



DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
COMBINED JOINT TASK FORCE - OPERATION INHERENT RESOLVE
CAMP ARIFJAN, KUWAIT
APO AE 09306

IRCS

31 AUG 2017

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: CIVCAS Allegation Closure Report, Allegation No. 1190

1. (U) **BLUF.** Based on the below findings, this allegation is **NOT CREDIBLE**. Based on review of all reasonably available information, there is insufficient information as to time, location, and details to make an assessment of credibility. CJTF-OIR CIVCAS Cell shall close this allegation and make available for immediate public release.

2. (U) **Background.** I considered the following information in making my findings:

a. (U) On 29 July 2017, WebOps Iraq-Syria reported: Claims of CIVCAS from CF Airstrikes in Raqqa and Al-Mayadin. On 29 JUL, pro-Syrian opposition social media users and regional media outlets on Facebook and Twitter circulated news of some activities who reported that CF airstrikes targeted al-Shimas neighborhood in Raqqa city which resulted in killing 15 civilians of three related families including women and children and many more others were injured. The regional media added that at least one hundred civilians were killed in the past two days by SDF artilleries and CF airstrikes.

b. (U) According to Airwars.org, on 28 July 2017, a family of 15, including eight children and three women, died in an alleged Coalition airstrike on their home in Raqqa, according to local sources. Reports – all of which pointed towards the US-led Coalition – named the victims as the Al-Zana family. According to SHRC, they were displaced from the city of Taqad in the Aleppo countryside. There was some confusion as to the exact location of the family's home which was reportedly struck. Qasioun and Oman Daily said that it was in Al Mansour Street; Gate ahram and @7UFCMxSxd0IUBffH reported that it was in Al-Shimas, in the center of Raqqa; while according to Smart and Almodon, it was near the museum (Al Muthaf). Sources said that other civilians were wounded in the strike and were likely still trapped under the rubble.

c. (S//REL) On 13 August 2017, CJTF-OIR CIVCAS Cell approved the Initial Assessment (IA) and determined the allegation should be closed at the IA.

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3. (U) CJTF Initial Assessment

- a. ~~(S//REL)~~ The allegations did not include picture or video evidence of CIVCAS. Moreover, the allegation did not provide a specific location, e.g., MGRS, name of building.
- b. ~~(S//REL)~~ The CJTF-OIR CIVCAS Cell conducted a search for strikes occurring from 28-29 JUL 2017. Because the allegation provided the date of the alleged strikes, it the CIVCAS Cell policy used a 48 hour search window from the date the allegation was reported.
- c. ~~(S//REL)~~ Based on the number of strikes returned by the search and lack of detail in the allegations to narrow the search, it would be unreasonable to make assessment of credibility.
- d. ~~(S//REL)~~ Accordingly, CJTF-OIR CIVCAS Cell recommended closing this allegation at the Initial Assessment due to insufficient information as to time, location, and details to make an assessment of credibility.

4. (U) Action.

(U) I direct closure of this CIVCAS incident and that CJTF-OIR PAO publish the result of this CIVCAS assessment in a press release as soon as practicable.

5. (U) Point of contact is

(b)(3) 10 USC 130b; (b)(6)

(b)(6)

1 Encls

1. Initial Assessment


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