

## CIVCAS CELL INITIAL ASSESSMENT

<b>Allegation #</b>	1145		
<b>Source(s)</b>	1. Regional Humanitarian Coordinator Syria Crisis 2. Airwars	<b>Date Received</b>	25 Jul 17
<b>Casualty Estimate</b>	<b>Killed: 5-13</b>		
<b>Incident Date</b>	6 JUN 17 and 48 prior		
<b>Location</b>	<b>Raqqa city, Raqqa governorate, Syria</b>		
<b>Allegation</b>	<p><b>1. Source #1:</b></p> <p>(U) On 6 June, a man and his wife and their three children were allegedly killed when airstrikes hit a residential building in the centre of Ar-Raqqa city.</p> <p><b>2. Is this in Airwars? YES</b></p> <p><b>June 6th 2017: Raqqa city, Raqqa governorate, Syria</b></p> <p>Summary: Between seven and 13 civilians including three children and one woman from the same family died in airstrikes and/or rocket strikes on different locations in Raqqa, local media reported. While reports blame the Coalition, many also pointed towards artillery shelling by both US forces and Kurdish units.</p> <p>Reports said that the following locations were struck:</p> <p>Al Baraka station on Saif al-Dawla Street, Saif al-Dawla school Thakana and the train station The Mashbal district and the Muraba' Amni The building of the National Bank of Credit The mosque of Hussein next to the Faculty of Education "A popular loan company building"</p> <p>The building for immigration and passports and the neighborhood of the Hijra and Jawazat Raqqa is Being Slaughtered Silently published "photos showing the destruction in al Tasslif bank and the civil engineering college area following coalition raids". It later posted images "of the signs of destruction caused by the air raids on the university road, al Bustan restaurant and al Tasslif Al Sha'abi bank", which were taken from a video by the IS media agency A'Amaq, published by Al Raqqa Truth.</p> <p>Among the sources blaming the Coalition were the Syrian Network for Human Rights and the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights.</p> <p>However, some sources noted that Coalition airstrikes coincided with artillery strikes. According to Qasioun, for example, while the Coalition "intensified its airstrikes", the city also came under from "artillery and missile attacks by Kurdish units".</p> <p>Sound and Picture noted that "six rockets were fired from the Kharab_Ashk base, controlled by US forces, towards the city of Raqqa", while Al Raqqa Truth published footage</p>		

depicting the aftermath of “American air and artillery shelling on al Mansour and al Nour street”.

Some of the victims were named as:

Abdel Hadi al Hassan

Khaldoun Ahmad al Awad

**Mahmoud Khalaf al Abboud and his wife and three children**

Civilians reported killed: 7-13, including 3 children and 1 woman

Civilians reported injured: unknown

Sources: Raqqa is Being Slaughtered Silently (RBSS) [Arabic], [Archived], RBSS (2) [Arabic], [Archived], RBSS (3) [images from A’Amaq video] [Arabic], [Archived], RBSS (4) [Arabic], [Archived], Al Ragga Truth [Arabic], [Archived], Al Ragga Truth (2) [Arabic], [Archived], Al Ragga Truth (3) [A’amaq video – IS media agency] [Arabic], [Archived], RBSS (4) [Arabic], [Archived], Smart News Agency [Arabic], [Archived], Raqqa Ahluna [Arabic], [Archived], Syrian Observatory for Human Rights (SO4HR) [Archived], Qasioun [Arabic], [Archived], Sky News [Arabic], [Archived], Syrianpc [Arabic], [Archived], RFS [Arabic], [Archived], Rmediaoffice [Arabic], [Archived], Raqqa\_r\_w\_b [Arabic], [Archived], Soheb1800 [Arabic], [Archived], Raqqa24 [Arabic], Sound and Picture [Arabic], [Archived], Sound and Picture (2) [Arabic], [Archived], Al Hassaka Rasd [Arabic], [Archived], Al Hassaka Rasd (2) [Arabic], [Archived], Asharqiya Voice [Arabic], [Archived], Syrian Network for Human Rights [Archived], Syrian Network for Human Rights (2) [Archived],

Quality of reporting: Fair – though with reports of artillery strikes by both the US and Kurdish units

#### RFI Response:

##### 5j. June 6th 2017: (S811) Raqqa city, Raqqa governorate, Syria

Sources mention multiple neighbourhoods and locations, but didn’t differentiate which ones experienced the civilian casualties.

National Bank of Credit (البنك الشعبي للتسليف مصرف) c: 35.945077, 39.015770 [exact location]

Al Baraka Station on Saif al-Dawla Street (البنك سيف شارع في البركة محطة) x: 35.947308, 39.020470

Unable to find any reference to Al Baraka Station, so these are the coordinates of the street

al-Dawla school (الدولة سيف مدرسة) x: 35.9402816, 39.0191218

- The exact location of the Saif al-Dawla school was found through a 2009 article on e-syria, and an accompanying photo of the school which allowed geolocation.

However, satellite imagery analysis reveals that the building was still fully intact on June 6. The first damage appears in the east wing between July 5 and July 7. On July 19, almost all of the building has been destroyed. It may be that the wider region of apparently education buildings were referred to as the Saif al-Dawla school. One of those buildings has been bombed between May 30 and June 11, which could be the one RBSS is referring to. It is meters north of the actual Saif al-Dawla school and its coordinates are 35.9423402, 39.0197361.

Thakana (الثكنة) c: 35.9478905, 39.0067863

- We have been unable to locate the exact location mentioned: the Immigration and Passports building in Thakana (والجوازات الهجرة بناء)

Train station (القطار محطة) c: 35.965803, 39.010175

The Mashbal district (المشلب حي) c: 35.9449373, 39.0474701

Muraba’ Amni (Security Box) (الامن المربع) c: 35.9493692, 39.0074435

Mosque of Hussein (الحسين مسجد) c: 35.963859, 39.017052

	<p>Faculty of Education ( الكلية التربية ): unable to locate</p> <p><b>More information:</b>                  Raqqa Ahluna Facebook ( <a href="http://archive.is/RKV4I">http://archive.is/RKV4I</a> ):                  The martyrdom of 12 civilians as a result of the <b>fall of rockets</b> on the neighborhoods next to the Faculty of Education and the Mosque of Hussein.                  Sky news  <a href="http://archive.is/sHikY">http://archive.is/sHikY</a>                  Over the past few hours, the International Alliance fighters have renewed several air strikes on several points in the city of Raqqa, where intensive raids targeted the Taslif bank building in the city. The raids completely destroyed the building.                  Local sources told Sky News Arab that 12 civilians were killed by missiles falling near the mosque of Hussein next to the Faculty of Education in the city of Raqqa in conjunction with aerial bombardment and artillery on the city.                  Syrianpc news  <a href="http://archive.is/l49rI">http://archive.is/l49rI</a>                  Similar raids were also carried out by the Taslif Bank building and Al Baraka station on Saif al-Dawla Street, in addition to an air strike targeting Saif al-Dawla school.                  Image source                  Time: Before 18:20 local time</p>
<p><b>Analysis</b></p>	<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. <b>NO</b></p> <p>2. Does the allegation include                  a) video/photo evidence of CIVCAS <b>NO</b>                  b) a general location, e.g., Tabaqah, Manbij, Tel Afar; <b>YES</b>                  AND                  c) a way to identify the date or a 48 hour date range? <b>YES</b>                  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                  a) General Day, <b>YES</b>                  AND                  b) Specific location, e.g., MGRS or specific building? <b>NO</b>                  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)? If yes, move to 4.b. If no, move to 5. <b>NO</b></p> <p>4.b. <del>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.</del></p> <p>4.c. <del>Has media interviewed witnesses and/or victims? If yes, then contact journalist and re-assess. If no, then close the allegation.</del></p> <p>5.a. Are any of the sources high quality? <b>YES</b> If yes, move to 6. If no, move to 5.b.</p> <p>5.b. <del>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.</del></p>

	<p>6. Does the allegation contain sufficient information on the time, location and details to make an assessment of credibility? 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. <b>NO. We received an RFI response from airwars describing (and locating) multiple buildings, none of the buildings listed corroborate or match the description of where the CIVCAS allegation occurred.</b></p> <p><del>7. Are there any potentially corroborating strikes? If yes, answer the below questions and task CCAR. If no, close allegation.</del></p> <p><b>1. Assessed date of incident:</b></p> <p><b>2. Location:</b></p> <p><b>3. Corroborating strikes:</b></p> <p><i>MAT checked, CAOC log checked, CJTF kmz checked, CJTF log checked,</i></p>
<p><b>Non-US Coalition Involvement</b></p>	
<p><b>Decision</b></p>	<p>Close at the IA. Insufficient information as to time, location, and details to make an assessment of credibility.</p>
<p><b>Report Approved By:</b></p>	