



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

IRCS

25 Jul 2017
 29 JUN 2017

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: CIVCAS Allegation Closure Report, Allegation No. 454

1. (U) **BLUF.** Based on the below findings, this allegation is **NOT CREDIBLE**. There were no potentially corroborating strikes from 6-8 May 2017 IVO a road in between Raqqa and the village of Aqiryat. 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. (~~S//REL USA, FVEY~~) On 8 May 2017, WebOps Iraq-Syria reported that a Pro-Syrian opposition Twitter user and self-proclaimed journalist in Dar'a province (@ab_amro) tweeted that CF airstrikes targeting a transportation bus on the road between Raqqa and the village of Aqiryat killed at least ten civilians. Additionally, the Step News Agency reported that CF targeted a convoy transporting displaced civilians from Homs and eastern Hama. However, one social media user (@Tayyal91aa) claimed the incident was fake, reporting that the missile hit next to the bus and that that bus continued on it way arriving in Aqiryat with all passengers safe.

b. (U) On 8 May 2017, CJTF-OIR CIVCAS Cell conducted an initial assessment and determined to close this allegation at the Initial Assessment stage.

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

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

b. (~~S//REL USA, FVEY~~) CJTF CIVCAS cell identified two strikes that took place along a road that had the potential to line up with the allegation. WSV for the aforementioned strikes were reviewed and neither video provided any evidence of CIVCAS.

c. (~~S//REL USA, FVEY~~) Accordingly, CIVCAS Cell recommended this allegation be closed due to nsufficient evidence to corroborate the allegation.

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 1302, (b)(6)

- 2 Encs
 1. Initial Assessment
 2. Screen Shot

Kenneth L. Kamper 25 Jul 2017
 KENNETH L. KAMPER
 BG, USA
 Chief of Staff

Pages 359 through 362 redacted for the following reasons:

Exhibits removed per agreement - Bates Numbers 4155-4158

Approved for Release