Destruction of anti-personnel landmines, Lithuania

- In 2002, Lithuania declared 3925 APLs retained for training purposes. Mainly, PMN blast mines.
- In addition, 3987 anti-personnel mines with command-controlled fuses were declared.

Destruction begins on 14 April 2004

- January 2004, decision to destroy a stockpile of APLs along with other old and excess ammunition.
- 14 April 2004 destruction begins.
**Method of destruction**

- APLs, anti-vehicle mines as well as old ammunition were destroyed by blowing them up.
- The destruction process lasted 43 days.
- Work was carried out by 12 military engineers.

**Destruction at the Kazlų Rūda range**
Mines destruction

- 3921 PMN blast mines
- 4 MON-50 directional fragmentation mines
- 4064 PMN fuses MD9
- 3475 APL fuses MUV-2, MUV-3
- 3899 anti-vehicle mines TM-57
- 4200 AVM fuses
- Other ammunition, detonators and fuses

PMN blast mines destruction
PMN blast mines destruction

PMN blast mines destruction
APLs destruction ceremony, 7 June 2004

- Last 340 APLs were destroyed at the official ceremony on 7 June 2004 near Vilnius
- Mr. A. Valionis, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Lithuania, attended the ceremony

340 PMN before detonation, 7 June 2004
Destruction ceremony, 7 June 2004

Blast and aftermath
Summary of destruction process

- 3925 APLs, 3899 AVMs, 4 Claymore type mines and other ammunition and fuses destroyed in 43 days
- Destruction carried out by the Corps of Engineers
- Financial cost - about 17,000 euros: fuel, C-4, detonators, wire
- The ground at the detonation site was sifted out and flattened

Conclusions

- Lithuania destroyed all APLs in accordance with Article 4 and is a mine-free country
- No APLs, banned under the Ottawa Convention, have been left
- No APLs retained for training purposes
- Some 4000 Claymore type command-controlled mines retained and declared