Dushanbe - Tajikistan is expected to destroy the last batch of 200 antipersonnel mine at a military testing range of the Defense Ministry in the environs of Dushanbe Wednesday morning, sources at the Tajik Center for Mines said.

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This country has thus fulfilled the obligations that it took a signatory to the Ottawa Convention on prohibiting the antipersonnel mines, the sources said.

Within a period of just two years, the Tajik army engineers have eliminated more than 3,000 antipersonnel mines kept in the munitions depots.

All the operations were done under the supervision of experts from the Swiss office of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) monitoring the elimination of mines and were watched by journalists.

At this moment, workers of the Swiss office and the Tajik Center for Mines are training a group of Tajik army servicemen to defuse the antipersonnel mines still found in some areas in the east of the country.

Those mines were installed during the civil war that rocked the country in the first half of the 1990's, and more than 150 civilians have died from them, while another 150 or so have been wounded since the end of hostilities.

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