FACT SHEET APRIL 2010

## **Timeline of Cluster Munition Use**

Date	Location(s)	Known Details
1939-1945	Italy, Libya, Malta, USSR, United Kingdom, possibly other locations	Munitions similar in function to modern cluster munitions were used by Germany and the Soviet Union, and possibly other belligerent parties, during World War II.
1965-1975	Cambodia, Laos, Vietnam	According to an analysis of US bombing data by Handicap International, approximately 80,000 cluster munitions, containing 26 million submunitions, were dropped on Cambodia between 1969 and 1973; over 414,000 cluster bombs, containing at least 260 million submunitions, were dropped on Laos between 1965 and 1973; and over 296,000 cluster munitions, containing nearly 97 million submunitions, were dropped in Vietnam between 1965 and 1975.
1970s	Zambia	Remnants of cluster munitions, including unexploded submunitions from air-dropped bombs, have been found at Chikumbi and Shang'ombo.
1973	Syria	Israel used air-dropped cluster munitions against non-state armed group (NSAG) training camps near Damascus.
1975-1988	Western Sahara, Mauritania	Moroccan forces used artillery-fired and air-dropped cluster munitions against an NSAG in Western Sahara. The source of contamination in Mauritania is unclear. Cluster munition remnants, of the same types used by Morocco in Western Sahara, have been found.
1978	Lebanon	Israel used cluster munitions in south Lebanon.
1979-1989	Afghanistan	Soviet forces used air-dropped and rocket-delivered cluster munitions. NSAGs also used rocket-delivered cluster munitions on a smaller scale.
1982	Lebanon	Israel used cluster munitions against Syrian forces and NSAGs in Lebanon.
1982	Falkland Islands/Malvinas	UK forces dropped 107 BL-755 cluster bombs containing a total of 15,729 submunitions.
1983	Grenada	US Navy aircraft dropped 21 Rockeye bombs during close air support operations.
1983	Lebanon	US Navy aircraft dropped 12 CBU-59 and 28 Rockeye bombs against Syrian air defense units near Beirut in Lebanon.
1984-1988	Iran, Iraq	It was first reported that Iraq used air-dropped bombs in 1984. Reports also indicate Iraq's use of Ababil-50 surface-to-surface cluster munition rockets during the latter stages of the conflict.
1986	Libya	US Navy aircraft attacked Libyan ships using Mk-20 Rockeye cluster bombs in the Gulf of Sidra on March 25. On April 14-15, US Navy aircraft dropped 60 Rockeye bombs on Benina Airfield.
1986-1987	Chad	French aircraft dropped cluster munitions on a Libyan airfield at Wadi Doum. Libyan forces also used AO-1SCh and PTAB-2.5 submunitions at various locations.
1988	Iran	US Navy aircraft attacked Iranian Revolutionary Guard speedboats and an Iranian Navy ship using Mk20 Rockeye bombs during Operation Praying Mantis.
1991	Saudi Arabia	Saudi Arabian and US forces used artillery-delivered and air-dropped cluster munitions against Iraqi forces during the battle of Khafji.
1991	Iraq, Kuwait	The US, France, and the UK dropped 61,000 cluster bombs containing some 20 million submunitions. The number of cluster munitions delivered by surface-launched artillery and rocket systems is not known, but an estimated 30 million or more dual purpose improved conventional munition (DPICM) submunitions were used in the conflict.

## **Timeline of Cluster Munition Use, Continued**

Date	Location(s)	Known Details
1992-1994	Angola	Deminers have found dud Soviet-made PTAB submunitions in various locations.
1992-1994	Nagorno-Karabakh, Azerbaijan	Submunition contamination has been identified in at least 162 locations in Nagorno-Karabakh. Submunition types cleared by deminers include PTAB-1, ShOAB-0.5, and AO-2.5. There are also reports of contamination in other parts of occupied Azerbaijan, adjacent to Nagorno-Karabakh.
1992-1995	Bosnia & Herzegovina	Yugoslav forces and NSAGs used cluster munitions during civil war. NATO aircraft dropped two CBU-87 bombs.
1992-1997	Tajikistan	ShOAB and AO-2.5RT submunitions have been found in the town of Gharm in the Rasht Valley, used by unknown forces in civil war.
1994-1996	Chechnya	Russian forces used cluster munitions against NSAGs.
1995	Croatia	On May 2-3, 1995, an NSAG used Orkan M-87 multiple rocket launchers to conduct attacks in the city of Zagreb. Additionally, the Croatian government claimed that Serb forces used BL-755 bombs in Sisak, Kutina, and along the Kupa River.
1996-1999	Sudan	Sudanese government forces used air-dropped cluster munitions in southern Sudan, including Chilean-made PM-1 submunitions.
1997	Sierra Leone	Sierra Leone has said that Nigerian ECOMOG peacekeepers used BLG-66 Beluga bombs on the eastern town of Kenema. ECOMOG Force Commander General Victor Malu denied these reports.
1998	Afghanistan/Sudan	In August, US ships and submarines fired 66 TLAM-D Block 3 cruise missiles, each containing 166 BLU-97 combined effects bomblets, at a factory target in Khartoum, Sudan, and at NSAG training camps in Afghanistan.
1998	Ethiopia, Eritrea	Ethiopia and Eritrea exchanged aerial cluster munition strikes. Ethiopia attacked Asmara airport, and Eritrea attacked Mekele airport. Ethiopia also dropped BL-755 bombs in Gash-Barka province in Eritrea.
1998-1999	Albania	Yugoslav forces used rocket-delivered cluster munitions in disputed border areas, and NATO forces carried out six aerial cluster munition strikes.
1998- 2003	DR Congo	Deminers have found BL-755 bombs and dud submunitions in the villages of Kasu, Katelwa, and Est Agrico in Kabalo territory.
1999	Yugoslavia, Federal Republic of	The US, the UK, and the Netherlands dropped 1,765 cluster bombs containing 295,000 submunitions in now-Kosovo, Montenegro, and Serbia.
2001- 2002	Afghanistan	The US dropped 1,228 cluster bombs containing 248,056 submunitions.
Unknown	Uganda	RBK-250/275 bombs and AO-1SCh submunitions have been found in the northern district of Gulu.
2003	Iraq	The US and the UK used nearly 13,000 cluster munitions, containing an estimated 1.8 to 2 million submunitions, in the three weeks of major combat.
2006	Lebanon	Israeli forces used surface-launched and air-dropped cluster munitions against Hezbollah. The UN estimates that Israel used up to 4 million submunitions.
2006	Israel	Hezbollah fired more than 100 Chinese-produced Type-81 122mm cluster munition rockets into northern Israel.
2008	Georgia	Russian and Georgian forces both used cluster munitions during the August 2008 conflict. Submunitions found so far by deminers include the air-dropped AO-2.5 RTM and the rocket-delivered 9N210 and M85.

Additionally, cluster munition remnants have been found in Chile, Republic of the Congo, Guinea-Bissau, and Jordan, but it is unclear if their presence is due to use in armed conflict. Unconfirmed reports cite the use of cluster munitions in Colombia, Pakistan, Slovenia, Turkey, and Yemen, as well as in Kashmir. In January 2005, the South African Ministry of Foreign Affairs stated that the "South African Defence force has manufactured and used submunitions in the past..." No further details have been made available, but in a 2009 letter, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, speaking on behalf of the post-1994 government, said that it has never used cluster munitions.