

CIVCAS CELL INITIAL ASSESSMENT

Allegation #	702		
Source(s)	AIRWARS	Date Received	17 Jun 2017
Casualty Estimate	1 killed, 2 or more wounded		
Incident Date	3 NOV 2016		
Location	Lakta, Syria IVO	(b)(1)1.4a	
Allegation	<p>November 3rd 2016: لاقطة قرية Lakta village, Raqqqa governorate, Syria Summary: Suleiman Al Ahmad al Ghannam (via Raqqqa is Being Slaughtered Silently) Summary: A man was killed when the car he was in was hit by an airstrike, according to local sources. RBSS reported that a man named Suleiman Al Ahmad al Ghannam was killed "after his injury in an air raid launched by the international coalition on the village of Lakta in the northern Raqqqa countryside." Al Natek offered an identical account, possibly taken from RBSS. In a later statement issued by writers in Raqqqa, it was reported that "Suleiman al Ghannam had volunteered to take people with his van from areas under the control of Kurdish forces to the main road that connects Raqqqa to Tal Abiyad. The front of his van was targeted by a missile from a warplane which hit the front of the vehicle, killing all sitting in the front while passengers sitting in the back including women and children survived." The statement signed by more than 100 writers and journalists from the Raqqqa area called on the Coalition to 'stop targeting civilians in the province of Raqqqa and in all other areas, and open transparent investigation incidents into shelling of civilian sites by the international coalition and to hold accountable anyone found responsible.' Sources: Raqqqa is Being Silently Slaughtered [Arabic] [Archived], Raqqqa is Being Silently Slaughtered (2) [Arabic] [Archived], Al Natek Network [Arabic] [Archived], All 4 Syria [Arabic] [Archived], Writers' Statement [Arabic] [Archived], Quality of Reporting: Fair</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, e.g., Tabaqah, Manbij, Tel Afar; if in Mosul, or similarly sized city, must provide neighborhoods, e.g., Zanjili. Lakta, Syria AND c) a way to identify the date or a 48 hour date range? 3 NOV 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> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">a) General Day, YES</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">AND</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">b) Specific location, e.g., MGRS or specific building? NO</p> <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. However, only one source specifically names Latka. 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? NO. Although a statement was signed by 100+ writers in Raqqa the writing suggests the alleged CIVCAS event could have been anywhere between Ar Raqqa and Latka. 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? YES 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>7. Are there any potentially corroborating strikes? If yes, answer the below questions and task CCAR. If no, close allegation. NO. There were zero strikes IVO Latka between 1-3 Nov 2016.</p>
Non-US Coalition Involvement	
Decision	Close at IA. There is insufficient evidence to corroborate the allegation. There were no strikes IVO Latka between 1-3 November 2016.
Report Approved By:	(b)(3) 10 USC 130b; (b)(6)

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Exhibits removed per agreement - Bates Number 3855

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