



DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
HEADQUARTERS, COMBINED JOINT FORCES LAND COMPONENT COMMAND -
OPERATION INHERENT RESOLVE & 1ST INFANTRY DIVISION
UNION III, BAGHDAD IRAQ
APO AE 09348

IRIZ-JA

1 July 2017

MEMORANDUM FOR CIVCAS Team, Combined Joint Task Force - Operation Inherent Resolve, Camp Arifjan, APO, AE 09306

SUBJECT: CIVCAS Credibility Assessment Report (CCAR) – FIR 27 June 2017

(b)(1)1.4a (137-17)

1. (~~S//FVEY~~) BLUF. This allegation is NOT CREDIBLE. A thorough review of all the available intelligence indicates that it is more likely than not that the three adult males were associates of the target and were not civilians.

2. (~~S//FVEY~~) CIVCAS Allegation.

a. (~~S//FVEY~~) Source. Self-report, Combined Joint Operations Center-Baghdad (CJOC-B) Strike Cell, Combined Joint Forces Land Component Command, Operation Inherent Resolve.

b. (~~S//FVEY~~) Time and Location. 26 (b)(1)1.4a June 2017, Hawijah, MGRS:

(b)(1)1.4a

c. (~~S//FVEY~~) Description. After the release of munitions targeting OBJ (b)(1)1.4a (b)(1)1.4a three previously unidentified males entered the field of view and interacted with the target. At impact, a total of four individuals were assessed to have been in the collateral hazard area of the munition, causing three possible CIVCAS.

3. (~~S//FVEY~~) Review. CJFLCC-OIR SJA reviewed all available records to determine whether the three males who entered the collateral hazard area after munitions release were civilians. Based on the evidence, I determined that this allegation is NOT CREDIBLE, that is, that all four adult males in the hazard area were ISIS fighters or associated with ISIS and were not civilians.

a. (~~S//FVEY~~) Strike (b)(1)1.4a was a dynamic offensive engagement against (b)(1)1.4a, an ISIS Financier and Amir of a logistical cell. On 26JUN2017, Task Force (b)(1)1.4a provided intelligence regarding OBJ (b)(1)1.4a to the strike cell and verified PID of the target individual. The target was assessed to be traveling on foot with his driver, an associated ISIS member, in Hawijah. (b)(1)1.4a, (b)(1)1.4a attempted to strike the individual at (b)(1)1.4a but was forced to abort the strike (b)(1)1.4g. The target and his driver reappeared and T (b)(1)1.4a confirmed PID of the target. After the first engagement, FMV showed a spike in vehicle traffic and adult males moving around on the street. This increase in activity lasted approximately (b)(1)1.4a

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b. Between (b)(1)1.4a the OBJ (b)(1)1.4a and his driver continued to move on foot within the town. (b)(1)1.4a, (b)(1)1.4a maintained PID and observed no interaction between the target and the civilians on the road. In the (b)(1)1.4a after the first engagement, the target individual passed by a total of 19 individuals on foot and six vehicles. Neither the target nor his driver interacted with any of the people who passed them. Both individuals maintained a steady walking pace and continued to follow the road. Approximately (b)(1)1.4a after the first engagement, the target individual moved south off the road with his driver. There were no observed transients or personnel in the hazard area, and (b)(1)1.4a, (b)(1)1.4a was cleared to engage at (b)(1)1.4a

c. After release of the munition but prior to impact, three previously unidentified adult males entered the collateral hazard area from the south. These individuals were initially moving northeast, but upon seeing the target individual adjusted their path to the north. The target individual also adjusted his path, moving southeast to meet the three individuals. The driver remained closer to the road to the north. Attempts to abort the munition when the three individuals entered the hazard area were unsuccessful, as the munition was already released. The target individual and the three adult males were in the collateral hazard area of the munition when it struck, and all four were assessed as KIA. The observed explosion was significantly larger than expected for the munition used, leading to the assessment that one or more of the individuals was carrying additional explosives or munitions on their person that were ignited by the blast. The secondary explosion ignited a fuel tanker located to the southeast of the four individuals. The driver was not in the hazard area and was not affected by the blast. The driver ran back to the road and got in a vehicle that stopped after the explosion.

d. All persons in the CJOA are presumed civilian unless positively identified otherwise. I assess that the three unidentified males were associated with ISIS and the target individual, based on the video evidence. Both the target and the group of three changed course to meet each other when they saw each other off the road. The target ignored over 19 other individuals that he passed in the (b)(1)1.4a between the original engagement and when he saw the group of three. If the target were attempting to use civilians as shields, it is likely that he would have interacted with the civilians in the area, or flagged down one of the six vehicles that passed him. Based on the intelligence showing the target was the head of an ISIS logistic cell and a financier for ISIS in Hawijah, it is likely that he was known to other ISIS fighters in the area. Based on the interaction observed in a short period of time, I assess that the three individuals were associated with the target and were not civilians.

4. (~~S//FVEY~~) Credibility Assessment. On the basis of the details contained in the allegation and a thorough assessment of all reasonably available evidence, this CIVCAS allegation is deemed NOT CREDIBLE insofar as it relates to civilian deaths. That is, it is more likely than not that the three additional males were associated with ISIS and the target and were not civilians.

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5. (U//~~FOUO~~) The point of contact for this CIVCAS Credibility Assessment Report is the undersigned at (b)(3) 10 USC 130b; (b)(6)

Enclosure

1. mIRC Chat Log and Video Links and corresponding Video Snaps

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

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I have conducted a legal review of the information in this CCAR and the supporting evidence. Based upon all reasonably available information at this time, I find that:

(b)(5)

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

3 July 2017

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(b)(1)1.4a (37-17)

I have reviewed the information contained in this CCAR and the supporting evidence. Based upon all reasonably available information at this time, I find that:

___ The evidence supports a finding of CREDIBLE. That is, it is more likely than not that the CIVCAS incident occurred. I direct an investigation be conducted by this command.

___ The evidence supports a finding of CREDIBLE. That is, it is more likely than not that the CIVCAS incident occurred. However, at this time I direct no investigation be conducted by this command, as no additional information could be discovered by further investigation.

4 ___ The evidence supports a finding of NOT CREDIBLE. Without additional evidence, I direct that no further action be taken by this command.


JOSEPH M. MARTIN
Major General, U.S. Army
Commanding

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Pages 124 through 135 redacted for the following reasons:

Exhibits removed per agreement - Bates Numbers 4406-4417

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