

CIVCAS Tracker

CLASSIFICATION: ~~SECRET~~

RELEASABILITY: ~~REL TO USA, FVEY~~

Allegation

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED

RELEASABILITY: FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

ALLEGATION NUMBER: 655

ALLEGATION STATUS: Closed

INCIDENT DATE: 07-May-2016 00:00

COUNTRY: SYRIA

OPENED DATE: 26-May-2017 00:00

LOCATION OF INCIDENT: Ahtemlat

MGRS: Not Reported

NEAREST MAJOR CITY: Not Reported

COORDS UNKNOWN: No

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED

RELEASABILITY: NONE

ALLEGATION DATE: 26-May-2017 00:00

SOURCE: Airwars

SOURCE TYPE: Social Media

DESCRIPTION: Six civilians, including up to five children, died in a reported night-time Coalition Forces (CF) strike at Ahtemlat in Aleppo governorate, Syria.

Initial Assessment

CLASSIFICATION: ~~SECRET~~

RELEASABILITY: ~~REL TO USA, FVEY~~

INITIAL DATE: Not Reported

INITIAL ASSESSMENT: Not Reported

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 Allegation 397 (Ahtemlat, Syria - 7 May 2016)

1. (U) BLUF: I assess that the allegation of civilian casualties (CIVCAS) on [date] in [location] is 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.

ASSESSMENT RESPONSE:

2. (U) CIVCAS Allegation:











a. (U) Source: Local Civil Defence Committees, Al Jisr TV, Al A'maq Agency (ISIS), Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, Shaam News Network, Violations Documentation Centre, Al Walaa' and al Bara'a Agency, Aleppo 24, Syria Rebels, Alm Jhar, Zaman al Wasl, Fresh Syria, Qasioun



b. (U) Time and Location: 7 May 2016, Ahtemlat, Aleppo governorate, Syria


c. (U) Description: Six civilians, including up to five

children, died in a reported night-time Coalition Forces (CF) strike at Ahtemlat in Aleppo governorate, Syria.

3. (U) Analysis of Coalition Strike Activity: CF conducted one strike corresponding to the time and location alleged. My assessment focuses on this strike.

a. (S//REL) Strike  Overview: Strike number  was a deliberate strike that occurred on 06  MAY 2016 under ROE  that targeted IHTAYMILAT ISIL HQ at . An  aircraft struck the target with . The  was flown by   an American asset. The strike resulted in one Joint Desired Point of Impact (JDPI) struck and confirmed moderate damage to the target facility.

b. (S//REL) Review of Supporting Intelligence: IHTAYMILAT ISIL HQ was a double-story residential building located in south Ihtaymilat, Syria. Functional characterization of the target facility as an ISIS headquarters was supported with high confidence by   reports collected over six months, the most recent from 15 April 2016. The facility's former function was residential. The facility was assessed to have been under the exclusive use and control of ISIS since at least October 2014 and was no longer serving a civilian function. Pre-strike aerial reconnaissance captured seven hours of Full Motion Video (FMV) producing a slant of 4/0/0.

c. (S//REL) Collateral Damage Estimate (CDE)/Battle Damage Assessment (BDA): The CDE call for this facility was . One JDPI was identified in the CDE graphic. No collateral concerns were within the weapons effects radii of the weaponizing solution; however, pre-strike intelligence identified an adjacent residence on the east wall of the target facility, and three other collateral concerns to the west, north and south, all within 50 meters of the target facility. The BDA call for this strike was 1 x BLDG CONFIRMED MODERATE DAMAGE. FACILITY MODERATE FUNCTIONAL DAMAGE/LIM-OP. Although the post-strike BDA image is very poor quality, it does not appear that the collateral concern to the east sustained damage from the attack.

d. (S//REL) Review of Full Motion Video (FMV):

Available FMV of this strike shows weapons penetrating the roof on the south of the target facility before going high-order from within. Several seconds of post-strike FMV were also provided, during which two individuals are observable to the south of (and possibly emerging from) the struck building. At least eight individuals are also visible on the north side of the building but do not appear to have been inside.

4. (S//REL) Additional Information:

a. (S//REL) The (b)(1)1.4a, (b)(1)1.4a mission report (MISREP) noted that after impact, (b)(1)1.4a, (b)(1)1.4a noted multiple "squirters" (fleeing personnel) from building. Upon review of FMV, (b)(1)1.4a, (b)(1)1.4a observed two squirters from target building and eight "movers" (mobile personnel) from covered/tunnel structure approximately 10 meters northwest from target building.

b. (S//REL) According to the WebOps summary of the aggregated reports in paragraph 2.a above, the Al'Amaq Agency (an ISIS-affiliated media outlet) allegation included an extremely graphic video showing the bodies of at least two infants being recovered. However, this video is no longer available and was not reviewed for this assessment.

5. (U) Credibility Assessment: Based on a thorough assessment of all reasonably available evidence, this CIVCAS allegation is deemed NOT CREDIBLE. That is, there is insufficient evidence to corroborate this allegation. These findings were based on the following:

a. (S//REL) All of the individuals observed in the post-strike FMV appeared to be ambulatory. Acknowledging that the quality and duration of the video is poor, my assessment did not observe the presence of any clearly-identifiable CIVCAS.

b. (S//REL) Given that the Al'Amaq video was not available for my review, I am unable to determine whether the video's depiction of wounded infants could be credibly associated with the strike under assessment.

5. (U) The point of contact for this memorandum is the undersigned at: (b)(3) 10 USC 1306, (b)(6)
"

ASSESSMENT CIVCAS: No

FURTHER ACTIONS DIRECTED: Not Reported

LESSON LEARNED/ROOT CAUSE: Not Reported

ASSESSMENT KILLED: 0

ASSESSMENT INJURED: 0

Status

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED

RELEASABILITY: ~~FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY~~

INVESTIGATION STATUS: NONE

CLOSED DATE: 31-May-2017 00:00

US INVESTIGATION
REPORT DATE: Not Reported

CLOSED AT: CCAR

EX GRATIA: No

CIVCAS: NO

COMMENTS: Not Reported

KILLED: 0

INJURED: 0

PAO RELEASE DATE: 07-Jul-2017 10:32

NA: No

REASON FOR NO
RELEASE: Not Reported