

CIVCAS CELL INITIAL ASSESSMENT

Allegation #	1321		
Incident Date	13 APR 17	Opened Date	14 NOV 17
Source(s)	Airwars		
Source Type	Media	Location	Hatla Village
Nearest Major City	Dayr Az Zawr	MGRS	(b)(1)1.4a
Allegation Description	<p>Estimated Casualties – Killed: 0-100, Injured: unknown</p> <p>Source #1: April 13th 2017: (S605) حطلة Hatla, Deir Ezzor governorate, Syria Summary: The state news agency Sana reported the death of ‘hundreds of people’ in an alleged Coalition airstrike on Hatla. The Coalition said they were not responsible. However in its own published reports for that day the Coalition did later confirm three strikes in the province. According to Sana: “The General Command of the Army and Armed Forces said on Thursday that hundreds were killed, including a large number of civilians, due to an air strike carried out by aircraft of the so-called US-led international coalition against a huge depot for ISIS terrorist organization that includes toxic materials in the village of Hatla in the eastern countryside of Deir Ezzor province.” Samidon was among other sources pointing to the Coalition, reporting: “Yesterday, at 17:30 and 17:50, an international air strike targeted the headquarters of the terrorist organization, which included a large number of foreign mercenaries in the village of Hatla, east of Deir al-Zour. A white cloud turned yellow – the result of the explosion of a huge warehouse containing a large amount of toxic materials. This led to a fire which continued until 22:30 resulting in hundreds of deaths, including large numbers of civilians due to inhalation of toxic fumes.” However, a spokesperson for the Coalition denied the claims on twitter, saying: “.@OIRSpox has seen the reports from SANA alleging @CJTFOIR strikes near Deir Ezzor Weds–not true! Intentional misinformation...again!” However in its own published reports for that day the Coalition confirmed three strikes in the province. @FreeMohamad reported that the claims were untrue, while AJA_Syria said that the Coalition had not carried out any raids in Hatla on that day. Civilians reported killed: Up to 100 Civilians reported injured: Unknown Sources: Euphrates Post [Arabic], [Archived], Sana News [Arabic], [Archived], OIRspokesman [Archived], Rozana-fm [Arabic], [Archived], Samidon [Arabic], [Archived], Qasioun [Arabic], [Archived], Palestineafree [Arabic], [Archived], @FreeMohamad [Arabic], [Archived], @Drhamroush [Arabic], [Archived], YAlasrout [Arabic], [Archived], @spm_Syria [Arabic], [Archived], @baladinetwork [Arabic], [Archived], @Step_Agency [Arabic], [Archived], AJA_Syria [Arabic], [Archived]</p> <p>Quality of reporting: Contested</p>		

**THE OVERALL CLASSIFICATION IS
SECRET//REL TO USA, FVEY**

1. Is this allegation a self-report? **NO**

If yes, add details of potentially corroborating strike below and task a CCAR. If no, move to 2.

2. Does the allegation actually allege CIVCAS? **YES**

If yes, go to 3.a. If no, close the allegation.

3.a. Does the allegation state a single incident and/or location? **YES**

If yes, move to 4. If no, move to 3.b.

3.b. Does the allegation contain specific information pairing each CIVCAS allegation with an independent location?

If yes, separate the each of the combined allegations into separate allegations and restart an IA for each.

If no, send a RFI in an attempt to break out the locations and casualties into separate allegations, restart the IA.

If unable to RFI the allegor, go to 7.

4. Does the allegation contain:

a) a way to identify a 48 hour date range? **YES**

b) a specific location? **YES**

If yes to BOTH, go to 7. If EITHER are no, then go to 5.

5. Does the allegation contain:

a) a way to identify a 48 hour date range?

b) a specific time of day or timeframe?

c) a general location?

— If yes to ALL three, then go to 7. If ANY are no, go to 6.

6. Does the allegation contain:

a) Video or photo evidence of CIVCAS that can be used to narrow the date/time or location of the allegation?

— If yes, go to 7. If no, go to 6.b.

b) Are there at least two corroborating sources (total of 3) that independently reported the allegation?

— If yes, go to 7. If no, go to 6.c.

c) Any high quality sources?

— If yes, go to 7. If no, go to 6.d.

d) Specific facts that warrant a search for strikes?

— If yes, go to 7. If no, close the allegation.

7.a. Does the allegation contain sufficient information on the time, location and details to conduct a search for strikes? **YES**

If yes, go to 8. If no, go to 7.b.

7.b. Explain in detail why there is insufficient information on the time, location, and details to conduct a search for strikes.

IZ & SY

MAT: 0 results

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CAOC log: 0 results

CJTF log: 0 results

~~IZ~~

~~CJFLCC log, -email (Start 18 MAY 2017):~~

~~SY~~

~~TF(1) log, -email (Start 22 JUL 2017):~~

8. Are there any potentially corroborating strikes? **NO**

If yes, answer the questions below and task CCAR.

If no, provide a detailed explanation and close the allegation.

- Conducted a 48-hour search (12-13 APR 17) for strikes in Hatla, east of Dayr Az Zawr.
- The search returned zero strike results in the alleged area.

~~1. Assessed date of incident:~~

~~2. Location:~~

~~3. Potentially Corroborating Strike Information:~~

~~MGRS:~~

~~Strike Number:~~

~~DTG:~~

~~Target:~~

~~Dynamic/Deliberate:~~

~~Aircraft:~~

~~Call Sign:~~

~~Nationality:~~

~~Munitions & Number dropped:~~

~~Target Number:~~

~~TEA:~~

~~BE #:~~

~~Non-US Coalition Involvement: N/A~~

Decision: Close at the IA due to insufficient evidence to corroborate the allegation.

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Exhibits removed per agreements - Bates Numbers

Approved for Release