Asmara (Eritrea) - A truck driver in Eritrea was killed at the weekend when his vehicle drove over a mine near the capital Asmara, a UN official said Wednesday.

(23.07.2003)

The truck detonated an anti-tank mine 10 kilometres (six miles) south of Asmara, said David Bax, who heads the United Nations' Mine Action Coordination Centre.

Bax said the mine was reportedly laid in 1977, during Eritrea's 30-year war of secession against Ethiopia, of which it was then a province.

Eritrea is littered with thousands of landmines, dating both from that conflict and a more recent war between the independent states of Eritrea and Ethiopia from 1998 to 2000.

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