



~~SECRET//REL FVEY~~

REQUEST #3

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

IRIZ-CO

24 February 2018

MEMORANDUM FOR CIVCAS Team, Combined Joint Task Force – Operation Inherent Resolve, APO, AE 09306

SUBJECT: CIVCAS Credibility Assessment Report (CCAR) for Allegation 225/17 (CJFLCC), Allegation 981 (CJTF), (b)(1)1.4a (MGRS), 10 March 2017

1. (U) References:

a. (U) CJTF-OIR Policy for Reporting and Responding to CIVCAS Incidents, 13 DECEMBER 2017, UNCLASSIFIED//~~FOUO~~

b. (U) CJTF-OIR Security Classification Guide, 20 OCTOBER 2016, UNCLASSIFIED//~~FOUO~~

c. CIDNE

d. MISREP Analysis Tool (MAT)

e. Unicorn

f. Chatsurfer

g. ABI File Upload Site

2. (U//~~FOUO~~) **BLUF:** I assess that the allegation of civilian casualties (CIVCAS) on 10 March 2017 in (b)(1)1.4a (MGRS) is NOT CREDIBLE. This assessment is based upon a thorough review of all reasonably available information, including information provided by Combined Joint Task Force – Operation Inherent Resolve (CJTF-OIR) and open source material.

3. (U) CIVCAS Allegation:

a. (U) **Source:** AirWars

b. (U) **Time and Location:** 10 March 2017, (b)(1)1.4a (MGRS)

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c. (~~S//REL FVEY~~) **Allegation:** Local residents and press sources said dozens of civilians were killed or injured in Al Farouk neighborhood in the west of Mosul. This reportedly included 19 members from the same family, including women and children. They died when their house was bombed. Sources reported that many of the victims were still under the rubble after shelling by different weapons had increasingly targeted the area. A source told Yaqin that "the bombing caused the deaths of dozens of dead and wounded, amid the utter absence of any ambulance operations in light of the continuing bombings of the government." Other sources also mentioned the Coalition. Witnesses told Al Jazeera Iraq that the bombing was "barbaric and indiscriminate." Sawif Ateka has named a 6-year old girl, Aya, as one of the victims. Civilians reported killed: 19-24, including at least one child. Civilians reported injured: 12-24

d. (U) **Discussion:** A "bombing caused the deaths of dozens of dead and wounded" in the Al Farouk neighborhood of West Mosul on 10 March 2017.

4. (~~S//REL FVEY~~) **Summary of Coalition Strike Activity:** The Coalition conducted three strikes in the Al Farouk Neighborhood within the approximate time date group of the CIVCAS allegation (Encl 1).

5. (~~S//REL FVEY~~) **Strike Overview:** The three strikes identified were carried by call sign (b)(1)1.4a, (b)(6) at various points throughout the day.
(b)(1)1.4a, (b)(6)
(b)(1)1.4a, (b)(6) (Encl 2).

a. (~~S//REL USA, FVEY~~) (b)(1)1.4a The target was a possible VBIED located at (b)(1)1.4a which posed a threat to the forward line of troops. The strike was requested under ROE (b)(1)1.4a Z, on 9 March 2017, (b)(1)1.4a, (b)(6) fired (b)(1)1.4a resulting in a battle damage assessment (BDA) of 1 x POSS VBIED DESTROYED (Encl 3). The (b)(1)1.4a is a direct fire munition which is (b)(1)1.4a According to CJCSI 3160.01A para 3b, the risk of collateral damage from these weapon systems is presented by the distribution of munitions in the target area and not from the explosive effects of the warhead. Based upon the target being a vehicle and not a structure, the use of (b)(1)1.4a its weapon effects radius and the resulting BDA, I assess this strike to be NOT CREDIBLE for the allegation of CIVCAS in this case.

b. (~~S//REL USA, FVEY~~) (b)(1)1.4a The target was a mortar located at (b)(1)1.4a which was suppressing Iraqi Security Forces' freedom of movement. The strike was requested under ROE (b)(1)1.4a At (b)(1)1.4a Z, on 9 March 2017, (b)(1)1.4a, (b)(6) resulting in a BDA of MORTAR SUPPRESSED (Encl 3). A CDE call for this target was not available. For this round, the kill zone is approximately a radius of (b)(1)1.4a and casualty radius is (b)(1)1.4a. VT is a designation for a "variable timed" proximity fuse which detonates an explosive device automatically when the distance to the target becomes smaller than a

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predetermined value. This provides a more sophisticated trigger mechanism than the contact or timed fuze and its precision increases lethality by a multiple of 5-10. Proximity fuses are designed for targets such as ground forces. Given the target, the munition and its fusing and the BDA, I assess this strike to be NOT CREDIBLE for the allegation of CIVCAS in this case.

c. (~~S//REL USA, FVEY~~) (b)(1)1.4a The target was ISIS fighters firing a recoilless rifle towards friendly forces located at (b)(1)1.4a. The strike was requested under ROE (b)(1)1.4a Z, on 9 March 2017, (b)(1)1.4a, (b)(6) released (b)(1)1.4a, (b)(6) The two munitions resulted in a BDA of 3x EKIA, 2x EWIA, 1x AMMO CACHE DESTROYED and 1x RECOILESS RIFLE DESTROYED (Encl 3). The (b)(1)1.4a is a direct fire munition which is (b)(1)1.4a (b)(1)1.4a According to CJCSI 3160.01A para 3b, the risk of collateral damage from these weapon systems is presented by the distribution of munitions in the target area and not from the explosive effects of the warhead. Based upon the target being a heavy weapon and weapon team and not a structure, the weapon effects radius of the munition used and the BDA, I assess this strike to be NOT CREDIBLE for the allegation of CIVCAS in this case.

6. (~~S//REL USA, FVEY~~) **CIVCAS Assessment:** The distance of the strikes from the alleged CIVCAS indicate the alleged CIVCAS occurred outside the collateral effects radius of the munitions used. The FMV observation of no significant damage to the surrounding structures further evidences the alleged CIVCAS did not occur as a result of a coalition strike. The use of delayed fusing further mitigates the possibility of collateral damage. Based on reasonably available evidence, it is more likely than not that the alleged CIVCAS did not occur as a result of these strikes.

7. (~~S//REL USA, FVEY~~) **Additional Information:** Two of the three strikes analyzed were carried out by direct fire weapons. They are not designed to nor capable of destroying structures that would cause the alleged CIVCAS. The BDA of the respective strikes reflects the requested effects were achieved and the commander's intent was met. The munitions used by (b)(1)1.4a, (b)(6) on the selected fusing were designed for the intended strike target. The BDA of the strike reflects the requested effects were achieved and the commander's intent was met.

8. (~~S//FVEY~~) **Allegation Credibility Assessment:** Based on a thorough assessment of all reasonably available evidence, this CIVCAS allegation is deemed NOT CREDIBLE. That is, the munitions used, the targets and the resulting BDA of the assessed strikes does not corroborate with this allegation.

9. (U) The point of contact for this memorandum is the undersigned at:

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

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(CJFLCC), Allegation 981 (CJTF), [REDACTED] (b)(1)1.4a (MGRS), 10 March 2017

[REDACTED] (b)(3) 10 USC 130b; (b)(6)

[REDACTED] (b)(3) 10 USC 130b; (b)(6)

3 Encl(s)

1. (S) CIDNE Report dtd 9 SEP 2017
2. (S) Google Earth Graphic
3. (S) MiRC Chat

[REDACTED] (b)(3) 10 USC 130b; (b)(6)

Classified By: [REDACTED] (b)(3) 10 USC 130b; (b)(6)

Derived From: Multiple Sources

Declassify On: 03FEB2043

Approved for Release

Pages 33 through 44 redacted for the following reasons:

Exhibits removed per agreement - Bates Numbers 4315-4326

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