

## CIVCAS CELL INITIAL ASSESSMENT

Allegation #	1248		
Source(s)	WebOps	Date Received	26 AUG 17
Casualty Estimate	Killed: 15-41 Injured: 12-24		
Incident Date	19-20 AUG 17		
Location	Al-Jazza'a village, near Shadadi (MGRS:)		
Allegation	Source #1:  (U) 21 August 2017. Twitter users and media outlets circulated reports claiming, 20 civilians killed by Coalition airstrike on Jazaa' Sharqi in southern Al-Hasakah outskirts on 20 August. Reports added, French media claimed the village was controlled by ISIS, but local media denied the claim.  Source #2: SM circulated reports stating that CFs targeted the mosque of Al Jaza'a village, in the east countryside of Al Shadadi, in Al Haskahprovince. The strike destroyed the mosque in its entirety and 21 individuals killed. All the dead were buried in a mass grave.  Source #3:  1. A strike is being reported to CJTF-OIR PAO press desk by Ellen Francis of Reuters and originally reported by Syrian Observatory for Human Rights.  a. When: August 19 (she said Saturday but the publication from SOHR claims it as the 19th)  b. Where: Raqqa City near Harat al-Badou and a separate claim for Al Shaddadi, south of Hasaka near the village of al-Jazaa  c. Casualty Estimate: 40 Civilians in Raqqa and 18 civilians near Al Shaddadi  d. Additional Information: N/A  Is this in Airwars? YES  August 19th 2017: (S1213) Al-Jazza'a village, near Shadadi, Al-Hasakah governorate, Syria  Summary: In a major civilian casualty incident, between 15 and 41 people have died following an alleged US-led Coalition strike on Al-Jazza'a village. The civilians were leaving Asr prayer at the village mosque when they were hit, local media sources reported. According to Hasaka Rasd and multiple other sources, "the village was not controlled by any military faction and was located on a contact line between the state organization and the Kurdish units".  The alleged strike resulted in significant material destruction as well as the loss of many lives, Baladi news reported that the mosque was destroyed entirely. Those that died in this event were "buried in a mass grave" in the village, according to local reports.		

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According to Iuvmonline, as many as 41 had died. It reported: "Activists said on Twitter that coalition raids resulted in the deaths of 41 martyrs on the village of Jazaa in the south-eastern province of Hasaka, where coalition aircraft targeted air raids on the village mosque during the Asr prayer on Saturday, which led to dozens of injuries also".

Some of the victims were named by local media:

Hajj Saleh Al Daham

Fahd Saleh Al Daham

Bandar Saleh Al Daham

Ahmed Saleh Al-Daham, nicknamed Abu "Sen"

Hamid Al Mudhi and his son

Son of Ali Al Mudhhi

Eid Al-Raheel

Two sons of Makhlaf Al-Mudhi

Hamid Al Ahmad Al Jamal

Mohamed El Gamal and his son

Haidar Al Murshed Al Doudieh

The majority of sources obtained blamed the US-led Coalition.

Civilians reported killed: 15-41, including 3 or more children

Civilians reported injured: 12-24

Sources: Jisirtv [Arabic] [Archived], luvmonline [Arabic] [Archived], Rihab [Arabic] [Archived], Baladi News [Arabic] [Archived], Yemenakhbar [Arabic] [Archived], Zaman Alwasl [Arabic] [Archived], All4syria [Arabic] [Archived], Map News [Arabic] [Archived], Revospring [Arabic] [Archived], Alsouria news [Arabic] [Archived], Tweet by @shamna\_tv [Arabic] [Archived], Tweet by @IkhwanSyria [Arabic] [Archived], Tweet by @Watannews [Arabic] [Archived], Tweet by @MasarPresNet [Arabic] [Archived], Tweet by @soheb\_alhskayi [Arabic] [Archived], Euphrates Post [Arabic] [Archived], Sharqiya Voice [Arabic] [Archived], Baladi News (2) [Arabic] [Archived], Al-khabour news [Arabic] [Archived], Step News [Arabic] [Archived], Hasaka Rasd (2) [Arabic] [Archived], Smart news [Arabic] [Archived], SNN [Arabic] [Archived], Hasaka Rasd (3) [Arabic] [Archived], Euphrates Post (2) [Arabic] [Archived], Al-Hasaka News [Arabic] [Archived], Qasioun News [Arabic] [Archived], Syriahr News [Arabic] [Archived], Syriahr News (2) [Arabic] [Archived],

Quality of reporting: Fair

#### RFI Response:

Reporting: "The activists added that the international coalition aircraft launched an air strike ahead of the Asr prayer on Saturday, the mosque of the village of Jazaa ( الجزاع ) in the southeastern countryside east of the city of Shaddadi, which led to the death of about 21 people and the destruction of the mosque in full."

Unfortunately we have been unable to geolocate the Jazaa village. The only coordinates we can suggest are the middle point of ISIS-controlled Hasakah: 35.6751474, 41.0449219 The information we have suggests that the strike would have occurred on an

approximately 35 km radius from those coordinates.

TIME: Before 4 pm local time (before Asr prayer)

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## Analysis

1. Is this allegation a self-report? If yes, add details of corroborating strike below and task a CCAR. If no, move to 2. **NO** 

- 2. Does the allegation include
  - a) video/photo evidence of CIVCAS? NO
  - b) a general location, e.g., Tabaqah, Manbij, Tel Afar; YES AND
- c) a way to identify the date or a 48 hour date range? **YES** If yes to all three, move to 6. If any are no, then move to number 3.
- 3. Does the allegation contain a
  - a) General Day, YES, 19 AUG 17

AND

b) Specific location, e.g., MGRS or specific building? YES

If yes to the two, then move to 6. If any are no, move to number 4.

- 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)? If yes, move to 4.b. If no, move to 5.
- 4.b. Is the single source a high quality source (well-known/credible news source) **OR** does it provide specific facts that may warrant a CCAR, i.e., a way to narrow down a reasonable list of strikes to assess. If yes, move to 6. If no, then move to 4.c.
- 4.c. Has media interviewed witnesses and/or victims? If yes, then contact journalist and reassess. If no, then close the allegation.
- 5.a. Are any of the sources high quality? If yes, move to 6. If no, move to 5.b. 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.
- 6. Does the allegation contain sufficient information on the time, location and details to make an assessment of credibility? 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. NO, The village of Al Jaza'a remains unlocated, even after sending an RFI to Airwars for location information. The suggestion to search a 35 km radius from the coordinate provided is far too broad for our search parameters.
- 7. Are there any potentially corroborating strikes? If yes, answer the below questions and task CCAR. If no, close allegation.
- 1. Assessed date of incident:
- 2. Location:
- 3. Corroborating strikes:

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	MGRS: Strike Number:		
	DTG:		
	Target:		
	Dynamic/Deliberate:		
	Aircraft:		
Call Sign:			
Nationality: Munitions:			
	Number dropped:		
	Target Number:		
	TEA:		
	Target Number: TEA:  1Z & SY MAT, CJTF log,		
	1Z & SY		
	$\overline{MAT_{1}}$		
	CJTF log,		
	CITF kmz,		
	CAOC log,		
	<u>IZ</u>		
	CJFLCC log, -email (Start 18 MAY 2017),		
	CV		
	SY Thinley, -email (Start 22 JUL 2017),		
	10)(1) neg, -eman (Start 22 JOE 2017),		
Non-US Coalitie Involvement	on N/A		
Decision	Close at the IA due to insufficient information as to time, locations, and details to conduct an		
	assessment of credibility.		
	40		
Report			
Approved By:			