



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

IRCS

29 March 2017

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: CIVCAS Allegation Closure Report, Allegation No. 361

1. (U) **BLUF.** Based on the below findings, this allegation is **NOT CREDIBLE**. 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 23 February 2017, WebOps Iraq-Syria reported Pro-Syrian regime Twitter users circulated an article from Lebanese media outlet, Almanara, reporting that "international coalition" airstrikes killed five civilians in the city of al-Tabqa southwest of Raqa. The topic trended at a medium level and resonated at a low level in the Arabic IE.

b. (U) Following the receipt of this allegation, CJTF-OIR CIVCAS Cell conducted an initial assessment of the allegation and closed this allegation at the First Impression Report (FIR).

3. (U) **CJTF-OIR CIVCAS Cell's Findings**

a. (U) Coalition Strike Activity.

(1) (~~S//REL TO USA, FVEY~~) There is only one strike near Tabqa on the 22nd, strike number (b)(1)1.4z and that strike hit the north side of Tabqa Dam; approximately 2 km away from the city and not within the city perimeter. No other strikes occurred within 48 hours before or after 22 February 2017.

c. Credibility Assessment

(1) (~~S//REL TO USA, FVEY~~) Based on a thorough assessment of all reasonably available evidence, this CIVCAS allegation is deemed **NOT CREDIBLE**. That is, it is more likely than not that no civilians were killed or seriously injured as a consequence of Coalition airstrikes in al-Tabqa southwest of Raqa, SY on or around 22 February 2017.

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4. (U) Action.

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

5. (U) Point of contact is (b)(6) (b)(3) 10 USC 130b; (b)(6) at DSN (b)(6)

- 2 Encls
- 1. FIR
- 2. Screen Shot


J. SCOTT O'MEARA
BGen, USMC
Chief of Staff

Approved for Release