

CIVCAS CELL INITIAL ASSESSMENT

Allegation #	672		
Source(s)	Airwars	Date Received	18 June 2017
Casualty Estimate	"killing as many as 20 civilians"		
Incident Date	12 -14 October 2016		
Location	Al Ghazli village, SY IVO b 1 1.4a		
Allegation	<p>1. Description of allegation: October 14th 2016: الغازلي قرية Al Ghazli village, Raqqa governorate, Syria Summary: The home of a local sheikh was bombed during a lunch party, killing as many as 20 civilians, according to local sources. Though most reports point to this being a Coalition action, one other blames the regime while a further report alleges that Russia was responsible. Raqqa is Being Slaughtered Silently initially reported that at least 11 people died when unidentified warplanes struck the house of Sheikh Daham Ka'a-ishish in the village of al Ghazli. It later updated the death toll to 15 and said the strikes were carried out by "the international coalition." The Syrian Observatory also put the death toll at 15 and attributed the strikes to the Coalition. Several other sources cited the Coalition. However, an account associated with the Sheikh's tribe reported that six missiles from Russian warplanes caused the destruction. Meanwhile, the Syrian Network reported that "government forces" shelling on Al Ghazli was to blame for the massacre. Several News agencies, including ARA News and Al Jisr cited ISIL-controlled al A'maq agency, reporting a death toll of 20 due to coalition attacks. Step News Agency reported "the international coalition aircraft had launched several air raids on Friday targeting the home of" the Sheikh, killing twenty "women and children" and "wounding scores... all of them civilians." On October 14, Raqqa is Being Silently Slaughtered posted an initial list of 11 victims: Abd al Shaheen; Hamish Salama; the wife of Nayef al Ka'a-ishish; two children of Nayef al Ka'a ishish, including one that was only a few days old; Hamish al Hassan; Moussa al Kidro; Thee of Salama al Hamad's children. It listed one man, Nayef al Ka'a-ishish as injured. A woman named as Wazna al Sheen (initially reported killed) was also pulled alive from the rubble two days later. Civilians reported killed: 14-19, including at least 1 woman and 5 children Civilians reported injured: 20 Sources: Raqqa is Being Silently Slaughtered [Arabic] [Archived], Raqqa is Being Silently Slaughtered (2) [Arabic] [Archived], Raqqa is Being Silently Slaughtered (3) [Arabic] [Archived], Raqqa is Being Silently Slaughtered (4) [Arabic] [Archived], Raqqa is Being Silently Slaughtered (5) [Arabic] [Archived], Raqqa is Being Silently Slaughtered (6) [Arabic] [Archived], LCCSY [Archived], Al Araby al Jadid [Arabic] [Archived], Al A'anza Official Account [Arabic] [Archived], Ka'Ka al Anzi [Arabic] [Archived], Al Jisr TV [Arabic] [Archived], Al Jisr TV (2) [Arabic] [Archived], Syrian Observatory for</p>		

	<p>Human Rights [Archived], Syrian Network for Human Rights [Archived], Orient News [Arabic] [Archived], ARA News [Arabic] [Archived], Step News Agency [Arabic] [Archived], Zaitoun Mag [Arabic] [Archived], Deir Ezzor and Al Raqqa Legal Network [Arabic] [Archived], Syria News Desk [Arabic] [Archived]</p> <p>Quality of Reporting: CONTESTED – though most reports pointed to a Coalition action.</p>
Analysis	<p>1. Is this allegation a self-report? NO If yes, add details of corroborating strike below and task a CCAR. If no, move to 2.</p> <p>2. Does the allegation include</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) video/photo evidence of CIVCAS NO b) a general location, YES, Al Ghazili Village IVO (b)(1)1.4a AND c) a way to identify the date or a 48 hour date range? YES 12 14 October 2016 <p>If yes to all three, move to 6. If any are no, then move to number 3</p> <p>3. Does the allegation contain a</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) General Day, YES, 12-14 October 2016 AND b) Specific location, e.g., MGRS or specific building? NO <p>If yes to the two, then move to 6. If any are no, move to number 4.</p> <p>4.a. Is the allegation from a single source (even if there are multiple sources, look at whether the sources lack independence, i.e., all derived from one source)? NO If yes, move to 4.b. If no, move to 5.</p> <p>4.b. Is the single source a high quality source OR does it provide specific facts that may warrant a CCAR. If yes, move to 6. If no, then move to 4.c.</p> <p>4.c. Has media interviewed witnesses and/or victims? If yes, then contact journalist and re-assess. If no, then close the allegation.</p> <p>5.a. Are any of the sources high quality? YES, there are a few sources that may be considered of high quality If yes, move to 6. If no, move to 5.b.</p> <p>5.b. Are there at least two corroborating sources (total of 3) that independently reported the allegation, OR does it provide specific facts that may warrant a CCAR? If yes, move to 6. If no, close the allegation.</p> <p>6 Does the allegation contain sufficient information on the time, location and details to make an assessment of credibility? YES I.e., does it provide enough information to determine the date within 48 hour; does it provide enough information to determine a neighborhood, landmark, or other way to where the alleged incident occurred within a .5km radius? If yes, move to 7. If no, close the allegation.</p> <p>MAT (MISREP analysis tool) was checked, yielded no results. CJTF strike tracker checked, yielded no results. CJTF strike log and KMZ was checked, yielded no results. CAOC tracker was checked, yielded no results.</p>

	7. Are there any potentially corroborating strikes? If yes, answer the below questions and task CCAR. If no, close allegation. NO
Non-US Coalition Involvement	None
Decision	Close at IA; insufficient evidence to corroborate the allegation.
Report Approved By:	<div>(b)(3) 10 USC 130b; (b)(5)</div>

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Exhibits removed per agreement - Bates Number 3814

Approved for Release