

CIVCAS CELL INITIAL ASSESSMENT

Allegation #	542		
Source(s)	WebOps Iraq-Syria	Date Received	22 June 2017
Casualty Estimate	18		
Incident Date	20-22 June 2017		
Location	Al Nur Neighborhood, Raqqa IVO	(b)(1)1.4a	
Allegation	<p>1. Description of allegation: Claims of CF Airstrikes Causing 18 CIVCAS in Al-Nur Neighborhood, Raqqa: Pro-Syrian opposition social media users and regional media outlets circulated reports via Twitter and Facebook that CF airstrikes targeted the al-Nur neighborhood in Raqqa, causing the deaths of 18 civilians and the injuring of 10 others. Most pro-Syrian opposition social media users condemned the attack while others cursed those responsible. This topic trended and resonated at a medium level in the Arabic IE.</p> <p>2. Is this in Airwars? YES If yes, Title: June 21st 2017: النور Al Nour neighbourhood, Raqqa, Raqqa governorate, Syria Synopsis: Local sources reported that 18 civilians were killed and 10 others were injured following alleged Coalition air and artillery strikes and possible SDF mortar attacks in the Al Nour neighbourhood, near the Al Nour Mosque, in the northeast of Raqqa. All 12 sources who reported the incident alleged that a combination of Coalition airstrikes and SDF shelling was responsible. While some claimed that 'SDF artillery' was responsible, only the Coalition was using this weapon on the city. Qasioun and Euphrates Post said that the SDF had used mortars and rockets on the neighbourhood. Names of the victims have not been identified and no further details are currently available. Civilians reported killed: 18, including women and children Civilians reported injured: 10 Sources: @Raqqa24 [Arabic] [Archived], @HadiAlAbdallah [Arabic] [Archived], Almanar TV [Arabic] [Archived], Baladi News [Arabic] [Archived], Qasioun [Arabic] [Archived], Raqqa is Being Slaughtered Silently [Arabic] [Archived], Euphrates Post [Arabic] [Archived], Sharqiya Voice [Arabic] [Archived], Al Hasaka Arabca [Arabic] [Archived], Sound and Picture [Arabic] [Archived], Smart News Agency [Arabic] [Archived], Syrian Observatory for Human Rights [Arabic] [Archived],</p> <p>Quality of Reporting: Fair</p>		

Analysis	<p>1. Is this allegation a self-report? If yes, add details of corroborating strike below and task a CCAR. If no, move to 2. NO</p> <p>2. Does the allegation include</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) video/photo evidence of CIVCAS NO b) a general location, e.g., Tabaqah, Manbij, Tel Afar; YES <p>AND</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> c) a way to identify the date or a 48 hour date range? YES <p>If yes to all three, move to 6. If any are no, then move to number 3.</p> <p>3. Does the allegation contain a</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) General Day, YES <p>AND</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> b) Specific location, e.g., MGRS or specific building? NO <p>If yes to the two, then move to 6. If any are no, move to number 4.</p> <p>4.a. Is the allegation from a single source (even if there are multiple sources, look at whether the sources lack independence, i.e., all derived from one source)? NO If yes, move to 4.b. If no, move to 5.</p> <p>4.b. Is the single source a high quality source (well known/credible news source) OR does it provide specific facts that may warrant a CCAR, i.e., a way to narrow down a reasonable list of strikes to assess. If yes, move to 6. If no, then move to 4.c.</p> <p>4.c. Has media interviewed witnesses and/or victims? If yes, then contact journalist and re-assess. If no, then close the allegation.</p> <p>5.a. Are any of the sources high quality? YES If yes, move to 6. If no, move to 5.b.</p> <p>5.b. Are there at least two corroborating sources (total of 3) that independently reported the allegation, OR does it provide specific facts that may warrant a CCAR? If yes, move to 6. If no, close the allegation.</p> <p>6. Does the allegation contain sufficient information on the time, location and details to make an assessment of credibility? NO. The FLOT at the time of the allegation was in and around the neighborhood in the allegation. There is insufficient detail in the allegation to determine if airstrikes, artillery, mortars, or direct fire was the cause of civilian deaths. This, in combination with the number of strikes that day, make it prohibitive to be able to assess the credibility of the allegation. I.e., does it provide enough information to determine the date within 48 hour; does it provide enough information to determine a neighborhood, landmark, or other way to where the alleged incident occurred within a .5km radius? If yes, move to 7. If no, close the allegation.</p>
Non-US Coalition Involvement	

Decision	Close at the IA due to insufficient information as to time, location, and details to make an assessment of credibility. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• There is insufficient information required to identify the location of there the allegation is referring to.• There are numerous strikes within the neighborhood, and not enough information is given required which would aid in identifying if a strike would corroborate the allegation.
Report Approved By:	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">(b)(3) 10 USC 130b; (b)(6)</div>

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Exhibits removed per agreement - Bates Number 4926

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