

Army OE Accident Summary

Ordnance and Explosives
Safety Specialist
Dec 2001

Introduction

- To Provide an Overview of U.S. Army Accidents/Incidents Involving Ordnance and Explosives
- To Emphasize the Importance of OE Safety

Type of Operation

- EOD Range Clearance Operations
- EOD Disposal Operations
- Military (non-EOD) Range Clearance Operations
- Government & Contractor Range Clearance Operations
- Government & Contractor Disposal Operations

Roll-Up of Injuries & Fatalities 1944 - 2001

OPERATORS:	FUNCTION:	INJURIES:	FATALITIES:
EOD	RANGE CLEARANCE	8	2

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GOV CIV/CONTR	RANGE CLEARANCE	12	4

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GOV CIV/CONTR	DISPOSAL	17	11

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GOV CIV/CONTR	DISPOSAL	17	11
TOTAL		77	34

Range Clearance/Disposal Accidents

OPERATORS:	INJURIES:	FATALITIES:	OVERALL:	INJURY/YR:	DEATH/YR:
EOD (Clearance)	10.3%	5.8%		.14	.04
EOD (Disposal)	27.2%	44.1%	41.4%	.37	.26
MIL NON-EOD (Clearance)	24.6%	5.8%	18.9%	.33	.04
GOV/CIV CONTR (Clearance)	15.5%	11.7%		.21	.07
GOV/CIV CONTR (Disposal)	22.0%	32.3%	39.6%	.30	.19
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TOTAL	100%	100%	100%		

Government Contractor Man-hours

■ October 2000 – October 2001

Operators:

Man-hours

EOD (Clearance)

Unknown

EOD (Disposal)

Unknown

MIL NON-EOD (Clearance)

Unknown

CEHNC GOV CIV/CONTR RANGE CLEARANCE

381,452

CEHNC GOV CIV/CONTR DISPOSAL

67,315

(Approximately 15% of Total Man-hours)

Training

In each operation, the personnel, (Military EOD, Military NON-EOD, Government Civilian Employees and Government employed Contractor personnel) were considered trained and qualified to accomplish assigned task safely.

Just like we say.

EOD Disposal Operations

- 👉 08/16/01 Ft Carson (I)-1
- 👉 1 SF person injured while attempting to detonate a Selectable Light Anti-tank Munition (SLAM).
- 👉 Reported cause:Unknown.

EOD Disposal Operations

- 👉 09/28/01 Ft Lewis (I)-1
- 👉 1 SF person injured while attempting to detonate a Selectable Light Anti-tank Munition (SLAM).
- 👉 Reported cause: Unknown.

EOD Disposal Operations

- 👉 11/01/01 Nigeria (F)-1 (I)-2
- 👉 2 EOD personnel plus one other military person were preparing to destroy a LAW. LAW detonated unexpectedly.
- 👉 Reported cause: Under investigation.

— Personnel Overexposure

Military (non-EOD) Range Clearance Operations

- 👉 01/21/01 FT AP Hill (I)-1
- 👉 Truck entered a minefield and ran over.
- 👉 Reported cause: Failure to recover all mines.

Military (non-EOD) Range Clearance Operations

- 👉 05/16/01 Korea (I)-1
- 👉 SM sustained loss of right big toe when an M2 landmine in close proximity detonated
- 👉 Reported cause: Not given.

Military (non-EOD) Range Clearance Operations

- 👉 05/15/01 FT Irwin (I)-1
- 👉 SM was placing detonated rounds (scrap) in the back of a HUMVEE when one round detonated causing injury.
- 👉 Reported cause: Human error.

Government & Contractor Range Clearance Operations

- 👉 06/22/99 FT Drum (I)-2
- 👉 Corps Of Engineer (COE) contractors were clearing range of surface UXO. One operator set his collection bucket down on ground disturbing a 40MM grenade buried just under surface detonated causing injury.
- 👉 Reported cause: Unstable load in collection bucket causing it to fall on grenade.

Government & Contractor Range Clearance Operations

- 👉 08/17/99 Blue Grass AD (I)-0
- 👉 M49 HE Mortar detonated while bulldozer was clearing demo pit.
- 👉 Reported cause: Pressure from the bulldozer.

Government & Contractor Range Clearance Operations

- 👉 02/03/00 YPG (I)-0
- 👉 M87 mine detonated during recovery operation causing Robot damage.
- 👉 Reported cause: Mine self-destruct failure.

Government & Contractor Demo Operations

- 👉 01/22/00 Puerto Rico (I)-0
- 👉 SM was burning C-4, flexilinear shaped charges, and shaped charges. The charges unexpectedly detonated
- 👉 Reported cause: Human error.

Government & Contractor Demo Operations

- 👉 05/22/00 FT McCoy (I)-1
- 👉 Gov worker was drilling hole in BDU-33 when it functioned causing injury.
- 👉 Reported cause: None reported.

Government & Contractor Demo Operations

- 👉 05/23/01 Germany (I)-1
- 👉 SM 1 was overseeing demo training. SM 1 instructed SM 2 to position himself 53 meters from charge. The charge was detonated and SM 2 injured. The charge was 75 lbs of C-4 and TNT.
- 👉 Reported cause: Human error.

How this Relates to us

- This is our business. Let's do it safely and not become another statistic.
- OE Safety precautions are formulated on experience and best available information.
- Don't take unnecessary risks!
- Follow OE Safety precautions!

Damage Control

- OE accidents are going to happen.
- Minimize the results by:
 - ◆ Minimizing personnel exposure
 - ◆ Minimize time with OE
 - ◆ Minimize the amount of OE.

Questions?

(256) 656-2407