was not possible to identify what it was or where it came from or how long it had been there. From its condition, it was apparent that it had been there for many years.

Finding UXO in scrap yards is not unique to Florida or the States. Recently Scrap metal workers in Yantai, China discovered an unexploded Japanese bomb in a pile of scrap metal being off-loaded from a barge. The scrap was on its way to a nearby smelter when workers noticed the 660-pound bomb. The bomb was 4 feet in length and had markings that indicated it was dropped by a Japanese plane during WWII. The bomb was removed before it reached the smelter facility.
20 March 2004

Navy Awards $5M For Adak, Alaska UXO Clean Up

The Engineering Field Activity Northwest, Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Poulsbo, Wash., awarded a $5.9M Task under the previously awarded Navy unexploded ordnance response (NURC). The task includes geophysical investigation, surface and subsurface clearance, and quality control certification of completion of UXO removal actions for operable Unit B-1 at the former Naval Air Facility on Adak Island, Alaska. The work is expected to be completed by September 2004.

Attention UXO Technicians and Professionals

Several Employment Opportunities Are Listed On UXOInfo.com's Help Wanted Section

Employment opportunities listed on UXOInfo.com:

American Recruiting, Inc. is looking to fill a number of contract positions for UXO personnel in CONUS and OCONUS locations.

Concurrent Technologies Corporation has immediate full-time openings for UXO Engineers in its Johnstown, PA office.

Check out UXOInfo.com's Help Wanted Section <http://www.uxoinfo.com/uxoinfo/eodjobslisting.cfm> for the details regarding these employment opportunities.

To post your UXO help wanted ad please email UXOInfo.com at advertising@uxoinfo.com <mailto:advertising@uxoinfo.com> or check out the New UXO Resume Response Line From UXOInfo.com: http://uxoinfo.com/uxoinfo/eodjobprofile.cfm
24 March 2004
UXO Plaques Soccer Stadiums
MUNICH, Germany - Two WWII grenades were uncovered at the construction site of Munich's new soccer stadium. Police stopped traffic for more almost 2 hours while the grenades were safely destroyed in a controlled detonation. UXO found around constructions sites is common occurrence in Europe, much of which is littered with UXO from WWII. In Germany alone, dozens of UXO are uncovered each year, including some buried beneath buildings. The new stadium is set to host the opening match of the World Cup Final in 2006.

This is not the first time UXO was uncovered from a stadium. In 1998, a 1,000-pound bomb was found buried 3 feet below the ground near the halfway line at Borussia Dortmund's stadium and in 2002, a 500-pound bomb was uncovered beneath a section of Berlin's Olympic Stadium during a remodeling effort.

30 March 2004
Another World War II-era U.S. Bomb Discovered in Japan
Last month UXOInfo.com reported on a WWII UXO found at a construction site of a train station in Numazu, Japan. Another WWII UXO was found, this time in Nagoya Japan. Approximately 2,600 residents had to be evacuated when a Japanese Ground Self-Defense Force unit disposed of an the bomb. The U.S. 2,000 lbs bomb was found at a site where a factory once stood. It was buried about 6 feet below ground near a pier. The bomb was defused without incident. Finding WWII UXO is common in Japan.
UXOInfo.com is proud to announce the UXO Resume Response Line - an on-line employment referral service specifically designed for the UXO industry. Through the UXO Resume Response Line, the skills of UXO professionals are matched with the needs of UXO remediation and consulting companies.

UXO Consulting and Remediation Companies Looking For Professionals
Whether you are looking for a UXO Sweeper, Technician, Safety Officer, Quality Specialists or Engineer / Scientists use the on-line UXO Resume Response Service to find skilled professionals to meet the needs of your company.

Access the UXO resume database now at: http://uxoinfo.com/uxoinfo/eodprofile_viewer.cfm

UXO Professionals Seeking Employment
UXO professionals seeking employment - simply complete an on-line profile and attach a resume. Visit the EOD Tech Corner of UXOInfo.com: http://uxoinfo.com/uxoinfo/eodprofile_EntryForm.cfm to submit your free profile.

For more information about the UXO resume response line referral service visit the Resume Response Line <http://uxoinfo.com/uxoinfo/eodjobprofile.cfm> on UXOInfo.com or email uxojobs@uxoinfo.com <mailto:uxojobs@uxoinfo.com>
The Australian Government released a report stating that a deep-sea ordnance disposal site lying just over a mile northeast of the city of Townsville could contain greater quantities of chemical weapons than previously anticipated. Available archive records indicated that 700, 30kg mustard-filled chemical bombs and 320, 45kg mustard filled chemical bombs were dumped at the deep-sea site at the end of WWII. However, the report admitted that the data is likely to be incomplete, partly because of the lack of record keeping during the time the dumping occurred. Inventory records show that one chemical weapons depot stored nearly 16,000 M74A2 mustard filled bombs alone. Following the WWII, it is estimated that a large portion of those stocks had been dumped at sea because it had not been used during combat operations. The report, estimated that at the U.S and Australian military dumped over 21,000 tons of chemical warfare munitions and containers of agent into Australian seas at the end of WWII. Ordnance included aircraft bombs of various weights filled with phosgene and mustard agent and steel drums of various sizes filled with mustard agent. Mustard and phosgene were not the only chemical agents stored at the depots. Inventory records from 1943 show that U.S. weapon reserves at various depots also stored tear gas, lewisite and solid adamsite candles (toxic smoke).

Australia is not the only nation with deep-sea munitions sites. The U.S. and Canada also have deep-sea ordnance dump sites. U.S. Navy policy during the 40's and 50's authorized the dumping of ordnance at sea as a means of approved disposal. An example of such guidance can be viewed on the policy page of UXOInfo.com. <http://207.5.17.69/uxoinfo/historic_policy.cfm>

To date the Navy has been mostly silent on water ranges and deep-sea
dump sites which has not gone un-noticed. The Government Accounting Office (GAO) has documented in several reports that the Navy has not included water ranges in their environmental liability estimates.

UXOInfo.com is collecting data and information on deep-sea munitions dump sites. If you have any such information on locations or technologies being developed or deployed to locate and clear deep-sea sites please pass it along to be added to UXOinfo.com

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**Munition of the Month- March 2004: Grenade, Hand MKII, Fragmentation**

**New Feature - Munition of the Month**
Introducing a new feature in the monthly UXO e-newsletter - the Munition of the Month. This month's munition is the Obsolete MKII Fragmentation Hand Grenade. Each month we will showcase a new munition (suggestions welcome).

**Filler Type and Weight**
55 grams of TNT - High Explosive. The TNT was either flaked or granular.

**Body Type and Weight**
The grenade body is made of cast iron and is designed to fragment when deployed. The grenade weighs 630 grams.

**Source**
FM 23-30

**Description**
The MKII grenade is considered obsolete since it is no longer in use by the military. The grenade was popular during WWII and was probably one of the most prevalent fragmentation grenades in
the U.S. inventory at the time. Sometimes referred to as a "pineapple grenade" because of its pineapple shaped perforated body that was designed to fragment upon detonation. The grenade had a pyrotechnic delay that was good for 3 seconds. MKII grenades have been found at numerous FUDS and other sites around the U.S., especially from sites that were closed or abandoned over 40 years ago.

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Advertise in our next UXO E-Newsletter and reach the entire UXO industry.
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For more information on advertising please contact UXOInfo.com at advertising@uxoinfo.com <mailto:advertising@uxoinfo.com> or call 410.496.7723

UXO Documents and Images Wanted
As always, UXOInfo.com is looking for UXO documents and images to increase the library of materials on the site. Documents and images can be emailed to information@uxoinfo.com <mailto:information@uxoinfo.com> or uploaded directly through the document sharing section of the site. We are also accept news stories from our users for posting.

Now Available From UXOInfo.com
Mulvaney's On-Line Ordnance Technical Information System
Technical data on ordnance including filler information, explosive weights, photos and schematics. The developers of UXOInfo.com have completed the design of the technical ordnance information database.
Data from ordnance technical manuals and publications (unclassified - publically available) will be uploaded into the database for easy access. For now check out the **Grenade** category for a good sample. Look for more ordnance to be added in the future. Also, UXOInfo.com is looking for more photos and images to populate the database, so please consider donating images and pictures to UXOInfo.com.

<http://uxoinfo.com/uxoinfo/mulaney_categories.cfm>


UXO Consulting Services From the Developers of UXOInfo.com

<http://www.focusandleap.com>

When it comes to UXO we consider ourselves as the consultant's consultant. Let the developers and researchers from UXOInfo.com assist your team in completing your UXO related projects. We specialize in providing independent quality reviews of UXO related documents and deliverables including marketing proposals and business development plans. We maintain an extensive library of UXO related studies and documents that can meet your research needs. Our services include:

1. **UXO Research (including archival)**
2. **QA/QC Reviews**
3. **Marketing Strategy**
4. **UXO Project Website Development**
5. **UXO Data Analysis and Processing**

We qualify as a small business and can provide a variety of consulting services to augment your UXO program. Our rates are competitive and our knowledge is extensive. For details, contact Alexander at information@uxoinfo.com <mailto:information@uxoinfo.com>
Site Statistics

Reporting Period: 01 - 31 March 2004
Number of Hits: 104,223
Number of Page Views: 26,557 (New High)
Total User Sessions: 11,849 (New High)
Number of Documents Available for Downloading or Viewing on the Site: 155
Number of ordnance/UXO/Fuze Images in photo galleries: 495
Number of UXO sites in our inventory database: 531

For information on advertising on UXOInfo.com please email 
advertising@uxoinfo.com 
New Phone Number for UXOInfo.com 410.496.7723

<http://www.focusandleap.com>
Folks,

I thought you’d like to share our fear of undetectable RSA big-bang Nr8 anti-tank mines and our joy of using MPVs of excellent protection.

If the donors to MgM would not allow the purchase of these rather expensive vehicles, we would have lost quite some staff to date.

But thanks to this we can continue on the strange MgM Angola record:

Zero accident with injuries since MgM’s inception in Angola in 1996.

The MgM Staff thanks all involved equipment producers and donors.

Attached 2 pics of the latest MPVs, the US DoS funded HecWolves. They operate in Nr8 AT hazard zones....

Hendrik Ehlers, MD of MgM

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Mine Accident to MgM MPV

Introduction:

On the 6th of April one of MgM’s Mine Proofed Vehicles activated an anti-tank mine during road clearance operations. This accident occurred approximately 34 kms south-east of Ondjiva on a road from Chiede to Malungo wa Shikongo. After an investigation carried out on site on the 7th of September the following are the finding and conclusions.

Description:

MgM has been carrying out demining operations in the Chiede area, of Namacunde District of Cunene, since March 2003. This programme was instigated to help with the relocation of IDP’s and Refugees in the area following the cessation of hostilities in Angola. The programme has mainly consisted of route clearance and manual demining tasks to allow safe relocation, and allow WFP to deliver food donations directly to the recipients, rather than the nearest administrative centre.

On the 6th of April 2004 at 1252 hours the WMF Wolf MPV, assisting in route clearance operations on the road from Chiede to Malungo wa Shikongo, set off an anti tank mine. The location of the accident was 34 kms south east of Chiede. The Wolf was supporting MgM’s armoured grader while route-clearance was in progress towards Malungo wa Shikongo.

Reference:

Map: Melunga
Map Series: SE33
Edition: K1
The area where the incident took place is on the northern edge of the Kalahari Desert. The soil is very sandy. There is some forestation, though not dense. The land surface is held together by grass, green with recent rains. Once the grader removes this surface binding, the surface becomes heavy, due to the exposure of soft loose sand.

Assessment

The Wolf activated a mine under the left rear wheel. Safety distances were being observed, no support team members were involved and none were injured. The incident occurred more than three kilometres from the nearest habitation, there were no local population that were involved. Medical support was on site immediately; the area was made safe to extract the driver. The driver of the Wolf was unaffected by this experience. No injuries were sustained. Since this accident the driver has continued his tasks as driver/mechanic, driving another MPV. This vehicle was being used to help extract the damaged MPV to the main MgM workshop in Ondjiva.

The incident occurred approximately 2550 mts from a previous mine blast on this road. On this occasion the armoured grader activated an anti-tank mine under one of its wheels. Information had been collected about this area, with the local population reporting that recently one boy, a goat and four cows have been killed in mined areas around the road. Another vehicle had already activated a mine on this road, some 50 mts from the accident site of the armoured Grader. To allow for safe extraction of the Wolf the area around the grader was cleared. This allowed the MgM Mechanical Recovery Team to extract the grader for delivery to the MgM Workshop in Ondjiva for damage assessment and repairs.

The driver/mechanic was using his vehicle to prove the area clear behind the grader, clearing a lane a minimum of 8 metres width. In normal circumstances an Explosive Vapour Dog Detection Team would have cleared the area behind the armoured grader to prove the area. The EVDD team had cleared 500 mts in front of the site of the previous mine incident on the armoured grader. Unfortunately the EVDD team were not available as operations re-started on this site. The incident occurred 2250 mts in front of the previous incident. The Wolf was being used in the absence of the EVDD team.

The incident occurred on the extreme left side of the cleared road. The base of the mine was measured at 0.9 mts below the level of the surface, prior to grading. After grading the base of the mine would be 0.7 mts below the surface. Inspection of the crater revealed no evidence of the anti-tank mine. With knowledge of mine used in the area, this mine was in all probability a South African No8 anti-tank mine. When activated the mine would then have been some 0.5 of a metre below the surface.

In this case it appears that the mine to pass under the blade of the armoured grader. The mine had sunk in the soft sand over the years since being laid, being brought closer to the surface by the actions of the MgM armoured grader. The weight of the Wolf III Turbo (16 tons) and the soft sand were enough to activate the anti-tank mine, even at a depth of 0.5 mts.

At present the available MgM Explosive Vapour Detection Dog (EVDD) Teams were operational on another emergency clearance task in Seles. They returned to this operational site immediately. These teams would normally search graded routes and windrows (berms) to detect remaining mines and other UXO’s. These would then be removed and destroyed to allow for clearance.
status. In this case the Wolf was being used as a stopgap until their return. Although not perfect, the method proved effective.

The Wolf requires some repairs to be carried out to the wheel housing and breaks, as well as a new wheel and tyre. MgM has a spare axle, as well as the two spare wheels on the Wolf. The Wolf should be operational again shortly. The damaged axle will be sent to WMF in Windhoek, Namibia, for the required repairs.

Conclusions

. The armour deflection of the Wolf’s monocoque hull deflected the blast from the anti-tank mine as expected.
. The Wolof sustained minimal external damage, with no structural damage.
. The integrity of the armoured cab was not compromised. This resulted in no injuries to the operator.
. Safety considerations were maintained, MgM SOP’s were observed.
. The incident, though unfortunate, was not unexpected. It is normal to expect occasional detonations under the wheels.
. This incident is preferable to a missed mine being later detonated by a soft skinned vehicle.

Recommendations:

. The operations on this road have been suspended until the EVDD team arrives from their previous tasking.
. There are expected to be more No8’s on this route. MgM will employ one EVDD Team in front of the armoured grader. When available, one EVDD Team will operate behind the grader, in front of the Wolf III Turbo.
. Wolf III Turbo to continue to continue with its present task, with the added layers of clearance in front.
. EVDD Team to check all areas previously cleared by the present method.
. Up date MgM’s SOP’s once new methods of clearance have been developed for operations in soft sand areas.

For more information on this incident please contact MgM’s Programme Director, Ken O’Connell.
This message is sent to you because you are subscribed to
the mailing list <network1@mgm.org>.
To unsubscribe, E-mail to: <network1-off@mgm.org>
To switch to the Digest mode, E-mail to <network1-digest@mgm.org>
Send administrative queries to  <network1-request@mgm.org>
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: Call for potential referencematerial
Date: Thursday, April 15, 2004 3:56 AM
From: Karen McClure <karenmcclure@xtra.co.nz>
Reply-To: <network1@mgm.org>
To: <network1@mgm.org>

Dear Roger,

Yes, the network is quiet. It looks like most people kept away from their computers over Easter, as I did!

To clarify what I am after, I am not referring to a question of sustainability of HMA projects themselves. I am asking if there is examples/evidence where mine clearance within current HMA projects is being linked to sustainable development indicators.

A simplified hypothetical example might be:

A region that has a returning population, displaced or refugee may allocate land and have as an output or goal "All family heads in rural areas allocated a hectare of land for food production by the end of 2005". This could be a component of a broader national development plan with an outcome that sees the population self sufficient in food production by the end of 2009. Of course this will no doubt involve coordination of other factors such as the provision of seeds, water, expertise, roads, market development etc but in this example you would expect mine clearance efforts to be prioritised to areas of productive land that will be allocated as part of this development strategy.

Another national development output might be to ensure all families have piped water in their homes by a certain date. Then you would expect that mine clearance of the land where the water pipes are to be laid to be a priority.

I hope this clarifies the information I am seeking.

Regards
Karen

> 
> > From: "Roger Hess" <rhess@mweb.co.za> 
> > Date: 2004/04/11 Sun AM 07:54:42 GMT+12:00 
> > To: <network1@mgm.org> 
> > Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: Call for potential referencematerial 
> > 
> > Dear Karen; 
> > 
> > > It has been quite lately & while I'd love to see some more discussions take 
> > > place (anyone out there?); I think we both recognize that "sustainable HMA" 
> > > topic would end up with as much mud throwing as it did in the past. 
> > > 
> > > We kicked this around enough that everyone was eager to see it introduced 
> > > to the eco-system and see if anything better came out the next time around 
> > > (evolution maybe?). The MgM archives should have copies of everything that 
> > > was said; good, bad, and indifferent. 
> > > 
> > > 
> > > A little input from me would be to better define what you are after: 
> > > 
> > > >Sustainable: \Sus*tain"a*ble\, a. [Cf. F. soutenable, OF. soustenable.]
Capable of being sustained or maintained; as, the action is not sustainable.

The term "sustained or maintained" indicates that the action has reached a level that the variables are known and further support can be predicted. This does not mean that it will no longer require external support, or in regards to HMA, further funding. A donor-based project that has been running for a set length of time can reach a point that the costs are known to sustain it. This applies to both commercial ops and charity groups.

Self-sustaining: adj : able to provide for your own needs without help from others; "a self-sufficing economic unit" [syn: self-sufficient]

In regards to HMA; this would indicate that a project has reached a level that external funding is no longer required. The only way I've ever seen this achieved is through some type of commercialization of the action/program. This is done by creating small or medium enterprises (SME) that take over this function, or by a charity group establishing a commercial branch and dedicating all proceeds to support the charities cause. The latter rarely provides full support, however it can contribute towards the overall effort.

Cheers

Roger

From: network1@mgm.org [mailto:network1@mgm.org] On Behalf Of Karen McClure
Sent: Friday, April 09, 2004 2:51 PM
To: network1@mgm.org
Subject: MgM Demining Network: Call for potential reference material

Dear All

There is much discussion certainly within documentation produced by the various mine action agencies, both UN and others, on the measurement of socio-economic impact of mine action. Some months back now there was a discussion on this site about the sustainability of building national capacities versus using commercial operators.

While this is one aspect of 'sustainable development', there is the broader view that incorporates the economic, environmental and other social development aspects within any environment. Most would agree that there are certain tools and criteria that potentially could be used to determine how mine action, (referring to mine clearance in particular), might be used as a measure against predetermined national, regional and community goals to
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While this is one aspect of 'sustainable development', there is the broader view that incorporates the economic, environmental and other social development aspects within any environment. Most would agree that there are certain tools and criteria that potentially could be used to determine how mine action, (referring to mine clearance in particular), might be used as a measure against predetermined national, regional and community goals to determine its contribution to sustainable development. Here I am thinking of the LIS, national development plans, strategic plans as a few.

I am researching a paper for a development masters degree in which I want to evaluate the contribution that HMA is making to sustainable development within its current projects. I would be very grateful if anyone who is working within projects can provide me with documented evidence of where this link has been made and measurements are actually being recorded against some predetermined sustainable development indicators. Any information you provide would be used as reference material for this paper only.

Sustainability is a bit of a misnomer itself and can mean many things to many people and evidence maybe at community/small scale levels. However at this level responding to community needs can still be viewed as development that provides or leads to sustainable solutions, certainly in the eyes of the communities themselves.

I appreciate that some of this information may be tied up in donor reports which may not be permitted for release, but if relevant parts could be that would be much appreciated. In my research to date I have found plenty of information on how things should be done, but little evidence of it having been done. I hope through accessing this group to determine whether this means that programmes are still developing toward this approach, or whether HMA projects are working within their own developed prioritisation processes but not linked to national or regional development plans, or
whether the results are out there but just not for public view.

To avoid clogging up the MgM net (she says hopefully!) please email me directly with any contributions you have on mcclure@un.org
Thank you in anticipation and best wishes for a happy and safe Easter

Regards

Karen McClure
Public Information Officer
Mine Action Coordination Centre Southern Lebanon
P O Box 300, Tyre
Lebanon
Tel +961 3 532 764
Fax +961 7 349 459
Email: mcclure@un.org

#################################################################
This message is sent to you because you are subscribed to
the mailing list <network1@mgm.org>.
To unsubscribe, E-mail to: <network1-off@mgm.org>
To switch to the Digest mode, E-mail to <network1-digest@mgm.org>
Send administrative queries to <network1-request@mgm.org>
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: vpma-3
Date: Saturday, April 10, 2004 3:54 PM
From: C. Thomas Eisele <rangerat1@mail.com>
Reply-To: <network1@mgm.org>
To: <network1@mgm.org>

When working with mines in Bosnia-Herzegovina I would not take any mine marked as practice as such. I encountered case after case of mines such as PMA-1A, PPMR-1 as well as PMR-2 all marked as training mines yet having a full explosive charge contained within them.

C. Thomas Eisele, EOD Technician

----- Original Message ----- 
From: "Manuel GONZAL"
Date: Fri, 09 Apr 2004 14:50:44 +0200
To:
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: vpma-3

Re: Hi Naiden, 
Re: This is a drill APM with a yellow strip, the marking of the back is effectively PK and it's manufacturing in Ex-Yugoslavia. the Yugoslavian name is "mina clackalitsa" who means swing mine because of the movement done by the top of the mine when someone touch it. Take care I have heard that all Yug drill mines could be easily and rapidly transformed in live mines. 
Re: Regards 
Re: 
Re: Manuel
Re: 
Re: Manuel GONZAL
Re: CT Deminage/Departement Mines
Re: HANDICAP INTERNATIONAL
Re: 14 avenue Berthelot
Re: 69361 LYON cedex 07
Re: FRANCE
Re: tel (33)4.78.69.79.61
Re: fax (33)4.78.69.79.90
Re: cel (33)6.75.20.72.13
Re: 
Re: 
Re: -----Message d'origine-----
Re: De : "Naiden Iliev" [mailto:mon100@mail.ru]
Re: Envoye : jeudi 8 avril 2004 09:19
Re: A: network1@mgm.org
Re: Objet : MgM Demining Network: vpma-3
Re:
Re:
Re: Hello
Re:
Re: Anybody knows who is the manufacturer of this VPMA-3 /Former Yugoslavia/?
Markings are "PK"
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Sign-up for Ads Free at Mail.com
http://www.mail.com/?sr=signup <http://mail01.mail.com/scripts/payment/adtracking.cgi?bannercode=adsfreejump01>
the mailing list <network1@mgm.org>.

To unsubscribe, E-mail to: <network1-off@mgm.org>

To switch to the Digest mode, E-mail to <network1-digest@mgm.org>

Send administrative queries to  <network1-request@mgm.org>
Greetings. Further to my previous message and for the benefit of MgM network subscribers who may have limited cyber-capacity in the field, please find below a simple text version of the press release:

BEGIN PRESS RELEASE
U.S. Department of State
Media Note
Office of the Spokesman
Washington, D.C.
April 9, 2004

Department of State Issues "Request for Applications" for Humanitarian Mine Action Grants

The Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement in the Department of State’s Bureau of Political-Military Affairs is issuing its first ever, open Request for Applications for grants to advance humanitarian mine action.

Grant applications will be accepted from domestic and foreign non-governmental organizations, academic institutions, and international organizations in six specified areas. The Department of State is prepared to provide up to $4.2 million dollars in funding support for this process.

The six categories being considered for grant applications in 2004 are: 1) community-based mine risk education in Sudan; 2) strategic planning training course and curriculum development for national mine action plans; 3) development of abandoned ordnance and hazardous ordnance site survey methodology; 4) development of training methodology and curriculum to fully enable host-nation program management capabilities to achieve a "mine-safe" endstate; 5) review of Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement-sponsored indigenous humanitarian mine action capacity-building efforts; and 6) private sector engagement to raise public awareness of and support for humanitarian mine action and destruction of abandoned ordnance. Grant applications for unsolicited projects may also be submitted.

Depending on the quality of the proposals and changes in programming assumptions, the Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement reserves the right to make no awards.

Information on the application review, grant award process, how to develop and submit a grant application, suggested grant formats, and related mandatory application forms can be found at www.state.gov/t/pm/wra/c11811.htm on the Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement's website. The deadline for submissions is May 7, 2004.

To learn about the U.S. Department of State’s humanitarian mine action programs and small arms and light weapons abatement efforts around the world, visit www.state.gov/t/pm/wra.

END PRESS RELEASE
Sincerely,

JOHN

John E. Stevens
Foreign Affairs Officer
Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement (PM/WRA)
Bureau of Political-Military Affairs
Suite 1826
U.S. Department of State
Washington, D.C. 20547

Tel: (202) 647-0676
Fax: (202) 647-2465
Unclassified Email: SteveJE@State.Gov
PM/WRA website: www.state.gov/t/pm/wra

#############################################################
This message is sent to you because you are subscribed to
the mailing list <network1@mgm.org>.
To unsubscribe, E-mail to: <network1-off@mgm.org>
To switch to the Digest mode, E-mail to <network1-digest@mgm.org>
Send administrative queries to <network1-request@mgm.org>
Dear Karen;

It has been quite lately & while I’d love to see some more discussions take place (anyone out there?); I think we both recognize that “sustainable HMA” topic would end up with as much mud throwing as it did in the past.

We kicked this around enough that everyone was eager to see it introduced to the eco-system and see if anything better came out the next time around (evolution maybe?). The MgM archives should have copies of everything that was said; good, bad, and indifferent.

A little input from me would be to better define what you are after:

>Sustainable: \Sus*tain"a*ble\, a. [Cf. F. soutenable, OF. soustenable.] Capable of being sustained or maintained; as, the action is not sustainable.

The term “sustained or maintained” indicates that the action has reached a level that the variables are known and further support can be predicted. This does not mean that it will no longer require external support, or in regards to HMA, further funding. A donor-based project that has been running for a set length of time can reach a point that the costs are known to sustain it. This applies to both commercial ops and charity groups


In regards to HMA; this would indicate that a project has reached a level that external funding is no longer required. The only way I’ve ever seen this achieved is through some type of commercialization of the action/program. This is done by creating small or medium enterprises (SME) that take over this function, or by a charity group establishing a commercial branch and dedicating all proceeds to support the charities cause. The latter rarely provides full support, however it can contribute towards the overall effort.
Dear All,

There is much discussion certainly within documentation produced by the various mine action agencies, both UN and others, on the measurement of socio-economic impact of mine action. Some months back now there was a discussion on this site about the sustainability of building national capacities versus using commercial operators.

While this is one aspect of 'sustainable development', there is the broader view that incorporates the economic, environmental and other social development aspects within any environment. Most would agree that there are certain tools and criteria that potentially could be used to determine how mine action, (referring to mine clearance in particular), might be used as a measure against predetermined national, regional and community goals to determine its contribution to sustainable development. Here I am thinking of the LIS, national development plans, strategic plans as a few.

I am researching a paper for a development masters degree in which I want to evaluate the contribution that HMA is making to sustainable development within its current projects.
I would be very grateful if anyone who is working within projects can provide me with documented evidence of where this link has been made and measurements are actually being recorded against some predetermined sustainable development indicators. Any information you provide would be used as reference material for this paper only.

Cheers

Roger

---

From: network1@mgm.org [mailto:network1@mgm.org] On Behalf Of Karen McClure  
Sent: Friday, April 09, 2004 2:51 PM 
To: network1@mgm.org  
Subject: MgM Demining Network: Call for potential reference material
Sustainability is a bit of a misnomer itself and can mean many things to many people and evidence maybe at community/small scale levels. However at this level responding to community needs can still be viewed as development that provides or leads to sustainable solutions, certainly in the eyes of the communities themselves.

I appreciate that some of this information may be tied up in donor reports which may not be permitted for release, but if relevant parts could be that would be much appreciated. In my research to date I have found plenty of information on how things should be done, but little evidence of it having been done. I hope through accessing this group to determine whether this means that programmes are still developing toward this approach, or whether HMA projects are working within their own developed prioritisation processes but not linked to national or regional development plans, or whether the results are out there but just not for public view.

To avoid clogging up the MgM net (she says hopefully!) please email me directly with any contributions you have on mcclure@un.org
Thank you in anticipation and best wishes for a happy and safe Easter

Regards

Karen McClure
Public Information Officer
Mine Action Coordination Centre Southern Lebanon
P O Box 300, Tyre
Lebanon
Tel +961 3 532 764
Fax +961 7 349 459
Email: mcclure@un.org

Detailed "Guidelines for Grant Proposals and Reporting" that govern the U.S. Government's Grants process and that include related forms may be found in the URL that is embedded in paragraph 5 of the aforementioned press release. In addition, specific details about the projects for which we are soliciting Grant applications may be found in the attached "Request for Applications" Word document below.

You are most welcome to share the press release, Grants "Guidelines" and "Request for Applications" with others.

Sincerely,

JOHN

John E. Stevens
Foreign Affairs Officer
Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement (PM/WRA)
Bureau of Political-Military Affairs
Suite 1826
U.S. Department of State
Washington, D.C. 20547

Tel: (202) 647-0676
Fax: (202) 647-2465
Unclassified Email: SteveJE@State.Gov
PM/WRA website: www.state.gov/t/pm/wra
Hi Naiden
I'm very glad to see you in this net.
If you mean UPMA-3 (upaljac), as I remember, it was produced in Goragde, but I'm not sure.

Hi ALL
Who remember, what company produce standard targets for testing metal detectors.
Many thanks and best regards,
Andrey

----- Original Message -----  
From: "Naiden Iliev" <mon100@mail.ru>
To: <network1@mgm.org>
Sent: Thursday, April 08, 2004 11:19 AM
Subject: MgM Demining Network: vpma-3

> Hello
> Anybody knows who is the manufacturer of this VPMA-3 /Former Yugoslavia/?
Markings are "PK"
> Thanks,
> Naiden Iliev
> #-----------------------------------------------------------------------------
> This message is sent to you because you are subscribed to
the mailing list <network1@mgm.org>.
To unsubscribe, E-mail to: <network1-off@mgm.org>
To switch to the Digest mode, E-mail to <network1-digest@mgm.org>
Send administrative queries to <network1-request@mgm.org>

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own developed prioritisation processes but not linked to national or regional development plans, or whether the results are out there but just not for public view.

To avoid clogging up the MgM net (she says hopefully!) please email me directly with any contributions you have on mcclure@un.org
Thank you in anticipation and best wishes for a happy and safe Easter

Regards

Karen McClure
Public Information Officer
Mine Action Coordination Centre Southern Lebanon
P O Box 300, Tyre
Lebanon
Tel +961 3 532 764
Fax +961 7 349 459
Email: mcclure@un.org
Hi Rene and Lawrence
As I understand it was a dead season.
Regards
Andrey

----- Original Message ----- 

From: Lawrence Carter <mailto:lj.carter@auckland.ac.nz>
To: network1@mgm.org
Sent: Thursday, April 08, 2004 11:18 AM
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: Does your forum continue to work ?

Hi René,

Yes, I noticed that things seemed very quiet, too... Is there anyone out there?

Regards

Lawrence

----- Original Message ----- 

From: René Joecklé <mailto:joeckle@kioskdu.com>
To: network1@mgm.org
Hi

I am one of your silencious, through very interrested, readers of your forum. Does it already work? I don't receive any message since your last message, telling me that your address changes.

Looking for reading soon new messages of the MgM forum,

best regards

René Joecklé

president of ARTID (see www.artid.org <http://www.artid.org> )
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: vpma-3
Date: Friday, April 9, 2004 8:50 AM
From: Manuel GONZAL <mgonzal@handicap-international.org>
Reply-To: <network1@mgm.org>
To: <network1@mgm.org>

Hi Naiden,

This is a drill APM with a yellow strip, the marking of the back is effectively PK and it's manufacturing in Ex-Yugoslavia. the Yugoslavian name is "mina clackalitsa" who means swing mine because of the movement done by the top of the mine when someone touch it. Take care I have heard that all Yug drill mines could be easily and rapidly transformed in live mines.

Regards

Manuel

Manuel GONZAL
CT Deminage/Departement Mines
HANDICAP INTERNATIONAL
14 avenue Berthelot
69361 LYON cedex 07
FRANCE
tel (33)4.78.69.79.61
fax (33)4.78.69.79.90
cel (33)6.75.20.72.13

-----Message d'origine-----
De : "Naiden Iliev"[mailto:mon100@mail.ru]
Envoye : jeudi 8 avril 2004 09:19
A : network1@mgm.org
Objet : MgM Demining Network: vpma-3

Hello

Anybody knows who is the manufacturer of this VPMA-3 /Former Yugoslavia/? Markings are "PK"

Thanks,

Naiden Iliev

This message is sent to you because you are subscribed to the mailing list <network1@mgm.org>
To unsubscribe, E-mail to: <network1-off@mgm.org>
To switch to the Digest mode, E-mail to <network1-digest@mgm.org>
Send administrative queries to <network1-request@mgm.org>
Hello

Anybody knows who is the manufacturer of this VPMA-3 /Former Yugoslavia/? Markings are "PK"

Thanks,

Naiden Iliev

#inesiblecopyrightmessage#
Hi René,

Yes, I noticed that things seemed very quiet, too... Is there anyone out there?

Regards

Lawrence

----- Original Message ----- 

From: René Joecklé <mailto:joeckle@kioskdu.com>
To: network1@mgm.org
Sent: Thursday, April 08, 2004 2:13 AM
Subject: MgM Demining Network: Does your forum continue to work ?

Hi

I am one of your silencious, through very interested, readers of your forum. Does it already work ? I don't receive any message since your last message, telling me that your address changes.

Looking for reading soon new messages of the MgM forum,

best regards

René Joecklé

president of ARTID (see www.artid.org <http://www.artid.org> )
Date: Thursday, April 8, 2004 3:18 AM
From: Crispin Stephen <stephenc@un.org>
Reply-To: <network1@mgm.org>
To: <network1@mgm.org>

I will be out of the office starting 04/04/2004 and will not return until 17/05/2004.

I am away from the office from 3 April through to 16 May 2004. During my absence, all questions related to Afghanistan should be sent to Mr. Par Brusquini at brusquini@un.org

Many thanks, Cris Stephen

########################################################################
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Send administrative queries to <network1-request@mgm.org>
Windhoek.

A traditional Namibian barbecue (Braai) today marked the official end of an international conference on the MA'PDA project in Windhoek, Namibia.

After a user requirement identified at the 2003 US DoD CERCOM NVESD workshop in Washington, high level representatives of various agencies and operators met in Windhoek to define further steps of realization.

Reps from Swedec, NVESD, VUB, operators and MACs debated the effort in depth in order to avoid duplication of R&D efforts and IMSMA integration.

MA'PDA stands for Mine Action PDA and is a device collecting and sharing GPS or non-GPS data on ground truth level. Whereas initiatives like EOD IS and Stream manage data directly related to mine clearance, MA'PDA manages other operational data fleet and spares management, stock taking of critical items like medical support and staff management.

First models of the MgM/HEC development based on a Panasonic Toughbook PDA and no-name 200 us dollar PDAs in a hardened cradle will run as machine operating and medical logs. Future models with icon driven software shall collect data of all aspects of mine clearance by the local management working in the mine fields.

In 2005 US DoD CERDEC NVESD envisions operational field evaluations of numerous systems with many mine action programs with the intent of further system requirements definition.

Hendrik Ehlers, Chairman MgM
Director OPS + HEC-R&D
Intl. Desk Windhoek, Namibia
ehlers at mgm dot org
www.mgm.org
cel +264 81 1277020
fax +264 61 243477

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To switch to the Digest mode, E-mail to <network1-digest@mgm.org>
Send administrative queries to <network1-request@mgm.org>
Hi
I am one of your silencious, through very interested, readers of your forum. Does it already work? I don't receive any message since your last message, telling me that your address changes. Looking for reading soon new messages of the MgM forum,
best regards
René Joecklé
president of ARTID (see www.artid.org)
U.S. Department of State
Media Note
Office of the Spokesman
Washington, DC
April 5, 2004
Virginia High School Students "Adopt" Cambodian Minefield

Cambodians will advance a few more steps toward having their country freed from the scourge of landmines left from past conflicts, thanks to the efforts of students from Yorktown High School in Arlington, Virginia. The "Yorktown High School Students Against Landmines" club raised over $7000 to clear landmines in Cambodia, one of the world's most mine-affected countries. The money was sent to the United Nations Association of the United States of America's "Adopt-A-Minefield" program that enables private citizens, civic associations, charitable organizations and corporations to underwrite landmine clearance in the most critical minefields in severely mine-affected countries.

"The Yorktown High students who initiated this fund-raising project, their parents and teachers deserve an A-plus for their civic mindedness and generosity," remarked Lincoln P. Bloomfield, Jr., the Special Representative of the President and Secretary of State for Mine Action who also serves as Assistant Secretary for Political-Military Affairs. "Every dollar raised by the private sector to clean up landmines advances our common goal of achieving a mine-safe world."

The United States government has invested over $31 million dollars for humanitarian mine action in Cambodia since 1993. The U.S. Department of State will provide $3 million more for mine clearance and mine risk education there in Fiscal Year 2004. This assistance and aid from other donor nations has helped to reduce Cambodia's rate of casualties, restore mine-infested land to productive use and enabled displaced persons to return to their homes. But more remains to be done and so private contributions to Cambodia's demining effort are welcomed.

To learn about the U.S. Department of State's humanitarian mine action programs and small arms and light weapons abatement efforts in Cambodia and other countries, visit www.state.gov/t/pm/wra.

2004/372

[End]
Hello everybody,

after receiving 2000 mails with spam/virus a day we decided to change the MgM network address.
If you want to post messages to the MgM network from now on, use the following address:

**network1@mgm.org**

For some days messages are still limited to:
text only, max size 10k, NO attachments

We will inform you once we have installed something less draconian.

regards

MgM - media team

Online-Redaktion / online publishing

Wolfgang Maschke

office: +49 (0)931 66 32 16
cell: +49 (0)179 1079 187
email: wm@mgm.org

Aktuelle Informationen aus der Welt des humanitären Minenräumens und den Operationen der Stiftung Menschen gegen Minen e.V., MgM, finden Sie unter: www.mgm.org /
Please visit our website www.mgm.org for more information about our humanitarian work and our current mine clearance operations.
Folks,

The amount of Spam and Virus trying to sneak through the MgM network is truly gigantic. As a first step we limited mails to be text only, do not allow attachments and max size is 10k. This is active now and still allows exchange of written information. Sorry, but no way....

We will inform you once we have installed something less draconian.

Cheers

Hendrik Ehlers, Chairman MgM
Director OPS + HEC-R&D
Intl. Desk Windhoek, Namibia
ehlers at mgm dot org
www.mgm.org
cel +264 81 1277020
fax +264 61 243477
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: Peter's Question
Date: Thursday, March 11, 2004 1:32 AM
From: shahmir <shahmir@eandii.com>
Reply-To: <network@mgm.org>
To: <network@mgm.org>

Eddie Banks not Eddie who!

His email is banks@eandii.com

Rob Shahmir

-----Original Message-----
From: network@mgm.org [mailto:network@mgm.org] On Behalf Of Hendrik Ehlers -
MD of MgM & HEC
Sent: Wednesday, March 10, 2004 1:37 PM
To: network@mgm.org
Subject: MgM Demining Network: Peter's Question

".....have you asked Eddie Banks for his comments???? Best regards,
Peter"

Eddie who?

Hendrik

########################################################################
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the mailing list <network@mgm.org>.
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Send administrative queries to  <network-request@mgm.org>
".....have you asked Eddie Banks for his comments???? Best regards, Peter"

Eddie who?

Hendrik
The link to HD might be little to date, but the link to future HD technologies is clear. The HEC Moonbuggy (see www.moonbuggy.com) was foreseen to participate in the race. Unfortunately we had better things to do. If there ever is a next race, we'll be in with an autonomous operating explosives sensor carrier.

The official DARPA site is http://www.darpa.mil/grandchallenge/

Here you also find the proof to something I did not mention in my last message on robotics: Robots are fun!

Cheers

Hendrik Ehlers, Chairman MgM
Director OPS + HEC-R&D
Intl. Desk Windhoek, Namibia
ehlers at mgm dot org
www.mgm.org
cel +264 81 1277020
fax +264 61 243477

+Robot Race Is Giant Step for Unmanned Kind

By Rene Sanchez

FONTANA, Calif. -- The last time Jim Radford and his friends took their bizarrely customized pickup truck out for a late-night test drive, police cars swarmed them.

"They had never seen anything like it," Radford said. "They thought we were terrorists."

He gave them the far-fetched facts: No, officers, we're computer scientists and engineers. Training for a road race the world has never seen. Just ask the Pentagon.

The explanation kept them out of trouble. And now he and his crew are here at the California Speedway, making frantic final preparations for a strange showdown against other high-tech teams in the Mojave Desert on Saturday that could one day revolutionize warfare.

It will be a race across nearly 200 miles of rugged terrain, featuring robotic vehicles in all shapes and sizes that have been built and programmed to drive a predetermined course through difficult and sometimes unexpected conditions entirely on their own.

No humans behind the wheel, no navigators using remote control.

"We're all trying to do what they say can't be done," said Scott
Wilson, captain of a university team from southwest Louisiana that has named its entry CajunBot.

The winner of the race, if there is one, will collect a $1 million prize courtesy of the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency. DARPA is likening the event to a 1927 competition in which aviation enthusiasts were dared to design a plane capable of making a transatlantic flight, for a $25,000 prize. A guy named Lindbergh won that one.

For military researchers, the contest is no joke. Congress wants one-third of ground vehicles used in combat to be autonomous by 2015, to keep more troops out of danger. But so far, defense contractors have not had success replicating the kind of technology that has led, for example, to the deployment of unmanned planes over Iraqi battlefields.

Anthony J. Tether, the director of the Pentagon agency, decided to issue a nationwide challenge in the hope that "a person in a garage someplace" would tinker his or her way to a technological breakthrough.

"This is extraordinarily important to the national security of the United States," Tether said here Monday. "This technology will save American lives."

He said he foresees a day when unmanned ground vehicles in a war zone will deliver supplies over long distances to troops without putting support personnel at risk. "Jessica Lynch comes to mind," Tether said, referring to the celebrated Army private wounded and captured when the convoy of maintenance vehicles in which she was riding was ambushed last spring shortly after U.S. forces invaded Iraq. She was later rescued, but 11 soldiers in her company were killed during the ambush.

The lineup for Saturday's race is not yet set. About 25 teams from across the country, including one from Falls Church, are spending the week putting their vehicles through qualifying trials on the infield of the California Speedway, which has been transformed into an obstacle course of grassy slopes, muddy ditches, rocky paths and abandoned cars.

The finalists, selected from an initial field of more than 100 teams, have come from colleges, engineering and computer companies, even a Southern California high school. Some of the teams include leaders in the fields of computer science and robotics. Others are a collection of weekend hobbyists with big dreams.

All of them have been working almost round the clock for months building and tweaking head-turning vehicles loaded with laptops and laser sensors, with video cameras, thick jumbles of computer cables, mapping data and Global Positioning System receivers.

No two vehicles look alike. Some resemble dune buggies, golf carts or the Mars rover. Others are wildly redesigned trucks and sport-utility vehicles. They have such names as Ghost Rider, Ladibug, Terrahawk and Bob.

On Saturday, just a few hours before the race begins, the entrants will receive a CD-ROM with global positioning coordinates outlining the course they will program into their vehicles.

Most face long odds getting across the desert. "I would bet my life savings that no one completes this race," said Bill Zimmerly, a software specialist from Missouri, whose entry is a revamped Kawasaki all-terrain
vehicle. “Think about it. Our brains are 1,000 times better than a computer, and it takes us about 16 years to learn how to drive a car. To get a vehicle to make all the same decisions we do when we drive is extremely difficult. We’re all still early in the process of figuring this out.”

A few of the teams have big-money backing from heavyweight companies such as Boeing, Intel and Northrop Grumman. But many began as low-budget larks that have reached this point in the competition by relying far more on ingenuity than on cash.

Zimmerly and teammate Warren Williams built their vehicle from scratch, working nights and weekends in each other’s home garages.

“We even ran the thing into my garage at one point,” Williams said.

“It made a big dent,” Zimmerly said, ”but a good dent.”

“We learned a lot from that,” Williams said.

Gary Carr, an engineer who is leading the team from Falls Church, has endured similar ordeals preparing his unmanned all-terrain vehicle for the race. His crew includes students from George Mason University and the Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology in Fairfax County.

“We’ve had major setbacks -- we hit a car once, then we hit a telephone pole,” Carr said. “Now we think we’re in good shape. But this is still going to be tough.”

Richard Mason’s entry into the race began as a whim. Mason, 32, who has a doctorate in robotics from the California Institute of Technology, rounded up some of his former classmates and scoured newspaper classified ads for a used pickup truck. They bought one, rigged it with computers and motion sensors the size of television screens, and have been test-driving it after midnight for weeks. One spin along the Pacific Coast Highway ended when police, baffled by and fearful of the truck, stopped and surrounded them.

“It wasn’t easy explaining this to the cops,” said Radford, one of Mason’s partners.

Then there is the team from Lafayette, La., which raised more than $60,000 to build its vehicle, a six-wheeler that looks like a small tank without a top. But testing it under race conditions has been impossible. There is no desert in Cajun country.

“We know it does well in mud,” Wilson said. “But we’re at a real disadvantage against these teams from Southern California. We feel like the Jamaican bobsled team.”

Their vehicle has won some fame, though. “We were just a Mardi Gras float,” he said.

DARPA, whose research over the years has led to the Internet and the stealth bomber, is putting enormous effort into the race. The course, which will begin on dirt back roads near Barstow, Calif., and end near Las Vegas, remains a secret and will be closed to public viewing. Military helicopters will hover over the route, and manned vehicles will trail the robotic ones. Biologists also will be stationed along the course to prevent desert tortoises that emerge from their sandy holes
this time of year from being run over.

Every entry will have 10 hours to complete the race, and the winner may not be announced until Sunday -- if anyone even crosses the finish line. "I really don't know what's going to happen." Tether said.

Many of the teams say they are in the race mostly for the thrill of the technological adventure, not the money.

"For us, winning almost doesn't matter," said Chris Frans, an engineer on the team whose robotic vehicle is known as Terrahawk. "Just trying to solve this challenge is what's great. They're really getting the best minds, and all volunteering to do this."

His teammate, Kurt Risic, weary from another long night putting the finishing technological touches on their vehicle, wandered over to interject a question.

"Are we really the best minds," he asked, "if we're doing this for free?"

*****************************************************************************
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To switch to the Digest mode, E-mail to <network-digest@mgm.org>
Send administrative queries to <network-request@mgm.org>
Congratulations - you should have a lot of pride, not just a bit of pride. I’m impressed by your collection of statistics as well – particularly false readings etc – very interesting to see the full picture after a period of time.

Best regards
Leonie Barnes

----- Original Message ----- 
From: "Hendrik Ehlers - MD of MgM & HEC" <hec01@mail2.mgm.org>
To: <network@mgm.org>
Sent: Tuesday, March 09, 2004 8:08 PM
Subject: MgM Demining Network: MgM Teams leave Mozambique

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> ehlers at mgm dot org
> www.mgm.org
> cel +264 81 1277020
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Sounds like excellent work Hendrik - have you asked Eddie Banks for his comments????

Best regards,

Peter

----- Original Message -----  
From: stephen.crabbe@t-online.de (Stephen Crabbe)  
Date: Tuesday, March 9, 2004 8:04 pm  
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: MgM Teams leave Mozambique  

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tax +264 61 243477

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Date: Tuesday, March 9, 2004 9:08 AM
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Reply-To: <network@mgm.org>
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Attached a photograph of the Mozambican Authorities walking over the former minefields during final hand-over procedure.

While writing this, Hans Georg Kruessen's former "Moz Team" is on the last kilometers of transporting some 100 tons of equipment from the Limpopo in Mozambique all the way through southern Africa into Angola. The problem is not so much the trip itself; the real nightmares (yes!!!) are the borders.

The team's new destination is partly in Kunene to assist road clearance projects under German funding and partly in Quibala in Kwanza Sul to speed up things under funding of US DoS. Rotar Mk II has 36 minefields waiting for it - just behind a hospital.....

With a bit of pride....

Yours truly,

Hendrik Ehlers, Chairman MgM
Director OPS + HEC-R&D
Intl. Desk Windhoek, Namibia
ehlers at mgm dot org
www.mgm.org
cel +264 81 1277020
fax +264 61 243477

#############################################################
This message is sent to you because you are subscribed to
the mailing list <network@mgm.org>.
To unsubscribe, E-mail to: <network-off@mgm.org>
To switch to the Digest mode, E-mail to <network-digest@mgm.org>
Send administrative queries to <network-request@mgm.org>
Subject: MgM Demining Network: Abuse of MgM.org  
Date: Monday, March 8, 2004 9:35 AM  
From: Hendrik Ehlers - MD of MgM & HEC <hec01@mail2.mgm.org>  
Reply-To: <network@mgm.org>  
To: <network@mgm.org>

Folks

If you have a look below you can see how scrupulous virus terrorists act nowadays. Below email is not from us and the pif attachment does not contain a virus cleaning tool but is a virus itself.

It is enough now, we'll take them to court. How to do this? Well, we hopefully through the MAPS Legal Defense, see www.mailabuse.com

Their blacklist is basically the source to most spamfilters.

Cheers

Hendrik Ehlers, Chairman MgM  
Director OPS + HEC-R&D  
Intl. Desk Windhoek, Namibia  
ehlers at mgm dot org  
www.mgm.org  
cel +264 81 1277020  
fax +264 61 243477

-----Original Message-----
From: administration@mgm.org [mailto:administration@mgm.org]  
Sent: 08 March 2004 12:51 PM  
To: ehlers@mgm.org  
Subject: Notify about using the e-mail account.

Dear user of Mgm.org,

Our antivirus software has detected a large amount of viruses outgoing from your email account, you may use our free anti-virus tool to clean up your computer software.

For details see the attach.

The Management,  
The Mgm.org team  
http://www.mgm.org

#**************************************************************************#  
This message is sent to you because you are subscribed to the mailing list <network@mgm.org>.  
To unsubscribe, E-mail to: <network-off@mgm.org>  
To switch to the Digest mode, E-mail to <network-digest@mgm.org>  
Send administrative queries to <network-request@mgm.org>
cool machine. How come we're not going to this conference in washington?

andrew
Harley-Davidson. The Belvoir Gang are the nice people who invite the
technical part of global HD every year over to Washington DC to enjoy the
most fruitful workshop on HD on planet. I say fruitful, because everybody
comes out of it with something either in his/her hands or in his/her
heads. Whereas the USG idea is to identify user requirements, the reality
is that the users learn what they actually need. The even nicer part of
the project is that you can borrow presented equipment and test it in your
mine clearance operation free of charge. One may have doubts about
American politics and policies here and there, but this one - without any
doubt - is one of the best ever.

One of the requirements identified was to spare human lives in unnecessary
blasts and raise accuracy and effectiveness of repetitive tasks like
probing/prodding, moving sensors, digging, sifting, vegetation removal etc.

This was initially tackled using armored equipment like backhoes, (Rotar
Mk II) etc. These met the basic requirements, but still put operators at
risk as they often entered the mine filed to complete the task.

This led to the development of remotely controlled machines of all shapes
and sizes. This addressed the operator hazard issues but at the expense of
in-the-cab operator perception and control precision.

The next step is to automate some or most of the machine functions to pay
back the precision lost when the operator was relocated off the tool. HEC
is pursuing this currently with semi-automated attachments such as the
Rotar sifter on the MAXX+ Mine Action Multi-Tool. Certain operator
controlled functions are being automated due to the lack of real time,
eyes on target, feedback that you normally get in the cab. This
semi-automation can be applied to other aspects of the system as well.
From simple engine shutdown on low oil pressure to automatic sensor
sweeps of a 3m square dog box once the operator has positioned the machine.

The gap between semi-autonomous and fully autonomous is huge and not at
all trivial to overcome. Much time and money is and has been invested into
this effort, but real world results are still a while away, and even
longer before they are cost effective.

The first generation Maxx prototype is currently deployed in the Rwandan
mine fields. It recently suffered a tip over incident that caused some not
insignificant damage to the machine. Against all odds and instructions,
the recruit using the short absence of the TA for a short-cut - drove the
machine over a soft berm with the crane arm plus attachment hanging to the
lower side. It rolled on its back into a mined area and as they could not
walk there to shut the engine down, it fuelled itself from its own engine
oil until a block of smoldering metal was left where an engine should be.
One could say Shit happens, but I personally see it differently. This incident was not a fault of the machine (even if global gossip said so) but a lack of operator capacity/training or even more operator selection up front. If an 18 year old runs his fathers Merc against a tree at 200 mph, you can hardly blame Merc or the tree. Remotely controlled does not mean easier to operate. Just the opposite. Additional perception and spatial relations skills are required to operate a remotely controlled machine to overcome the losses incurred by distance.

HEC recognizes the difficulties inherent in such systems and is working on systems to aid the operator, rather than replace the operator. The hope is that these systems will require a less skilled operator. Two systems currently under development are TTC (Tool Tip Control) and STAB (Stability control systems) to minimize operator error in such a way that the machine takes the necessary corrective actions. This is another way of seeing a positive use of robotics in HD: it only prohibits the operator to kill himself. In the example of the Merc and the tree, the robotic controls would not have allowed a speed higher than 55 miles, recognized and avoided the tree and sent an email to the father telling him not to give the car to the son again.

And then there is another trick we learned from the US Air Force. They use Microsoft Flight Simulators for pilot pre-selection. If you cant land a virtual airplane after one hour training on a kid-play level simulator, you will never be good at the real thing. Therefore we do not only work on training simulators of the MAXX system as such, no, we recently bought a set of remote-controlled toy cars. If somebody after half an hour of training is not capable to steer it around a course in a given time, he will never lay his hands on a MAXX remote control. I will not go deeper into the matter as simulators are my real favorite.

We learn with interest of the short comings of other EOD robots. Many of those we have overcome in the MAXX programme. Battery life is a problem? Well how about a turbo diesel with alternator/generator/inverter? The robot cant climb over a fallen tree? Well, there is a minimum weight/size ratio for outdoor use. For a single tool it is about 2 tons, for multi tool it is about 5 tons. Something broke and nobody can repair it? Well, how about working with well-established COTS (Commercial Off the Shelf) components like Perkins engines etc. The remote control is sensitive to VHF handheld radios? Why the hell dont you work with industrial remote controls as safely used in nuclear power plants since ages? Too many obstacles to see the machine? Why not using a normal office internet link like Wi-Lan (the core of HEC ARC/Angel RC) that works near-line of-site (meaning in cities or forests using the obstacles for bouncing around) up to 15 km distance?

It is inherent that an NY FBI EOD robot cant do battle area clearance in Angola and if you try youll fail.

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the ones who can't come - you might want to dial into its Sat ISDN connected vision system and have a look who's there.

Now, last thing. What does a MAXX+ actually do? Well, as it is based on a heavy duty, industrial mini-excavator: it can drive, turn the turret and operate the attachment in a flowing process all at the same time, e.g. for vegetation clearance along a road. It can climb 45 degree slopes, can cut vegetation of all types using different attachments, it can visually analyze ordnance, grab it and transport it to the same pit over and over, it can load fuel drums, do normal lifting work, dig trenches etc at 6 meters reach. It is well enough armored to withstand large AP blast and frag. The operator sits somewhere far way in the shade with a bottle of water, a small generator, a golf club size antenna and just a medium size suitcase of equipment with monitors in the lid. He sees the camera views, hears the engine sound, see the gauges and a real-time status animation created from feedback sensors on all moving parts of the machine.

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So far my 2.5 cents on robots. Yes, but the right machine in the hands of the right operators on the right task. As a result you will have safe, precise and cost effective hazard operations with one rugged all-terrain semi-automatic multi-purpose machine guaranteeing the dignity and physical well-being of the local operator.

Greetings

Hendrik Ehlers, Chairman MgM
Director OPS + HEC-R&D
Intl. Desk Windhoek, Namibia
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Folks,

Maybe I am the wrong to comment as I spend most of my R&D time, funds and energy with the development and implementation of robotics in mine and UXO clearance. This is what our MAXX+ project is all about. “Our” stands for HEC, the R&D department of MgM. Whatever the abbreviation stood for before, now it means “Humanitarian Engineering & Consulting”.

In general we can say that machines in whatever production process are only used where they, in sum total, are cheaper than human labor. In EOD we could even say, cheaper than first world humans. As long as you can hire people ready to get blown for a salary of USD 150 per month you don’t really need robotic machinery in e.g. battle area clearance (sic).

So, I would say, there is a need and a use for robotic assistance in handling of unstable explosives according to your moral and ethical standards. Any life is invaluable, machines can be replaced and it is only a question of money. Having stated this, we can come to the practical sides of robotics. We’ve had this discussion before; there is no exact definition of what a robot is. Therefore I will relate to what HEC robots are about.

MAXX+ is a project funded by US DoD CERCOM NVESD, better known as the HD program of the US Army, formerly under the famous AC Cobra pilot Col Zee (who seems to enjoy his retirement while riding his private armored cavalry in Iraq pretty much), now under Col. Vosburgh, run by Sean Burke and the Project Leader in the Mechanical Section is well-known Charlie HD Chichester. HD here does not stand for Humanitarian Demining but for Harley-Davidson. The “Belvoir Gang” are the nice people who invite the technical part of global HD every year over to Washington DC to enjoy the most fruitful workshop on HD on planet. I say fruitful, because everybody comes out of it with something either in his/her hands or in his/her heads. Whereas the USG idea is to identify user requirements, the reality is that the users learn what they actually need. The even nicer part of the project is that you can borrow presented equipment and test it in your mine clearance operation free of charge. One may have doubts about American politics and policies here and there, but this one - without any doubt - is one of the best ever.
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Greetings

Hendrik Ehlers, Chairman MgM  
Director OPS + HEC-R&D  
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ehlers at mgm dot org  
www.mgm.org  
cel +264 81 1277020  
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Send administrative queries to <network-request@mgm.org>
John,

attend the DoD Washinton Demining Conf this year and find out... a larger "robot" will be demonstrated.

Scott

At 07:34 PM 3/3/2004, you wrote:
   To any and all who may be of interest...
   
   What is the professional feeling associated with robots in the usefulness of clearing both minefields and uxo? They are successful in IED use and any feedback, positive or negative, is greatly appreciated.

Thank you,

John Healey
Foster-Miller Engineering

Get business advice and resources to improve your work life, from bCentral. http://special.msn.com/bcentral/loudclear.armx

Scott D Smith
Technical Manager
HEC (Hendrik Ehlers Consult)
Website: www.mgm.org <http://www.mgm.org/>
eMail: scott at mgm dot org
Cell: +264 81 128 7805
Fax: +264 61 243 477
PO Box 24394, Windhoek, Namibia, Africa 9000
onsdag 3. mar 2004 kl. 18:34 skrev john healey:

> To any and all who may be of interest...
> >
> > What is the professional feeling associated with robots in the
> > usefulness of clearing both minefields and uxo? They are successful in
> > IED use and any feedback, positive or negative, is greatly > appreciated.
> >

HI john

They are slow and very expensive, they could only operate with a
"controller" and lots of areas where they could not work
so i guess yes there are few places where they could be use full, if
one would have a very large budget

http://www.geocities.com/coinsemails

Kind regards

Michel van den Heuvel

#******************************************************************************
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To unsubscribe, E-mail to: <network-off@mgm.org>
To switch to the Digest mode, E-mail to <network-digest@mgm.org>
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Robots in use on UXO I believe would be situationally dictated. First you need to look at whether you are in a training range environment or are you in a war zone environment.

In the war zone, or previously fought over area, ordnance may in fact be boobytrapped or the IED itself. Using the robot for the first look or remote movement may be an option depending on the intelligence in your area of operation. You could use the robot to place charges or move the item to a safer location for the disposal. One problem I am hearing about is that of the amount of work being done by technicians in Iraq. You can only carry and possess a limited amount of batteries. Yet your mission load is still well beyond that of the robots daily useability. So you need to determine, using all your available knowledge, situation and intel, whether you are taking the walk or are you sending down your robot to do that for you.

In the training range clearance arena I really do not see a whole lot of need. Normally you have plenty of time to ID the round, fuzing and condition. If it can be moved it normally will be moved. If it can not then it is blown on site.

C. Thomas Eisele
Re: John Healey
Re: Foster-Miller Engineering
Re:
Re:

Re: Get business advice and resources to improve your work life, from bCentral.
Re: http://special.msn.com/bcentral/loudclear.armx
Re:
Re:
Re:

Re: This message is sent to you because you are subscribed to
Re: the mailing list. Re: To unsubscribe, E-mail to:
Re: To switch to the Digest mode, E-mail to
Re: Send administrative queries to
Re:

--

Sign-up for Ads Free at Mail.com
http://www.mail.com/?sr=signup <http://mail01.mail.com/scripts/payment/adtracking.cgi?bannercode=adsfreejump01>

Re: This message is sent to you because you are subscribed to

the mailing list <network@mgm.org>.

To unsubscribe, E-mail to: <network-off@mgm.org>

To switch to the Digest mode, E-mail to <network-digest@mgm.org>

Send administrative queries to <network-request@mgm.org>
Chris

'Scuse my ignorance, but didn't QinetIQ used to be DERA? By the way, you have misspelled Kinetic ho ho.

Fireant is pretty popular in the military (but then we get it for free-ish).

Fred Pavey

>From: Leach Chris A <CALEACH@qinetiq.com>
>Reply-To: <network@mgm.org>
>To: <network@mgm.org>
>Subject: MgM Demining Network: FireAnt
>Date: Wed, 03 Mar 2004 11:35:40 +0100
>MIME-Version: 1.0
>Received: from mc12-f20.hotmail.com ([65.54.167.156]) by mc12-s14.hotmail.com with Microsoft SMPTSVSC(5.0.2195.6824); Wed, 3 Mar 2004 02:37:03 -0800
>Received: from ckunst.de ([82.212.219.20]) by mc12-f20.hotmail.com with Microsoft SMPTSVSC(5.0.2195.6824); Wed, 3 Mar 2004 02:36:47 -0800
>X-Message-Info: skrQa+6szm01N4i3pV7UMJ1sExChAndVVqlgNu719g=
>X-SpamCatcher-Score: 1 [X]
>X-ListServer: CommuniGate Pro LIST 4.1.8
>List-Unsubscribe: <mailto:network-off@mgm.org>
>List-ID: <network.mgm.org>
>Message-ID: <list-1237851@ckunst.de>
>Precedence: list
>X-Original-Message-ID: <redirect-1237850@ckunst.de>
>Return-Path: network-report@mgm.org
>X-OriginalArrivalTime: 03 Mar 2004 10:36:48.0144 (UTC)
>FILETIME=[6E629900:01C4010B]
>
>Dear MGM Networkers,
>
>A colleague of mine was asking about FireAnt and similar pyrotechnic torches
>the other day. He wanted to know how widely used they were and which ones performed the best.
>We've dug out the sales blurb from 1999:
>"The British Defence Evaluation and Research Agency (DERA) created FireAnt as a safe, cost-effective, mine-clearing tool. The FireAnt is placed close to a mine. After remote ignition, electronically or by fuse, its 1500 [degrees] C flame burns through the mine's thin metal or plastic casing and burns the explosive and detonator without triggering the mine. The FireAnt itself uses an igniter rather than a detonator, and contains no high explosives; it's designed to be safe to handle and store, with no intrinsic value to terrorists or criminals."
>
>It was also claimed that:
>"[FireAnt] is effective, inexpensive, safe to use, transport and store, easy and quick to position and requires minimal training."
So how does this stack up some four or five years later - is anyone out there using FireAnt or a similar device? If not, why not?

Regards

Chris Leach
Research Engineer
QinetiQ
Tel. +44 (0)1252 374005

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Send administrative queries to <network-request@mgm.org>
Subject: MgM Demining Network: LIBYA

Date: Thursday, March 4, 2004 1:43 AM
From: MJ Pavey <maltesethreat@hotmail.com>
Reply-To: <network@mgm.org>
To: <network@mgm.org>

Dear Hakim

What is the Threat (although I can guess....)? Type(s) and future use of cleared terrain too?
Plus those issues Peter Curran raised would be useful to anyone interested.
Regards
MJ Pavey

>From: "Peter Curran" <kiwi@virconn.com>
>Reply-To: <network@mgm.org>
>To: <network@mgm.org>
>Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: Libyan landmines charity (For ADP
>Attention: Director only)
>Date: Wed, 03 Mar 2004 11:35:40 +0100
>MIME-Version: 1.0
>Received: from mc12-f20.hotmail.com ([65.54.167.156]) by
>mc12-s7.hotmail.com with Microsoft SMTPSVC(5.0.2195.6824); Wed, 3 Mar 2004
>02:37:02 -0800
>Received: from ckunst.de ([82.212.219.20]) by mc12-f20.hotmail.com with
>Microsoft SMTPSVC(5.0.2195.6824); Wed, 3 Mar 2004 02:36:34 -0800
>X-Message-Info: skrQa+6szm34wbn7EFUKAaQGe9ybq1PeMpxyDi/iu8=
>X-SpamCatcher-Score: 1 [X]
>X-ListServer: CommuniGate Pro LIST 4.1.8
>List-Unsubscribe: <mailto:network-off@mgm.org>
>List-ID: <network.mgm.org>
>Message-ID: <list-1237846@ckunst.de>
>Precedence: list
>X-Original-Message-ID: <redirect-1237849@ckunst.de>
>Return-Path: network-report@mgm.org
>X-OriginalArrivalTime: 03 Mar 2004 10:36:34.0535 (UTC)
>FILETIME=[66460770:01C4010B]
>
>Hakim,
>
>How exactly do you think that the Accelerated Demining Programme of
>Mozambique could help? How many people, and in what disciplines (QA, Trg,
deminers, etc). Do you have equipment and how is your programme being
>funded?
>
P. CURRAN
>CTA
>ADP
>----- Original Message -----  
>From: hakim lassfer 
>To: network@mgm.org 
>Sent: Tuesday, March 02, 2004 8:45 AM 
>Subject: MgM Demining Network: Libyan landmines charity 
>
>
>Dear.Sir, 
>we are new developed charity working for land mines remove, in Libya and 
>we would like to cooperate with you for exchanging skills, experience, also
we have allot of work in the South of Libya where we looking for expert volunteers for such work, so if you are interesting for any kind of collaboration please send to us,

thank you & best regards

Hakim Amri
programer
Tel. +21821 3620100
Fax. +21821 3601100
tripoli-libya

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Send administrative queries to <network-request@mgm.org>
hakim, please get in touch with me.email me @" g_njue@hotmail .com"

>From: hakim lassfer
>Reply-To: 
>To: 
>Subject: MgM Demining Network: Libyan landmines charity
>Date: Tue, 02 Mar 2004 07:45:23 +0100
>
>Dear.Sir,
>we are new developed charity working for land mines remove, in Libya and we would like to cooperate with you for exchanging skills, experience, also we have allot of work in the South of Libya where we looking for expert volunteers for such work, so if you are interesting for any kind of collaboration please send to us,
>thank you&best regards
>HakimAmri
>programer
>Tel.+21821 3620100
>Fax.+21821 3601100
>tripoli-libya
>
>---------------------------------
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To any and all who may be of interest...

What is the professional feeling associated with robots in the usefulness of clearing both minefields and uxo? They are successful in IED use and any feedback, positive or negative, is greatly appreciated.

Thank you,

John Healey
Foster-Miller Engineering

Get business advice and resources to improve your work life, from bCentral.
http://special.msn.com/bcentral/loudclear.armx

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To switch to the Digest mode, E-mail to <network-digest@mgm.org>
Send administrative queries to <network-request@mgm.org>
My name is John Healey. Also, interested in helping where I can. U.S. trained EOD and engineer, currently working for a firm developing ordnance disposal robots. Please feel free to contact at any time.

thanks,

Healey

>From: dennis.r@mweb.co.za
>Reply-To: <network@mgm.org>
>To: <network@mgm.org>
>Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: Libyan landmines charity
>Date: Wed, 03 Mar 2004 07:53:06 +0100
>
>HakimAmri

I would be interested in helping clear mines in Libya, I am more on the support side and have not done any demining since my military days in 1984, SWA & Angola. If you have any positions available I would most certainly be interested and I am sure you would have refresher courses before we actually start clearing. Hope to hear from you soon

Dennis

> Dear.Sir,
>
> we are new developed charity working for land mines remove, in Libya and we would like to cooperate with you for exchanging skills, experience, also we have allot of work in the South of Libya where we looking for expert volunteers for such work, so if you are interesting for any kind of collaboration please send to us,
>
> thank you&best regards
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> Tel.+21821 3620100
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> tripoli-libya
>
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>To switch to the Digest mode, E-mail to <network-digest@mgm.org>
>Send administrative queries to <network-request@mgm.org>
Greetings. Last Friday, immediately after Special Representative Bloomfield announced the new U.S. landmine policy, we scrambled to share with MgM readers the transcript of his press briefing. Now, I am happy to report that we have the complete, expanded set of policy-related documents on-line for your convenient reference.

You can find them by visiting our webpage at www.state.gov/t/pm/wra and clicking on any of the policy documents that are hyperlinked in the promotional blurb in the "Highlights" section in the right margin of our site. Or, you may click on the "U.S. Landmine Policy" URL in the permanent features section of our webpage in the left margin where you will find an introductory summary of the new policy (http://www.state.gov/t/pm/wra/c11735.htm) and all of the documents hyperlinked at the bottom of that summary.

Eventually, as newer items are publicized in the "Highlights" section, the announcement for the policy documents will disappear from our "Highlights," but the documents themselves will always be available to you via our permanent features section.

You may share with others anything that we post on our website, link our public documents on your own website, etc., to include these policy-related documents. And we hope that you do. Last Friday, one highly reputable organization issued a communiqué on the new policy that was based (they freely admitted it) on an article about the policy that was published by an equally reputable newspaper. But that NGO had not yet seen any of the official U.S. statements on the new policy and the newspaper didn't get its facts completely straight. So the end result was unfortunate. We want to get the straight facts out because we are confident that when folks carefully examine the various elements of the new policy, they will be favorably impressed, regardless of their stance on either of the international landmine treaties.

Sincerely,

JOHN

John E. Stevens
Foreign Affairs Officer
Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement (PM/WRA)
Bureau of Political-Military Affairs
Suite 1826
U.S. Department of State
Washington, D.C. 20547

Tel: (202) 647-0676
Fax: (202) 647-2465
Unclassified Email: SteveJE@State.Gov
PM/WRA website: www.state.gov/t/pm/wra
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: Libyan landmines charity (For ADP Attention: Director only)
Date: Wednesday, March 3, 2004 5:35 AM
From: Peter Curran <kiwi@virconn.com>
Reply-To: <network@mgm.org>
To: <network@mgm.org>

Hakim,

How exactly do you think that the Accelerated Demining Programme of Mozambique could help? How many people, and in what disciplines (QA, Trg, deminers, etc). Do you have equipment and how is your programme being funded?

P. CURRAN
CTA
ADP

----- Original Message ----- 

From: hakim lassfer <mailto:lassfer@yahoo.com>
To: network@mgm.org
Sent: Tuesday, March 02, 2004 8:45 AM
Subject: MgM Demining Network: Libyan landmines charity

Dear.Sir,
we are new developed charity working for land mines remove, in Libya and we would like to cooperate with you for exchanging skills, experience, also we have allot of work in the South of Libya where we looking for expert volunteers for such work, so if you are interesting for any kind of collaboration please send to us, thank you&best regards
HakimAmri
programer

Tel.+21821 3620100

Fax.+21821 3601100

tripoli-libya
Do you Yahoo!?
Subject: MgM Demining Network: FireAnt  
Date: Wednesday, March 3, 2004 5:35 AM  
From: Leach Chris A <CALEACH@qinetiq.com>  
Reply-To: <network@mgm.org>  
To: <network@mgm.org>  

Dear MGM Networkers,

A colleague of mine was asking about FireAnt and similar pyrotechnic torches the other day. He wanted to know how widely used they were and which ones performed the best.

We've dug out the sales blub from 1999:
"The British Defence Evaluation and Research Agency (DERA) created FireAnt as a safe, cost-effective, mine-clearing tool. The FireAnt is placed close to a mine. After remote ignition, electronically or by fuse, its 1500 [degrees] C flame burns through the mine's thin metal or plastic casing and burns the explosive and detonator without triggering the mine. The FireAnt itself uses an igniter rather than a detonator, and contains no high explosives; it's designed to be safe to handle and store, with no intrinsic value to terrorists or criminals."

It was also claimed that:
"[FireAnt] is effective, inexpensive, safe to use, transport and store, easy and quick to position and requires minimal training."

So how does this stack up some four or five years later - is anyone out there using FireAnt or a similar device? If not, why not?

Regards

Chris Leach
Research Engineer
QinetiQ
Tel. +44 (0)1252 374005

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To switch to the Digest mode, E-mail to <network-digest@mgm.org>
Send administrative queries to <network-request@mgm.org>
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: Libyan landmines charity
Date: Wednesday, March 3, 2004 1:53 AM
From: dennis.r@mweb.co.za
Reply-To: <network@mgm.org>
To: <network@mgm.org>

> HakimAmri

I would be interested in helping clear mines in Libya, I am more on the support side and have not done any demining since my military days in 1984, SWA & Angola. If you have any positions available I would most certainly be interested and I am sure you would have refresher courses before we actually start clearing. Hope to hear from you soon

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thank you & best regards

HakimAmri

programer

Tel.+21821 3620100
Fax.+21821 3601100
tripoli-libya

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Send administrative queries to <network-request@mgm.org>
Subject: MgM Demining Network: Libyan landmines charity
Date: Tuesday, March 2, 2004 1:45 AM
From: hakim lassfer <lassfer@yahoo.com>
Reply-To: <network@mgm.org>
To: <network@mgm.org>

Dear Sir,

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thank you & best regards

Hakim Amri
programer
Tel. +21821 3620100
Fax. +21821 3601100
Tripoli-Libya

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http://antispam.yahoo.com/tools>
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: Journal of Mine Action-Market Research Survey
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2004 4:41 PM
From: Caroleen Williams <CWilliams@qm.com>
Reply-To: <network@mgm.org>
To: <network@mgm.org>

Margaret,

Apparently, our name dropped off your mailing list for the journal. Please add us to your mailing list again.

Many, many thanks,
caroleen

Caroleen L. Williams
VP, Government & Media Relations
Quantum Magnetics, Inc.
...an InVision Technologies company
15175 Innovation Drive
San Diego, CA 92128
phone: 858-605-5500
fax: 858-605-5501
www.qm.com

-----Original Message-----
From: busems@jmu.edu [mailto:busems@jmu.edu]
Sent: Thursday, February 26, 2004 10:48 AM
To: network@mgm.org
Subject: MgM Demining Network: Journal of Mine Action-Market Research Survey

Mine Action Colleagues,

To better meet the needs of the mine action community, the MAIC is conducting a market research survey among the readers of the Journal of Mine Action (JMA). Now is the time to give us your opinion on articles, information, coverage and news that have been presented in the JMA over the last five years both online and in print.

Please take three minutes to respond to the Journal of Mine Action Survey on the MAIC website at: http://maic.jmu.edu

Your feedback is important to us and it will help to structure the JMA to meet your information needs best.

Margaret Buse`
Technology Information Manager
Mine Action Information Center
Editor, Journal of Mine Action
Margaret Buse`
Technology Information Manager
Mine Action Information Center
Editor, Journal of Mine Action
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: Journal of Mine Action-Market Research Survey

Date: Thursday, February 26, 2004 4:41 PM
From: Stevens, John E <SteveJE@state.gov>
Reply-To: <network@mgm.org>
To: <network@mgm.org>

Dear Maggie,

Your survey was well thought out and took even less than three minutes to complete. Thanks for seeking feedback from the customers!

Sincere regards,

JOHN

John E. Stevens
Foreign Affairs Officer
Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement (PM/WRA)
Bureau of Political-Military Affairs
Suite 1826
U.S. Department of State
Washington, D.C. 20547

Tel: (202) 647-0676
Fax: (202) 647-2465
Unclassified Email: SteveJE@State.Gov
PM/WRA website: www.state.gov/t/pm/wra

-----Original Message-----
From: network@mgm.org
Sent: Thursday, February 26, 2004 1:49 PM
To: network@mgm.org
Subject: MgM Demining Network: Journal of Mine Action-Market Research Survey

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Margaret Buse
Technology Information Manager
Mine Action Information Center
Editor, Journal of Mine Action
Margaret Buse
Subject: MgM Demining Network: Journal of Mine Action-Market Research Survey
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2004 1:48 PM
From: busems@jmu.edu
Reply-To: <network@mgm.org>
To: <network@mgm.org>

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Technology Information Manager
Mine Action Information Center
Editor, Journal of Mine Action
Margaret Buse´
Technology Information Manager
Mine Action Information Center
Editor, Journal of Mine Action

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WASHINGTON, Feb. 22 — Nearly 30 years after the end of the Vietnam War, a group of American veterans is organizing the first countrywide survey of all of the unexploded bombs, land mines and ordnance that still litter that Southeast Asian country.

The task is enormous, said Bobby Muller, president of the Vietnam Veterans of America Foundation, which will supervise the survey.

"When you consider that twice as many bombs were dropped on Vietnam than during the entire World War II you can begin to understand the magnitude of the effort required," he said. Mr. Muller plans to sign the agreement in Hanoi this week to begin the work.

Unlike Europe, which was surveyed after World War II and where ordnance clearance began soon after, Vietnam has lived with the deadly legacy of its wars for decades. The dangerous areas in Vietnam have yet to be fully identified, roped off or cleared. Hundreds of Vietnamese are injured or killed each year in explosions of bombs and land mines.

The veterans' group won permission from the Vietnam Defense Ministry to begin the job after several years of talks. The State Department endorsed their efforts and will underwrite much of the survey. The group has done land mine surveys in Bosnia, Kosovo and Afghanistan.

Defense Department maps showing where bombs were dropped during the war will make it possible to complete the survey. The Vietnamese government will supply
the workers who will do most of the painstaking survey work.

Mr. Muller said Secretary of State Colin L. Powell was instrumental in getting the survey approved.
Dear Hendrik,

Since when we are formal to each other or I missed something.

Cc the name, I tried it hard but we agreed on this mixture. I Had even a better proposal from another person who said why I did not complete the name:

“Database of International Experiences in Support of the Test and Evaluation Research (DIETER)” and may be you forgot the national Moz Database:

"Deminining Information Task Evaluation and Reporting System (DITERS)"

So I can look back like at a tradition that will be continued. Have you got a sound proposal for another database?

Thanks for the assessment.

Dieter
the name gives you an idea what the database should give the user.

Well, to me it indicates more the first name of the guy behind it...... Never mind, good work.

Hendrik Ehlers

MgM
Dear Dieter Guelle,

You wrote:
“Database of International Experiences in Support of the Test and Evaluation Community (DIETEC)"

the name gives you an idea what the database should give the user.

Well, to me it indicates more the first name of the guy behind it…… Never mind, good work.

Hendrik Ehlers
MgM
Dear All,

Under the given links below the written text at the bottom you can find a special database created by the International Test and Evaluation Program’s Secretariat (ITEP) in close partnership with the James Madison University (JMU).

“Database of International Experiences in Support of the Test and Evaluation Community (DIETEC)”

the name gives you an idea what the database should give the user. We went away from the lessons learned name because the content does not only include lessons learned but also experiences and results of tests collected in reports available on the ITEP website. The combination of lessons learned and experiences/results framed in a logical structure and collected in a searchable way is that what you can find. This structure can easily be used as a methodology for doing tests and evaluation of equipment used in humanitarian demining. The part below is copied from the introduction to the database:

“The main aim is to collect and publish information derived from experiences in test and evaluation of humanitarian demining equipment. The collected “experiences” are intended to highlight key areas of consideration in the T&E process, as well as specific observations related to the evaluation of humanitarian demining equipment in operational use. The database is intended to provide useful information for a variety of T&E stakeholders, ranging from test engineers and entities involved in large-scale test and evaluation campaigns to the individual user at the field level interested in evaluating his/her specific piece of equipment.”

For the moment there is nothing to add. Stop – do not forget to read the instruction how to use the database. It is really easy – even I can do it.

The ITEP Secretariat is responsible for the content administration and if somebody wants to add his/her, he/she can do so directly on site or sent the content to the ITEP Secretariat. ( www.itep.ws <http://www.itep.ws/> ) Be also aware that an international review board will be established and look for the quality of the input, so no rubbish is allowed (excluding our own).

I would like to ask all to give their comments, advice, and critical
assessment to that what we have done. There are still empty fields that may be filled with your help. On the other hand we have analysed less than 50% of the available reports on our website. If you find mistakes please give us the place for correction, have you got another opinion that is fine to us too but try before writing to read the basic document where we drew the experience from (just click the link). Some times you will find very simple things - then think about what may happen if you forget it.

Acknowledgements:
My special thanks go to my colleague Franciska Borry doing the main part in collecting and formatting the information, to Chris Leach (QinetiQ) working with patience and me about the structure and input of data, Hans Rundström (SWEDEC) for helping to analyse data, Carrie Smart for asking to put data into the JMU lessons learned database, Christine Stephan for bringing the issue to the management level of the JMU, Robert Burritt and the technical team supporting the creation of the nice layout and structure now visible to everybody.

Both links were working when I tried them:
http://maic.jmu.edu/iteplessons/
http://maic.jmu.edu/lessonslearnedforums.htm

Regards
DIETER GUELLE
Head of ITEP Secretariat

ITEP Secretariat hosted by European Commission - Joint Research Centre

Via E. Fermi T.P. 723
I - 21020 Ispra (VA), Italy

Tel: +39 0332 78 5576
Fax: +39 0332 78 5772

E-mail: dieter.guelle@jrc.it & http://www.itep.ws <http://www.itep.ws/>
Many thanks for your email. Unfortunately, I won't be able to answer your email before the 21.2.2004.

You may contact me by the following means:

Cheapest:
By SMS sent from http://services.thuraya.com/sms.html
to my Thuraya +88216 54203531

Fastest:
By calling +88216 54203531

Alternative:
Call or send SMS to +41 79 333 00 72

In case of an FSD emergency, get in touch with Ian Clarke, FSD director of operations, ian.clarke@mineaction.ch or +41 79 432 46 22

Best regards
Hansjörg Eberle
Dear Sirs,

Please let us know if any body knows the new or alternate/residence contact numbers of:
Daniel H. Wolf
President
Terra Segura International
1846 Granada Avenue
San Diego, California 92102 USA
619 - 231 - 1320 Telephone
530 - 660 - 8054 Fax
www.mineclearing.org

I tried this above mentioned Telephone number but I got the computer pre-recorded voice message that this Number is Disconnected long back Please you check number if you are dialled wrong.

This is a very noted person in Anti mine programme in the world. If anybody Know of Mr Daniels New Number please inform Immeadiately..

D.Promod Kumar
New Delhi
INDIA
+91 9868256378 (mobile Telephone)
Hey Tom,

I hook and lined one to see if we could get a training aid if it was burned out like they do as you say sometimes and after inspection with a mirror I saw these still had the Shaped charge and explosives intact so I left it in situ. I have no clue what the substance exuding out of the fuze was but I would still like to see some pics.

Best regards,

Pete

---

> Pete,
> > It sounds like they may have burned out. I have a picture of similar looking M-46’s that we low-ordered as an experiment. If I can find one I will send it on for comparison.
> > Regards,
> > Tom
> >
> > -----Original Message-----
> > From: phindy@webhart.net [mailto:phindy@webhart.net]
> > Sent: Sunday, February 08, 2004 9:15 AM
> > To: network@mgm.org
> > Subject: MgM Demining Network: m42s
> >
> > Hi All,
> >
> > Recently in Iraq prior to the DCA Pullout on a Recce of an M42 Submunition strike we observed a couple of Surface M42 Bomblets which were lying on the surface of a partially wet river bed a powdery white substance and Bluish honey like gel exuding from the Fuze portion and out over the ground for approx 6 inches around the munition. There was another nearby that was buried and the same powdery white wet looking substance was exuding out of the ground over the submunition. Does anyone know what this out of curiosity? I have no pictures currently on hand but I will dig some out of my stuff once I unpack. I am 100% certain this bomblet was not the new British one.
> >
> > Best regards,
> >
> > Pete Hindy
> >
> >
> >
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Tom

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Subject: MgM Demining Network: m42s

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Best regards,
Pete Hindy
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: Call for Papers: Special Issue: Autonomous Demining Robots: What is a robot?

Date: Wednesday, February 11, 2004 2:16 AM
From: James Trevelyan <James.Trevelyan@uwa.edu.au>
Reply-To: <network@mgm.org>
To: <network@mgm.org>

Dear Scott

I have argued on many occasions that it is more helpful to think of a robot as a machine to extend human motor and sensory capabilities and thus avoid arguing about the different between remotely operated, remotely programmed, or partly/fully autonomous vehicles (the distinctions are always blurred in practice). If you want to read more, look at the following link:


Regards

James Trevelyan

At 09:27 PM 10/02/2004, you wrote:
>James,
>
>Just a silly question but, when is a remote controlled vehicle a robot...
>At what stage....?
>Your example of the MV3 is definitely a remote controlled machine with ALL
>functions under direct control of an operator (The last time I saw one).
>We also have a series of remote controlled machines and will eventually
>fit some automation (robotics) but at this stage its only remote controlled.
>Please clarify....
>
>Scott/HEC
>
>At 08:20 AM 2/9/2004, you wrote:
>>"Demining robots"
>>
>>Mechanization and automation of humanitarian demining and ordnance
>>disposal tasks could augment or replace costly and slow conventional
>>methods, and help improve safety. During the past years research on
>>demining robots has explored a number of different mechanical solutions
>>trying to solve practical problems such as mobility and accessibility,
>>vegetation clearance, mine detection and mine neutralization. Although a
>>completely autonomous robotic system seems to be not feasible yet, some
>>robotic solutions (e.g. Croatian MV3) are already being employed, and
>>many more are expected to be used in minefields in the coming years.
>
>Scott D Smith
>HEC (Hendrik Ehlers Consult)
>Website: www.mgm.org
>eMail: scott@mgm.org
>Cell: +264 81 128 7805
>Fax: +264 61 243 477
>PO Box 24394, Windhoek, Namibia, Africa 9000

==== temporarily in Edinburgh, Scotland, tel +44 131 552 1915, mob 079 63
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: Call for Papers: Special Issue: Autonomous Demining Robots

Date: Tuesday, February 10, 2004 11:27 AM
From: Scott Smith HEC Technical Manager <scott@mgm.org>
Reply-To: <network@mgm.org>
To: <network@mgm.org>

James,

Just a silly question but, when is a remote controlled vehicle a robot... At what stage....?
Your example of the MV3 is definitely a remote controlled machine with ALL functions under direct control of an operator (The last time I saw one).
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Please clarify....

Scott/HEC

At 08:20 AM 2/9/2004, you wrote:
"Demining robots"

Mechanization and automation of humanitarian demining and ordnance disposal tasks could augment or replace costly and slow conventional methods, and help improve safety. During the past years research on demining robots has explored a number of different mechanical solutions trying to solve practical problems such as mobility and accessibility, vegetation clearance, mine detection and mine neutralization. Although a completely autonomous robotic system seems to be not feasible yet, some robotic solutions (e.g. Croatian MV3) are already being employed, and many more are expected to be used in minefields in the coming years.

Scott D Smith
Technical Manager
HEC (Hendrik Ehlers Consult)
Website: www.mgm.org <http://www.mgm.org/>
eMail: scott@mgm.org
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PO Box 24394, Windhoek, Namibia, Africa 9000
This is an automated message from the
<network@mgm.org> mailing list manager

List messages sent to your address <blinder@alum.mit.edu> have bounced.

If you read this message, your mail system has been probably fixed.

To clear the bounce counter and to prevent automatic cancelation of your subscription, use the Reply command in your mailer.

Check that the Subject of the reply message contains
the confirmation ID: 1127327096,
and the reply is directed to <network-subscribe@mgm.org>,
and the 'From' address of your reply is <blinder@alum.mit.edu>.

All requests about this mailing list should be sent to <network-request@mgm.org>
For researchers interested in landmine problems:

Call for Papers

Special Issue of the Journal Autonomous Robots

"Demining robots"

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The objective of this special issue is to provide a survey of new technological advances in the area of demining and ordnance disposal robots, including mechanical design for mobility, manipulation, detection, clearance, and also planning and control strategies. This survey will include presentations of existing systems and applications, as well as descriptions of specific architectures and methods used. The contributions should also emphasize the philosophy and the short and long-term research goals related to the described work, in order to provide the reader with a measure of the expected achievements in this research field in the future. Furthermore, contributors are encouraged to propose new technologies, addressing all aspects of demining robotic systems, capable of bringing significant quality improvements to current demining technology. Contributors are expected to be aware of recent technological advances and changes in approaches to mine clearance and ordnance disposal discussed in recent conferences such as EUDEM-SCOT2 and MINWARA.

All the paper for this special issue should be send to Guest Editor Prof. Shigeo Hirose by E-mail hirose@mes.titech.ac.jp.

---- temporarily in Edinburgh, Scotland, tel +44 131 552 1915, mob 079 63 69 19 39 -----
James Trevelyan, Associate Professor, Discipline Chair for Mechatronics
School of Mechanical Engineering M050, The University of Western Australia,
35 Stirling Highway, Crawley 6009, Western Australia
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Tel: +61 8 6488 3057 (GMT +8 hours, alt -3058, -3117, -7994) Fax: +61 8 6488 1024
CRICOS provider 00126G

====================================================================
Hi All,

Recently in Iraq prior to the DCA Pullout on a Recce of an M42 Submunition strike we observed a couple of Surface M42 Bomblets which were lying on the surface of a partially wet river bed a powdery white substance and Bluish honey like gel exuding from the Fuze portion and out over the ground for approx 6 inches around the munition. There was another nearby that was buried and the same powdery white wet looking substance was exuding out of the ground over the submunition. Does anyone know what this out of curiosity? I have no pictures currently on hand but I will dig some out of my stuff once I unpack. I am 100% certain this bomblet was not the new British one.

Best regards,

Pete Hindy
Subject: MgM Demining Network: Application for a job within Humanitarian sector.

Date: Saturday, February 7, 2004 2:00 PM

From: Alfred Constant <alfredconstant@yahoo.co.uk>

Reply-To: <network@mgm.org>

To: <network@mgm.org>

Dear Sirs,

I would like to let you know I am looking for a job in Humanitarian Demining programs: Mine Clearance and/or Mine Awareness.

My application is motivated by three main reasons. Practical ones in order for me to have again some interesting, useful and as busy an activity as I fulfilled all along my previous military career. Technical ones, which according to my expertise lead me obviously to make this choice for this kind of job including notion of service. Reasons of opportunity mainly linked to the possibility to act once more as an expatriate and need of extra salary so that to help my children to achieve their university studies. In good shape, highly motivated, available at short notice, able to work in hard conditions and in an international environment, speaking and writing fluently French, German and English, I am right now at your disposal in the event my application retains your attention so that you give it a positive issue. Please find attached my CV and P11 form relating my cursus and my operational missions in the past. I am very much interested in a job in Croatia or in Bosnia, which I know very well having performed there a lot of missions as mentioned in my documents.

Sincerely your’s.

Alfred Constant.

PS: I pray god you will be able to make all the best to succeed giving me a good answer and a job; I do really need so.
Kudzu was originally from China, according to what I was told, where it was controlled well by both man and natural limitations. It was brought into this country as a potential feed for livestock, beef I believe, because of its ability to grow rapidly. However, there were not enough nutrients to properly feed the cows over the long term, so that aspect was given up, and the plants left in place. Unfortunately, the natural and man imposed limits did/do not exist in the South, and the plant’s growth rate was not altered.

A large part of the South has ideal growing conditions, and the plant can grow as much as a foot per day. In the early summer, you can even hear it grow. It has taken over most vacant lots, and will overgrow trees, killing them and bringing them down by its weight. Kudzu will also do the same to houses and telephone poles. They have a root structure that does not stabilize the soil either, so even though it may completely cover a hill, everything under it dies and washes away, causing accelerated erosion. It is very hard to stop, and most things that will kill it kill everything else, leaving somewhat of a wasteland. It seemed like a great idea at the time, what possible environmental damage could it do?

CR

----- Original Message ----- 
From: network@mgm.org [mailto:network@mgm.org]
On Behalf Of Lawrence Carter
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2004 2:39 AM
To: network@mgm.org
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: Watercress Engineered To Detect Land Mines

Tell us about Kudzu...

Lawrence

----- Original Message ----- 
From: Christopher Reding <creding@nomadics.com>
"I personally don't see a downside," says Peggy Lemeaux, a specialist in plant biotechnology at the University of California-Berkeley. "What possible environmental damage could these plants do?"

Ask the South-Eastern US about Kudzu...

-----Original Message-----
From: network@mgm.org [mailto:network@mgm.org]
On Behalf Of GZahaczews@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2004 12:47 PM
To: network@mgm.org
Subject: MgM Demining Network: Watercress Engineered To Detect Land Mines

USA Today
February 3, 2004
Pg. 4D

Watercress Engineered To Detect Land Mines

By Elizabeth Weise, USA Today
If a tiny biotech firm in Denmark has its way, a lowly member of the watercress family might someday be a tool in the fight against the limb-destroying scourge of land mines.

The company, Aresa Biodetection, has genetically engineered the normally bright green thale cress plant to turn red when it encounters even minute amounts of nitrogen dioxide leaking from buried land mines.

Although the product may be in development for a number of years, Aresa hopes its "mine cress" will develop into a low-impact and inexpensive tool for detecting the estimated 100 million unexploded land mines around the world. The mines, which remain hidden long after a conflict has ended, kill or injure more than 25,000 a year.

The use of land mines was outlawed in the 1997 Ottawa Convention, and more than 90 countries committed themselves last year to reducing the number of civilian casualties from munitions left by armed conflicts.

"Plants can't move, so they have a very finely tuned system for adapting to growth conditions where they've sprouted," says Carsten Meier, a molecular biologist who is one of the company's four employees.

Aresa used that sensitivity, and a bit of biotechnology, to coax the tiny plant into turning an autumnal red when its roots encounter the byproducts of mines, which are cheaply produced and often leak. "We didn't add anything. We just boosted a certain protection pigment," Meier says.
To ensure that the plant doesn't spread beyond its targeted areas, the company tinkered with its genes so that it requires a specially designed fertilizer to grow.

The cress plant, *Arabidopsis thaliana*, is the guinea pig of plant biologists. A member of the mustard family, it is commonly used in labs because its fast reproductive cycle makes growing several generations a year possible.

"I personally don't see a downside," says Peggy Lemeaux, a specialist in plant biotechnology at the University of California-Berkeley. "What possible environmental damage could these plants do?"

The cress seeds would be sown by sprayers or crop dusters, then allowed to grow for the three to six weeks necessary for the pigment to develop. Though false positives are possible, false negatives are less likely, says Meier.

"It's better to have a red spot and check it and find there isn't a mine than miss one that's there," says Meier.

Land mines generally are cleared using heavy machinery, metal detectors or dogs trained to sniff them out. There often are false positives when metal detectors are used, because of the metal and shrapnel that litter minefields.

Aresa hopes to launch tests of the plant this year and to apply for field tests in Denmark and elsewhere later. The company also is working on developing cress varieties that can detect heavy metals in
polluted soil.

Contributing: Reuters
U.S. Department of State
Media Note
Office of the Spokesman
Washington, D.C.
February 3, 2004

Marshall Legacy Institute Honors Department of State's Humanitarian Mine Action Program

The U.S. Department of State received the Marshall Legacy Institute's "2004 Clearing the Path Award" for extraordinary work in helping to free the world of the scourge of landmines. The award was presented at the Marshall Legacy Institute's annual gala dinner in Washington, D.C. on January 28, 2004. The Department of State and the Marshall Legacy Institute, in cooperation with the Humpty Dumpty Institute, have worked in partnership to provide mine detecting dogs to Armenia, Eritrea, Lebanon and Thailand and will soon provide mine detecting dogs to Sri Lanka.

"Thanks to the energy and ideas of dedicated citizens like Perry Baltimore and great organizations like the Marshall Legacy Institute, we are able to move even more quickly toward our common goal of a mine safe world," remarked Kara L. Bue, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Political-Military Affairs, after accepting the award on behalf of the Department of State from Senator Patrick J. Leahy (D-Vermont).

Perry Baltimore is the President and Executive Director of the Marshall Legacy Institute, a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting George C. Marshall's vision for growth and stability in the developing world. The "K9 Demining Corps Campaign" to provide mine detecting dogs to mine affected countries is a major Institute program.

Others honored at the gala event were Royal Dutch Shell; the Armenian Assembly of America and the Children of Armenia Fund; Her Majesty Queen Sirikit of Thailand; Paul Irwin, President of the Humane Society of the United States; and Abraham Ghebrhiwet, an Eritrean deminer, and his mine detecting dog "Utsi."

Visit www.state.gov/t/pm/wra to learn more about the U.S. Department of State’s humanitarian mine action programs in 30 countries, its public-private partnerships to support mine action, and its related small arms and light weapons abatement efforts.

2004/123

[End]
This message is sent to you because you are subscribed to
the mailing list <network@mgm.org>.
To unsubscribe, E-mail to: <network-off@mgm.org>
To switch to the Digest mode, E-mail to <network-digest@mgm.org>
Send administrative queries to <network-request@mgm.org>
Subject: MgM Demining Network: Watercress, Kudzu, & Al Smith

Date: Wednesday, February 4, 2004 8:40 AM
From: Roger Hess <rhess@mweb.co.za>
Reply-To: <network@mgm.org>
To: <network@mgm.org>

Thomas;

>"Sown by crop dusters..." After who kills and clears the existing vegetation, I wonder?

>Also remember that this is WATERcress. It needs to be wet.

I've been hearing about this issue for a couple of years now & while the concept might work in select tropical climates or areas like the Balkans, but as you brought up; in many of the African, Middle-eastern & and SW Asian environments, water is a commodity for most of the year (see photo). When it does rain, it comes down in buckets and washes away most everything insight.

The other issue would be the reaction to nitrogen dioxide, or NO2, since there are a quite a few other sources for this that are also extremely common in developing countries.

“Nitrogen dioxide is a reactive gas, which contains nitrogen and oxygen. Nitrogen dioxide, along with particles in the air, can often form a reddish brown layer over many urban areas. The gas is formed primarily from burning fuel in motor vehicles, electric power plants, and other industrial, commercial, and residential sources that burn fuel. A suffocating, brownish gas, nitrogen dioxide is a strong oxidizing agent that reacts in the air to form corrosive nitric acid, as well as toxic organic nitrates. It also plays a major role in the atmospheric reactions that produce ground-level ozone (or smog).”

False calls are mentioned in the article and this is a fact of life for anyone involved in clearance, however a ground-level ozone (smog) environment would likely come up as a field of red.

If you’ve ever driven between Zagreb and Sarajevo and seen some of the industrial
areas along that route,. You’d understand.

Lawrence;

>"I personally don't see a downside," says Peggy Lemeaux, a specialist in plant biotechnology at the University of California-Berkeley. "What possible environmental damage could these plants do?"

>Ask the South-Eastern US about Kudzu...

“Kudzu” was an alien plant that was brought in as a ground covering that once planted, grew out of control and strangles out the other vegetation in this process. Many other countries have similar problems with alien plants or trees, which is why the various ministries and departments of agriculture of each nation have extremely strict laws on bringing something like this in.

What might seem harmless in the short term can cause an agricultural nightmare over the long term.

All in all; the approach is not worth discounting, however I wouldn’t start waving banners just yet.

Al Smith;

Hi Compdare; you tried to send something to my old telkomsa address which I can’t download. Please send it again to this one.

Cheers

Roger
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: Virus in 'hi' from qhdfnzds@tom.com

Date: Wednesday, February 4, 2004 5:38 AM

From: girardlark@mistral.co.uk

Reply-To: <network@mgm.org>

To: <network@mgm.org>

> According to our IT people, this is the alternate name for MYDOOM.

Willie, your still alive - long time no hear.

all the best,

Ben Lark

Dear All,

> I just received a message from MgM Network with the subject title 'hi'
> the sender was qhdfnzds@tom.com.
> 
> This message contains a virus called W32.Novarg.A@mm.
> 
> I hope I am not too late to tell you not to open it.
> 
> Best regards
> 
> Willie Lawrence
> 
> W E Lawrence
> 
> 22 Worpleston Way
> Glen Lorne
> Harare
> Zimbabwe
> 
> ++263 4 499 743
> ++263 91 908 524 (Mobile)
> ++263 91 908 524 (Mobile)

This message was sent using Mistral Webmail.
http://www.mistral.net

########################################################################
This message is sent to you because you are subscribed to
the mailing list <network@mgm.org>.
To unsubscribe, E-mail to: <network-off@mgm.org>
To switch to the Digest mode, E-mail to <network-digest@mgm.org>
Send administrative queries to <network-request@mgm.org>
Christopher Reding makes a very good point. What natural limitations on the propagation of CRESS exist?

I hope that we can assemble attendees at the SIXTH Symposium on Technology and the Mine Problem to have informed conversation about the potentialities and limitations of CRESS - like approaches. I have been in touch with the Mr. Van Der Heuvel, whose idea CRESS originally was. Unfortunately, we lack the resources to bring him to Monterey and he can't make it on his own nor can any of the people at ARESA.

Margaret Buse and Bob Rowntree, can you work a discussion of this approach into your session on biologically-based systems?

--
Albert M. Bottoms   amb@demine.org   http://www.demine.org/
President, Society for Counter-Ordnance Technology
400 Madison St. #607  Alexandria, VA 22314    Tel: 703-683-7550
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Ask the South-Eastern US about Kudzu...
Watercress Engineered To Detect Land Mines

By Elizabeth Weise, USA Today

If a tiny biotech firm in Denmark has its way, a lowly member of the watercress family might someday be a tool in the fight against the limb-destroying scourge of land mines.

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Although the product may be in development for a number of years, Aresa hopes its "mine cress" will develop into a low-impact and inexpensive tool for detecting the estimated 100 million unexploded land mines around the world. The mines, which remain hidden long after a conflict has ended, kill or injure more than 25,000 a year.

The use of land mines was outlawed in the 1997 Ottawa Convention, and more than 90 countries committed themselves last year to reducing the number of civilian casualties from munitions left by armed conflicts.

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Aresa used that sensitivity, and a bit of biotechnology, to coax the tiny plant into turning an autumnal red when its roots encounter the byproducts of mines, which are cheaply
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The cress plant, *Arabidopsis thaliana*, is the guinea pig of plant biologists. A member of the mustard family, it is commonly used in labs because its fast reproductive cycle makes growing several generations a year possible.

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Land mines generally are cleared using heavy machinery, metal detectors or dogs trained to sniff them out. There often are false positives when metal detectors are used, because of the metal and shrapnel that litter minefields.

Aresa hopes to launch tests of the plant this year and to apply for field tests in Denmark and elsewhere later. The company also is working on developing cress varieties that can detect heavy metals in polluted soil.

*Contributing: Reuters*
Tell us about Kudzu...

Lawrence

----- Original Message ----- 

From: Christopher Reding <mailto:creding@nomadics.com>
To: network@mgm.org
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2004 10:51 AM
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: Watercress Engineered To Detect Land Mines

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Ask the South-Eastern US about Kudzu...

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From: network@mgm.org [mailto:network@mgm.org] On Behalf Of GZahaczews@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2004 12:47 PM
To: network@mgm.org
Subject: MgM Demining Network: Watercress Engineered To Detect Land Mines

USA Today
Watercress Engineered To Detect Land Mines

By Elizabeth Weise, USA Today

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*Contributing: Reuters*
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: Landmine Plant Turns Red When There's Danger
Date: Tuesday, February 3, 2004 2:06 AM
From: A. Kostioukov <fortenterprise@mtu-net.ru>
Reply-To: <network@mgm.org>
To: <network@mgm.org>

Nice plants, but how long it will be needed for degradation it after demining? And what we shall do with this red planet?
Regards,
Andrey

----- Original Message ----- 

From: GZahaczews@aol.com
To: network@mgm.org
Sent: Monday, February 02, 2004 11:46 PM
Subject: MgM Demining Network: Landmine Plant Turns Red When There's Danger

London Sunday Telegraph

February 1, 2004

Landmine Plant Turns Red When There's Danger

By Sean Rayment, Defence Correspondent

Scientists have created a plant that can locate landmines by changing colour when it comes into contact with explosives. It is a breakthrough that they hope will save thousands of lives. The plant, arabidopsis thaliana or green wall cress, is cheap to produce and can grow from seed in six to eight weeks.
The two molecular biologists who created it modified the plant's genetic structure so that its leaves change from green to red when its roots come into contact with nitrogen dioxide, a chemical discharged from explosives when they are buried in soil - allowing mines or explosive residue to be easily identified.

The plants were developed by scientists from Aresa, a Danish company, in greenhouses in Copenhagen's botanic garden. The company is hoping that governments, international charities and organisations, such as the United Nations will help with research grants.

Estimates suggest that there may be up to 100 million unexploded landmines, in 75 countries around the world, which kill and injure 26,000 people every year.

Simon Oostergaard, the chief executive of Aresa, said: "I hope that the plant can be used in the search of mines, especially in agricultural areas. We will have to test the plants in small restricted areas. If it turns out to work, the plant will be used in mine-finding work."

Landmines are traditionally located by a number of methods including sniffer dogs, heavy machines and metal detectors. Once detected, the mines are deactivated and destroyed.

Aresa scientists say that the seeds could be sown by using a handheld spreader, which can spray seeds up to 30 yards, or by using a crop-spraying plane.

Carsten Meier, one of the scientists who helped develop the plant, said that he was working with the Danish army and was hoping to conduct field trials in mined areas within two years. "We have to convince people who are actually clearing mines that this system is reliable," he said.

Guy Willoughby, the director of the Halo Trust, an international charity that has 5,500 people working to remove mines worldwide, expressed concern, however,
that new plant growth in mined areas might attract livestock, which in turn might bring the animals' owners into danger.

Bob Gravett, the senior technical adviser to the Mines Advisory Group, was also cautious. He said that relying on the seepage of nitrogen dioxide to identify mines would not be totally reliable because some were specially sealed to prevent this.
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Aresa scientists say that the seeds could be sown by using a handheld spreader, which can spray seeds up to 30 yards, or by using a crop-spraying plane.

Carsten Meier, one of the scientists who helped develop the plant, said that he was working with the Danish army and was hoping to conduct field trials in mined areas within two years. "We have to convince people who are actually clearing mines that this system is reliable," he said.

Guy Willoughby, the director of the Halo Trust, an international charity that has 5,500 people working to remove mines worldwide, expressed concern, however, that new plant growth in mined areas might attract livestock, which in turn might bring the animals' owners into danger.

Bob Gravett, the senior technical adviser to the Mines Advisory Group, was also cautious. He said that relying on the seepage of nitrogen dioxide to identify mines would not be totally reliable because some were specially sealed to prevent this.
Rebels To Reduce Land-Mine Use

BOGOTA -- The smaller of Colombia's two main rebel groups is ready to reduce its use of anti-personnel mines but won't give them up altogether, the head of a Switzerland-based humanitarian organization says.

Elizabeth Reusse-Decrey, president of Geneva Call, said she had recently met three times with leaders of the 5,000-strong National Liberation Army, or ELN, in Cuba. She also said she held talks last week with a jailed ELN commander, Francisco Galán.

However, she said the use of mines remained part of the ELN's military strategy to defeat the government.

The army estimates that 100,000 mines are scattered across the country.
Rebel Attacks, Mines Kill 8 Russians In Chechnya

_Troops have shelled guerrilla camps in retaliation for raids. Two hundred people are held on suspicion of ties to insurgents._

By Associated Press

VLADIKAVKAZ, Russia — At least eight Russian servicemen were killed and 14 others wounded in rebel raids and land mine explosions in Chechnya, an official in the Kremlin-backed Chechen administration said Wednesday.

Five federal soldiers were killed and seven more wounded in rebel attacks on military outposts throughout Chechnya over a 24-hour period, the official said, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Near the village of Uluskert on Tuesday, rebels ambushed a military convoy, killing two soldiers and wounding five others, the official said.

In the Chechen capital, Grozny, a land mine killed a sapper and wounded two comrades Tuesday.

In a customary retaliation to daily raids by rebels, Russian artillery have shelled suspected rebel camps in the forested mountains in the Nozhai-Yurt, Vedeno and Itum-Kale regions. Federal forces detained at least 200 people across Chechnya on suspicion of being linked to rebels, the official said.

Russian troops pulled out of Chechnya after a disastrous 1994-96 war against
separatist rebels that killed tens of thousands of people and left the mostly Muslim region de facto independent and largely lawless.

The troops returned in September 1999 after militants based in Chechnya launched incursions into a neighboring province and after about 300 people died in apartment bombings that the Kremlin blamed on the rebels.
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: TM-56  
Date: Sunday, February 1, 2004 2:25 PM  
From: A. Kostioukov <fortenterprise@mtu-net.ru>  
Reply-To: <network@mgm.org>  
To: <network@mgm.org>  

Thank you very much, Billy
Andrey

----- Original Message ----- 

From: BCason5973@aol.com 
To: network@mgm.org 
Sent: Thursday, January 29, 2004 6:56 PM 
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: TM-56

Mitra  A3 Mine Data Sheets
Part Number TAMMS-LTDS1
Web Site: www.mitra.com <http://www.mitra.com> 

Billy  Cason 
CEO/Managing Director

Special Communications & Construction Ent., LLC.  
2838 Croix Court  
Virginia Beach, VA 23451-1365  
757-412-1001/1002 Fax

"Doing It Right....The First Time"

SPECOMM is an SBA Certified 8(a), Small Disadvantaged Business (SDB), Service Disabled Veteran (SDV) owned and HubZone certified business.
Hej Albert

I am the one that started Aresa as a company and it was my idea to make the colour change plant, but since you want a technical person you should maybe ask Mr. Meier to come he knows a lot about cress and GMO (but nothing about landmines)

ps

I left the company some months ago

but you can get in contact with them by writing to info@aresa.dk

regards

Michel van den Heuvel
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: Djibouti: First Horn of Africa Country to Become Free from Impact of Landmines
Date: Sunday, February 1, 2004 2:25 PM
From: FERNANDO TERMENTINI <mail@fernandotermentini.it>
Reply-To: <network@mgm.org>
To: <network@mgm.org>

Stefano
Guarda caso se ne parlava oggi
Fernando

----- Original Message ----- 
From: "Stevens, John E" <SteveJE@state.gov>
To: <network@mgm.org>
Sent: Friday, January 30, 2004 5:15 PM
Subject: MgM Demining Network: Djibouti: First Horn of Africa Country to Become Free from Impact of Landmines

> U.S. Department of State
> Media Note
> Office of the Spokesman
> Washington, D.C.
> January 29, 2004
> > Djibouti: First Horn of Africa Country to Become Free from Impact of Landmines
> >
> > Today Djibouti celebrates the successful completion of its humanitarian mine action program by becoming the first country in the Horn of Africa to declare itself free from the most pressing and hazardous impacts from landmines and unexploded ordnance. With this declaration, Djibouti joins Costa Rica, El Salvador, Moldova, and the province of Kosovo, all beneficiaries of the U.S. Humanitarian Mine Action Program, in transitioning from "mine-affected" to "mine-safe" status.
> > "We salute the government and people of Djibouti for this remarkable achievement," remarked Lincoln P. Bloomfield, Jr., the Special Representative of the President and Secretary of State for Mine Action who also serves as Assistant Secretary for Political-Military Affairs. "By removing the dangerous remnants of war hiding in its villages, schools and water holes, Djibouti strengthens unity among its people and enables them to live without fear."
> > For thirteen years, parts of Djibouti were infested by persistent landmines and unexploded ordnance left from a 1991 to 1994 internal conflict. The United States began providing mine action assistance to Djibouti in fiscal year 2000. In 2001, a contingent of U.S. Marines provided humanitarian demining training to Djiboutian army engineers. Simultaneously, RONCO Consulting Corporation, under contract to the U.S. Department of State and in coordination with the U.S. Embassy in Djibouti, established and equipped the Djibouti Mine Action Center. The United States invested nearly $3 million dollars to help make Djibouti landmine impact free.
Other Horn of Africa nations remain affected by persistent landmines and unexploded ordnance. The U.S. provided significant mine action aid to Ethiopia and northwest Somalia for several years and continues to provide such support to Eritrea.

To learn more about the U.S. Department of State’s humanitarian mine action programs in 30 other countries and its related small arms and light weapons abatement efforts, visit www.state.gov/t/pm/wra.

2004/100
[End]
Released on January 29, 2004

NOTE 1: We hope to post soon a separate web page with a montage of photos depicting various aspects of Djibouti’s humanitarian mine action program.
NOTE 2: The web version of this Media Note is available at http://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2004/28607.htm.
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: ARESA and CRESS

Date: Sunday, February 1, 2004 2:25 PM
From: Roy Dixon <roydixon@deminingsystems.co.uk>
Reply-To: <network@mgm.org>
To: <network@mgm.org>

Dear Albert,

The guy to get in contact with is Simon Oestergaard, chief executive of Aresa Biodetection.

Regards

Roy

PO Box 73, Hexham, NE47 0YT, UK Tel +44 (0)870 126 9120
Minefields to Cornfields
www.deminingsystems.org
Before being sent, this e-mail has been checked by Norton SystemWorks-AntiVirus Clean Sweep.

-----Original Message-----
From: network@mgm.org [mailto:network@mgm.org] On Behalf Of Albert M. Bottoms
Sent: 30 January 2004 16:16
To: network@mgm.org
Subject: MgM Demining Network: ARESA and CRESS

I would like to get in touch with a science and technology individual familiar with CRESS and ARESA who could give a paper on landmine/explosive detection at the SIXTH International Symposium on Technology and the Mine Problem to be held at the US Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, California, USA. May 9-13, 2004.

Although the Symposium is essentially technical, there will be R&D and User personnel present so this could present a good technical marketing opportunity.

--
Albert M. Bottoms amb@demine.org http://www.demine.org/
President, Society for Counter-Ordnance Technology
400 Madison St. #607 Alexandria, VA 22314 Tel: 703-683-7550

#####################################################################
This message is sent to you because you are subscribed to the mailing list <network@mgm.org>.
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To switch to the Digest mode, E-mail to <network-digest@mgm.org>
Send administrative queries to <network-request@mgm.org>

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Albert M. Bottoms   amb@demine.org   http://www.demine.org/
President, Society for Counter-Ordnance Technology
400 Madison St. #607  Alexandria, VA 22314    Tel: 703-683-7550

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To switch to the Digest mode, E-mail to <network-digest@mgm.org>
Send administrative queries to  <network-request@mgm.org>
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2004/100

Released on January 29, 2004

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NOTE 2: The web version of this Media Note is available at
We have to convince people who are actually clearing mines that this system is reliable
Carsten Meier,
Aresa Biodetection

They need to convince those who will plant them.
Mate
--
Mate Gaal, Dipl.-Phys.
tel. +49-30-8104-4616

BAM - Federal Institute for Materials Research and Testing
Lab. VIII.33
Unter den Eichen 87
12205 Berlin
Germany
January 29th, 2004

Good Morning All!
I found the following news in the Internet:
Best regards,
Willy Meurer,
Toronto/ Canada.

> GM cress could seek out landmines
> By Dominic Bailey
> BBC News Online
> Danish scientists say they have developed a genetically modified
> plant that will detect unexploded landmines.
> http://www.areas.dk
> There are believed to be about 100 million unexploded landmines
> around the world, posing a daily threat to life.
> Plants developed by Copenhagen firm Aresa Biodetection are said to turn from green to red when they come in contact with explosives in the soil.
> But some international mine clearing firms have raised concerns about how practical the plants would be.
> At least 26,000 people are killed or injured by mines every year.
> Aresa's aim is to plant its GM plant - an altered thale cress - in landmined areas.
> Scientists say that within three to six weeks it will change colour in areas where roots come in contact with nitrogen dioxide (NO2) evaporating from explosives in the soil.

We have to convince people who are actually clearing mines that this system is reliable

Carsten Meier,
Aresa Biodetection

Story from BBC NEWS:
http://news.bbc.co.uk/go/pr/fr/-/2/hi/europe/3437019.stm

Published: 2004/01/28 13:14:41 GMT / © BBC MMIV
This message is sent to you because you are subscribed to the mailing list <network@mgm.org>.
To unsubscribe, E-mail to: <network-off@mgm.org>
To switch to the Digest mode, E-mail to <network-digest@mgm.org>
Send administrative queries to  <network-request@mgm.org>
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: TM-56
Date: Thursday, January 29, 2004 10:56 AM
From: BCason5973@aol.com
Reply-To: <network@mgm.org>
To: <network@mgm.org>

Mitra A3 Mine Data Sheets
Part Number TAMMS-LTDS1
Web Site: www.miltra.com <http://www.miltra.com>

Billy Cason
CEO/Managing Director

Special Communications & Construction Ent., LLC.
2838 Croix Court
Virginia Beach, VA 23451-1365
757-412-1001/1002 Fax

"Doing It Right....The First Time"

SPECOMM is an SBA Certified 8(a), Small Disadvantaged Business (SDB), Service Disabled Veteran (SDV) owned and HubZone certified business.
Nice picture, Christian; where on earth do you go for a fantastic image like that (let alone 1,283 of them)? You would think that a picture like that would be subject to copyright.

Colin.

PS. You beat me to it - my scanner is having an off day.

----- Original Message -----

From: Christian Jansson <mailto:christian.jansson@mil.se>
To: network@mgm.org
Sent: Thursday, January 29, 2004 9:18 AM
Subject: MgM Demining Network: Ang: MgM Demining Network: TM-56

Hi Andrey.

I hope these pics will help you.

Best regards,
Christian Jansson Swe

##############################################
This message is sent to you because you are subscribed to the mailing list <network@mgm.org>. To unsubscribe, E-mail to: <network-off@mgm.org>
To switch to the Digest mode, E-mail to <network-digest@mgm.org>
Send administrative queries to <network-request@mgm.org>
Hi Christian
Many thanks for helping. I hope it will be enough for Azerbaijani colleagues, because it's a very small difference between TM-56 and TM-57.
Thank you very much.
Best regards,
Andrey

----- Original Message ----- 

From: Christian Jansson <mailto:christian.jansson@mil.se>
To: network@mgm.org
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To switch to the Digest mode, E-mail to <network-digest@mgm.org>
Send administrative queries to <network-request@mgm.org>
Hi Andrey.

I hope these pics will help you.

Best regards,
Christian Jansson Swe
Folks
Can anybody send me internal view of TM-56. I have broken scanner, but must forward this picture to colleagues in Azerbaijan.
Thank you.
Best regards,
Andrey
They have cats?

--- Robert Keeley <BobKeeley@compuserve.com> wrote:
> Colin
>
> I suspect the problem you had with your spinning
cockroaches is based on
> using northern hemisphere cockroaches in a southern
> hemisphere configured
> Darvish. Remember, the coriolis forces work the
> other way down there in
> Angola (as you will recall from our exhaustive
> Coastal experiments in the
> Falkland Islands in 1984) and this may well confuse
> northern insects.
>
> However, having spotted the insect problem I have
> carried out extensive
> research on related subjects...just a few more years
> and a few million more
> dollars and I think we will have something that is
> nearly worth looking at -
> our automatically re-orienting mouse-based platform
> is currently capable of
> finding surface-laid stilton on more than 70% of
> repeats and I am sure that
> a large wedge (of cash and cheese) will enable us to
> increase the potential
> by at least 0.001%, providing all cats have already
> been removed from the
> surrounding province, of course.
>
> Bob
>
> -----Original Message-----
> From: network-report@mgm.org
> [mailto:network-report@mgm.org]On Behalf Of
> Colin King
> Sent: 27 January 2004 14:50
> To: network@mgm.org
> Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: Demining
> Machine ????
>
> Dear Mr Ehlers,
>
> I am grateful for your tolerant and encouraging
> reply to Phil, however, I
> am both hurt and deeply insulted that you did not
> include my Darvish design
> in your machine photo gallery. The Darvish, and
> other closely-related
machines of similar name, are every bit as practical as the ones you pictured, and deserve the same level of respect.

Perhaps it is this narrow-minded attitude that has prevented you from exploiting the considerable talents of cockroaches and bees for demining? Since we began using them in my village, just south of London, we have not had a single mine casualty.

I sincerely hope you will be more positive about our next radical design, which combines the proven advantages of a spinning demining vehicle with cockroach detection technology; we expect to overcome the initial problems with dizzy insects very soon now.

In the mean time, I suggest you broaden your horizons and get a hair cut.

Yours,

Most disappointed,

C King
Spinning vehicle and cockroach technologist

----- Original Message ----- 
From: Hendrik Ehlers - MD of MgM & HEC 
To: network@mgm.org 
Sent: Monday, January 26, 2004 9:37 AM 
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: Demining Machine ????

Hi Phil,

Great suicide machine, I guess you are a professor in theology? I really liked you 1930 style patent drawing. The only better ones I know are the ones of the first water toilet designs by Sir Crapper.

I knew I had seen the design before, but a flail instead of a roller (which both don't work) makes a really bit difference. I attach some other great designs from the same school of industrial engineering. Some of them are still patent pending.

Good Flight!
-----Original Message-----
From: network@mgm.org [mailto:network@mgm.org]
On Behalf Of phil
Sent: 26 January 2004 08:29 AM
To: network@mgm.org
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: Demining Machine

From: Professor Philip Datseris
January 26, 2004
To: network@mgm.org
Subject: "A Machine for Clearing Land Mines"
- PATENT PENDING

A self contained, affordable, riding operator controlled machine for safely discharging land mines in farm lands and other accessible areas has been designed. The operator is well protected by heavy steel plates and sits 10 feet behind the mine discharge.

Assistance is sought for the development, fabrication and testing of 2 prototype machines at an estimated cost of $350,000. Costs per unit in small production runs are estimated at 35 to $50,000, depending upon accessories.

For additional information contact:

Harry Einstein PE
Professor Philip Datseris, Director

98 Parkwood Drive OR
Colin

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However, having spotted the insect problem I have carried out extensive research on related subjects...just a few more years and a few million more dollars and I think we will have something that is nearly worth looking at - our automatically re-orienting mouse-based platform is currently capable of finding surface-laid stilton on more than 70% of repeats and I am sure that a large wedge (of cash and cheese) will enable us to increase the potential by at least 0.001%, providing all cats have already been removed from the surrounding province, of course.

Bob

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Good Flight!

Hendrik Ehlers, Chairman  MgM

Director OPS + HEC-R&D

Intl. Desk Windhoek, Namibia

ehlers@mgm.org

www.mgm.org

cel +264 81 1277020
From: Professor Philip Datseris

January 26, 2004

To: network@mgm.org

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Harry Einstein PE
Datseris, Director

Professor Philip
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To unsubscribe, E-mail to: <network-off@mgm.org>
To switch to the Digest mode, E-mail to <network-digest@mgm.org>
Send administrative queries to <network-request@mgm.org>
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: Demining Machine ????
Date: Tuesday, January 27, 2004 9:49 AM
From: Colin King <ck@ckingassociates.co.uk>
Reply-To: <network@mgm.org>
To: <network@mgm.org>

Dear Mr Ehlers,

I am grateful for your tolerant and encouraging reply to Phil, however, I am both hurt and deeply insulted that you did not include my Darvish design in your machine photo gallery. The Darvish, and other closely-related machines of similar name, are every bit as practical as the ones you pictured, and deserve the same level of respect.

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Hendrik Ehlers, Chairman MgM

Director OPS + HEC-R&D

Intl. Desk Windhoek, Namibia

ehlers@mgm.org

www.mgm.org

cel +264 81 1277020
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For additional information contact:

Harry Einstein  PE

Professor Philip Datseris,
Subject: MgM Demining Network: Your IP was logged
Date: Monday, January 26, 2004 3:07 PM
From: Willy Meurer <willke@primus.ca>
Reply-To: <network@mgm.org>
To: <network@mgm.org>

TO ALL FRIENDS AND BUSINESS PARTNERS

THIS IS A WARNING!!!!!
I received today the following mail and guessed it immediately to be a spam
with an attached virus.
There was an attachment - which I removed for security reasons before
sending you this warning

If you search for - Illegal Internet Downloads - you’ll find the reports
from other people from
Northamerica to Belgium and Germany, who recieved the same or similar mails.

Best regards,
Willy Meurer

>>Envelope-to: willke@primus.ca
>From: fw1@gmx.de
>To: willke@primus.ca
>Date: 26 Jan 2004 16:26:31
>Subject: Your IP was logged
>X-MailScanner: Scanned
>Importance: Normal
>MIME-Version: 1.0
>
>Ladies and Gentlemen,
>Downloading of Movies, MP3s and Software is illegal and punishable by law.
>
>We hereby inform you that your computer was scanned under the IP
>172.86.32.190. The
>contents of your computer were confiscated as an evidence, and you will be
>indicated.
>In the next days, you’ll get the charge in writing.
>In the Reference code: #37767, are all files, that we found on your computer.
>
The sender address of this mail was masked, to protect us against mail bombs.
>
>-- You get more detailed information by the Federal Bureau of Investigation
>--FBI--
>-- Department for "Illegal Internet Downloads", Room 7350
>-- 935 Pennsylvania Avenue
>-- Washington, DC 20535, USA
>-- (202) 324-3000
>Content-Type: application/octet-stream; name=refcode37767.txt.cmd
>Content-Disposition: attachment; filename="refcode37767.txt.cmd"
>

>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>Attachment removed for security reasons / Willy
Meurer<<<<<<<<<<<<<<

Have a good day,
Willy Meurer, Toronto
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Hendrik Ehlers, Chairman MgM
Director OPS + HEC-R&D
Intl. Desk Windhoek, Namibia

ehlers@mgm.org
www.mgm.org

cel +264 81 1277020
fax +264 61 243477

-----Original Message-----
From: network@mgm.org [mailto:network@mgm.org] On Behalf Of phil
Sent: 26 January 2004 08:29 AM
To: network@mgm.org
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: Demining Machine
From: Professor Philip Datseris January 26, 2004

To: network@mgm.org

Subject: "A Machine for Clearing Land Mines" - PATENT PENDING

A self contained, affordable, riding operator controlled machine for safely discharging land mines in farm lands and other accessible areas has been designed. The operator is well protected by heavy steel plates and sits 10 feet behind the mine discharge.

Assistance is sought for the development, fabrication and testing of 2 prototype machines at an estimated cost of $350,000. Costs per unit in small production runs are estimated at 35 to $50,000, depending upon accessories.

For additional information contact:

Harry Einstein PE
98 Parkwood Drive OR Professor Philip Datseris, Director
Engineering and Dept. of Mechanical
Kingston RI 02881 Applied Mechanics
University of Rhode Island
Kinston, RI~02881

Einst-res@cox.net datseris@egr.uri.edu
401-792-9139 401-874-2514
Le tank anglais de 1915. Ce monstre n’offrait qu’un avantage: ses chenilles. Les longs visons qui devaient coupes les fils de fer barbelés se révélèrent bien vite inutiles. Là encore, le conducteur est à découvert.
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Professor Philip Datseris, Director 98
Dept. of Mechanical Engineering and Applied Mechanics
98 Parkwood Drive OR
Kingston, RI 02881
Einst-res@cox.net
401-792-9139

datseris@egr.uri.edu
401-874-2514

The following pages (from sections of the patent pending papers) describe a new concept of an affordable demining/
farm cultivating machine for safely discharging AP land mines "insitu".

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Greetings. Please click here – http://usinfo.state.gov/journals/itps/0104/ijpe/ijpe0104.pdf – to download a U.S. Department of State Electronic Journal on U.S. Humanitarian Mine Action and the global landmine problem that was compiled and edited by our International Information Programs (IIP) office. This e-Journal contains an introduction by Secretary of State Powell and articles by Special Representative Bloomfield, Senator Patrick J. Leahy (D-Vermont), our James Madison University intern Hayden Roberts, Dr. Ken Rutherford, Colin King, and Mark Anderson and Michael Gerber, Chief and Deputy Chief, respectively, of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s (CDC) International Emergency Refugee Health Branch. It also features a profile on the U.S. Department of Defense’s demining technology sharing efforts and other fascinating material too. This e-Journal was just released today.

We truly appreciate the contributions by Senator Leahy, Dr. Rutherford, Colin King, and our colleagues at the CDC.

This issue of the Journal will be available in French and Spanish in a week or two. Later, as translation services are obtained, it will also be made available in Arabic, Russian, Portuguese, and Mandarin Chinese.

If anyone experiences difficulty in accessing the URL to this issue, they may simply visit http://usinfo.state.gov, click on "Arms Control" under the "Topics in Focus" heading, then click under "Products" in the left margin on the cover photo of this E-Journal issue or the headline below the photo.

With regards,

JOHN

John E. Stevens
Foreign Affairs Officer
Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement (PM/WRA)
Bureau of Political-Military Affairs
Suite 1826
U.S. Department of State
Washington, D.C. 20547

Tel: (202) 647-0676
Fax: (202) 647-2465
Unclassified Email: SteveJE@State.Gov
PM/WRA website: www.state.gov/t/pm/wra
Got it. Many thanks. Andrey, please disregard my mail to you.

#############################################################
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To switch to the Digest mode, E-mail to <network-digest@mgm.org>
Send administrative queries to <network-request@mgm.org>
Hi Thomas

I tried to send you Handbook, but today message was returned. I don't know why.

Regards,

Andrey

----- Original Message ----- 
From: "Gilbert, Thomas MR" <thomas.gilbert2@us.army.mil>
To: <network@mgm.org>
Sent: Wednesday, January 21, 2004 8:19 PM
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: Metal Detector Handbook

> Dieter, 
> 
> I can't get to the site. Been trying now for a week, and always get time outs. Also can't seem to get a email to you direct. If possible please send the PDF to me:
> 
> thomas.gilbert2@us.army.mil
> 
> Many thanks and Kind Regards
> 
> Tom
> 
> 
> -----Original Message-----
> From: Dieter Guelle [mailto:dieter.guelle@jrc.it]
> Sent: Monday, January 12, 2004 9:29 AM
> To: network@mgm.org
> Subject: MgM Demining Network: Metal Detector Handbook
> 
> Dear All,
> This book is free and put on the website for downloading it is now easy to find just go to www.itep.ws
> There is the link given on top right.
> Tom I'll send you one copy as a PDF. It is about 1MB, I hope it will not create a problem. Later you can also get a hardcopy with a CD if wanted.
> Please send me your contacts. First of all the email.(dieter.guelle@jrc.it)
> Regards
> Dieter
> 
> > -----Original Message-----
> > From: network@mgm.org [mailto:network@mgm.org] On Behalf Of Gilbert, Thomas MR
> > Sent: Monday, January 12, 2004 3:33 PM
> > To: network@mgm.org
> > Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: FW: Metal Detector Handbook
> >
Greetings all,

Any chance one or all of you could email me this handbook? I can't seem to get into the website for the D/L. No problem with the bandwidth, so if you have it feel free to send it on. Dieter, would it be all right if I get it set up on a second site for D/L?

Kind regards,
Tom Gilbert

-----Original Message-----
From: Franciska Borry [mailto:franciska.borry@jrc.it]
Sent: Friday, December 19, 2003 2:15 PM
To: network@mgm.org
Subject: MgM Demining Network: FW: Metal Detector Handbook

Dear All,

Metal Detector Handbook
For Humanitarian Demining - Under this title the EC supported the publication of a handbook about detectors and how to use them in HD as well as to other detection methods under development a very brief description. I had the pleasure to work with a team that agreed with the aim I had and we tried our best to deliver something that may help to improve the knowledge about detection and more important the safety of the deminer.

My special thanks to them.
For better understanding or to forget about I'll give a very short summary of what we tried to bring over. On the other hand most of the field guys will have time during their holydays to have a look at other things than a clearance side (there are some nice pictures in - sorry they are only connected to the content).

Background
- Humanitarian Demining exists a very short time special books are rare
- Situation connected with world-wide mine problem a short description to the involved countries and the mine problem will give a good background to the HD situation
- Knowledge of detection equipment in the demining community should be updated sometimes

Scope, Objectives of the book
- User should be the medium and upper level of demining organisations as could be the donor community and other interested persons (students, soldiers, UXO personnel) and enterprises working in this area
- Technical/practical guide without going into too much details and technical description of physical processes and issues
- Explanation of different technical solutions and their
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To switch to the Digest mode, E-mail to <network-digest@mgm.org>
Send administrative queries to  <network-request@mgm.org>
Subject: MgM Demining Network: Florida Festival to Raise Public Awareness of the Global Landmine Problem

Date: Friday, January 23, 2004 1:27 AM

From: Stevens, John E <SteveJE@state.gov>

Reply-To: <network@mgm.org>

To: <network@mgm.org>

U.S. Department of State
Media Note
Office of the Spokesman
Washington, D.C.
January 22, 2004

Florida Festival to Raise Public Awareness of the Global Landmine Problem

Peacock Park in Coconut Grove, Miami, Florida, will be transformed into a mock minefield and information center for the public to learn about the global problem caused by persistent landmines left from past conflicts, during the South Florida Landmine Action Group Festival on January 24 – 25, 2004.

The Festival, inspired by concerned citizens who formed the South Florida Landmine Action Group, aims to build grass roots support for humanitarian mine action and sensitize the public to the fact that persistent landmines not only pose a threat on other continents but also affect parts of the American hemisphere. Leading figures in humanitarian mine action, musical performances, information booths, and a U.S. Coast Guard exhibit will be featured.

Lincoln P. Bloomfield, Jr., the Special Representative of the President and Secretary of State for Mine Action, who also serves as Assistant Secretary of State for Political-Military Affairs, will be the keynote speaker. Mary Jean Eisenhower, President and CEO of People to People International; Colin King, renowned landmine expert; Dr. Ken Rutherford, co-founder of the Landmine Survivors Network, and other distinguished representatives from U.S. Southern Command, The HALO Trust, Mines Advisory Group, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the U.S. Department of Defense's Humanitarian Demining Training Center, the United Nations Mine Action Service, Vietnam Veterans of America Foundation, Marshall Legacy Institute, Adopt-A-Minefield, Polus Center for Social and Economic Development, and the Nicaraguan National Mine Action Program, will also address the Festival.

The Festival was organized by People to People International, the South Florida Landmine Action Group, and the U.S. Department of State’s Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement. It is being supported by the Mine Action Information Center, Organization of American States, the Coconut Grove Chamber of Commerce, City of Miami, local chapters of Rotary International and Kiwanis International, the Florida Association of Hispanic Journalists, as well as the State of Florida and other local sponsors.

More information about this free Festival and a gala event to kick it off on the evening of Friday, January 23, 2004, can be obtained from www.sflag.org or by contacting Bill Lara, South Florida Landmine Action Group Media Director, in Miami at (786) 787-3524 or Press@SFLAG.org. An electronic media kit is also available on the Festival website.
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Send administrative queries to  <network-request@mgm.org>
I received a telephone query about ppe
> that started with the assertion that there have been some 4000 (four
> thousand!) amputations in the coalition forces in Iraq. That seems
> awfully high. Has anyone any supporting or refuting data?

A "google" search on "Amputations in Iraq" turned up quite a batch of
fragmentary reports extending back to the beginning of the Iraq
War. It seems that casualty reporting separates combat-related killed
and wounded from killed and injured due to other causes (accidents,
sickness, etc)

It makes some sense that we see a higher proportion of amputees due to
the advances in military medicine and prompt MEDEVAC resulting in the
saving of a higher proportion of severely injured than before.

Thanks in advance.

> --
> --
Albert M. Bottoms  amb@demine.org  http://www.demine.org/
President, Society for Counter-Ordnance Technology
400 Madison St. #607  Alexandria, VA 22314    Tel: 703-683-7550

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To switch to the Digest mode, E-mail to <network-digest@mgm.org>
Send administrative queries to  <network-request@mgm.org>
Sir:

Thanks. He has contacted me.

Now I have a second question. I received a telephone query about ppe that started with the assertion that there have been some 4000 (four thousand!) amputations in the coalition forces in Iraq. That seems awfully high. Has anyone any supporting or refuting data?

--
Albert M. Bottoms  amb@demine.org  http://www.demine.org/
President, Society for Counter-Ordnance Technology
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forwarded:

Von: "Albert M. Bottoms" <amb@demine.org>
An: <network-request@mgm.org>
Betreff: Trying to Contact Bob Keeley

Would it be possible to get a message through to Bob Keeley? We need an e-mail and mailing address through which we can contact him regarding his paper at the SIXTH Symposium in Monterey.
--
Albert M. Bottoms amb@demine.org http://www.demine.org/
President, Society for Counter-Ordnance Technology
400 Madison St. #607 Alexandria, VA 22314 Tel: 703-683-7550
Sorry, one more comment.
There are number of problems in our planet and landmines is only one of
them. We are specialists in THIS problem and let's to do our job. What about
priority, this is politicians' problem and they have instrument for its
regulation - financial. Of course, everybody prefers his problem will have
first priority, but we haven't full picture. To our regret, we can influence
to list of priority (I hope) only by information about real situation in our
field. If you will look to year volume of world demining market, you will
see approximately the same picture every year. This is world price of our
field. Compare it with volume of another markets and you will see
priorities.
Cheers,
Andrey

----- Original Message ----- 
From: "Robin Collins" <robinco@sympatico.ca>
To: <network@mgm.org>
Sent: Wednesday, January 21, 2004 8:19 PM
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: Open reply to Mr. Joe Lokey

> Not sure if that was directed towards me or not (but if referring to my
one-liner comment below...) 
>
> My point was that comparing funding and attention is about political
attention as much or more so than relative weight of damages. Because WE CAN
give attention to a particular campaign (APMs) is quite aside from whether
or not there are worse scourges or not (AIDS, malaria). And where some
smaller problems are believed to be preventable, they gather greater
momentum that way too.
>
> But we don't drop one issue just because there are others with more severe
consequences. Otherwise we would only do one thing at a time.
>
> All of which is self-evident chit-chat, and why I didn't think I needed to
put in more detail...

> Robin

> >
> > From: GZahaczews@aol.com
> > Date: 2004/01/20 Tue PM 06:07:30 EST
> > To: <network@mgm.org>
> > Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: Open reply to Mr. Joe Lokey
> >
> > And your point would be???

> >
> >
> > George

> > And presumably we don't stop seeking solutions to breast cancer until the
toll from traffic accidents is reduced...
On 20/1/2004 2:03 AM, "GZahaczews@aol.com" <GZahaczews@aol.com> wrote:

John:

Old news, buddy. Not sure where you got the 15,000 figure from, but I believe it is just as suspect as the old 26,000 number.

BTW, almost 50,000 American women are diagnosed with breast cancer every year, and almost that many Americans are killed or injured in automobile accidents. So, you're quite correct in your comment about the reaction of senior government officials.

Take care.

George (from Iraq)

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To switch to the Digest mode, E-mail to <network-digest@mgm.org>
Send administrative queries to  <network-request@mgm.org>
And of course, everyone can afford this retrofit. One must be realistic and having a sandbag is better than nothing at all. I used sandbags and sometimes took kevlar blankets and they saved the lives of some of my close Kiwi friends.

---- Original message ----
> Date: Wed, 21 Jan 2004 18:58:39 +0100
> From: "Ashley Dean" <ashley.dean@aegis.co.uk>
> Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: Sandbags
> To: <network@mgm.org>
> 
> I agree - it is much better if you can keep the shockwave & blast products out of the vehicle and would prefer to have the retrofit bolt on anti land mine shield that my company make - if interested have a look at www.aegis.co.uk
> FYI - the same principals can be applied to the sides of vehicles.
> 
> Ashley
> 
> -----Original Message-----
> From: network@mgm.org [mailto:network@mgm.org]On Behalf Of Gilbert, Thomas
> MR
> Sent: Wednesday, January 21, 2004 5:19 PM
> To: network@mgm.org
> Subject: MgM Demining Network: Sandbags
> 
> Greeting all,
> 
> I remember reading some kind of report or document that stated sandbags were not such a great idea to use for vehicle protection, mostly due to the danger of infection. (Everything between the mine and the person having the potential of becoming fragmentation) Does anyone know of this? Or does anyone know of a test conducted that determine the true effectiveness of sandbags? Just out of curiosity, what preference do those in the field have?
> 
> Tom
> 
> >/*****************************************************************
> >This message is sent to you because you are subscribed to  
> > the mailing list <network@mgm.org>.
De Oppresso Liber
Robert Burritt
MAIC
540-568-2332
Sappers defuse 5,500 explosive devices in Chechnya in 2003
ITAR-TASS
21.01.2004, 11.09

"Thanks to the measures to counteract "the mine war", the number of blasts hurting personnel or damaging equipment decreased by 24 percent, compared with 2002," Serdtsev said.

Some 400 to 500 servicemen comprising up to 60 teams are engaged in mine-clearing and mine-defusing operations in Chechnya daily, according to the General.

Serdtsev said the preparation of the network of railroads and highways with a total length of 550 kilometers on the Caucasus Ridge along the Russian-Georgian border, as well as along the line dividing Chechnya's flatlands and highlands "a serious contribution to creating the republic's economy."

"The works began last January at altitudes ranging between 800 meters and 2,500 meters above the sea level," he said, "but despite adverse weather conditions, the task was fulfilled on time."

No army in the world has an experience in coping with such tasks, Serdtsev noted.

Defense Minister Sergei Ivanov congratulated sappers with their professional holiday, in a message published by the Krasnaya Zvezda on Wednesday.
I agree - it is much better if you can keep the shockwave & blast products out of the vehicle and would prefer to have the retrofit bolt on anti land mine shield that my company make - if interested have a look at www.aigis.co.uk
FYI - the same principals can be applied to the sides of vehicles.

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Tom

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Robin

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> 
>
> George

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thomas.gilbert2@us.army.mil

Many thanks and Kind Regards

Tom

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From: Dieter Guelle [mailto:dieter.guelle@jrc.it]
Sent: Monday, January 12, 2004 9:29 AM
To: network@mgm.org
Subject: MgM Demining Network: Metal Detector Handbook

Dear All,
This book is free and put on the website for downloading it is now easy to find just go to www.itep.ws
There is the link given on top right.
Tom I'll send you one copy as a PDF. It is about 1MB, I hope it will not create a problem. Later you can also get a hardcopy with a CD if wanted.
Please send me your contacts. First of all the email.(dieter.guelle@jrc.it)
Regards
Dieter
Dear All,

Metal Detector Handbook

For Humanitarian Demining - Under this title the EC supported the publication of a handbook about detectors and how to use them in HD as well as to other detection methods under development a very brief description. I had the pleasure to work with a team that agreed with the aim I had and we tried our best to deliver something that may help to improve the knowledge about detection and more important the safety of the deminer.

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- Situation connected with world-wide mine problem a short description to the involved countries and the mine problem will give a good background to the HD situation
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- User should be the medium and upper level of demining organisations as could be the donor community and other interested persons (students, soldiers, UXO personnel) and enterprises working in this area
- Technical/practical guide without going into too much details and technical description of physical processes and issues
- Explanation of different technical solutions and their advantages and limits

Content of the book

Chapter 1: Background to HD
Chapter 2: The role of metal-detectors in HD
Chapter 3: Detector standards and detector test standards
Chapter 4: Metal-detector technology
Chapter 5: Training
Chapter 6: The use of metal-detectors in mined areas
Chapter 7: The way forward

Annex A: Explosive Detecting Dogs (EDDs)
Dear All,

On 14-15 January 2004 we had meetings of Core Group of Ukrainian Joint Mine Action Team, as result we agree solution on creation Ukrainian Mine Action Coordination Center (UMACC) by representatives of NGO's:

- Ukrainian Peacekeepers Association
- FYCE (National Coordinator of UNICEF - Ukraine)
- Euro-Atlantic Information Foundation
- Common Arms Reduction Support (CARS) Fund
- Union for Victims Assistance
- Special Force Veterans Association

Ukraine has signed the Ottawa Treaty in February 1999 but has not ratified. The reason is the lack of resources and technical difficulties in destroying stockpiled landmines which Ukraine “inherited” from the Soviet Union. A series of consultations took place between the Government of Ukraine and potential donors on the partnership in the process of Ukraine’s ratification of the Mine Ban Treaty and closely linked destruction of stockpiled mines.

In March 2001, Canada and Ukraine signed a Framework Arrangement for AP landmines destruction assistance that established a Coordination Committee as a forum to advance the cause of stockpile destruction.

On period July 2002- May 2003 Ukraine destroyed ~ 400.000 APL type PMN -1,2 under support NATO PfP Trust Fund, NAMSA, Canada, Poland, Hungary...

Ukraine have joint cooperation with foreign partners for destruction of ~ 6.000.000 PFM-1 mines, but need more strong and active work for coordination of mine actions and using of IMAS and IMSMA in any types of mine action activity.
I think UMACC will be nice instrument for this work, this organisation should be tasked correctly, and involve the people with practical experience and deep competence, its task should be to coordinate information support, and to monitor the project of destruction of PFM-1 anti-personnel mines in Ukraine as well as to liquidate the stockpiles of engineer conventional ammunition (CA) and non-conditional CA which represent serious security threats to warehouses and personnel, serving them. They should be removed from CA warehouses and then liquidated by special sappers groups observing all safety regulations. The Center would also be tasked with studying the UN demining standards as well as recycling of mines and CA, threats assessment, and checking the territories of stockpiles after their clearing of mines and CA, so that before transferring the territories to local authorities they would not contain old-planted mines and CA.

On 28 January 2004 will be 5 years when President of Ukraine and Prime Minister of Canada signed Framework agreement on cooperation for destructions of landmines and stockpiles in Ukraine.

On period 9.30 - 11.00 28 January 2004 in Central Officers Club Ministry of Defence of Ukraine in Kiev (30 Grushevskogo Str. room 118) we will organise mine action meeting with participation of co-founders of UMACC, members of State Agencies and Departments, Foreign Embassies and International Organisation's - UN, UNDP, NATO, EC, ICRC, and other....

During the meeting we will discuss results of mine action activity in 2003 in Ukraine and we will provide presentation of UMACC and results of LM 2003 (copies of LM Report 2003 we will give to all participants).

Also I like to ask your possible support for:
- Participation of representatives from Foreign Embassies and international organisations in our
meeting on 28 January 2004 in Kiev.

- Creation of Council of UMACC with membership and participations of foreign representatives, including from UN/UNDP/UNMAS, EU, EC, Canada, USA, Holland, Poland, Swiss, Sweden, Norway, Belgium, Ireland, UK, France, Italy, Germany and any other countries or NGO's.

- Support on level of Mine Action Adviser's and his possible work in Ukraine.

- Possible cooperation with UN/UNDP/NATO/ EU/EC and foreign countries for UMACC participation in UNDP MAX Program, IMSMA PfP Training Program, Foreign and International Mine Action Programs.

- Joint activity with UNMAS, UNDP-Ukraine, Foreign MAC, MACC, MAT's, ITF (Slovenia) and EEMAC.

- Cooperation with GICHD on IMSMA and IMAS installations and implementations in UMACC, translation of IMSMA and IMAS on Ukrainian/Russian (On December UPVA created Mine Action Translation Service, which have former UN/NATO/OSCE Staff Officers, all was study before in the Moscow Military Institute, Director of MATS - Lt.Col. Anatoliy Krouk E-mail : akrouk@carrier.kiev.ua)

- For membership of UMACC in EEMAC

- Support for creation of joint Victims Assistance Programe in cooperation with UN/UNDP/UNICEF-Ukraine, UNMAS, LSN/ICBL/HI , ITF (Slovenia) and EEMAC, CIS VAP

Would you please to inform me about possibility to cooperate with our Team and UMACC.
Thanks in advance for understanding and cooperation

Yuri Donskoy
Head of UJMAT/UPVA

20 Volkov Str. r. 88
Kiev-166, Ukraine
02166

Tel. 380-50-946-01-85
Fax.380-44-228-47-40
Yes Richard, I’m absolutely agreed! It’s needed to be very careful with cucumbers! Because 100% who was born before 1900 year and used cucumbers as a food, was died as result.

Regards
Andrey

----- Original Message ----- 
From: "krsmith" <richard@krsmith.freeserve.co.uk> 
To: <network@mgm.org> 
Sent: Tuesday, January 20, 2004 6:09 PM 
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: Open reply to George Z and Paul Scoullar

> Hello All,
> 
> Interesting thread, Im sure most are familiar with the saying that there are
> lies, damn lies and statistics.
> 
> I think there is another dimension to the argument where the application of
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> showed a direct relationship between deaths by drowning in the UK and the
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> 
> Richard Smith
> richard@rcauk.com
> 
> ----- Original Message ----- 
> From: "Crawford John" <john.crawford@psi.ch> 
> To: <network@mgm.org> 
> Sent: Tuesday, January 20, 2004 9:33 AM 
> Subject: MgM Demining Network: Open reply to George Z and Paul Scoullar

> > Good day,
> >
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year, and 15,000 new AIDS candidates per day, are both fuzzy, I was wearing my journalist's hat (so to speak; I'm a physicist and something of a numbers freak) and using them to help make the point that there are problems out there that are orders of magnitude worse than land mines. [Good luck in Iraq, and stay safe in all senses . . . ;=)]

As to Paul Scoullar's points about the social cost of land mines, I fully accept his data; but I claim that a similar analysis could be made about malaria, TB, cigarettes, w.h.y., which would come up with similarly horrendous social costs. I also agree that demining is cost effective; but so are the measures against all these other miseries. For example: it's also true that malaria could be reduced a lot by simple things like DDT-sprayed housing and DDT-impregnated bedding. It would be cost effective, but the poor sods with the problem can't afford the initial investment. Just like land mines, right?

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Best, John Crawford

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Dear All

You forgot one more economic effect of landmine: infected areas. These areas are excluded from agriculture using. This is "long time effect" and can't be overcome without demining. But, of course, all landmine effects are incomparable with problems you wrote. Another side, infected areas' problem is more closely for locals then all other. How you will like your house in or near such area?

Best regards
Andrey

----- Original Message ----- 
From: "Crawford John" <john.crawford@psi.ch>
To: <network@mgm.org>
Sent: Tuesday, January 20, 2004 12:33 PM
Subject: MgM Demining Network: Open reply to George Z and Paul Scoullar

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> the rest are even worse problems than land mines, the big shots know this
> better than we do, and they act on their knowledge.

> Best, John Crawford

>
Folks

Just spent time again skimming http://maic.jmu.edu
I say skimming instead of studying as the amount of info is just too massive...

I had a truly good time laughing my butt off and roaring in anger.
In brief: Excellent reading!

Maggie & Crew, thank you, very well done.

Best Regards

Hendrik Ehlers, Chairman MgM
Director OPS + HEC-R&D
Intl. Desk Windhoek, Namibia
ehlers@mgm.org
www.mgm.org
cel +264 81 1277020
fax +264 61 243477

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Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: Open reply to George Z and Paul Scoullar

Date: Tuesday, January 20, 2004 10:09 AM
From: krsmith <richard@krsmith.freeserve.co.uk>
Reply-To: <network@mgm.org>
To: <network@mgm.org>

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HIV, TB and malaria do not have 'made in USA' or 'made in UK' (or wherever) stamped on them. This may introduce a moral argument about addressing the cause as well as clearing up the mess. Not being involved in the funding side I have no idea if this question ever gets raised, or are priorities always set on statistics which can be used to prove almost anything dependent on what factors you choose to include or discount. I am not against the use of statistics, but you have to be careful what you compare with what.

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Richard Smith
richard@rcauk.com

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To: <network@mgm.org>
Sent: Tuesday, January 20, 2004 9:33 AM
Subject: MgM Demining Network: Open reply to George Z and Paul Scoullar

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And presumably we don't stop seeking solutions to breast cancer until the toll from traffic accidents is reduced...

Robin

On 20/1/2004 2:03 AM, "GZahaczews@aol.com" <GZahaczews@aol.com> wrote:

John:

Old news, buddy. Not sure where you got the 15,000 figure from, but I believe it is just as suspect as the old 26,000 number.

BTW, almost 50,000 American women are diagnosed with breast cancer every year, and almost that many Americans are killed or injured in automobile accidents. So, you're quite correct in your comment about the reaction of senior government officials.

Take care.

George (from Iraq)
Subject: MgM Demining Network: Open reply to George Z and Paul Scoullar
Date: Tuesday, January 20, 2004 4:33 AM
From: Crawford John <john.crawford@psi.ch>
Reply-To: <network@mgm.org>
To: <network@mgm.org>

Good day,

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Thanks Crawford,

I live and work in a mine affected country. Demining is not just about reducing the statistics. Look at the bigger picture my friend. How many thousands, nay hundreds of thousands of families are displaced because of landmines or the perceived threat. How much social disharmony among populations who now have to put up with the influx of strangers (refugees). Can’t go to school, collect firewood, dead cattle, no grazing land, access to water, etc. etc. The list is endless. This not just about reducing statistics. It is about giving back a life and livelihood to a large number of people.

Please reconsider the event.

Mike Pickering - MINE FREE Planet, Sri Lanka

----- Original Message -----
From: "Crawford John" <john.crawford@psi.ch>
To: <network@mgm.org>
Sent: Monday, January 19, 2004 8:56 PM
Subject: MgM Demining Network: Open reply to Mr. Joe Lokey

> Good day all,
> One thing I think is being lost sight of: land mines (as we all know) are taking out perhaps 15,000 people each year - a grisly number it's true. But
> I was talking this over a little while ago - "over a cold beer in a quiet bar" with a surgeon friend. His response was to point out that people are infecting themselves with HIV at the rate of about 15,000 _each_day_. Beyond that, malaria, tuberculosis and cigarettes are all killing people at the same sort of rate.
> Given all this, imagine the position of some senior figure (cabinet minister, senior civil servant, w.h.y.) confronted with the land-mine problem. (S)he more or less has to be decently sympathetic to the arguments; but s(he) well knows that as soon as the deminer has finished, the next interlocutor will be interested in AIDS, or TB, or smoking, or something that is causing a lot more victims than land mines. Any rational decision must be to put more resources into these things than into demining, especially since - despite all the hype - there is no really good answer to the EROW problem.
> Now cut back to the deminer who has just met the senior figure. S(he) has just been sympathetically received; but little or no help is forthcoming. A natural response is then to fulminate about dishonest big-shots - a common
> opinion in the demining world.
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Hi all,

While casualty figures may be relatively low, frequently soldiers have described landmines as one of the most terrifying weapons of war. The psychological effects of landmines far outweighing the tactical advantage provided by casualties. Similarly the social cost of landmines their 'victims', extends far beyond the casualties of mine incidents.

In an attempt to quantify the economic benefit of humanitarian demining the World Bank published a study into the Cost Benefits Analysis of the 1999 Mine Action Program in Afghanistan. 'The socio-economic impact of mine action in Afghanistan: a cost-benefit analysis William A. Byrd and Bjorn Gildestad, December 10, 2001'. Cost centres they identified were:

- Socio-economic costs associate with landmine victims
- Agricultural land blocked by the presence of mines
- Loss of grazing land and damage to livestock
- Road and transportation systems blocked by landmines.
- Landmines in residential areas.

They were deliberately conservative in estimating costs and pessimistic in estimating benefits, despite this they found a benefit (net of costs) of US$ 31 million for the 1999 MAPA program. This benefit was robust to sensitivity analysis and had an internal rate of return between 19% and 28%, well above levels required to justify most aid/development programs. The study was quite compressive including a number of different models of land use and makes for interesting reading.


As comparison, Harris studied the economics of demining in Cambodia in a paper published in 2000, The Economics of Landmine Clearance: Case Study of Cambodia. Journal of International Development, 12(2): 219-225. He found a net present value worse than US$ -400 million. An Interesting result given costs of demining in Cambodia are in the same ball-park figure as in Afghanistan. The modelling used by Harris only considered victim associated costs and very simple treatment of agricultural costs.


The stark difference in economic benefit would suggest that the victim associated costs of landmines are in fact a small part of the debilitating effects landmines have on the post conflict recovery/development of a nation. True, developing countries have a huge burden to bear from all sorts of communicable diseases however we should be careful not to reduce the impact of landmines to the latest casualty estimates. Additionally the presence of landmines can significantly impede the role out of eradication/immunisation programs along with community based primary healthcare initiatives.

Cheers

Paul Scoullar
> Good day all,
>
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BTW, almost 50,000 American women are diagnosed with breast cancer every year, and almost that many Americans are killed or injured in automobile accidents. So, you're quite correct in your comment about the reaction of senior government officials.

Take care.

George (from Iraq)
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: Open reply to Mr. Joe Lokey: A new approach
Date: Tuesday, January 20, 2004 2:03 AM
From: Roy Dixon <roydixon@deminingsystems.co.uk>
Reply-To: <network@mgm.org>
To: <network@mgm.org>

I agree with John, to get around this problem the de-mining industry has to consider developing methods of financial self sustainability. We have to look at ways of grasping technology and implementing it into developing new de-mining methodologies. Not just new bigger better machines, but a completely new way of thinking. If people won't fund de-mining, then the de-mining industry will have to find a method of generating its own funds.

I was once nearly involved with a potential project in an area that had been good agricultural land originally owned by small farmers. An organisation using investors and development funding, were going to take a vast area of the (now mine ridden and overgrown) land from the government on a six year lease. We were to develop a machine that would simultaneously clear the vegetation, clear the AP mines and detect and map the location of the AT mines and larger ordinance (for later removal by hand) and cultivate the ground and plant a crop.

The idea was to develop some of the infrastructure and harvest, export and sell these crops on the open market for five years. This would have paid for the de-mining and given a return to the original investors, so it could carry on again, somewhere else. In the fifth year the families who owned the land before the war and the land mines were laid, were to undergo an agricultural training program, as some of these people were now second generation. In the sixth year when they return home and take their land over again, there is a crop in there fields and an already established market. (They win, we win, and the investors win,)

I believe that one of the reasons that this has never been done before on such a large scale is because the commercial cost of removing landmines was higher than the potential agricultural returns. However, by reducing this cost through a novel de-mining system/methodology and with the ability to simultaneously plant crops for food, or other modern crops for industrial starch etc or crops to help the economy such as oilseed rape to produce bio-diesel as mineral oil reserves diminish, we may be able to tip the scales in favour of large-scale mine removal.

Many countries have now shown a commitment to remove landmines; the potential of this is huge.

This may seem far-fetched, but we are going to have to come up with something better than spending 1 million dollars to clear 10 thousand dollars worth of land. To clear landmines for humanitarian reasons is all well and good, but if we have to start competing for limited funds with the more pressing problems of HIV/Aids, malaria, TB etc the de-mining industry is going to starve. We have to diversify and look at ways of reducing the cost of de-mining, while increasing any potential returns and eventually tip the economic scales in favour of de-mining. If we can develop a method of gaining a financial return in de-mining then this could pave the way for a dramatic increase within the industry.

Kind regards
Good day all,

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To switch to the Digest mode, E-mail to <network-digest@mgm.org>
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Dear subscribers of MGM network,
I need to apologize for the mess I created, when I just wanted to make a few critically satiric remarks about the way, how sometimes high ranked Government officials are handling things.
I’m sorry!

Surely - I never expected to receive such a torment of words containing nearly 1,200 words consisting of approx. 6,500 characters – all about things, I never casted doubt on and I also never wanted to start any discussion about.

In the contrary – look at the "Ten Commandments" which enjoy respectability all over the world and are the base for every human dignity: They just consist of 129 words. – What a difference!!!

As a consequence: Next time, I will think twice before posting any comments!

Remorseful yours,

Willy Meurer
Good day all,

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Hi Fred,

Thanks for the tip, you were always a card (Joker!). My regards to the Maltese Cross and Seven. What're going to do post 101?

Yours Aye.

Paul W.

----- Original Message -----
From: "MJ Pavey" <maltesethreat@hotmail.com>
To: <network@mgm.org>
Sent: Saturday, January 17, 2004 7:28 PM
Subject: MgM Demining Network: I HAVE SEEN THE FUSCHIA

> Hi Paul
> Try Handicap Int, NPA etc - always on look out for good guys (but you could
> apply too I spose ho ho)
> Good luck!
> Fred
> 101 (until Jul 04 - just handed my notice in!)
>
> >From: "Glenn Brooks" <brooks.glenn@comcast.net>
> >Reply-To: <network@mgm.org>
> >To: <network@mgm.org>
> >Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: The Future!
> >Date: Sat, 17 Jan 2004 14:06:07 +0100
> >MIME-Version: 1.0
> >Received: from mc12-f14.hotmail.com ([65.54.167.150]) by
> >mc12-s10.hotmail.com with Microsoft SMPTSVC(5.0.2195.6824); Sat, 17 Jan
> >2004 05:10:24 -0800
> >Received: from ckunst.de ([82.212.219.20]) by mc12-f14.hotmail.com with
> >Microsoft SMPTSVC(5.0.2195.6824); Sat, 17 Jan 2004 05:09:59 -0800
> >X-Message-Info: cmh8WMAfDXrmysf4pGSbvD1FtDFuJDquSGLz9WSjI=%
> >X-ListServer: CommuniGate Pro LIST 4.1.6
> >List-Unsubscribe: <mailto:network-off@mgm.org>
> >List-ID: <network.mgm.org>
> >Message-ID: <list-1135919@ckunst.de>
> >Precedence: list
> >X-Original-Message-ID: <redirect-1135918@ckunst.de>
> >Return-Path: network-report@mgm.org
> >X-OriginalArrivalTime: 17 Jan 2004 13:10:00.0148 (UTC)
> >FILETIME=[363E9940:01C3D5FB]
> >
> >Paul,
> >
> >You might want to look on the UN relief web site.
> >http://www.reliefweb.int/vacancies/ They are recruiting for a mine action
trainer in Basra (Jan 16 entry) and an EOD team leader/trainer (see Jan
13 entry).
>
> regards,
>
> Glenn Brooks

----- Original Message -----
From: Paul
To: network@mgm.org
Sent: Thursday, January 15, 2004 1:48 PM
Subject: MgM Demining Network: The Future!

Hello,

At present I am the Regimental Operations Warrant Officer of 33
Engineer Regiment (EOD). I am mainly responsible for the smooth running of
Regimental Operational deployments both at home and abroad.

Prior to this I was an Instructor at the Defence Explosive Ordnance
Disposal School (DEODS) in Chattenden, Kent. I was responsible for the
implementation and running of the Tri Service Basic and Intermediate EOD
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School, instructing at all levels. I taught most Ground subjects at all
levels between 2000-2003. I have completed 3 postings (Totalling 9
years)
to 33 Engineer Regiment serving at all ranks up to WO2. I have also
spent 3 years instructing EOD.

I have 21 months (6 days, 14 hours, 8 minutes....) until I leave the
military. I am preparing myself for the big occasion.
To that end, it would be appreciated if anyone could give me an idea as
to what I may do in the way of courses etc to make myself more employable to
companies. It would be beneficial to know what sort of work I would likely
expect to get (If any).

I have received numerous replies to other emails I have sent and would
like to thank in particular Roy of http://www.deminingsystems.co.uk/ who
has worked very hard (Voluntarily - living on bread and water J) to produce a
fantastic Modular De-Mining (MDM) System which I hope will help buy him
some decent food when the project takes off!

All help is greatly appreciated.

Yours Aye.

Ops WO

33 Engr regt (EOD)

It's fast, it's easy and it's free. Get MSN Messenger today!
http://www.msn.co.uk/messenger

>
Thank you Willie,

These are, indeed, serious subjects to be discussed by serious men. It’s clear you feel as passionately about your position as do I. There were many areas where we actually agree but, unfortunately, I’m still waiting for your response to the basic premise of my private note to you which, based on your concern for the billions spent on weapons, was “What price do you put on freedom and democracy?” Surely that very simple question deserves a simple answer given the simple certainty of your other observations.

My response to you was off the forum because this discussion is unrelated to the purpose of the MgM Network. Hendrik as repeatedly warned users not to post their politically and socially driven diatribes on the net and to stick with topics directly related to the task of removing mines and UXO from the ground. Others may agree or disagree with your view or mine but, in the end, it is still irrelevant to taking a mine out of the ground. Hopefully, any responses will be either directly to me or you in this regard and not waste our time on the Network anymore with this string.

As always, I remain open to continuing this with you, or anyone else, off-line and think there is ample room for consensus. There are also a variety of open forum websites and chat rooms I can suggest if you are really only interested in boosting your own ego or showing your own politically driven platform into someone else’s face as this public posting of a private email suggests. I would never post a private email publicly without the author’s permission and it appears you are somewhat unconstrained, undisciplined, and unprincipled when it comes to that simple professional courtesy. Somehow ascribing a private email to me as a lack of courage is undoubtedly laughable to those who know me. I’m sure they would recommend that you not get into a public debate with me. Given this, others writing to you should thereby be forewarned that anything written to you will clearly be publicly posted shortly thereafter.

Again, this is not an MgM-related topic and I respectfully ask that you respond in kind to me directly. I will likely not respond, however, if you are intent on looking for public help and support simply because you are on the weaker side of a debate you are intellectually losing. I’ve always found these debates best argued over a cold beer in quiet bar. Perhaps that forum suits you better too? I’m buying if you agree.

As for others, I can only apologize that this has intruded into your mail and also invite private responses unless, like Willie, you have another
non-clearance agenda to air. I suspect most, however, may simply treat this more as entertainment and move on. If not, you know where to find me and, hopefully, this is the end of this.

Humbly yours,

- joe

--- Willy Meurer <willke@primus.ca> wrote:

> Saturday, January 17, 2004
>
> Hello Mr. Joe Lokey,
> earlier this week I posted my opinion to the
> following matter into the
> mgm-network:
> >Rei: MgM Demining Network: Private donation of Mine
> >Detecting Dogs for
> >Sri Lanka.
> >* * *
> >January 14, 2004
> >Dear network participants,
> >I couldn't help it - and I think a lot of other
> >peace loving people might
> >have had the same feelings:
> >When I read about this action, I was on the verge
> >of tears!!!
> >
> >Returning 32,500 square meters of land to
> >productive use and enabling over
> >100,000 internally
> >displaced persons to return to their homes and
> >farms is surely a
> >humanitarian feat. It really is!
> >And "Thanks" to all the demining people involved
> >for their risky business.
> >
> >And WOW!!! It's allways good to see high levelled
> >government ranks
> >praising such private initiatives,
> >where schools, school kids, parents and other
> >concerned people put some
> >funds together for helping
> >their human brothers and sisters in such bolted
> >countries to find back to
> >a decent life.
> >But what is a staggering $120.000 compared to
> >Hundreds of Billions of
> >Dollars, what some
> >Governments are spending for todays wars -
> >including mines, bomblets and
> >other deadly stuff
> >their armies are dispersing. If they wouldn't do
> >this in the first place -
> >they wouldn't have to put
> >such ceremonies together for praising private
> >humanitarian actions.
> >
> >As I wrote before: I was on the verge of tears.
> >Really!
> >Pensively yours,
> >Willy Meurer
A few days later I received the following response from you, but to my utmost astonishment not via the mgm-network - as one may expect as a participant in a forum - but directly from e-mail-box to e-mail-box.

Dear Mr. Lokey, My response to your "Private Mail":

'Your 2-page novel shows in absolutely no way any reasonable response to the contents of my letter. There I'm just critizising high ranked Government officials (from which country ever) who are sometimes showcasing a deep care about civilians during and after wars, while they do mostly next to nothing in avoiding such conflicts. Off course - I'm mentioning also in a margin their armies, who are dispersing all that deadly stuff - since the high ranked Government people themselves, being the ones they lord it, will never be the 'field-executives'.

But especially this marginal note seems to be a welcome inducement to you for a detailed praise of the sublime soldiers and armies in the world and their fights for peace and freedom. As praiseworthy this may be - this wasn't the theme of my reaction to Mr. John.E. Stevens contribution to this network, and doesn't give you any right to such reproachful vocabulary against me like "hatred - contempt - spite - disdain" - and later in the letter to your comment, to be "..nauseated and sickened by your insinuation that any free country intentionally targets civilians amd non-combatants......etc."

Again - you shouldn't twist other peoples words or make some wrong interpretations

Last but not least do I have a question: 'Why are you afraid to post your reaction into the network?' We have nothing to hide, Have we?

Nevertheless - no hardship,

Wishing you all the best, I remain (again) pensively yours,

Willy Meurer

---

JOE LOLEY WROTE:

>Envelope-to: willke@primus.ca
>Date: Thu, 15 Jan 2004 07:16:37 -0800 (PST)
>From: Joe Lokey <clearmines@yahoo.com>
Willy,

I saw your note on MgM and agree that "all peace loving" people have to find this as moving as you did.

Secretary Bloomfield's remarks on this were as follows:

"We've placed a finite dollar value on these dogs. The funds donated are indeed a lot of money. But think about the value of their work. How can we put a price on speeding up the process of identifying mined areas that could kill or maim innocent people, and liberating land for productive use? Lives will be saved. Displaced persons will return home. Fields will be replanted. Stability will be reinforced. And peace will be strengthened."

It's clear that Sec Bloomfield was saying the same thing you were. The intrinsic value of these dogs is far exceeded by the benefit to the people they will ultimately provide in increased opportunities for peace and the economic growth that can only occur in peace.

Which brings me to your obvious hatred, contempt, spite and disdain for anyone in the military who is willing to sacrifice their lives so that others may live in peace.

What price do you put on peace? If you object to the "hundreds of billions" used to free people from butchers and tyrants, slavery and oppression, not to mention those who give their lives freely so that others may live, what cost do you feel is justified in letting people be mutilated because of their religion, politics or for no reason at all?

Freedom is not free. Yes, there are unfortunate consequences to war which is why it must be avoided at all cost. No one hates war more than the warrior who are not to blame. If a soldier is told to fight, he fights to win. I am nauseated and sickened by your insinuation that any free country intentionally targets civilians and non-combatants or that soldiers enjoy killing. The fault for any war lies with the
politicians and diplomats who have the responsibility for avoiding wars. If war occurs, it is they who have failed. It is the soldier that pays the price for that failure. But freedom, to him, is worth it. Not you?

Soldiers (of modern western armies) look for ways and weapons that enable them to win quickly with a minimal amount of infrastructure damage or collateral loss. is a tragedy. The record over the last 30 years though is impressive at what technology has allowed us to do in this regard. Landmines, if ever used again by modern armies, are ALL SD/SDA and pose zero humanitarian threat in the post-conflict environment. Other munitions of concern that you mentioned are being employed only sparingly and even the governments that make them are spending resources to ensure their failure rates are

=== message truncated ===

Do you Yahoo!? Yahoo! Hotjobs: Enter the "Signing Bonus" Sweepstakes
http://hotjobs.sweepstakes.yahoo.com/signingbonus

This message is sent to you because you are subscribed to the mailing list <network@mgm.org>. To unsubscribe, E-mail to: <network-off@mgm.org>
To switch to the Digest mode, E-mail to <network-digest@mgm.org>
Send administrative queries to  <network-request@mgm.org>
Hello Glenn

Thanks for the email. I would love to apply for a job now (Strike while the iron's hot) but the reason I've started contacting the Civvy EOD world is to find out the reality of it all. I hear all sorts of stories about it and would like to get a feel for the climate. Work out what jobs I'd like to do, what jobs I'm likely to do, the best people to work for etc.

I do however really appreciate you taking the time to reply to my message. The work out there would suit me down to the ground but as explained in my message I've got 18 - 21 months left in the Army. If I got out now I'd lose too much money with pensions and gratuity payments etc.

The info you've given is priceless and please continue with the tips as it will help me no end to get a good feel of what's on offer.

I would like to stay in contact with you if that's agreeable? Any time you want to email even if it's just a chat or to swop jokes that would be fine.

If I can be any help being here while you're there sort of thing, don't hesitate just ask.

All the best, stay safe.

Paul Wright (Wrightie)
You might want to look on the UN relief web site. http://www.reliefweb.int/vacancies/
They are recruiting for a mine action trainer in Basra (Jan 16 entry) and an EOD team leader/trainer (see Jan 13 entry).

regards,

Glenn Brooks

----- Original Message ----- 

From: Paul <mailto:paulwright732@btinternet.com>
To: network@mgm.org
Sent: Thursday, January 15, 2004 1:48 PM
Subject: MgM Demining Network: The Future!

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I have received numerous replies to other emails I have sent and would like to thank in particular Roy of http://www.deminingsystems.co.uk/ who has worked very hard (Voluntarily - living on bread and water J) to produce a fantastic Modular De-Mining (MDM) System which I hope will help buy him some decent food when the project takes off!

All help is greatly appreciated.

Yours Aye.

Ops WO

33 Engr regt (EOD)
----- Original Message ----- 
From: Youth Approach <yadc@bangla.net> 
To: <network@mgm.org> 
Cc: <mrisa@dhaka.net> 
Sent: Thursday, January 08, 2004 6:17 PM 
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: SHORT NOTICE - CWA 14747 Training Seminar

Institute for the Protection and Security of the Citizen (IPSC)

Dear Sirs,

Congratulation, Wish you well with future endeavors and inform us well before the due date for possible participation.

Best regards,

Very truly yours,

Ln. M.W. Faruque
Bangladesh CBL

At 12:54 PM 1/8/2004 +0100, you wrote:

> Invitation to a Training Seminar
> Test and Evaluation of Metal Detectors Introduction for End-Users
> 28 and 29 January 2004
> EC Joint Research Centre, Ispra, Italy
> Aim
> The main aim of this training seminar is to inform the users of metal detectors in demining operations about the recently-published CEN Workshop Agreement, CWA 14747:2003, which defines standard testing procedures for metal detectors used in humanitarian demining. We wish to train end-users to understand and to do the tests in CWA 14747. We also want to obtain feedback on the usefulness and practical application of those tests.
> Background
> * In November 2001 CEN Workshop 7 (CW07) was started, with the aim of standardizing the test and evaluation of metal detectors.
> * In June 2003, the CEN Workshop Agreement: Humanitarian Mine Action Test and Evaluation Metal Detectors (CWA 14747:2003) was published by...
CEN, following the work of CW07. This document gives principles, guidelines and testing procedures.

* JRC is starting a project (in collaboration with GICHD and UNMAS) which will run tests on currently-available metal detectors using CWA 14747:2003. This testing will include trials in mine-affected regions of the world.

* JRC provides the Secretariat of CW07 and has undertaken to publicize CWA 14747 and to obtain user feedback and proposed amendments, with the intention of producing an updated version of the CWA if and when necessary.

Who should attend?

People who use or procure metal detectors for humanitarian demining operations, including those from Mine Action Centres, NGOs and other demining organizations are invited.

Draft Agenda

* Briefing on the tests defined in CWA 14747:2003.
* Discussion of which of these tests could be performed by end users and which "lab test" results are useful.
* Demonstration of some of the tests; hands-on practical session.
* Feedback session; what was useful, what needs improvement.

This training seminar is organized by JRC in collaboration with GICHD and UNMAS.

If you wish to attend please contact:

Marta Garotta
Humanitarian Security Unit TP723
EC Joint Research Centre
I 21020 Ispra, Italy
tel: +39 0332 785546
fax: +39 0332 785772
email: marta.garotta@jrc.it

Organizing Committee:

* Noel Mulliner (UNMAS)
* Al Carruthers (GICHD)
* Dieter Gülle (ITEP)
* Andy Smith (independent consultant)
* Tom Bloodworth (JRC)

Tom Bloodworth
CW07 Secretary
Institute for the Protection and Security of the Citizen (IPSC)
European Commission Joint Research Centre (TP723)
I 21020 Ispra (VA), Italy
tel. +39 0332 789131
Fax +39 0332 785469
e-mail: thomas.bloodworth@jrc.it

web <http://humanitarian-security.jrc.it>
Subject: MgM Demining Network: Open reply to Mr. Joe Lokey
Date: Sunday, January 18, 2004 8:25 AM
From: Willy Meurer <willke@primus.ca>
Reply-To: <network@mgm.org>
To: <network@mgm.org>

Saturday, January 17, 2004

Hello Mr. Joe Lokey,

earlier this week I posted my opinion to the following matter into the
mgm-network:
> Re: MgM Demining Network: Private donation of Mine Detecting Dogs for
> Sri Lanka.
* * *
> January 14, 2004
> Dear network participants,
> I couldn't help it - and I think a lot of other peace loving people might
> have had the same feelings:
> When I read about this action, I was on the verge of tears!!!
>
> Returning 32,500 square meters of land to productive use and enabling over
> 100,000 internally
> displaced persons to return to their homes and farms is surely a
> humanitarian feat. It really is!
> And "Thanks" to all the demining people involved for their risky business.
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> And WOW!!! It's allways good to see high levelled government ranks
> praising such private initiatives,
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> funds together for helping
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> a decent life.
> But what is a staggering $120.000 compared to Hunderts of Billions of
> Dollars, what some
> Governments are spending for todays wars - including mines, bomblets and
> other deadly stuff
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> such ceremonies together for praising private humanitarian actions.
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> As I wrote before: I was on the verge of tears. Really!
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Pensively yours,
> Willy Meurer
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Cont.:
But especially this marginal note seems to be a welcome inducement to you for a detailed praise of the sublime soldiers and armies in the world and their fights for peace and freedom. As praiseworthy this may be - this wasn’t the theme of my reaction to Mr. John.E. Stevens contribution to this network, and doesn’t give you any right to such reproachful vocabulary against me like “hatred - contempt - spite - disdain” - and later in the letter to your comment, to be “...nauseated and sickened by your insinuation that any free country intentionally targets civilians and non-combatants......etc.”

Again - you shouldn’t twist other peoples words or make some wrong interpretations

Last but not least do I have a question: ‘Why are you afraid to post your reaction into the network?’
We have nothing to hide, Have we?

Nevertheless - no hardship,
Wishing you all the best, I remain
(again) pensively yours,
Willy Meurer

---

JOE LOLEY WROTE:

>Envelope-to: willke@primus.ca
>From: Joe Lokey <clearmines@yahoo.com>
>To: willke@primus.ca
>Subject: Your note on MgM...

I saw your note on MgM and agree that “all peace loving” people have to find this as moving as you did.

Secretary Bloomfield’s remarks on this were as follows:

"We’ve placed a finite dollar value on these dogs. The funds donated are indeed a lot of money. But think about the value of their work. How can we put a price on speeding up the process of identifying mined areas that could kill or maim innocent people, and liberating land for productive use? Lives will be saved. Displaced persons will return home. Fields will be replanted. Stability will be reinforced. And peace will be strengthened.”

It’s clear that Sec Bloomfield was saying the same thing you were. The intrinsic value of these dogs is far exceeded by the benefit to the people they will ultimately provide in increased opportunities for peace and the economic growth that can only occur in peace.

Which brings me to your obvious hatred, contempt, spite and disdain for anyone in the military who is willing to sacrifice their lives so that others may live in peace.

What price do you put on peace? If you object to the “hundreds of billions” used to free people from butchers and tyrants, slavery and oppression, not to mention those who give their lives freely so that others may live, what cost do you feel is justified in letting people be mutilated because of their religion, politics or for no reason at all?

Freedom is not free. Yes, there are unfortunate
>consequences to war which is why it must be avoided at all cost. No one hates war more than the warrior because they have the most to lose. The soldiers are not to blame. If a soldier is told to fight, he fights to win. I am nauseated and sickened by your insinuation that any free country intentionally targets civilians and non-combatants or that soldiers enjoy killing. The fault for any war lies with the politicians and diplomats who have the responsibility for avoiding wars. If war occurs, it is they who have failed. It is the soldier that pays the price for that failure. But freedom, to him, is worth it. Not you? Soldiers (of modern western armies) look for ways and weapons that enable them to win quickly with a minimal amount of infrastructure damage or collateral loss of civilian life. Every non-combatant life lost is a tragedy. The record over the last 30 years though is impressive at what technology has allowed us to do in this regard. Landmines, if ever used again, are ALL SD/SDA and pose zero humanitarian threat in the post-conflict environment. Other munitions of concern that you mentioned are being employed only sparingly and even the governments that make them are spending resources to ensure their failure rates are lower and lower. The injuries from these are miniscule in comparison to other causes for loss of life. But no weapon is ever 100% guaranteed. The weapons killing people in Iraq, Afghanistan and other places around the world are predominantly UXO and other "conventional" munitions that didn't go off when first used. Nothing is guaranteed and evil people will find a way to hurt good people as is being done daily in Baghdad and around the world. Evil must be confronted and when civilians won't do it, militaries must.

You and I (in this business) have the same goal. Look for ways to avoid the humanitarian catastrophes that result from the aftermath of wars. Our technologies have taken us a long way and the future is bright. There is much to do. Preventing future conflicts is tantamount to that. But please recognize that, as Sec Bloomfield said, there are benefits to the people that far exceed the cost. Before you spit on military people and the "billions" it costs to confront evil, think of the price that you are willing to pay for freedom, democracy and the liberty you have to think and write the very note that you posted. Can you put a price on that?

> - joe

=====
Joe Lokey
Mine Action Consultant

"I drank what?" -- Socrates (Possibly too much Bourbon?)
Hi Paul

Try Handicap Int, NPA etc - always on look out for good guys (but you could apply too I spose ho ho)

Good luck!

Fred

101 (until Jul 04 - just handed my notice in!)

> From: "Glenn Brooks" <brooks.glenn@comcast.net>
> Reply-To: <network@mgm.org>
> To: <network@mgm.org>
> Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: The Future!
> Date: Sat, 17 Jan 2004 14:06:07 +0100
> MIME-Version: 1.0
> Received: from mc12-f14.hotmail.com ([65.54.167.150]) by mc12-s10.hotmail.com with
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> X-Message-Info: cmh8WMAfDXrymsf4pGSbvDlPtDFujDGguSGl2z9WSjIQ=
> X-ListServer: CommuniGate Pro LIST 4.1.6
> List-Unsubscribe: <mailto:network-off@mgm.org>
> List-ID: <network.mgm.org>
> Message-ID: <list-1135919@ckunst.de>
> Precedence: list
> X-Original-Message-ID: <redirect-1135918@ckunst.de>
> Return-Path: network-report@mgm.org
> X-OriginalArrivalTime: 17 Jan 2004 13:10:00.0148 (UTC)
> FILETIME=[363E9940:01C3DCFB]
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> Yours Aye.
>
> Ops WO
> 33 Engr regt (EOD)

It's fast, it's easy and it's free. Get MSN Messenger today!
http://www.msn.co.uk/messenger

########################################################################
This message is sent to you because you are subscribed to
the mailing list <network@mgm.org>.
To unsubscribe, E-mail to: <network-off@mgm.org>
To switch to the Digest mode, E-mail to <network-digest@mgm.org>
Send administrative queries to <network-request@mgm.org>
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: The Future!

Date: Saturday, January 17, 2004 8:06 AM
From: Glenn Brooks <brooks.glenn@comcast.net>
Reply-To: <network@mgm.org>
To: <network@mgm.org>

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Hello,

At present I am the Regimental Operations Warrant Officer of 33 Engineer Regiment (EOD). I am mainly responsible for the smooth running of Regimental Operational deployments both at home and abroad.

Prior to this I was an Instructor at the Defence Explosive Ordnance Disposal School (DEODS) in Chattenden, Kent. I was responsible for the implementation and running of the Tri Service Basic and Intermediate EOD Courses (0805 - 0804). I was also
the lead Instructor for BCMD in the School, instructing at all levels. I taught most Ground subjects at all levels between 2000-2003. I have completed 3 postings (Totalling 9 years) to 33 Engineer Regiment serving at all ranks up to WO2. I have also spent 3 years instructing EOD.

I have 21 months (6 days, 14 hours, 8 minutes....) until I leave the military. I am preparing myself for the big occasion.

To that end, it would be appreciated if anyone could give me an idea as to what I may do in the way of courses etc to make myself more employable to companies. It would be beneficial to know what sort of work I would likely expect to get (If any).

I have received numerous replies to other emails I have sent and would like to thank in particular Roy of http://www.deminingsystems.co.uk/ who has worked very hard (Voluntarily - living on bread and water J) to produce a fantastic Modular De-Mining (MDM) System which I hope will help buy him some decent food when the project takes off!

All help is greatly appreciated.

Yours Aye.

Ops WO

33 Engr regt (EOD)
Folks,

you remember the story I told you about those Swiss crooks using MgM and the misery of mine victims to fill their own pockets?

Well, the Swiss Government attorney is still investigating, but I am positively surprised that this nauseating website of ECM/GGL has disappeared already.

Nice, hopefully justice will win.

Hendrik Ehlers
Director of MgM
Menschen gegen Minen
MineClearance NGO
ehlers@mgm.org
Hello,

At present I am the Regimental Operations Warrant Officer of 33 Engineer Regiment (EOD). I am mainly responsible for the smooth running of Regimental Operational deployments both at home and abroad.

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Yours Aye.

Ops WO
33 Engr regt (EOD)
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: Private donation-- Sri Lanka. Dog food?
Date: Thursday, January 15, 2004 2:09 PM
From: Joe Lokey <parallax53@yahoo.com>
Reply-To: <network@mgm.org>
To: <network@mgm.org>

Hendrik,

Dogs are not so different than much machinery and equipment. Those that most need them are the ones that can least afford them. A "deep pockets" donor is always needed for these major purchase items.

This is also just the unit acquisition price as I understand it and does not include support costs (food, medical, housing, and transportation of the dogs) while working and excludes the costs of the handlers, their training or the dogs recurring training or any costs associated with testing, evaluation, certification and accreditting the dogs in country.

Anyone care to guess what that might add to the price over a three year period? Who's paying for that?

- joe

--- Hendrik Ehlers - MD of MgM & HEC
<hec01@mail2.mgm.org> wrote:
> Willy,
>
> You are right. The only thing I think is a bit out
> of proportion is that
> if MgM would buy mine detection dogs for USD 20k
> each, we'd be crucified
> and may look for another field of activity....
>
> Hendrik Ehlers, Chairman MgM
> Director OPS + HEC-R&D
>
> --- Hendrik Ehlers - MD of MgM & HEC
> <hec01@mail2.mgm.org> wrote:
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> > >
> > >
> > >>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>
> > > This message is sent to you because you are
> > > subscribed to
> > > the mailing list <network@mgm.org>.
> > > To unsubscribe, E-mail to: <network-off@mgm.org>
> > > To switch to the Digest mode, E-mail to
> > > <network-digest@mgm.org>
> > > Send administrative queries to
> > <network-request@mgm.org>
> >
> Do you Yahoo!?
> Yahoo! Hotjobs: Enter the "Signing Bonus" Sweepstakes
http://hotjobs.sweepstakes.yahoo.com/signingbonus

>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>
This message is sent to you because you are subscribed to
the mailing list <network@mgm.org>.
To unsubscribe, E-mail to: <network-off@mgm.org>
To switch to the Digest mode, E-mail to <network-digest@mgm.org>
Send administrative queries to  <network-request@mgm.org>
Iraqi Team Disables Bombs With a Snip and a Prayer

By NEELA BANERJEE

AGHDAD, Iraq, Jan. 12 — The four police officers were squeezed into a small pickup truck, screaming down the highway from Baghdad at 90 miles an hour toward a bomb sighting, and they were happy.

They thrive on busy days, and today, the third call of the morning for the Baghdad police bomb squad had come in minutes before, at 11:20, with the usual sketchy information: possible explosives on the road south to Salman Pak.

For every bomb that kills Iraqis and coalition soldiers, many more are defused every day by the ordnance experts of the Baghdad police. The squad existed under the old government but was far less active. Since August, a steady trickle of calls about bomb sightings has become a torrent.

On this morning, Majid Mahdi and Hazim Khadem, both lieutenants in the squad, had already taken down an array of rockets aimed at a police station near Haifa Street. Then they defused what was left of a set of 11 rockets aimed at an American Army base. (Six rockets had been fired, but no soldiers were hurt.)

Lieutenant Mahdi, his feet resting on an AK-47 on the floor of the pickup, lighted a Gauloise cigarette.

Lt. Lotfi Ali, who drives as though he has seen "The French Connection" too many times, turned off the siren, tuned in to Arabic pop and sang along. In one smooth gesture, he took out his Glock pistol and began shifting gears with it in his hand. "Thieves," he said, pointing with the gun out the window. "Fedayeen."

The pickup stopped at a threadbare little roadblock the local police had made of
motor oil jugs and soda cans. The bomb was 150 yards up the road, the police said.

Lieutenant Khadem stepped out of the car, dressed only in street clothes, and told himself what he always does as he jogged forward: "There is no god but Allah, and Muhammad is his prophet."

As the American-led coalition begins turning over self-rule and security to Iraqis, some, like those in the Baghdad bomb squad, are already shouldering the burden.

"It's a war," Lieutenant Mahdi said. "It's not a war for the Americans. It's a war for us."

Lt. Col. Mustafa al-Wahab estimated that among the 30 or so calls a day the squad receives, half turn out to be roadside bombs or rockets aimed at some target. In the last nine months, the 11 ordnance experts in the squad have probably defused an average of 40 to 50 bombs per man, Colonel Wahab said.

Car bombs are the most feared. A deep anxiety about them has gripped Baghdad. On a window near the entrance to the squad's offices in the center of the city, someone has taped a diagram in English of vehicles that can be used for car bombs, how much explosive each can hold and the lethal zone around the blast.

Any car parked for an extended period is suspect.

One recent evening, Lieutenants Mahdi and Khadem received a call about a car that had sat all day at a central market. It turned out to be a battered white Volkswagen Passat. The two officers, quickly attracting a group of onlookers, smashed a side window, and opened the doors and the hatchback. They looked under the hood. No bomb. It was all over in less than five minutes.

The Americans, in the Iraqis' place, would have cordoned off the site by several hundred yards, sent for their ordnance team, which in turn would have dispatched a robot equipped with cameras to check the vehicle. If something had been found, an ordnance expert in full body armor would have gone in to defuse the bomb, very slowly.

Sometimes when the Americans arrive first, the Iraqis have a hard time getting through the cordon because they walk around in street clothes, carrying little more than identification and wire cutters.

"Sometimes I don't blame the Americans," said Brig. Gen. Munaam Said Abdul-Qadr, the head of the squad. "They say, `You are heroes, but at the same time, you are crazy.'"
Col. Ismael Ayash of the squad thinks his men are cavalier about wearing body armor because, in part, it takes so long to put it on and take it off, and they have so many calls to respond to. But the Iraqis especially want the robots that the Americans use, as well as better training, neither of which has been forthcoming, they said.

Requests for advanced training and equipment have been "supported by the M.P. chain of command and coalition E.O.D.," said Capt. Kelly Traynham of the 143rd Military Police Detachment, Montana National Guard, referring to the explosives ordnance disposal unit. "But I also know it takes time to get the latest and greatest equipment and training."

It will clearly take time, too, for squad members to adjust to new differences in pay and status. Lieutenant Mahdi, 35, has a new wife and a baby on the way. His squad was among the elite in the old government and were paid much more than other police units. Now, he grumbled, he makes about $150 a month, about the same as a security guard. But he said he had done this kind of work for 16 years and could not imagine chasing criminals.

A few weeks ago, he said, he was at a bomb site when a colleague's arm was blown off. It was the squad's first casualty since the end of major fighting. He answered another call just afterward. "I was thinking, 'I could lose an arm or leg, or I could die,' " he said, "But it's my job. This is my life."

Surviving each day is its own gift. So are the big finds, like the squad's discovery near the Doura power station: an ambulance carrying more than 3,000 pounds of explosives. He and the others were recently told that the Americans might present commendations to them at a ceremony soon.

Since the war, the lieutenant says, he has come to expect a different kind of bomb in each part of the city. The Aadhimiya quarter, home to many supporters of the old government, is a trove of roadside bombs. On the west bank of the Tigris, the bombs are made from old munitions. On the east bank, vessels are filled with explosives and metal.

For the most part, the bombs are triggered by simple household items: timers from washing machines, remote controls from doorbells, and receivers from parts of car alarms.

"Of course, I feel a rivalry with the bomb-makers," Lieutenant Mahdi said. "Once I find and defuse one bomb, the next time they will hide it by paving it over. Or they will use walkie-talkies so that they can explode a bomb on us."

Lieutenant Khadem, too, discussed strategy, saying that when he or one of his
comrades approaches a bomb, everything else falls by the wayside: the Americans, the fear, one's own family.

Near Salman Pak, he ran down the highway, grabbing his wire cutters from his kit. He and two others came upon some bushes leaning against a fallen tree trunk. Blue and white wires peeked out from under the bushes. In three breaths, the men moved the bushes and Lieutenant Khadem clipped the blue wire, tearing off the link to any remote control. The wires were attached to two huge artillery shells. The men heaved them into the bed of the truck and returned to Baghdad, playing pop music again, dancing in their seats and waving their hands.

Back at the station, General Abdul-Qadr was worried. He had talked to the Americans about removing the two and a half tons of munitions the Iraqis have accumulated in a storehouse just behind his office, but no one has come. "If there is any bit of friction in that room . . . ," the general said, his voice trailing off.

He also had some news for Lieutenant Mahdi. That medal ceremony he had been waiting for? The bomb squad would not be included in it.
Folks,

once we are at the topic probably worth a few opinions.

The price of b agog is not the price of a dog (small Rumsfeld?)

Dogs are quite an expensive thing to operate and if one does not go to the full extend of support they need to function as a Demining tool, one better keeps one’s hands off.

A dog needs a proper documentation including a history. Before you buy it you want to see a medical report, x-rays and a performance video - all of that clearly tagged to a specific animal. You get good dogs in the range of 1300 to 4000 USD.

Then you get your international paper work ready and ship (fly) them in in the appropriate crate. You transport them to your training centre in-country, go through extensive physical and medical checks and let them get accustomed to the different environment. You basically do a good refresher training on them to see where they are in terms of obedience and socialisation. If there are any short comings you have to correct those. It is only then when you re-check or start with the imprint.

The cost factor here apart from transport and medical is a 1A dog TA (salary, DSA, Housing, Insurance, Transport, Documentation equipment, comms etc), a dog centre with, let’s stay with the Sri Lankan example 6 plus 1 isolation kennel. You need a super clean imprint room, a dog kitchen and a sanitation pool. You also need some 5 hectares well prepared training ground and a socialisation circus with other animals around an obstacle course with thunder, light, mirrors, tiles and flash. Not talking of special leashes, medication, flown-in Eucanuba and all the toys, including specially prepared mines in many forms and parts, they need. We talk quite some bucks, know-how and consistency here.

We then need three plus three handlers, two to three 4x4 vehicles to full ops specs, camping gear and an associate Demining/EOD group.

Before the fi9rst dog goes ops, some three to four months have passed and you go through the accreditation process.

In brief, I very much hope that the donation of 6 dogs at USD 120k was USD24k max for the 6 dogs and the rest to make that purchase/donation useful over a 12 months period.

I hope that sounds better than my first comment

Hendrik Ehlers
Director of MgM
Menschen gegen Minen
MineClearance NGO
ehlers@mgm.org
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Send administrative queries to   <network-request@mgm.org>
Willy,

You are right. The only thing I think is a bit out of proportion is that if MgM would buy mine detection dogs for USD 20k each, we’d be crucified and may look for another field of activity....

Hendrik Ehlers, Chairman MgM
Director OPS + HEC-R&D
Thank you Jim, and welcome everyone. Ambassador Subasinghe, thank you for being here today and for your efforts, and those of your staff, for working with us and one of our valued partners in mine action -- the Marshall Legacy Institute -- on the initiative that has brought us all together.

I’m talking about the generous corporate and grass roots level donation of six mine detecting dogs, valued at $120,000, and the appreciation we have for the donors. Some are here or soon to arrive and others may not be with us today, but let me mention them all:

* President Nihal Goonewardene of the Sri Lankan Association of Greater Washington and his members,
* Billie and Don McCoy (and Don I know your relationship with Sri Lanka spans several decades),
* Mrs. Diana Enzi, wife of Senator Mike Enzi, who enlisted school kids from all over Wyoming in this effort (and their mine detecting dog is, amazingly enough, named "Wyoming"!),
* Linny and Dr. Beale Fowler and other concerned citizens who live in Pennsylvania’s beautiful Lehigh Valley,
* Hilda Davis,
* the Martin Trust Family Foundation,
* the Chubb Corporation and Caterpillar Incorporated, and
* Raj Rajaratnam, President of the Galleon Group, whose dog is named, amazingly enough, "Galleon."

Thank you all so much.

And of course I thank the Marshall Legacy Institute for inspiring these donations and working closely with us in a real partnership to ensure that everyone -- from the donors to the Sri Lankans -- achieves the maximum from this heartfelt effort.

These valuable dogs, currently in training in Texas, are going to make a real difference once their paws hit the ground in the coming weeks and they complete their familiarization with Sri Lanka and their human handlers there this spring. These six dogs will accelerate the rate at which mined areas in Sri Lanka can be identified, demarcated, cleared, and double-checked to ensure that deadly persistent landmines -- these "hidden killers" -- really have been cleared.

We are proud to celebrate this public-private investment that will speed demining operations in Sri Lanka and support the peace process which is so important there.

We’ve placed a finite dollar value on these dogs. The funds donated are
indeed a lot of money. But think about the value of their work. How can we put a price on speeding up the process of identifying mined areas that could kill or maim innocent people, and liberating land for productive use? Lives will be saved. Displaced persons will return home. Fields will be replanted. Stability will be reinforced. And peace will be strengthened. What a great reward for all your efforts.

The United States Government has been a strong and steady supporter of humanitarian mine action going back to the late 1980s when we and some other nations began to recognize the magnitude of the global problem caused by persistent landmines left in the ground by irresponsible combatants, often leaving a deadly hazard in place long after the hostilities were a distant memory.

The United States began providing mine action assistance to Afghanistan starting in 1988, then to Cambodia and then to some other countries. The scale of the problem and our growing commitment inspired us to create the U.S. Humanitarian Mine Action Program in 1993. And let me acknowledge the presence of Pat Patierno, who ran that program for several years, and did it brilliantly. Since the formal establishment of this program involving the State Department and other agencies, our government has invested over $700 million dollars in mine action all over the world.

Along the way, we realized that there is no reason to rely solely on governments to address the burden of overcoming this problem. So we launched our unique public-private partnership program, which as we see, is bringing a new and powerful element of private donor action to the fore on the landmine problem.

It is very gratifying to see the results of outstanding efforts by private donors and by other governments as well. The Sri Lankan government’s humanitarian deminers, who began training in late August of 2003, have already exceeded expectations in the pace and quality of their operations. The partnership we are celebrating today will enable them to be still more effective.

You know, our belief in the usefulness of mine detecting dogs goes back to our own experience using dogs to find explosives and perform other special functions during World War II and in Vietnam. We drew on this when we introduced mine detecting dogs to Afghanistan in the late 1980s.

We have considered mine detecting dogs to be a useful asset in what we call the deminer’s “tool box” in almost every mine affected country where we have provided mine action assistance since. That’s over 40 countries in every hemisphere in a wide range of climates and terrain.

There is no single, one-size-fits-all solution to clearing landmines. We’re not suggesting that mine detecting dogs are infallible or the perfect “tool” for every situation. Dogs are living creatures. They’re subject to moods, fatigue and illness just like humans. Extremes of weather, terrain and altitude can hinder their effectiveness just as it can the effectiveness of humans. And dogs can be “spoofed” by some mines and soil conditions just as human deminers and their metal detectors can also be thrown off. Nonetheless, we have to measure these almost human weaknesses against the proven track record of mine detecting dogs. And here’s the good news: that track record is extraordinary!

Once again, Perry Baltimore and the Marshall Legacy Institute have been instrumental in bringing to fruition a public-private partnership initiative involving mine detecting dogs that will make a real difference in the lives of countless people. And let me also take this opportunity to acknowledge
and welcome General Gordon Sullivan, former Chief of Staff of the United States Army, whose leadership and high standards of excellence is similarly reflected in everything about MLI, for whom he serves as Chairman Emeritus.

Before Ambassador Subasinghe addresses you, there are some final points I want to make.

First, the U.S. Humanitarian Mine Action Program, already one of the world’s largest, will continue to invest in clearing mines, teaching mine risk education to people who live in areas affected by landmines and unexploded ordnance, and providing assistance to those who have been seriously injured by landmines. Our program has received steady bi-partisan support from Congress over the years, reflecting the genuine concern that our legislators and their constituents have about the global landmine problem, and I want to extend to them our sincere appreciation.

Second, we remain committed to the belief that private citizens and organizations have a role in reinforcing the official mine action efforts of the U.S. Government and the governments of other donor nations. We now proudly count over 40 non-governmental organizations in our public-private partnership program to support mine action. Working with them, with all of you, and we hope with still more such partners in the future, we pledge to continue the vital work around the world to make the world mine-safe.

Thank you.

[End]

Released on January 14, 2004

*****************************************************************************
This message is sent to you because you are subscribed to the mailing list <network@mgm.org>.
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To switch to the Digest mode, E-mail to <network-digest@mgm.org>
Send administrative queries to <network-request@mgm.org>
January 14, 2004

Dear network participants,

I couldn't help it — and I think a lot of other peace loving people might have had the same feelings:

When I read about this action, I was on the verge of tears!!!

Returning 32,500 square meters of land to productive use and enabling over 100,000 internally displaced persons to return to their homes and farms is surely a humanitarian feat. It really is!

And "Thanks" to all the demining people involved for their risky business.

And WOW!!! It's always good to see high levelled government ranks praising such private initiatives,

where schools, school kids, parents and other concerned people put some funds together for helping their human brothers and sisters in such bolted countries to find back to a decent life.

But what is a staggering $120,000 compared to HUNDREDS of Billions of Dollars, what some Governments are spending for today's wars — including mines, bomblets and other deadly stuff they're armies are dispersing. If they wouldn't do this in the first place — they wouldn't have to put such ceremonies together for praising private humanitarian actions.

As I wrote before: I was on the verge of tears. Really!

Pensively yours,

Willy Meurer

———
Lincoln P. Bloomfield, Jr., the Special Representative of the President and
Secretary of State for Mine Action who also serves as Assistant Secretary
for Political-Military Affairs, at a ceremony at the Department of State
today to recognize the donation.
Those honored included the Sri Lankan Association of Greater Washington, the
school children of Wyoming under the Children Against Mines Program
(CHAMPS), Billie and Don McCoy, Hilda Davis, the Martin Trust Family
Foundation, concerned citizens in Pennsylvania’s Lehigh Valley, Caterpillar
Incorporated, the Chubb Corporation, and the Galleon Group. This initiative
was coordinated by the Marshall Legacy Institute in partnership with the
Embassy of Sri Lanka and the Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement in the
Bureau of Political-Military Affairs.
Parts of Sri Lanka are infested by persistent landmines emplaced during two
decades of civil war. The Department of State’s Quick Reaction Demining
Force deployed to Sri Lanka in 2002 to take advantage of the cease-fire
concluded that year, returning 32,500 square meters of land to productive
use and enabling over 100,000 internally displaced persons to return to
their homes and farms. The United States mine action program in Sri Lanka
is intended to benefit Tamils, Sinhalese and Muslims alike. The mine
detecting dogs, currently being trained in Texas, will be integrated in Sri
Lanka’s own mine action program.
To learn more about the U.S. Department of State’s humanitarian mine action
programs in Sri Lanka and 29 other countries, its public-private
partnerships to support mine action, and its small arms and light weapons
abatement efforts, visit www.state.gov/t/pm/wra
<http://www.state.gov/t/pm/wra>.
2004/30
[End]
>
>
#################################################################
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Send administrative queries to <network-request@mgm.org>
Anyone with a real desire to be sure their deminers are safe - and that the land is clear to the specified depth - should find time to come to ISPRA at the end of this month....

Regards

Dieter

Interesting how opinions can differ, I prefer to stay with my deminers....

Hendrik Ehlers, Chairman  MgM

I appreciate that opinions differ. We are already invited to carry out the same in the region close to where you are. I'm still open for learning and will leave a time window
for you and your deminers to learn what your preference is based on. Just give the content and time you need.

Dieter Guelle, Director GMAC GmbH
Subject: MgM Demining Network: Call EUDEM2004  
Date: Thursday, January 15, 2004 4:01 AM  
From: Hendrik Ehlers - MD of MgM & HEC <hec01@mail2.mgm.org>  
Reply-To: <network@mgm.org>  
To: <network@mgm.org>

For more info please check  
http://www.ihrt.tuwien.ac.at/hudem04  

Thanks

Yvan Baudoin  
Prof  
Dpt Mechanical Engineering  
Royal Military Academy  
30 Avenue de la renaissance B 1000 Brussels  
Phone 32 2 7376553/ Fax 32 2 737 6547  
Urgency only: 0497/509244  
http://mecatron.rma.ac.be - http://www.ldms.rma.ac.be  
Nothing is so infectious as example (C.Kingsley)
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: MgM Demining Network: unknown munitions fm Iraq
Date: Thursday, January 15, 2004 4:01 AM
From: Didier LEONARD <didierleo@hotmail.com>
Reply-To: <network@mgm.org>
To: <network@mgm.org>

Andrey, Roger,

many thanks for this information, it is already forward!

Cheers

Didier

> From: "Roger Hess" <rhess@mweb.co.za>
> Reply-To: <network@mgm.org>
> To: <network@mgm.org>
> Subject: MgM Demining Network: unknown munitions fm Iraq
> Date: Thu, 15 Jan 2004 08:12:34 +0100
> >
> > Andrey;
> >
> > Many thanks for the advice; it sounds like you’ve encountered containers
> > built in a similar manner.
> >
> > I’ll shoot that back up the channels to see if the item had a void in the
> > center of mass, and if an alpha/beta check can still be done if it does.
> >
> > Cheers;
> >
> > Roger
>
> >-----Original Message-----
> >From: network@mgm.org [mailto:network@mgm.org] On Behalf Of A. Kostioukov
> >Sent: Wednesday, January 14, 2004 10:47 PM
> >To: network@mgm.org
> >Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: Fwd: ID on unknown munitions fm Iraq
> >
> >
> >Didier, Roger & All;
> >It’s needed to be very careful with such lead items. It may be container
> >for
> >radioactive isotopes. In that case under the plate must be small window for
> >emanation. That’s why I recommended to Didier to check its level of
> >radiation.
> >Cheers
> >Andrey
> >
> >
> >*******************************************************************************
> >This message is sent to you because you are subscribed to
> >the mailing list <network@mgm.org>.
> >To unsubscribe, E-mail to: <network-off@mgm.org>
> >To switch to the Digest mode, E-mail to <network-digest@mgm.org>
> >Send administrative queries to <network-request@mgm.org>
MSN Messenger  http://g.msn.fr/FR1001/866 : un logiciel gratuit pour dialoguer avec vos amis !

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To switch to the Digest mode, E-mail to <network-digest@mgm.org>
Send administrative queries to  <network-request@mgm.org>
Andrey;

Many thanks for the advice; it sounds like you've encountered containers built in a similar manner.

I'll shoot that back up the channels to see if the item had a void in the center of mass, and if an alpha/beta check can still be done if it does.

Cheers;

Roger

-----Original Message-----
From: network@mgm.org [mailto:network@mgm.org]On Behalf Of A. Kostioukov
Sent: Wednesday, January 14, 2004 10:47 PM
To: network@mgm.org
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: Fwd: ID on unknown munitions fm Iraq

Didier, Roger & All;
It's needed to be very careful with such lead items. It may be container for radioactive isotopes. In that case under the plate must be small window for emanation. That's why I recommended to Didier to check its level of radiation.
Cheers
Andrey

#End of message#
Subject: MgM Demining Network: Private donation of Mine Detecting Dogs for Sri Lanka

Date: Wednesday, January 14, 2004 3:46 PM
From: Stevens, John E <SteveJE@state.gov>
Reply-To: <network@mgm.org>
To: <network@mgm.org>

Media Note
Office of the Spokesman
U.S. Department of State
Washington, D.C.
January 14, 2004

Private Donation of Mine Detecting Dogs for Sri Lanka

The U.S. Department of State will honor the Marshall Legacy today for its help in raising money for the donation of six landmine-detecting dogs for Sri Lanka. The dogs, valued at $120,000, will help Sri Lankan humanitarian deminers to detect landmines more efficiently and to speed up the safe return of displaced persons back to their homes. Since 1995, the inter-agency United States Humanitarian Mine Action Program has invested over $3 million dollars to help clear landmines and train Sri Lankans in modern demining techniques.

"We are proud to celebrate this public-private investment that will speed demining operations in Sri Lanka and enhance the peace process there," said Lincoln P. Bloomfield, Jr., the Special Representative of the President and Secretary of State for Mine Action who also serves as Assistant Secretary for Political-Military Affairs, at a ceremony at the Department of State today to recognize the donation.

Those honored included the Sri Lankan Association of Greater Washington, the school children of Wyoming under the Children Against Mines Program (CHAMPS), Billie and Don McCoy, Hilda Davis, the Martin Trust Family Foundation, concerned citizens in Pennsylvania's Lehigh Valley, Caterpillar Incorporated, the Chubb Corporation, and the Galleon Group. This initiative was coordinated by the Marshall Legacy Institute in partnership with the Embassy of Sri Lanka and the Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement in the Bureau of Political-Military Affairs.

Parts of Sri Lanka are infested by persistent landmines emplaced during two decades of civil war. The Department of State's Quick Reaction Demining Force deployed to Sri Lanka in 2002 to take advantage of the cease-fire concluded that year, returning 32,500 square meters of land to productive use and enabling over 100,000 internally displaced persons to return to their homes and farms. The United States mine action program in Sri Lanka is intended to benefit Tamils, Sinhalese and Muslims alike. The mine detecting dogs, currently being trained in Texas, will be integrated in Sri Lanka's own mine action program.

To learn more about the U.S. Department of State’s humanitarian mine action programs in Sri Lanka and 29 other countries, its public-private partnerships to support mine action, and its small arms and light weapons abatement efforts, visit www.state.gov/t/pm/wra.

2004/30
[End]
This message is sent to you because you are subscribed to
the mailing list <network@mgm.org>.
To unsubscribe, E-mail to: <network-off@mgm.org>
To switch to the Digest mode, E-mail to <network-digest@mgm.org>
Send administrative queries to       <network-request@mgm.org>
Didier, Roger & All;

It's needed to be very careful with such lead items. It may be container for radioactive isotopes. In that case under the plate must be small window for emanation. That's why I recommended to Didier to check its level of radiation.

Cheers

Andrey

----- Original Message ----- 
From: "Roger Hess" <rhess@mweb.co.za>
To: <network@mgm.org>
Sent: Wednesday, January 14, 2004 11:09 AM
Subject: MgM Demining Network: Fwd: ID on unknown munitions fm Iraq

> Didier, Andrey, & All;
> 
> Ran it up through my channels and this was just sent back from one of the 
> US EOD Team Leaders working in Iraq.
> 
> Have to admit; it looked suspicious and deserved investigation, however 
> sometimes that how things turn out.
> 
> Cheers 
> 
> Roger 
> 
> >> Well.. I'm surprised to see that photo of the suspect apers mine. That 
> >>item is not a mine as was told by local Iraqi's. The item is believed to 
> >>be 
> >>a weight possibly for large fishing nets or some other type of 
> >>counterweight. I actually was the TL to respond to the site and it was 
> >>found 
> >>to be solid lead incased in plastic sleeve. The metal plate across the top 
> >>spins up and down. As if to attach to something then tightened into place. 
> >>There are no explosives whatsoever. The civilian contractors who had the 
> >>items outside there house, had already contacted a EOD contractor 
> >>British 
> >>I 
> >>think). I'm assuming the PIC and inquiry came from him. Well..if there 
> >>are 
> >>any further questions, just ask. 
> >>-------------------------------------------------------
> >>----- Original Message ----- 
> >>From: "Wolfgang Maschke" <wm@mgm.org>
> >>To: <network@mgm.org>
> >>Sent: Thursday, January 08, 2004 3:02 PM 
> >>Subject: MgM Demining Network: Fwd: unknown munitions fm Iraq 
> >>
> >
> >
Is there anybody who can tell me what is it? These pictures come from Iraq. I do not have more details.

Thanks for your cooperation.

Cheers

Didier

didierleo@hotmail.com
> MSN Search, le moteur de recherche qui pense comme vous !
> http://search.msn.fr/
>
> #############################################################
> This message is sent to you because you are subscribed to
> the mailing list <network@mgm.org>.
> To unsubscribe, E-mail to: <network-off@mgm.org>
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Hi Roger,

thanks a lot for this last updated, I forwarded this information to my friend in Iraq. How you said, sometimes that turn up, it is for this case our job is very interesting, it is always a challenge!

Cheers

Didier

> From: "Roger Hess" <rhess@mweb.co.za>
> Reply-To: <network@mgm.org>
> To: <network@mgm.org>
> Subject: MgM Demining Network: Fwd: ID on unknown munitions fm Iraq
> Date: Wed, 14 Jan 2004 09:09:26 +0100
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Didier

didierleo@hotmail.com
MSN Search, le moteur de recherche qui pense comme vous !
http://search.msn.fr/

didierleo@hotmail.com

MSN Messenger  http://g.msn.fr/FR1001/866 : un logiciel gratuit pour dialoguer avec vos amis !
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Send administrative queries to  <network-request@mgm.org>
Subject: MgM Demining Network: Senegal says rebels ready to demine Casamance
Date: Tuesday, January 13, 2004 8:38 AM
From: ACARLG@aol.com
Reply-To: <network@mgm.org>
To: <network@mgm.org>

Senegal says rebels ready to demine Casamance

DAKAR, Jan 6 (Reuters) - Senegal President Abdoulaye Wade said on Tuesday separatist rebels had agreed to clear landmines from the southern Casamance region and the end was close for a decades-old conflict.

In his New Year address, he said the rebels would start to remove mines before January 11, adding: "They know where they put the mines."

Hundreds of people have been maimed by mines in Casamance, a former tourist hotspot but isolated by a low-intensity conflict between rebels and government forces since 1982.

Wade promised a new amnesty for the rebels in Casamance, which is nearly cut off from the rest of the West African state by the Gambia.

The rebel Movement of Democratic Forces of Casamance (MFDC) took up arms to demand more autonomy for the largely Christian and animist region from the rest of mostly Muslim Senegal.

01/06/04 12:33 ET
TRANSFORMING MINEFIELDS INTO CORNFIELDS!

A revolutionary concept of combining the removal of destructive weapons with the simultaneous planting of a crop!

Please, visit www.deminingsystems.co.uk <http://www.deminingsystems.co.uk/>
Soldier carrying land mine kicked off flight

DENVER, Colorado (AP) -- A 24-year-old Army sergeant was removed from an American Airlines flight after an inert land mine was found in his checked baggage, the Transportation Safety Administration said.

TSA screeners noticed the land mine Friday, pulled the bag from the luggage system at Denver International Airport and confiscated the mine, TSA spokesman Mike Fierberg said. No flights were delayed.

The soldier, whose name was not released, could face civil penalties for trying to put a prohibited item aboard a flight, Fierberg said. No criminal charges would be filed, he said.

The man was released by police, but the airline refused to allow him aboard his flight to Dallas, Fierberg said.
Anyone with a real desire to be sure their deminers are safe - and that the land is clear to the specified depth - should find time to come to ISPRA at the end of this month....

Regards
Dieter

Interesting how opinions can differ, I prefer to stay with my deminers....

Hendrik Ehlers, Chairman MgM
See below – and if you have some extra cash, MgM will be happy to receive some, too.

Hendrik Ehlers
Chairman, MgM

Dear Sir/Ma'am,

Greetings for the New Year 2004!

Sarvatra Technical Consultants is a non-profiting Humanitarian Demining organisation, established in 2002, having its registered office at New Delhi, India. The organisation was raised primarily to take part in the demining operations in Sri Lanka, with the active support of the Govt of Norway, with a view to rehabilitate large population affected by 18 years of insurgency in the Island Nation. The first project was sanctioned at an estimated cost of USD 0.5 million, which has helped in demining of 250000 square meters of area, and rehabilitation of large Sri Lankan population.

The budget estimates for the extension of the existing project for carrying out the demining activity for the calendar year 2004, were submitted to the Norwegian Embassy in Sri Lanka. There is a requirement of USD 0.91 million for carrying out the demining activity in Sri Lanka to clear an estimated 500000 square meters of landmine infested area for the purpose of rehabilitation.

It has been intimated by the Norwegian Embassy that due to the paucity of funds, only USD 0.6 million can be made available. Clearly there is a shortfall of USD 0.31
In order to keep the existing project 'going' there is a need to raise the funds to the tune of USD 0.31 million.

We solicit your cooperation for raising funds to the tune of USD 0.31 million, so as to keep the existing project 'going'. Kindly advise the specific information you would like me to submit for the consideration of fund raising for the existing project. The contact details of the organisation are given as under:

CONTACT INFORMATION

1. Full Mailing Address : Headoffice
   
   B-5/186, Safdarjung Enclave, New Delhi - 110029, India.

2. City : New Delhi

3. Country : India

4. Phone Numbers : 0091-11-26190081

   0091-11-55653892

   Mobile : 0091-11-98101 34646

5. Fax Numbers : 0091-11-26167249

6. Email Address : info@sarvatrademiners.com
7. Homepage URL : http://www.sarvatrademiners.com

Looking forward to receive a prompt reply.

Best Regards,

Major General B S Kataria, VSM, RTD
Vice President
Sarvatra Technical Consultants
Dieter,

If possible could you please email me the book as well

Regards

Chris

----- Original Message ----- 
From: "Dieter Guelle" <dieter.guelle@jrc.it>
To: <network@mgm.org>
Sent: Monday, January 12, 2004 6:28 PM
Subject: MgM Demining Network: Metal Detector Handbook

Dear All,

This book is free and put on the website for downloading it is now easy to find just go to www.itep.ws
There is the link given on top right.
Tom I’ll send you one copy as a PDF. It is about 1MB, I hope it will not create a problem. Later you can also get a hardcopy with a CD if wanted.
Please send me your contacts. First of all the email.(dieter.guelle@jrc.it)
Regards
Dieter

-----Original Message-----
From: network@mgm.org [mailto:network@mgm.org] On Behalf Of Gilbert, Thomas MR
Sent: Monday, January 12, 2004 3:33 PM
To: network@mgm.org
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: FW: Metal Detector Handbook

Greetings all,

Any chance one or all of you could email me this handbook? I cant seem to get into the website for the D/L. No problem with the bandwidth, so if you have it feel free to send it on. Dieter, would it be all right if I get it set up on a second site for D/L?

Kind regards,
Tom Gilbert

-----Original Message-----
From: Franciska Borry [mailto:franciska.borry@jrc.it]
Sent: Friday, December 19, 2003 2:15 PM
To: network@mgm.org
Subject: MgM Demining Network: FW: Metal Detector Handbook
Dear All,

Metal Detector Handbook

For Humanitarian Demining - Under this title the EC supported the publication of a handbook about detectors and how to use them in HD as well as to other detection methods under development a very brief description. I had the pleasure to work with a team that agreed with the aim I had and we tried our best to deliver something that may help to improve the knowledge about detection and more important the safety of the deminer. My special thanks to them.

For better understanding or to forget about I'll give a very short summary of what we tried to bring over. On the other hand most of the field guys will have time during their holydays to have a look at other things than a clearance side (there are some nice pictures in - sorry they are only connected to the content).

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Merry Christmas and a happy new year to all.
Dieter Guelle

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the mailing list <network@mgm.org>.
To unsubscribe, E-mail to: <network-off@mgm.org>
To switch to the Digest mode, E-mail to
<network-digest@mgm.org> Send administrative queries to
<network-request@mgm.org>
Hi Chris,
I think that this is a tractor manufactured by Clayton Multi-Drive. There web site is; www.vr67.dial.pipex.com/clayton.htm <http://www.vr67.dial.pipex.com/clayton.htm>

Regards

Roy

PO Box 73, Hexham, NE47 0YT, UK Tel +44 (0)870 126 9120
Minefields to Cornfields

www.deminingsystems.org <http://www.deminingsystems.org>

It can be seen that people have concerns about this system.

I would be more happy to try and organise testing of this machine through ITEP to define how it could be best used in HD operations if someone could give me contact details.
Regards

Chris Leach
Research Engineer
QinetiQ
Tel. +44 (0)1252 374005

-----Original Message-----
From: Scott Smith HEC Technical Manager [mailto:scott@mgm.org]
Sent: 12 January 2004 09:46
To: network@mgm.org
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: Mine protected tractor
Agreed, that is a real scary build.

Scott

At 09:31 AM 1/12/2004, you wrote:

William;

Interesting; however if that tractor is going in an operational capacity against AT mines in Angola, I sincerely hope that there will be more to that armor than just the deflector plates shown in the photo.

Just off-the-cuff: The operator seems to be in direct line-of-sight with the tires, there are all kinds of places on the chassis that would serve as gas-traps, and unless that cab is much stronger then it looks, the over-pressure from a double-stack of AT mines will crush it like discarded beer can.

Sure hope their insurance policies are paid up.

Cheers

Roger
The Information contained in this E-Mail and any subsequent correspondence is private and is intended solely for the intended recipient(s).
For those other than the recipient any disclosure, copying, distribution, or any action taken or omitted to be taken in reliance on such information is prohibited and may be unlawful.

Emails and other electronic communication with QinetiQ may be monitored. Calls to QinetiQ may be recorded for quality control, regulatory and monitoring purposes.
Too true, you wouldn’t get me driving in that cab!

Ashley

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From: network@mgm.org [mailto:network@mgm.org] On Behalf Of Scott Smith HEC Technical Manager
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Sure hope their insurance policies are paid up.

Cheers
Roger

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From: network@mgm.org [mailto:network@mgm.org] <mailto:network@mgm.org%5DOn> On <mailto:network@mgm.org%5DOn> Behalf Of William new
Sent: Sunday, January 11, 2004 10:54 PM
To: network@mgm.org
Subject: MgM Demining Network: Mine protected tractor
I thought you might be interested in this picture and caption in Farm Contractor magazine. It is a monthly magazine available on subscription within the UK and aimed at agricultural contractors and large farms.
I was unable to find any other reference within the magazine so do not know the full story of how and why it was featured beside being interesting. If you want a better resolution pic please email me directly or Tony Collier the editor.
Or perhaps there is someone on this discussion group using the tractor?
regards
William

Tony Collier- hope you do not mind the publicity? This is to a closed discussion group for professional deminers worldwide sponsored by MgM a German humanitarian demining organisation. WW

Scott D Smith
Technical Manager
HEC (Hendrik Ehlers Consult)
Website: www.mgm.org <http://www.mgm.org/> 
eMail: scott@mgm.org
Cell: +264 81 128 7805
Fax: +264 61 243 477
PO Box 24394, Windhoek, Namibia, Africa 9000
Subject: MgM Demining Network: Metal Detector Handbook

Date: Monday, January 12, 2004 10:28 AM
From: Dieter Guelle <dieter.guelle@jrc.it>
Reply-To: <network@mgm.org>
To: <network@mgm.org>

Dear All,

This book is free and put on the website for downloading it is now easy to find just go to
www.itep.ws
There is the link given on top right.
Tom I’ll send you one copy as a PDF. It is about 1MB, I hope it will not create a problem. Later you can also get a hardcopy with a CD if wanted. Please send me your contacts. First of all the email.(dieter.guelle@jrc.it)
Regards
Dieter

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> > Tom Gilbert
> >
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> Merry Christmas and a happy new year to all.
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Try this one: http://humanitarian-security.jrc.it/index.html

Regards

Tom Bloodworth

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Send administrative queries to <network-request@mgm.org>
Greetings all,

Any chance one or all of you could email me this handbook? I can't seem to get into the website for the D/L. No problem with the bandwidth, so if you have it feel free to send it on. Dieter, would it be all right if I get it set up on a second site for D/L?

Kind regards,
Tom Gilbert

-----Original Message-----
From: Franciska Borry [mailto:franciska.borry@jrc.it]
Sent: Friday, December 19, 2003 2:15 PM
To: network@mgm.org
Subject: MgM Demining Network: FW: Metal Detector Handbook

Dear All,

Metal Detector Handbook
For Humanitarian Demining - Under this title the EC supported the publication of a handbook about detectors and how to use them in HD as well as to other detection methods under development a very brief description. I had the pleasure to work with a team that agreed with the aim I had and we tried our best to deliver something that may help to improve the knowledge about detection and more important the safety of the deminer.
My special thanks to them.
For better understanding or to forget about I'll give a very short summary of what we tried to bring over. On the other hand most of the field guys will have time during their holydays to have a look at other things than a clearance side (there are some nice pictures in - sorry they are only connected to the content).

Background
- Humanitarian Demining exists a very short time special books are rare
- Situation connected with world-wide mine problem a short description to the involved countries and the mine problem will give a good background to the HD situation
- Knowledge of detection equipment in the demining community should be updated sometimes

Scope, Objectives of the book
- User should be the medium and upper level of demining organisations as could be the donor community and other interested persons (students, soldiers, UXO personnel) and enterprises working in this area
- Technical/practical guide without going into too much details and technical description of physical processes and issues
- Explanation of different technical solutions and their
advantages and limits

Content of the book

Chapter 1: Background to HD
Chapter 2: The role of metal-detectors in HD
Chapter 3: Detector standards and detector test standards
Chapter 4: Metal-detector technology
Chapter 5: Training
Chapter 6: The use of metal-detectors in mined areas
Chapter 7: The way forward

Annex A: Explosive Detecting Dogs (EDDs)
Annex B: Other ERW detection technologies
Annex C: Explosive content of mines
Annex D: CWA 07 test overview
Annex E: Calibration of the Schiebel AN19/2 M7
Annex F: Suggested further reading
INDEX
Quick Reference Index for Field Users
Main Index
You can download the PDF version:

Merry Christmas and a happy new year to all.
Dieter Guelle
>

####################################################################################################
This message is sent to you because you are subscribed to
the mailing list <network@mgm.org>.
To unsubscribe, E-mail to: <network-off@mgm.org>
To switch to the Digest mode, E-mail to <network-digest@mgm.org>
Send administrative queries to <network-request@mgm.org>

####################################################################################################
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To unsubscribe, E-mail to: <network-off@mgm.org>
To switch to the Digest mode, E-mail to <network-digest@mgm.org>
Send administrative queries to <network-request@mgm.org>
Subject: MgM Demining Network: Mine protected tractor
Date: Monday, January 12, 2004 9:19 AM
From: Leach Chris A <CALEACH@qinetiq.com>
Reply-To: <network@mgm.org>
To: <network@mgm.org>

It can be seen that people have concerns about this system. I would be more happy to try and organise testing of this machine through ITEP to define how it could be best used in HD operations if someone could give me contact details.

Regards
Chris Leach
Research Engineer
QinetiQ
Tel. +44 (0)1252 374005

-----Original Message-----
From: Scott Smith HEC Technical Manager [mailto:scott@mgm.org]
Sent: 12 January 2004 09:46
To: network@mgm.org
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: Mine protected tractor

Agreed, that is a real scary build.

Scott

At 09:31 AM 1/12/2004, you wrote:

William;

Interesting; however if that tractor is going in an operational capacity against AT mines in Angola, I sincerely hope that there will be more to that armor then just the deflector plates shown in the photo.

Just off-the-cuff: The operator seems to be in direct line-of-sight with the tires, there are all kinds of places on the chassis that would serve as gas-traps, and unless that cab is much stronger then it looks, the over-pressure from a double-stack of AT mines will crush it like discarded beer can.

Sure hope their insurance policies are paid up.

Cheers

Roger
The Information contained in this E-Mail and any subsequent correspondence is private and is intended solely for the intended recipient(s).
For those other than the recipient any disclosure, copying, distribution, or any action taken or omitted to be taken in reliance on such information is prohibited and may be unlawful.
Emails and other electronic communication with QinetiQ may be monitored. Calls to QinetiQ may be recorded for quality control, regulatory and monitoring purposes.
More to the "armored" tractor....

The roof of the tractor has a composite cover (usually plastic) that acts as an umbrella due to the many holes left in the roof for options like air-con, etc. Can't tell from the pic, but cab does not seem to be armored.
This is an AP blast mine only vehicle, but frags are still gonna hurt...

S

At 09:31 AM 1/12/2004, you wrote:

William;

Interesting; however if that tractor is going in an operational capacity against AT mines in Angola, I sincerely hope that there will be more to that armor then just the deflector plates shown in the photo.

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Cheers

Roger

-----Original Message-----
From: network@mgm.org [mailto:network@mgm.org] <mailto:network@mgm.org%5DOn> On <mailto:network@mgm.org%5DOn> Behalf Of William new
Sent: Sunday, January 11, 2004 10:54 PM
To: network@mgm.org
Subject: MgM Demining Network: Mine protected tractor

I thought you might be interested in this picture and caption in Farm Contractor magazine. It is a monthly magazine available on subscription within the UK and aimed at agricultural contractors and large farms. I was unable to find any other reference within the magazine so do not know the full story of how and why it was featured beside being interesting. If you want a better resolution pic please email
me directly or Tony Collier the editor.
Or perhaps there is someone on this discussion group using the tractor?
regards
William

Tony Collier- hope you do not mind the publicity? This is to a closed discussion group for professional deminers worldwide sponsored by MgM a German humanitarian demining organisation. WW

**Scott D Smith**
Technical Manager
HEC (Hendrik Ehlers Consult)
Website: www.mgm.org <http://www.mgm.org/>
eMail: scott@mgm.org
Cell: +264 81 128 7805
Fax: +264 61 243 477
PO Box 24394, Windhoek, Namibia, Africa 9000
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Sure hope their insurance policies are paid up.

Cheers

Roger

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**Scott D Smith**
Technical Manager
HEC (Hendrik Ehlers Consult)
Website: www.mgm.org <http://www.mgm.org/>
eMail: scott@mgm.org
Cell: +264 81 128 7805
Fax: +264 61 243 477
PO Box 24394, Windhoek, Namibia, Africa 9000
Absolutely, Roger...perhaps they would be better off pushing their trailer!

Bob

-----Original Message-----
From: network-report@mgm.org [mailto:network-report@mgm.org] On Behalf Of
Roger Hess
Sent: 12 January 2004 07:32
To: network@mgm.org
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: Mine protected tractor

William;

Interesting; however if that tractor is going in an operational capacity against AT mines in Angola, I sincerely hope that there will be more to that armor then just the deflector plates shown in the photo.

Just off-the-cuff: The operator seems to be in direct line-of-sight with the tires, there are all kinds of places on the chassis that would serve as gas-traps, and unless that cab is much stronger then it looks, the over-pressure from a double-stack of AT mines will crush it like discarded beer can.

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Cheers

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regards

William

Tony Collier- hope you do not mind the publicity? This is to a closed discussion group for professional deminers worldwide sponsored by MgM a German humanitarian demining organisation. WW
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: Mine protected tractor
Date: Monday, January 12, 2004 2:31 AM
From: Roger Hess <rhess@mweb.co.za>
Reply-To: <network@mgm.org>
To: <network@mgm.org>

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Sure hope their insurance policies are paid up.

Cheers

Roger

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From: network@mgm.org [mailto:network@mgm.org]On Behalf Of William new
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Or perhaps there is someone on this discussion group using the tractor?
regards
William

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Hi Andrey
Thanks
Cheers

> From: "A. Kostioukov" <fortenterprise@mtu-net.ru>
> Reply-To: <network@mgm.org>
> To: <network@mgm.org>
> Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: Chemical structure of Tetryl, PETN
> Date: Fri, 09 Jan 2004 08:32:13 +0100
> 
> Hi Alfred
> All structures are in attachment.
> Cheers
> Andrey
> 
> ------ Original Message ------
> From: "Alfred djama" <djamalfred@hotmail.com>
> To: <network@mgm.org>
> Sent: Thursday, January 08, 2004 9:48 PM
> Subject: MgM Demining Network: Chemical structure of Tetryl, PETN
> 
> > Morning all
> >
> > Can anybody gives me one idea about chemical structures of Tetryl, PETN
> and
> > HMX like chemical
> >
> > structures of TNT and RDX in jointed documents.
> >
> > cheers.
> >
> > Alfred Djama
> >
> >
> > MSN Messenger : discutez en direct avec vos amis !
> > http://www.msn.fr/mager/default.asp
> >
> >
> >"
Cher Marc

Merci beaucoup pour les formules chimiques.

>From: MarcDfnx@aol.com
>Reply-To: <network@mgm.org>
>To: <network@mgm.org>

>From: Marc Défourneaux
>Reply-To: <network@mgm.org>
>To: <network@mgm.org>

>Structures attached / structures ci-jointes.

Marc Défourneaux

This message is sent to you because you are subscribed to
   the mailing list <network@mgm.org>.
To unsubscribe, E-mail to: <network-off@mgm.org>
To switch to the Digest mode, E-mail to <network-digest@mgm.org>
Send administrative queries to <network-request@mgm.org>

MSN Messenger : discutez en direct avec vos amis !
http://www.msn.fr/msger/default.asp
Hi Dieter

Interesting points!

I think you are right, however unfortunately most land isn't mined, even in a minefield, and I suspect people might be getting away with bad practices as a result...they may not even know they don't know (oops I've done a rumsfeld!) which might explain why they dont want to come - they may not realise they could benefit.

By the way, thanks for a great book (I already told Andy and Tom this) particularly for a great, simple explanation of the impact of changing detector types

yours

Bob

-----Original Message-----
From: network-report@mgm.org [mailto:network-report@mgm.org] On Behalf Of Dieter Guelle
Sent: 10 January 2004 08:02
To: network@mgm.org
Subject: MgM Demining Network: CWA 14747 TrainingSeminar MetalDetectors Tests (main deminer tool)

Dear All,

Thanks to those who contacted me directly and will come to take part in the training seminar. By some comments I saw also that I missed some arguments that may influence your decision in participating. Some of you will know that I had also the obligation to investigate mine accidents and there were also a couple with detector involvement - but I will not say something were another knows more than me.

So the word is with Andy...
Your restraint and diplomacy are well known, but you do not do this detector seminar justice. Having checked over the accident record of this industry more thoroughly than anyone else, it is obvious to me that very many field people do not know how to get the best from modern detectors. Accidents and missed-mines occur as a result. The solutions are stunning in their simplicity. Anyone with a real desire to be sure their deminers are safe - and that the land is clear to the specified depth - should find time to come to ISPRA at the end of this month....

Regards

Dieter
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: Impact of Iraq on other Clearance Programs
Date: Saturday, January 10, 2004 7:17 AM
From: Robert Keeley <BobKeeley@compuserve.com>
Reply-To: <network@mgm.org>
To: <network@mgm.org>

Hi Joe

Great questions! I look forwards to see what response you get!

I think it would be hard to resond quantitatively as there arent the right baselines out there to allow the measurement

cheers

Bob

-----Original Message-----
From: network-report@mgm.org [mailto:network-report@mgm.org]On Behalf Of Joe Lokey
Sent: 10 January 2004 08:02
To: network@mgm.org
Subject: MgM Demining Network: Impact of Iraq on other Clearance Programs

Anyone,

When an event like Kosovo, Afghanistan, or Iraq comes along it tends to almost magnetically pull a huge amount of clearance and EOD talent quickly into the area. I have two general questions:

1. Has anyone noticed, or heard mention of, any measurable impact on other on-going clearance or EOD operations either in terms of manpower, schedule, or equipment that can be directly or indirectly attributed to needs in Iraq?

   The working theory is that there is sufficient excess capacity in these areas to absorb short term (6 months to a year) resource spikes with little or no impact on all other programs.

   By extension, I suppose you could also include funding as a "resource" concern but I'm not sure it would hold true in this case since. Although I agree some funding sans Iraq would be available to move to other programs, it wouldn't be proportionate since much of the Iraq funding comes from specific national and donor funds tied directly to that mission.

2. If the answer to the above is "true" and capacity is sufficient to absorb Iraq as structured (a still highly dangerous area), then will there be, or could there be, a real concern about the limited availability of demining managers and EOD techs if and when more areas in Iraq stabilize and allow more access?
This same long-term strategic analysis of demining capacity is also being examined with regard to possible increased or new initiatives in Jammu/Kashmir should peace talks open that area and other closed/limited access (but heavily mined) areas like western Iran, Chechnya, Abkhazia, Burma, or North Korea.

Thoughts?

Cheers,

-joe
Hi Des;

Gordon (aka: big & gruesome) was with my team in Baghdad, survived the blast at the compound OK, and did go on with UNICEF as Didier mentioned. He was scheduled to go to Basrah, however the situation might have changed and sent him elsewhere.

I've lost his personal email address, however I believe he still monitors the net and should contact you soon.

Hi Didier;

Hope all is well, wherever your at. Sorry for not answering sooner, but I'm back in Cambodia now and have had some email challenges. I've looked through all my references and cannot find a match for your item. I'll forward it back to some friends in the US and see if they can find anything.

If your still in touch with the team in N. Iraq, please give them my best.

Cheers

Roger

-----Original Message-----
From: network@mgm.org [mailto:network@mgm.org]On Behalf Of Didier LEONARD
Sent: Friday, January 09, 2004 3:10 PM
To: network@mgm.org
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: MgM Demining Network: Fwd: Searching Mr Gordon Brown

>From: Wolfgang Maschke <wm@mgm.org>
>Reply-To: <network@mgm.org>
>To: <network@mgm.org>
>Subject: MgM Demining Network: Fwd: Searching Mr Gordon Brown
>Date: Fri, 09 Jan 2004 08:32:14 +0100
>
>
>
>
>
>>Von: "Handicap International" <hisvk@laotel.com>
>>An: <network-request@mgm.org>
>>Betreff:
>>
>>Hi there,
>>I know this is a little unusual, but i'm trying to locate someone who
>>maybe working on a un contract in iraq. I'm trying to find a Mr Gordon
>>Brown who maybe working in EOD / minefield clearance, A British expat who
left working for Milsearch in Laos in about April of last year and has not been heard from since.

I would greatly appreciate hearing from anyone who knows of his whereabouts and if possible a contact address of some kind for him.

I'm Des Fuller, working for Handicap International (Belgium) in Savannakhet Province, Lao PDR.

Regards

Des Fuller

---

Hello,


Didier
didierleo@hotmail.com

Trouvez l'âme soeur sur MSN Rencontres http://g.msn.fr/FR1000/9551
Anyone,

When an event like Kosovo, Afghanistan, or Iraq comes along it tends to almost magnetically pull a huge amount of clearance and EOD talent quickly into the area. I have two general questions:

1. Has anyone noticed, or heard mention of, any measurable impact on other on-going clearance or EOD operations either in terms of manpower, schedule, or equipment that can be directly or indirectly attributed to needs in Iraq?
   
The working theory is that there is sufficient excess capacity in these areas to absorb short term (6 months to a year) resource spikes with little or no impact on all other programs.
   
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Thoughts?

Cheers,

-joe
To switch to the Digest mode, E-mail to <network-digest@mgm.org>
Send administrative queries to  <network-request@mgm.org>
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: SHORT NOTICE - CWA 14747 Training Seminar
Date: Saturday, January 10, 2004 3:02 AM
From: Youth Approach <yadc@bangla.net>
Reply-To: <network@mgm.org>
To: <network@mgm.org>

Congratulation, Wish you well with future endeavors and inform us well before the due date for possible participation.
Best regards,

Very truly yours,

Ln. M.W. Faruque
Bangladesh CBL

At 12:54 PM 1/8/2004 +0100, you wrote:

> Invitation to a Training Seminar
> Test and Evaluation of Metal Detectors Introduction for End-Users
> 28 and 29 January 2004
> EC Joint Research Centre, Ispra, Italy
> Aim
> The main aim of this training seminar is to inform the users of metal detectors in demining operations about the recently-published CEN Workshop Agreement, CWA 14747:2003, which defines standard testing procedures for metal detectors used in humanitarian demining. We wish to train end-users to understand and to do the tests in CWA 14747. We also want to obtain feedback on the usefulness and practical application of those tests.
> Background
> * In November 2001 CEN Workshop 7 (CW07) was started, with the aim of standardizing the test and evaluation of metal detectors.
>  * In June 2003, the CEN Workshop Agreement: Humanitarian Mine Action Test and Evaluation Metal Detectors (CWA 14747:2003) was published by CEN, following the work of CW07. This document gives principles, guidelines and testing procedures.
>  * JRC is starting a project (in collaboration with GICHD and UNMAS) which will run tests on currently-available metal detectors using CWA 14747:2003. This testing will include trials in mine-affected regions of the world.
>  * JRC provides the Secretariat of CW07 and has undertaken to publicize CWA 14747 and to obtain user feedback and proposed amendments, with the intention of producing an updated version of the CWA if and when necessary.
> Who should attend?
>
People who use or procure metal detectors for humanitarian demining operations, including those from Mine Action Centres, NGOs and other demining organizations are invited.

Draft Agenda

* Briefing on the tests defined in CWA 14747:2003.
* Discussion of which of these tests could be performed by end users and which "lab test" results are useful.
* Demonstration of some of the tests; hands-on practical session.
* Feedback session; what was useful, what needs improvement

This training seminar is organized by JRC in collaboration with GICHD and UNMAS

If you wish to attend please contact:

Marta Garotta
Humanitarian Security Unit TP723
EC Joint Research Centre
I 21020 Ispra, Italy
tel: +39 0332 785546
fax: +39 0332 785772
e-mail: marta.garotta@jrc.it

Organizing Committee:
Noel Mulliner (UNMAS)
Al Carruthers (GICHD)
Dieter Gülle (ITEP)
Andy Smith (independent consultant)
Tom Bloodworth (JRC)

---------------------------------------------

Tom Bloodworth
CW07 Secretary
Institute for the Protection and Security of the Citizen (IPSC)
European Commission Joint Research Centre (TP723)
I 21020 Ispra (VA), Italy
Tel. +39 0332 78 9131
Fax +39 0332 78 5469
e-mail: thomas.bloodworth@jrc.it
web: http://humanitarian-security.jrc.it/

Youth Approach for Development & Cooperation (YADC)
(Free Mentoring MRISA/Campaign for Disarmament & Peace)
3/Ka, Purana Paltan, GPO Box 3772, Dhaka 1000, Bangladesh
Tel:+8802-9557160, (H) 9566227
Fax:+8802-9555321, OR +8802-9551722 Cell:0172-111536
Email:<yadc@bangla.net> or <bangladesh@icbl.org>

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To unsubscribe, E-mail to: <network-off@mgm.org>
To switch to the Digest mode, E-mail to <network-digest@mgm.org>
Send administrative queries to  <network-request@mgm.org>
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Regards
Dieter
Rob Hallam has a friend who is a senior security officer in Baghdad, he may be able to shed some light on your friends where-about:

rhallam@armorgroup.com

Good luck
Steve Hughes

Hows it hanging Ollie?

----- Original Message ----- 

From: Ollieallerhead@aol.com

To: network@mgm.org

Sent: Friday, January 09, 2004 2:10 PM

Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: Fwd: Searching Mr Gordon Brown

Des

Last time I saw Gordon was just before the Canal Hotel in Baghdad went up in smoke, he had just started with the UN security team at that location.

Ollie
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: MgM Demining Network: Fwd: Searching Mr Gordon Brown

Date: Friday, January 9, 2004 8:10 AM
From: Didier LEONARD <didierleo@hotmail.com>
Reply-To: <network@mgm.org>
To: <network@mgm.org>

> From: Wolfgang Maschke <wm@mgm.org>
> Reply-To: <network@mgm.org>
> To: <network@mgm.org>
> Subject: MgM Demining Network: Fwd: Searching Mr Gordon Brown
> Date: Fri, 09 Jan 2004 08:32:14 +0100
> 
> >>Von: "Handicap International" <hisvk@laotel.com>
> >>An: <network-request@mgm.org>
> >>Betreff:
> >>
> >>Hi there,
> >>I know this is a little unusual, but i'm trying to locate someone who
> >>maybe working on a un contract in iraq. I'm trying to find a Mr Gordon
> >>Brown who maybe working in EOD / minefield clearance, A British expat who
> >>left working for Milsearch in Laos in about April of last year and has not
> >>been heard from since.
> >>
> >>I would greatly appreciate hearing from anyone who knows of his
> >>whereabouts and if possible a contact address of some kind for him.
> >>
> >>I'm Des Fuller, working for Handicap International (Belgium) in
> >>Savannakhet Province, Lao PDR.
> >>
> >>Regards
> >>
> >>Des Fuller..
> >>
> >>
> >
> Hello,


Didier

didierleo@hotmail.com

Trouvez l'âme soeur sur MSN Rencontres http://g.man.fr/FR1000/9551

#####################################################
This message is sent to you because you are subscribed to
the mailing list <network@mgm.org>.
To unsubscribe, E-mail to: <network-off@mgm.org>
To switch to the Digest mode, E-mail to <network-digest@mgm.org>
Send administrative queries to  <network-request@mgm.org>
G'day Des,
I last had contact around the time I saw you in Savannakhet
regards Dave Humphreys

>From: Wolfgang Maschke <wm@mgm.org>
>Reply-To: <network@mgm.org>
>To: <network@mgm.org>
>Subject: MgM Demining Network:  Fwd: Searching Mr Gordon Brown
>Date: Fri, 09 Jan 2004 08:32:14 +0100
>
>>Von: "Handicap International" <hisvk@laotel.com>
>>An: <network-request@mgm.org>
>>Betreff: 
>>
>>Hi there,
>>I know this is a little unusual, but i'm trying to locate someone who
>>maybe working on a un contract in iraq. I'm trying to find a Mr Gordon
>>Brown who maybe working in EOD / minefield clearance, A British expat who
>>left working for Milsearch in Laos in about April of last year and has not
>>been heard from since.
>>
>>I would greatly appreciate hearing from anyone who knows of his
>>whereabouts and if possible a contact address of some kind for him.
>>
>>I'm Des Fuller, working for Handicap International (Belgium) in
>>Savannakhet Province, Lao PDR.
>>
>>Regards
>>
>>Des Fuller..
>>
>>
Des

Last time I saw Gordon was just before the Canal Hotel in Baghdad went up in smoke, he had just started with the UN security team at that location.

Ollie
Subject: MgM Demining Network: Martin Donoghue/United Nations is out of the office.
Date: Friday, January 9, 2004 2:32 AM
From: Martin Donoghue <donoghue@un.org>
Reply-To: <network@mgm.org>
To: <network@mgm.org>

I will be out of the office starting 06/01/2004 and will not return until 03/02/2005.

#---------------------------------------------------------------#
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Send administrative queries to <network-request@mgm.org>
Hi there,
I know this is a little unusual, but I'm trying to locate someone who maybe working on a contract in Iraq. I'm trying to find Mr Gordon Brown who maybe working in EOD / minefield clearance, a British expat who left working for Milsearch in Laos in about April of last year and has not been heard from since.

I would greatly appreciate hearing from anyone who knows of his whereabouts and if possible a contact address of some kind for him.

I'm Des Fuller, working for Handicap International (Belgium) in Savannakhet Province, Lao PDR.

Regards

Des Fuller..
Hi Alfred
All structures are in attachment.
Cheers
Andrey

------- Original Message ------
From: "Alfred djama" <djamalfred@hotmail.com>
To: <network@mgm.org>
Sent: Thursday, January 08, 2004 9:48 PM
Subject: MgM Demining Network: Chemical structure of Tetryl ,PETN

> Morning all
> 
> Can anybody gives me one idea about chemical structures of Tetryl ,PETN and
> HMX like chemical
> 
> structures of TNT and RDX in jointed documents.
> 
> cheers.
> 
> Alfred Djama
>

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Structures attached / structures ci-jointes.

Marc Défourneaux

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#Send administrative queries to  <network-request@mgm.org>
Hi Andrey,

thank you very much for the advice, I'll forward it now!

Regards

Didier

>From: "A. Kostioukov" <fortenterprise@mtu-net.ru>
>Reply-To: <network@mgm.org>
>To: <network@mgm.org>
>Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: Fwd: unknown munitions fm Iraq
>Date: Thu, 08 Jan 2004 19:48:38 +0100
>
>Hi Didier
>I'm not sure, but let your Iraq correspondent will check level of radiation
>of this subject.
>Regards,
>Andrey

>----- Original Message -----
>From: "Wolfgang Maschke" <wm@mgm.org>
>To: <network@mgm.org>
>Sent: Thursday, January 08, 2004 3:02 PM
>Subject: MgM Demining Network: Fwd: unknown munitions fm Iraq
>
>
>Is there anybody who can tell me what is it? these pictures come from
>Iraq. I do not have more details.
>Thanks for your cooperation.
>
>Cheers
>Didier
>didierleo@hotmail.com

>--------------------------------------------------------------------------
>----
didierleo@hotmail.com

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http://search.msn.fr/

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# Send administrative queries to <network-request@mgm.org>
Hi Didier
I'm not sure, but let your Iraq correspondent will check level of radiation
of this subject.
Regards,
Andrey

----- Original Message ----- 
From: "Wolfgang Maschke" <wm@mgm.org>
To: <network@mgm.org>
Sent: Thursday, January 08, 2004 3:02 PM
Subject: MgM Demining Network: Fwd: unknown munitions fm Iraq

> 
> 
> 
> Is there anybody who can tell me what is it ? these pictures come from
> Iraq. I do not have more details.
> Thanks for your cooperation.
> 
> Cheers
> Didier
>
> didierleo@hotmail.com
>

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To switch to the Digest mode, E-mail to <network-digest@mgm.org>
Send administrative queries to <network-request@mgm.org>
Morning all

Can anybody gives me one idea about chemical structures of Tetryl, PETN and HMX like chemical structures of TNT and RDX in jointed documents.

cheers.

Alfred Djama
Subject: MgM Demining Network: CWA 14747 Training Seminar Metal Detectors
Tests (main deminer tool)
Date: Thursday, January 8, 2004 1:48 PM
From: Dieter Guelle <dieter.guelle@jrc.it>
Reply-To: <network@mgm.org>
To: <network@mgm.org>

Dear All,

Concerning the Invitation from Tom there is few to add: Just come if you have got the time. CC the subject it concerns the knowledge, the safety of the daily work.

I was involved in defining these standards for testing metal detectors when I was still working for ADP and had long-term practical hand on experiences in using detectors in minefields. During this time I confronted the scientists with questions that I wanted to be included into the standards because they were not in the big IPPTC trial that was seen as the basic standard. I think we (the CWA Forum) found the way to meet the user needs and also to keep the level as high as possible. Occasionally I'm now working next door to Tom and we think that a standard can only be a standard if it is accepted by the end-user and giving him the information he needs for carrying out his job or warning him about the existing limits, safety questions. All about this we want to speak in this training seminar and also give some practical examples how to do things. The standard you can find via Tom's or via the ITEP website (http://www.itep.ws).

At the same time I want to inform you that the European Commission published a book where I tried to formulate all my experiences with metal detector supported by Andy (Didactylos), Adam Lewis and Tom. You can download an electronic version from: http://www.itep.ws/pdf/metal_detector_handbook.pdf

Hopefully the hardcopies will be available to this meeting. At least a CD will. The book covers also as a part the test standards but it is mainly thought for people working in the field, organising training or having questions what a detector is about and how to use it in a minefield and,...,and...

So I'm looking forward to see you here in Ispra Italy, to show you something what may be useful and to answer questions or to confess I don't know. Comments to both issues are welcome.

Regards
Dieter
Is there anybody who can tell me what is it? These pictures come from Iraq. I do not have more details.
Thanks for your cooperation.

Cheers
Didier

didierleo@hotmail.com
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Invitation to a Training Seminar

Test and Evaluation of Metal Detectors – Introduction for End-Users

28 and 29 January 2004

EC Joint Research Centre, Ispra, Italy

Aim

The main aim of this training seminar is to inform the users of metal detectors in demining operations about the recently-published CEN Workshop Agreement, CWA 14747:2003, which defines standard testing procedures for metal detectors used in humanitarian demining. We wish to train end-users to understand and to do the tests in CWA 14747. We also want to obtain feedback on the usefulness and practical application of those tests.

Background

• In November 2001 CEN Workshop 7 (CW07) was started, with the aim of standardizing the test and evaluation of metal detectors.
• In June 2003, the CEN Workshop Agreement: Humanitarian Mine Action – Test and Evaluation – Metal Detectors (CWA 14747:2003) was published by CEN, following the work of CW07. This document gives principles, guidelines and testing procedures.
• JRC is starting a project (in collaboration with GICHD and UNMAS) which will run tests on currently-available metal detectors using CWA 14747:2003. This testing will include trials in mine-affected regions of the world.
• JRC provides the Secretariat of CW07 and has undertaken to publicize CWA 14747 and to obtain user feedback and proposed amendments, with the intention of producing an updated version of the CWA if and when necessary.
Who should attend?

People who use or procure metal detectors for humanitarian demining operations, including those from Mine Action Centres, NGOs and other demining organizations are invited.

Draft Agenda

• Briefing on the tests defined in CWA 14747:2003.
• Discussion of which of these tests could be performed by end users and which "lab test" results are useful.
• Demonstration of some of the tests; hands-on practical session.
• Feedback session; what was useful, what needs improvement...

This training seminar is organized by JRC in collaboration with GICHD and UNMAS

If you wish to attend please contact:

Marta Garotta
Humanitarian Security Unit TP723
EC Joint Research Centre
I – 21020 Ispra, Italy
tel: +39 0332 785546
fax: +39 0332 785772
email: marta.garotta@jrc.it

Organizing Committee:

Noel Mulliner (UNMAS)
Al Carruthers (GICHD)
Dieter Gülle (ITEP)
Andy Smith (independent consultant)
Tom Bloodworth (JRC)

----------------------------------------------------------

Tom Bloodworth
CW07 Secretary

Tom Bloodworth
Institute for the Protection and Security of the Citizen (IPSC)
European Commission – Joint Research Centre (TP723)
I – 21020 Ispra (VA) Italy
Subject: MgM Demining Network:  Burundi: Ex-Rebel Movement in Plea Over Landmine Use
Date: Tuesday, January 6, 2004 12:16 PM
From: ACARLG@aol.com
Reply-To: <network@mgm.org>
To: <network@mgm.org>

Burundi: Ex-Rebel Movement in Plea Over Landmine Use

UN Integrated Regional Information Networks
NEWS
January 6, 2004
Posted to the web January 6, 2004
Bujumbura
Former rebel movement Conseil national pour la defense de la democratie-Forces pour la defense de la democratie (CNDD-FDD) appealed on Monday to the Burundian army and the Forces nationales de liberation (FNL) rebel faction led by Agathon Rwasa to stop using landmines.

"Mines constitute a danger to the life of the civilian population. Reports indicate that four people are killed by mines every month in the southern province of Makamba," Hussein Radjabu, the CNDD-FDD secretary-general, told a news conference in the capital, Bujumbura. He added that most of the victims were refugees coming home from neighbouring Tanzania.

"We take this opportunity to announce that our movement is going to destroy all its stock of mines and clear those we had laid in different areas," he said. "We want the army and the FNL, who are still fighting, to do the same. In particular, we ask the government of Burundi to respect the Ottawa Treaty prohibiting mines, which it ratified on 22 October 2003."

The CNDD-FDD had signed the same treaty in Switzerland on 15 October 2003, Radjabu said, and by doing so also committed itself to sensitising the population about the danger of landmines.

He admitted that the CNDD-FDD had laid mines in certain parts of the communes of Nyanza Lac, Kayogoro in southern Burundi, and near the border between Burundi and Tanzania in the eastern province of Cankuzo.

An army spokesperson who requested anonymity told IRIN that the army had laid mines in some areas in the hills surrounding Bujumbura to curb FNL infiltration into the city.

IRIN failed to obtain a comment from the FNL.
Sudan yesterday banned landmines, potentially removing a major cause of human suffering in northern Uganda.

But the Ugandan military immediately warned that Sudan must now rein in the flow of small arms thought to end up in the arms of the Lord's Resistance Army rebels.

"They [rebels] don't use the mines against the army," army spokesman Maj. Shaban Bantariza said by telephone last evening.

"They use them against people when they are collecting water," he said as Sudan announced in a statement that it was signing up to UN conventions against mines, nuclear and bio weapons.

MP Reagan Okumu (Aswa) echoed the army spokesman: "So many people have been killed because of landmines - thousands of children. These land mines are planted [at] small social places like schools and health centres."

Bantariza and Okumu were pessimistic about whether Sudan's action is a blow to the LRA.

Instead, they said in separate interviews, Sudan must control small arms flow.

"They [rebels] need only AK-47s," Bantariza said.

"I hope they would also monitor the flow of small arms," said Okumu. "Those small arms are the real problem. I think we [in the region] should rein in the small arms. I only hope Sudan will limit the flow of small arms."

In a report last year, Amnesty International said that small arms are more common than spears in northern Uganda.
Ms Ruth Nankabirwa, the minister of state for Defence, struck a cautionary note.

"We had that problem - but we can't say if the mines were coming from Sudan," she said.
The attachments of the last mail have been removed by the listmaster because of its size bigger than 50 k. Please get in contact with the author directly.

regards

Wolfgang Maschke

MgM - media team

Online-Redaktion / online publishing

office: +49 (0)931 66 32 16
cell: +49 (0)179 1079 187
email: wm@mgm.org

Aktuelle Informationen aus der Welt des humanitären Minenräumens und den Operationen der Stiftung Menschen gegen Minen e.V., MgM, finden Sie unter: www.mgm.org /
Please visit our website www.mgm.org for more information about our humanitarian work and our current mine clearance operations.

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Send administrative queries to <network-request@mgm.org>
Subject: MgM Demining Network: HUDEM'04  
Date: Monday, January 5, 2004 2:53 PM  
From: Baudoin Yvan <Yvan.Baudoin@rma.ac.be>  
Reply-To: <network@mgm.org>  
To: <network@mgm.org>

Dear Colleagues,

Thanks for the wishes and the encouragements to persevere in our efforts to solve the humanitarian demining problems. I sincerely hope to see You in Brussels 18-20 June. The call is enclosed

Happy New Year

Yvan

<<Callletter.pdf>>  <<CALL-HUDEM42004.pdf>>

Yvan Baudoin  
Prof  
Dpt Mechanical Engineering  
Royal Military Academy  
30 Avenue de la renaissance B 1000 Brussels  
Phone 32 2 7376553/ Fax 32 2 737 6547  
Urgency only: 0497/509244  
http://mecatron.rma.ac.be - http://www.ldms.rma.ac.be  
Nothing is so infectious as example (C.Kingsley)

[Der Anhang „Callletter.pdf“ wurde manuell entfernt]

[Der Anhang „CALL-HUDEM42004.pdf“ wurde manuell entfernt]

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Send administrative queries to <network-request@mgm.org>
Dear Mr. Colin King

Happy New Year!

Let the next year will be better than last.

Good luck: life of tranquility & peace that is free from temptation, anxiety & fear.

Ln. M.W. Faruque,
Bangladesh CBL

At 12:55 PM 12/30/03 +0100, you wrote:

Hi Bob,

The reason is that the L20A1 is a 155 mm carrier projectile, not an MLRS rocket. It's a variant of the Israeli M397, which contains 49 of their M85 DPICM.

By the way, these seem to have been pretty reliable, but if you do find one unexploded, don't pick it up by the ribbon (as some people do with M42/M46):

if the det slide is released, this will start the SD and you then have 15 seconds to decide what to do with it...

All the best,

Colin.

----- Original Message ----- 
From: "Robert Keeley" <BobKeeley@compuserve.com>
To: <network@mgm.org>
Sent: Monday, December 29, 2003 8:31 PM
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: UK L20A1 Bomblets in Iraq?

This is interesting; considering that the Brits bought their MRLS rocket system from the Americans just before the (first) Gulf War I would have thought that the ammunition was the original M42 family rather than an Israeli copy...but perhaps we were offered a discount!

cheers

Bob

----- Original Message-----
From: network-report@mgm.org [mailto:network-report@mgm.org]On Behalf Of Mark Hiznay
Sent: 29 December 2003 16:26
To: network@mgm.org
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: UK L20A1 Bomblets in Iraq?

Peter, try this link. L20A1 is the UK designation for the projectile.
The
> DPICM grenade is the Israeli M85. Cheers, Mark
> http://maic.jmu.edu/orndata/srdetaildesc.asp?ordid=2106
> phindy@webharr.net wrote:
> Hi All,
> Does anyone have the Ordnance info on the British L20A1 Bomblet? I can't
> seem to find it on Ordata, is it possible that the Dispenser is the
> L20A1.
> I've been researching the most commonly found Cluster Bombs in Iraq on
> JMU Iraq Update and it states that there is apart from the US BLU 108
> A-B
> a new British CBU called the L20A1 being dealt with most recently from
> the
> Combat Ops in Southern Iraq in March-April.
> Best regards,
> MC and a HNY all!!
> UBIQUE!!
> Pete Hindy
> Zagreb
>
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Fax:+8802-9555321, OR +8802-9551722 Cell:0172-111536
Email:<yadc@bangla.net> or <bangladesh@icbl.org>
Can any fwd updated copy of stanag for explosive store/handling plus fireworks, any help gratefully received.

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John B

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Colin,

I still available for more information if you need.
I was in Iraq until last September and I met you in June at Canal hotel.

So, I wish you an happy New Year 2004 and take care.

Didier

---

Didier LEONARD <didierleo@hotmail.com>

---

Colin,

find attached a picture of an Iraqi PMN with marking on the pressure plate.

Didier
As far as I know, Iraq never made PMN copies - or any other AP mines for that matter. Their 'PMN-type' stocks were all Chinese Type 58 - which were only made in black and often had no markings.

I think 'Bulgaria' was asking about the rounded edges on the flat finger plate of the booster plug, which are subtly different from the squared-off Russian version. I haven't seen this before (or the knurled type you mention), but assumed that the mine was a Bulgarian PMN copy.

Cheers,

Colin.
Hello

I am deminer from Bulgaria

Dear colleagues, whether somebody saw soviet PMN with such approximated form of the booster plug? Whether can make identification of this mine? Markings she has no. Thanks

http://gsm.ABV.bg - Bgelh qec` lekndh g` rbn reketnm !

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> didierleo@hotmail.com

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Send administrative queries to <network-request@mgm.org>
All

Happy New Year!!!

Russian Ded Moroz – Deminer!
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: MgM Demining Network: PMN plug
Date: Tuesday, December 30, 2003 3:41 PM
From: Manuel GONZAL <mgonzal@handicap-international.org>
Reply-To: <network@mgm.org>
To: <network@mgm.org>

Dear all,
Personally I have found this PMN HGE in 1991 on Kuwaitis beaches. I have been told that it's an Iraqi-made. Anyway I don’t think it's very important, the mind thing was to identify the mine shown by our Bulgarian friend isn't it. Colin I will send you a sheet about HGE in a minute but because of the size (130k) I can't deal it on MGM network.
Happy new year! Ad take care!

Manuel GONZAL

-----Message d'origine-----
De : Colin King [mailto:ck@ckingassociates.co.uk]
Envoyé : mardi 30 décembre 2003 12:55
À : network@mgm.org
Objet : Re: MgM Demining Network: MgM Demining Network: PMN plug

Thanks for the picture, Didier. Interested to know more about it, particularly how it was positively identified as Iraqi-made. I've seen so many foreign munitions with Iraqi markings (ranging from Russian Scud-B missiles to Chilean cluster bombs) that I'm still deeply suspicious. In most cases, Iraq claimed these were their own manufacture despite clear evidence to the contrary.

I'd be grateful for any more information.

Colin.

By the way, are you working in Iraq?

----- Original Message ----- 
From: "Didier LEONARD" <didierleo@hotmail.com>
To: <network@mgm.org>
Sent: Monday, December 29, 2003 12:36 PM
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: MgM Demining Network: PMN plug

> Colin,
> find attached a picture of an Iraqi PMN with marking on the pressure plate.
> Didier
> >From: "Colin King" <ck@ckingassociates.co.uk>
> >Reply-To: <network@mgm.org>
> >To: <network@mgm.org>
> >Subject: MgM Demining Network: PMN plug
> >Date: Sat, 27 Dec 2003 13:53:27 +0100
> >
Hi Roger,

As far as I know, Iraq never made PMN copies - or any other AP mines for that matter. Their 'PMN-type' stocks were all Chinese Type 58 - which were only made in black and often had no markings.

I think 'Bulgaria' was asking about the rounded edges on the flat finger plate of the booster plug, which are subtly different from the squared-off Russian version. I haven't seen this before (or the knurled type you mention), but assumed that the mine was a Bulgarian PMN copy.

Cheers,

Colin.

----- Original Message ----- 
From: "Roger Hess" <rhess@mweb.co.za> 
To: <network@mgm.org> 
Sent: Friday, December 26, 2003 8:28 AM 
Subject: Re: MgM Demining Network: pmn 

Hello "Bulgaria";

We might be able to give more info if we knew where you were working at; but from what I could find in my files, the mine might be a Chinese type 58. (see attached). However it could just be a USSR variant with no markings as they did make flat booster caps aside from the round knurled types.

Iraq also made versions of the PMN and they were not very good about putting markings on their munitions, but I believe they stayed with a black bakelite material rather then the reddish/brown that your mine has.

Andrey; As far as you know; Were any made in this material/configuration without any markings? Cheers

-----Original Message----- 
From: network@mgm.org [mailto:network@mgm.org]On Behalf Of claymore 

 Sent: Thursday, December 25, 2003 9:18 PM 
To: network@mgm.org 
Subject: MgM Demining Network: pmn
Hello

I am deminer from Bulgaria

Dear colleagues, whether somebody saw soviet PMN with such approximated
of the booster plug? Whether can make identification of this mine?

Markings

she has no.

Thanks

--------

http://gsm.ABV.bg - Bgelh qec` lekndh g` rbn reketnm !

Thanks

--------