

## CIVCAS Tracker

CLASSIFICATION: ~~SECRET~~

RELEASABILITY: ~~REL TO USA, FVEY~~

## Allegation

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED

RELEASABILITY: ~~FOUO~~

ALLEGATION  
NUMBER: 370

ALLEGATION STATUS: Closed

INCIDENT DATE: 27-Feb-2017  
00:00

COUNTRY: IRAQ

OPENED DATE: 01-Mar-2017  
00:00

LOCATION OF  
INCIDENT:

Al-Qa'im IVO (MGRS:  
(b)(1)1.4a) and  
d Anah district IVO  
(MGRS:  
(b)(1)1.4a)

MGRS:

(b)(1)1.4a  
(b)(1)1.4a

NEAREST MAJOR CITY: Al Qaim

COORDS UNKNOWN: No

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED

RELEASABILITY: ~~FOUO~~

ALLEGATION DATE: 01-Mar-2017 00:00

SOURCE: WebOps

SOURCE TYPE: Social Media

DESCRIPTION:

Airwars allegation number I399  
Claims of CF Airstrikes Targeting Residential Areas and Causing  
CIVCAS, Western Anbar: Pro-Sunni social media users and pro-Sunni  
media outlets circulated reports via Twitter and Facebook claiming  
that CF airstrikes in western Ramadi killed seven civilians. Media  
outlets reported that, according to media reports from Anbar  
province, CF airstrikes yesterday evening (27 FEB) targeting civilian  
houses in al-Qa'im district killed three civilians adding that similar CF  
airstrikes killed four civilians in Anah district. Pro-Sunni users

condemned the strikes. This topic trended at a medium level and resonated at a low level in the Arabic IE.

## Initial Assessment

CLASSIFICATION: SECRET

RELEASABILITY: REL TO USA, FVEY

INITIAL DATE: 28-Mar-2017 08:16

Casualty Estimate 7 possible CIVCAS

When 27-28 FEB 2017

Where Al-Qa'im IVO (MGRS: (b)(1)1.4a and Anah district IVO (MGRS: (b)(1)1.4a

What Claims of CF Airstrikes Targeting Residential Areas and Causing CIVCAS, Western Anbar: Pro-Sunni social media users and pro-Sunni media outlets circulated reports via Twitter and Facebook claiming that CF airstrikes in western Ramadi killed seven civilians. Media outlets reported that, according to media reports from Anbar province, CF airstrikes yesterday evening (27 FEB) targeting civilian houses in al-Qa'im district killed three civilians adding that similar CF airstrikes killed four civilians in Anah district. Pro-Sunni users condemned the strikes. This topic trended at a medium level and resonated at a low level in the Arabic IE.

### INITIAL ASSESSMENT:

Additional Information There are no strikes in western Ramadi on this date or 48 hours prior to or after the allegation date. For 26-28 Feb, Coalition did not conduct strikes in Anah, Anbar Province, IZ. Coalition did conduct strikes on 27-28 Feb in Al Qa'im.

Strike	(b)(1)1.4a	not in a residential neighborhood
Strike	(b)(1)1.4a	not in a residential neighborhood
Strike	(b)(1)1.4a	not in a residential neighborhood
Strike	(b)(1)1.4a	not in a residential neighborhood.
Strike	(b)(1)1.4a	not in a residential neighborhood
Strike	(b)(1)1.4a	strike conducted mid afternoon

Strikes (b)(1)1.4a are in al-Qa'im and all with in range of a residential area in the evening hours.

Non-US Coalition Involvement (b)(1)1.4a, (b)(1)1.4a asset

Unit Recommendation CJTF-OIR conduct CCAR to determine, based on a preponderance of evidence, whether strikes (b)(1)1.4a



(b)(1)1.4a and any other strikes that may corroborate the allegation, confirm the allegation.

## Assessment Details

### Assessment

CLASSIFICATION: SECRET

RELEASABILITY: REL TO USA, FVEY

ASSESSMENT UNIT: CJTF-OIR

ASSESSMENT TASK

DATE: Not Reported

NON-US COALITION NATION: Not Reported

SUBJECT: CIVCAS Credibility Assessment Report (CCAR) for strikes (b)(1)1.4a (Allegation 370)

#### ASSESSMENT RESPONSE:

1. (U) BLUF: I assess that the allegation of civilian casualties (CIVCAS) on 27 February 2017 in Al Qa'im, Ramadi and in the Anah District , Iraq, are 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.

2. CIVCAS Allegation :

a. (U) Source: USCENTCOM J3 WebOps Iraq-Syria Daily, dated 28 February 2017

b. (U) Time and Location: 27 February 2017, al-Qaim, Iraq; Anah , Anbar Province, Iraq; Ramadi, Iraq.

c. (U) Description: Pro-Sunni social media users and pro-Sunni media outlets circulated reports via Twitter and Facebook claiming that Coalition Forces (CF) airstrikes in western Ramadi killed seven civilians. Media outlets reported that, according to media reports from Anbar province, CF airstrikes targeting civilian houses in al-Qa'im district on the evening of 27 February 2017 killed three civilians adding that similar CF airstrikes killed four civilian in Anah district.

3. (U) Analysis of Coalition Strike Activity : There were no strikes in western Ramadi on this date or 48 hours prior to or after the allegation date. For 26-28 February 2017, CF did not conduct strikes in Anah, Anbar Province, Iraq. However, CF did conduct four strikes in al-Qaim within range of a residential area in the evening hours. My assessment focuses on these strikes.

a. (U) Strike number (b)(1)1.4a

(1) (S//REL TO USA, IRKS) Overview: Strike number (b)(1)1.4a was a deliberate strike that occurred on 27 (b)(1)1.4a FEB17 that targeted an Al-Qa'im, Iraq ISIL Staging Facility in the vicinity of (IVO) MGRS (b)(1)1.4a aircraft(s) struck the target with (b)(1)1.4a were flown by (b)(1)1.4a, (b)(1)1.4a U.S. asset. The strike resulted in total destruction of the target. This strike took place in Al Qa'im which is located within the area these allegations were made.

(2) (S//REL TO USA, FVEY) Review of WSV/FMV: Review of WSV/FMV: The available WSV of this strike consists of one video 40 seconds in length. The video depicts the same structure that is shown in initial intelligence briefs and targeting packages, as well as in the post battle damage assessment. While viewing the WSV, at the time of the shown impact there was no observable foot or vehicle traffic surrounding the facility. While debris from the blast are moderately spread out from the point of impact there is no apparent risk to a residential zone.

(3) (SI//REL TO USA, IRKS) Review of Supporting Intelligence: The target was initially identified by a body of intelligence reporting as recent as 3 December 2016



that provided moderate confidence in the targets functionality. This facility was identified as a staging facility, zakat center, and headquarters facility. The facility is not a residence, and the areas surrounding the points of impact do not appear to be residences. Full Motion Video (FMV) reports established functional characterization of this facility on 10 June 2016 and continued to monitor the target through 31 January 2017. The facility was assessed as (b)(1)1.4a Details of any continued observations leading up to the strike were not found in the course of this assessment.

(4) (S//REL TO USA, IRKS) Target Validation: The Collateral Damage Estimate (COE) call was (b)(1)1.4a

(b)(1)1.4a  
(b)(1)1.4a To comply with the NCV and mitigate risk to number of casualties this strike was restricted to (b)(1)1.4a. The targeted structure received (b)(1)1.4a target aim points with a damage criteria to attain physical destruction of the target.

(5) (S//REL TO USA, IRKS) Battle Damage Assessment: Target Destroyed.

b. (U) Strike number (b)(1)1.4a

(1) (S//REL TO USA, FVEY) Overview: Strike number (b)(1)1.4a was a deliberate strike that occurred on 27 (b)(1)1.4a FEB17 that targeted Al Qaim, Iraq ISIL Financial Distribution IVO MGRS: (b)(1)1.4a aircraft(s) struck the target with (b)(1)1.4a were flown by (b)(1)1.4a, (b)(1)1.4a U.S. asset. The strike resulted in total destruction of the target. This strike took place in Al Qa'im which is located within the area these allegations were made.

(2) (S//REL TO USA, FVEY) Review of WSV/FMV: The available WSV of this strike consists of one video 3 minutes and 52 seconds in length. The video depicts the same structure that is shown in initial intelligence briefs and targeting packages, as well as in the post battle damage assessment. The first impact takes place at 1 minute 13 seconds with a clock time of (b)(1)1.4a on the HUD. The second impact takes place at 2 minutes 24

seconds with a clock time of (b)(1)1.4a on the HUD. While viewing the WSV, at the time of the impacts there was no observable foot or vehicle traffic surrounding the facility and the Bazaar appeared to have been removed. While debris from the blast are moderately spread out from the point of impact there is no apparent risk to a residential zone .

(3) (~~S//REL TO USA, FVEY~~) Review of Supporting Intelligence: The target was assessed based on a body of multi-source, multi-intelligence reporting as recent as 14 December 2016 that provided moderate confidence in the target's functional characterization. This facility was identified as an ISIL financial facility used as a fighter pay distribution office and gas and oil shop. The facility is not a residence, and the areas surrounding the points of impact do not appear to be residences . The target was validated based on based on imagery taken from April 2013 to November 2016, and (b)(1)1.4c attained in September 2016 verifying days and hours of payments. ISIL fighters were confirmed to occupy the facility 24-hours a day. The building consisted of three store fronts with the middle being verified as an ISIL office. The facility was assessed as (b)(1)1.4a There was one potential civilian structure inside of the collateral effects radius. Imagery and intelligence depicts episodic events at a Bazaar attached to the target. Details of any continued observations leading up to the strike were not found in the course of this assessment.

(4) (~~S//REL TO USA, FVEY~~) Target Validation: The COE call was (b)(1)1.1a EPISODIC attack with an (b)(1)1.4a . To comply with the NCV and mitigate risk to number of casualties this strike was restricted to (b)(1)1.4a and not during an episodic event. The targeted structure received (b)(1)1.4a target aim points.

c. (U) Strike number (b)(1)1.4a

(1) (~~S//REL TO USA, IRKS~~) Overview: Strike number (b)(1)1.4a was a Deliberate strike that occurred on 27 (b)(1)1.4a FEB17 that targeted Sudah, Iraq ISIL Internet CAFE  
IVO MGRS: (b)(1)1.4a aircraft(s) struck the target with (b)(1)1.4a were flown by



(b)(1)1.4a, (b)(1)1.4a U.S. asset. The strike resulted in complete destruction of the target. Distance from strike to Al Qa'im is 5km.

(2) (S//REL TO USA, FVEY) Review of WSV/ FMV: Review of WSV/FMV: The available WSV of this strike consists of two videos. The first video is 25 seconds in length and shows the DUD round impacting center mass of the facility. The second video is 36 seconds in length and shows the effective round. Both videos depicts the same structure that is shown in initial intelligence briefs and targeting packages, as well as in the post battle damage assessment. While viewing the WSV, at the time of the shown impact there was no observable foot or vehicle traffic surrounding the facility. While debris from the blast are moderately spread out from the point of impact there is no apparent risk to a residential zone.

(3) (S//REL TO USA, IRKS) Review of Supporting Intelligence: The target was initially identified by a body of intelligence reporting as recent as October 2016 that provided moderate confidence in the targets functionality. This facility functioned as an ISIL internet cafe, with a possible secondary function of a communications headquarters. It previously functioned as a garage, (b)(1)1.4a (b)(1)1.4a facility prior to ISIL taking control since at least November 2015 . The facility was assessed as (b)(1)1.4a The target was validated based on intelligence reports as far back as 10 November 2016 and continued surveillance through 29 December 2016 . The facility is not a residence, and the areas surrounding the points of impact do not appear to be residences . Intelligence reports continued through 29 December 2016. Details of any continued observations leading up to the strike were not found in the course of this assessment.

(4) (S//REL TO USA, IRKS) Target Validation: The COE call was (b)(1)1.4a (b)(1)1.4a To minimize the potential number of casualties this strike was restricted to (b)(1)1.4a (b)(1)1.4a The targeted structure received (b)(1)1.4a target aim points with a damage criteria to attain physical destruction of the target.

d. (U) Strike number (b)(1)1.4a

(1) (S//REL TO USA, IRKS) Overview: Strike number (b)(1)1.4a was a deliberate strike that occurred on 27 (b)(1)1.4a FEB17 that targeted Husaybah, Iraq ISIL Internet CAFE IVO MGRS: (b)(1)1.4a aircraft(s) struck the target with (b)(1)1.4a were flown by (b)(1)1.4a, (b)(1)1.4a U.S. asset. The strike resulted in complete destruction of the target. Distance from strike to Al Qa'im is 13.5km.

(2) (S//REL TO USA, FVEY) Review of WSV/ FMV: Review of WSV/ FMV: The available WSV of this strike consists of one video 30 seconds in length. The video depicts the same structure that is shown in initial intelligence briefs and targeting packages, as well as in the post battle damage assessment. While viewing the WSV, at the time of the shown impact there was no observable foot or vehicle traffic surrounding the facility. While debris from the blast are moderately spread out from the point of impact there is no apparent risk to a residential zone.

(3) (S//REL TO USA, IRKS) Review of Supporting Intelligence: The target was initially identified by a body of intelligence reporting as recent as November 2016 that provided confidence in the targets functional characterization. This facility was identified as a communication facility providing centralized internet communication among three known bed down locations. The facility also served as a possible guesthouse for foreign fighter. The facility was assessed as (b)(1)1.4a Intelligence reports continued through 12 January 2017. Details of any continued observations leading up to the strike were not found in the course of this investigation.

(4) (S//REL TO USA, IRKS) Target Validation: The COE call was (b)(1)1.4a (b)(1)1.4a To comply with the NCV and mitigate risk to number of casualties this strike was restricted to (b)(1)1.4a The targeted structure received (b)(1)1.4a target aim point with a damage criteria to attain physical destruction of the target.



5. (U) Credibility Assessment: Based on a thorough assessment of all reasonably available evidence, the CIVCAS allegation with respect to CF strikes in al Qaim, Iraq on 27 February 2017 is deemed NOT CREDIBLE. That is, there is insufficient evidence to corroborate this allegation. These findings were based on the following:

a. (U) There were no strikes in western Ramadi or in the Anah district on this date or 48 hours prior to or after the allegation date; therefore, the allegation with respect to these locations is not credible on its face.

b. (U) Media reports out of Al Qi'am did not provide any evidence to support the claim that there were CIVCAS resulting from CF strikes on 27 February 2017. Of the four strikes that took place in the vicinity of Al Qi'am on this date, none of the documentation provided was sufficient to determine that there were CIVCAS resulting from these strikes.

6. (U) The point of contact for this memorandum is (b)(3) 10 USC 130b; (b)(6)

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

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

ASSESSMENT CIVCAS: No

FURTHER ACTIONS DIRECTED: Not Reported

LESSON LEARNED/ROOT CAUSE: Not Reported

ASSESSMENT KILLED: 0

ASSESSMENT INJURED: 0

Status
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CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED

RELEASABILITY: FOUO

INVESTIGATION STATUS: NONE

CLOSED DATE: 10-May-2017 00:00

**US INVESTIGATION  
REPORT DATE:**

Not Reported

**CLOSED AT:** CCAR

**EX GRATIA:** No

**CIVCAS:** NO

**COMMENTS:** "No strikes in Ramadi area,  
10 strikes in Al Qa'im/ Anah district."

**KILLED:** 0

**INJURED:** 0

**PAO RELEASE DATE:** 07-Jul-2017 10:34

**NA:** No

**REASON FOR NO  
RELEASE:**

Not Reported

Approved for Release