



~~SECRET//REL USA, FVEY~~

REQUEST #10

(b)(1)1.4a  
INCIRLIK AIR BASE, TURKEY  
APO AE 09824

(b)(1)1.4a

13 October 2016

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

**SUBJECT: CIVILIAN CASUALTY ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR STRIKE NUMBER (b)(1)1.4a OCCURRING ON 03 OCTOBER 2016 IN VICINITY OF AKHTARIN, SYRIA**

Ref: (1) First Impression Report for Strike (b)(1)1.4a 03 October 2016 (~~S//REL USA, MESF~~)  
(2) Deliberate Strike (b)(1)1.4a CIVCAS Assessment Report (~~S//REL USA, FVEY~~)  
(3) CJTF-OIR 05 1900Z SEP 16 DAILY FRAGO TO OPORD 16-001 (OPERATION INHERENT RESOLVE) (U//FOUO)  
(4) DGS Processing Exploitation and Dissemination (PED) from (b)(1)1.4a, (b)(6) from 02 1711Z – 03 1230Z October 2016. (~~S//REL USA, MESF~~)  
(5) VIDEO CLIP: FEMALE WALKING FROM NORTH BUILDING INTO MAIN BUILDING, ADULT MALE DEPARTING MAIN BUILDING INTO NORTH BUILDING, 021948Z OCT 16 (~~S//REL USA, MESF~~)  
(6) VIDEO CLIP: (b)(1)1.4a, (b)(6) STRIKE (b)(1)1.4a 03 (b)(1)1.4a Z OCT 16 (~~S//REL USA, MESF~~)  
(7) (4) (b)(6) C2 Node (~~TS//SI//REL USA, FVEY~~) *\*available only on JWICS. Contact the POC for this memorandum for more information.*

Encl: (1) First Impression Report for Strike (b)(1)1.4a 03 October 2016 (~~S//REL USA, MESF~~)  
(2) (b)(6) C2/BDL Strike (~~S//REL USA, FVEY~~)  
(3) ITC LOG SHEET (~~S//REL USA, MESF~~)

(~~S//REL USA, FVEY~~) Tasking. (b)(1)1.4a  
(b)(1)1.4a directed (b)(1)1.4a  
(b)(1)1.4a to conduct a Civilian Casualty (CIVCAS) Credibility Assessment Report (CCAR) IAW CJTF-OIR 05 1900Z SEP 16 DAILY FRAGO TO OPORD 16-001. This CCAR addresses allegations of a potential civilian casualty from a Coalition Force (CF) airstrike in Akhtarín, Syria on 03 October 2016.

(~~S//REL USA, FVEY~~) BLUE. I assess that a potential CIVCAS incident did not occur as a result of (b)(1)1.4a strike # (b)(1)1.4a VO Akhtarín, SY on 03 (b)(1)1.4a Z OCT 16. I assess that the self-report of CIVCAS is NOT CREDIBLE. Based on corroborating intelligence reporting, it is more likely than not that all individuals within the compound were active Da'esh members as they were participating in the planning of defensive operations against US and VSO personnel. Further, all source analysts assessed that Da'esh family members were evacuated prior to the strike.

**(U) Source of CIVCAS Credibility Assessment**

1. (~~S//REL USA, FVEY~~) Source. This is a self-reported incident.

a. (~~S//REL USA, MESF~~) From ITC Log (b)(1)1.4a, (b)(6) 03 OCT 16 (b)(1)1.4a  
One prob female observed active in compound assessed slant of compound 2/1/0."

~~SECRET//REL USA, MESF~~



(b)(1)1.4a

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b. (~~S//REL USA, MESF~~) From ITC Log (b)(1)1.4a, (b)(1)1.4b 03 OCT 16 (b)(1)1.4a confirmed 3/1/0 att --- woman is assessed not confirmed."

c. (~~S//REL USA, MESF~~) From ITC Log (b)(1)1.4a, (b)(1)1.4b 03 OCT 16 (b)(1)1.4a current slant 4/1/0."

d. (~~S//REL USA, FVEY~~) (b)(1)1.4a, (b)(6) observed the (b)(1)1.4a, (b)(6) strike the compound with (b)(1)1.4a

e. (~~S//REL USA, MESF~~) 03 October 2016 – Submitted First Impression Report (FIR) for Strike (b)(1)1.4a on potential CIVCAS from the (b)(1)1.4a Battle Captain to the (b)(1)1.4a Battle Captain.

2. (~~S//REL USA, FVEY~~) Strike Summary. The self-reported incident in question correlates to a (b)(1)1.4a dynamic strike conducted by (b)(1)1.4a, (b)(6). The strike was conducted as follows:

a. (~~S//REL USA, FVEY~~) At 02 (b)(1)1.4a 03 OCT 16, (b)(1)1.4a, (b)(6) began scanning a compound IVO (b)(1)1.4a in Akhtarín, Syria. During the scans, light foot and vehicle traffic were noted at the compound. At 02 (b)(1)1.4a 03 OCT 16, (b)(1)1.4a requested the removal of this facility from the (b)(1)1.4a list. The ITC Log reflects that at 02 (b)(1)1.4a 03 OCT 16, "one adult male exited east side of building and walked south to the small wall of back building." At 02 (b)(1)1.4a 03 OCT 16, (b)(1)1.4a, (b)(6) observed a figure exiting the northern portion of the building into the main building.

b. (~~S//REL USA, FVEY~~) At 02 (b)(1)1.4a 03 OCT 16 the (b)(1)1.4a removal request was approved. The ITC Log reflects in respect to the target compound that at 03 (b)(1)1.4a 03 OCT 16, "one sedan and two motor bikes stopped at compound east of target compound. 11/0/1 were observed total from motor bikes and sedan. All individuals appear to be entering and exiting the compound."

c. At 03 (b)(1)1.4a 03 OCT 16, ITC Log reflected that the slant at the time was 3/1/0 and the woman is assessed not confirmed. The Target Engagement Authority (TEA) disagreed with the screener's assessment that the adult-aged figure observed at 02 (b)(1)1.4a 03 OCT 16 was a female. Based on a review of the video footage, the figure is wearing pants. No reflections were seen in social media, official media or intelligence reporting that a female was killed during the strike. Therefore, it is likely that the figure was male.

d. (~~S//REL USA, MESF~~) At 03 (b)(1)1.4a 03 OCT 16, the current slant was assessed to be 2/1/0. At 03 (b)(1)1.4a 03 OCT 16, ITC Log reflected that "one adult male observed in the vicinity east of target compound," and in the same minute, "one adult male exited the same compound, interacted with front of vehicle and continued walking east."

e. (~~S//REL USA, FVEY~~) At 03 (b)(1)1.4a 03 OCT 16 information from (b)(1)1.4c and ISR confirmed that (b)(6) and other Da'esh fighters were actively planning, directing and coordinating imminent operations along the Friendly Line of Troops against US and VSO personnel and from inside the target compound. (See paragraph 8 for an intelligence assessment). ITC Log reflected at 03 (b)(1)1.4a 03 OCT 16 that "three adult males came from the W and two adult males entered and one passed by." At 03 (b)(1)1.4a 03 OCT 16 the ITC Log reflected that "the



(b)(1)1.4a

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current slant is 4/1/0," and at 03 (b)(1)1.4a OCT16, "[O]ne person active on the east side of the building, exited and reentered the building." At 03 (b)(1)1.4a OCT16, (b)(1)1.4a conducted a strike on the compound. At 03 (b)(1)1.4a OCT16 the ITC Log reflected that, "[A]ssessed building 80% destroyed, no movement observed. C2 Node non-operational."

3. (U) Allegations and Analysis.

a. (~~S//REL USA, MESF~~) Timeframe. The strike occurred at 03 (b)(1)1.4a OCT16.

b. (~~S//REL USA, FVEY~~) Locations. The potential CIVCAS occurred at the compound IVO (b)(1)1.4a South of GRG126.

c. (~~S//REL USA, FVEY~~) CF Correlation. The potential CIVCAS was caused by (b)(1)1.4a strike # (b)(1)1.4a IVO Akhtarín, SY on 03 (b)(1)1.4a OCT16.

(U) Review of Imagery

4. (U) FMV Review.

a. (~~S//REL USA, FVEY~~) Strike Number (b)(1)1.4a Video was captured by (b)(1)1.4a, (b)(6). At 02 (b)(1)1.4a OCT16, (b)(1)1.4a, (b)(6) observed a motorbike stop at the compound. One male dismounted carrying two bags and a second male pushed the motor bike to the north side of the compound and brought the bags inside. At 02 (b)(1)1.4a OCT16, (b)(1)1.4a, (b)(6) observed one figure walking from the northern portion of the building into the main building. Immediately after the same figure exited the main building and entered the northern building. At 03 (b)(1)1.4a OCT16, (b)(1)1.4a, (b)(6) observed three adult aged males came from the east. Two entered the compound and one continued to the west. At 03 (b)(1)1.4a OCT16, (b)(1)1.4a, (b)(6) observed the compound struck by (b)(1)1.4a, (b)(6). At 03 (b)(1)1.4a OCT16, (b)(1)1.4a, (b)(6) observed no "squirters" after the strike and assessed the building destroyed with five EKIA.

b. (~~S//REL USA, FVEY~~) The actual number of casualties assessed was incorrect. (b)(1)1.4a, (b)(6) observed two adult males enter the compound, with one assessed female being observed 28 minutes later. The erroneous assessment of a female caused the slant of 2/1/0 at 02 (b)(1)1.4a OCT16. The assessed female was not observed after 02 (b)(1)1.4a OCT16. However, at 03 (b)(1)1.4a OCT16 the slant was raised to 4/1/0, still accounting for the erroneously assessed additional female. Therefore, based on the information gathered, there were likely four EKIA, not five.

5. (~~S//REL USA, FVEY~~) Post Strike Battle Damage Assessment Graphic Review. The post-strike imagery obtained indicates that the targeted compound was destroyed with five EKIA. The post-strike imagery did not show if there was any additional collateral damage and no further information was provided.

6. (~~S//REL USA, FVEY~~) External Information Review Strike Number (b)(1)1.4a Social Media Exploitation Cell (SMEX) reported reflections on social media depict 10 civilians were killed near Akhtarín, Syria. Social media users were comprised of anti-US, pro-Da'esh, and neutral accounts from both English and Arabic languages. (b)(1)1.4a Public Affairs Officer reported "ARA News mentioned that another airstrike hit a residential neighborhood in the town.



(b)(1)1.4a

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At least eight civilians were killed and ten others wounded in the air raid, rights activist Habib Saleh told ARA News. There were no other possible corroborating reports of a CIVCAS IVO Akhtarín, Syria on 03 (b)(1)1.4a OCT16.

7. (~~S//REL USA, FVEY~~) Collateral Damage Estimate (CDE): A formal CDE was not completed due to the strike being conducted IAW ROE (b)(1)1.4a

8. (U) Intelligence Assessment.

a. (~~S//REL USA, FVEY~~) (b)(1)1.4c Information from reliable sources determined that (b)(6) was in the target compound during the strike. Additional reliable information shows that individuals within the compound were actively planning defensive operations against US and VSO forces. (b)(1)1.4c

(b)(1)1.4c (b)(1)1.4c For post-strike analysis, no reflections in (b)(1)1.4c reporting determined a female was present or killed during the strike on the compound at 03 (b)(1)1.4a OCT16.

b. (~~S//REL USA, FVEY~~) (b)(1)1.4c (b)(1)1.4c Analysts assessed that corroborating reporting determines that Da'esh families were evacuated from Akhtarín by the time of the strike on 03 October 2016.

c. (~~S//REL USA, FVEY~~) Based off of intelligence reporting and assessments, a reasonable conclusion is that no civilians were located within the compound when defensive operations were being actively planned and subsequently when the strike occurred.

**(U) Action Officer Conclusions**

9. (~~S//REL USA, FVEY~~) I assess that the potential CIVCAS incident that occurred as a result of (b)(1)1.4a Strike # (b)(1)1.4a IVO Akhtarín, Syria on 03 (b)(1)1.4a OCT16 is NOT CREDIBLE. Intelligence reporting determines that Da'esh families were evacuated prior to the strike. Additionally, (b)(1)1.4c

(b)(1)1.4c Based on corroborating intelligence reporting, it is more likely than not that all individuals within the compound were active Da'esh members and were participating in the planning of defensive operations against US and VSO personnel.

10. (U//FOUO) Further Information. The point of contact for this Memorandum for the Record is the undersigned at; SIPR: (b)(3) 10 USC 130b; (b)(6)

(b)(6)

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

(b)(1)1.4a

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OCCURRING ON 03 OCTOBER 2016 IN VICINITY OF AKHTARIN, SYRIA

I have reviewed the information contained within this CCAR and the supporting evidence regarding this incident. 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 above CIVCAS incident occurred. In accordance with the USCENTCOM OIR Standard Operating Procedure on Civilian Casualty Reporting and Response Proceedings, an investigation will be directed by this command.

\_\_\_ The evidence supports a finding of CREDIBLE. That is, it is more likely than not that the above CIVCAS incident occurred. However, at this time no investigation is directed by this headquarters as no additional information could be provided by further investigation at this level.

✓ \_\_\_ The evidence supports a finding of NOT CREDIBLE. Without additional evidence, no further action will be directed by this command.

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



(b)(1)1.4a

CAMP ARIFJAN, KUWAIT  
APO, AE 09309

(b)(1)1.4a

15 October 2016

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: Legal Review – CIVILIAN CASUALTY ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR  
STRIKE NUMBER (b)(1)1.4a 3 October 2016, IVO Akhtar, Syria

1. This memorandum confirms that I reviewed the civilian casualty assessment report (CCAR) for strike number (b)(1)1.4a, (b)(5)

(b)(1)1.4a, (b)(5)

(b)(1)1.4a

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STRIKE NUMBER (b)(1)1.4a 3 October 2016, IVO Akhtarin, Syria

(b)(1)1.4a, (b)(5)

5. The POC is the undersigned at

(b)(3) 10 USC 130b, (c)(6)

(b)(6)

Pages 25 through 29 redacted for the following reasons:

Exhibits removed per agreement - Bates 2769-2773

Approved for Release