



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

IRCS

Σ | AUG 2017

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: CIVCAS Allegation Closure Report, Allegation No. 1165

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 10 June 2017, the UN Acting Regional Humanitarian Coordinator Syria Crisis reported: airstrikes hit residential areas and reportedly killed seven civilians including one woman in the western neighbourhoods of Al-Jazra and Al-Sbahiya in Ar-Raqqa city.

b. (U) According to Airwars.org, on 10 June 2017, Up to 17 civilians died in various neighbourhoods across Raqqa in either Coalition airstrikes or artillery shelling, local media reported. According to Baladi, "Coalition aircraft launched several air raids on the city of Raqqa, including more than 10 raids where the coalition used white phosphorus bombs, banned internationally, for the second day in a row. Local media sources reported the occurrence of martyrs and wounded civilians by shelling." Sharqiya Voice reported that there had been "15 deaths and a number of civilians wounded – most of them women and children – following coalition raids in conjunction with YPG artillery in al Sabahiya area west of Raqqa." However the Coalition confirmed to Airwars that only the US was using artillery on the city. Smart, also blaming the Coalition, put the death toll at 17. Al Raqqa Truth published a video by IS media agency A'maq reportedly showing American raids using white phosphorus.

c. (~~S//REL~~) On 19 AUG 2017, CJTF-OIR CIVCAS Cell approved the Initial Assessment (IA) and determined the allegation should be closed at the IA.

3. (U) **CJTF Initial Assessment**

a. (~~S//REL~~) The allegation did not include picture or video evidence of CIVCAS. Moreover, the allegation did not provide a specific location, e.g., MGRS, name of building.

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b. (~~S//REL~~) The CJTF-OIR CIVCAS Cell conducted a search for strikes occurring from 9-10 JUN 2017, because the allegations provide a two day window in which the alleged CIVCAS occurred.

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


KENNETH L. KAMPER
BG, USA
Chief of Staff

Approved for Release

Pages 175 through 178 redacted for the following reasons:

Exhibits removed per agreement - Bates Numbers 4868-4871

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