

CIVCAS Tracker

CLASSIFICATION: ~~SECRET~~

RELEASABILITY: ~~REL TO USA, FVEY~~

Allegation

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED

RELEASABILITY: FOUO

ALLEGATION
NUMBER: 431

ALLEGATION STATUS: Closed

INCIDENT DATE: 21-Apr-2017 00:00

COUNTRY: SYRIA

OPENED DATE: 21-Apr-2017 00:00

LOCATION OF
INCIDENT: Tabaqah IVO
(MGRS:
(b)(1)1 4a
)

MGRS: (b)(1)1 4a
(b)(1)1 4a

NEAREST MAJOR CITY: Tabqah

COORDS UNKNOWN: No

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED

RELEASABILITY: NONE

ALLEGATION DATE: 21-Apr-2017 11:01

SOURCE: Airwars.org

SOURCE TYPE: Social Media

April 21st 2017: Al Wasat Street, Al Qarya area, Tabaqa, Raqqa governorate, Syria

Summary: One woman died in an alleged Coalition airstrike on Al Wasat Street in Tabaqa, according to local media.

Multiple sources named Mrs. Aisha Al-Ahmad (30-years-old) as a victim of a Coalition raid.

DESCRIPTION:

According to Manartv and Al-ahed one person died and others were injured in a Coalition strike.

According to Orient, "Activists said that Coalition aircraft launched several air raids on Friday on the Al-Qariya area in the city of the Tabaqa, causing the death of a martyr and a number of casualties"

Civilians reported killed: 1 woman

Civilians reported injured: 2 or more

Sources: Euphrates Post [Arabic], [Archived], Sharqiya Voice [Arabic], [Archived], Al-ahed News [pro-regime], [Arabic], [Archived], Q_Alenzy [Arabic], [Archived], Manartv [Hezbollah website] [Arabic], [Archived], Syrianpc [Arabic], [Archived], Mohab-Naser2 [Arabic], [Archived], Jorf [Arabic], [Archived], Raqqa is Being Slaughtered Silently (RBSS) [Arabic], [Archived], Halab Today [Arabic], [Archived], Orient News [Arabic], [Archived], Qasioun [Arabic], [Archived], Abd-alghani1990 [Arabic], [Archived], Derynews [Arabic], [Archived], Step News Agency [Arabic], [Archived], Raqqa24 [Arabic], [Archived], Syrian Observatory for Human Rights [Archived],
Quality of Reporting: Fair

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED

RELEASABILITY: FOUO

ALLEGATION DATE: 21-Apr-2017 00:00

SOURCE: WebOps

SOURCE TYPE: Social Media

DESCRIPTION:

CIVCAS Claims from CF Airstrikes in Al-Tabaqa, Syria: Pro-Syrian opposition Twitter and Facebook users circulated news that CF airstrikes allegedly killed one woman and injured several others IVO Central Avenue in al-Tabaqa. A prominent pro-Syrian opposition user and self-proclaimed journalist and activist from Raqqa (@Q_ALENEZY) tweeted that the CF strikes IVO Central Avenue were on a residential area, that the woman martyred, Aisha al-Nasir, was 30-years-old, and that the strikes injured 30 individuals. Most pro-Syrian opposition users prayed for the woman while others prayed for God to avenge her. On an RBSS (Raqqa is Being Slaughtered Silently)(Raqqa.SI) post about the news, user (jan.sat) cursed the Kurds saying, "May God curse the filthy Kurds and those who support them." This topic trended and resonated at a medium level in the Arabic IE.

Initial Assessment

CLASSIFICATION: SECRET

RELEASABILITY: REL TO USA, FVEY

INITIAL DATE: 14-May-2017 11:01

INITIAL ASSESSMENT: 1. Is this allegation a self-report? If yes, task a CCAR. If no, move to 2.
NO

2. Does the allegation include
a) video/photo evidence NO
b) a general location, e.g., Tabaqah, 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, NO
b) General time, NO
AND
c) Specific location, e.g., MGRS or specific building? NO specific location, although allegation states IVO Central Ave in Tabqa
If yes to all three, then move to 6. If any are no, move to number 4.

4.a. Is the allegation from a single source? NO If yes, move to 4.b. If no, move to 5.
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.
4.c. Has media interviewed witnesses and/or victims? If yes, then contact journalist and re-assess. If no, then close the allegation.

5.a. Are any of the sources high quality? YES 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 and, in the aggregate, are specific facts provided to warrant a CCAR? If yes, move to 6. If no, close the allegation.

6. Are there any potentially corroborating strikes, i.e., within 1km of specific location or IVO of the general location if no specific location is provided, i.e. strikes in Jadida when the allegation alleges CIVCAS in Jadida, on the alleged date or within the alleged date range? If yes, task CCAR. If no, close allegation.

What is the date of incident: 20-22 April
Location: Tabaqah, SY (Central Ave)
Airwars.org came back to us with (b)(1)1.4a as a location that is within 750 meters of the street. All strikes in Tabaqah for the dates in question do not seem to be on or near that street. Accordingly, CJTF will close this allegation at the initial assessment.

INAPPLICABLE INFORMATION KEPT FOR RECORDS:

Corroborating strikes:

20 April: (b)(1)1.4a

21 April: (b)(1)1.4a

22 April: no strikes

Strike # (b)(1)1.4a DTG: 20 (b)(1)1.4a APR 17, Target description- ISIS HQ building, Dynamic, Aircraft- (b)(1)1.4a Call-sign- TF (b)(1)1.4a Nationality- US, munition (b)(1)1.4a TEA- (b)(1)1.4a Target number- (b)(1)1.4a

Strike # (b)(1)1.4a DTG: 21 (b)(1)1.4a APR 17, Target description- ISIS HQ, Dynamic, Aircraft- (b)(1)1.4a Call-sign- TF (b)(1)1.4a Nationality- US, munition- (b)(1)1.4a TEA- (b)(1)1.4a Target number- (b)(1)1.4a

Why are they corroborating: There are two strikes in Tabaqah, near what is possibly Central Ave, one on the 20th and one on the 21st of April 2017. Strike # (b)(1)1.4a is 192 meters from what could possibly be Central Ave., and strike # (b)(1)1.4a is 106 meters from possible Central Ave.

Non-US Coalition Involvement

Decision CJTF close this allegation at the initial assessment stage. There are no potentially corroborating strikes. There are no strikes on or around Central Ave in Tabaqah from 18-22nd of April.

Assessment Details

Assessment

CLASSIFICATION: SECRET

RELEASABILITY: REL TO USA, FVEY

ASSESSMENT UNIT: TF 94-7

ASSESSMENT TASK

DATE: Not Reported

NON-US COALITION NATION: Not Reported

After reviewing the allegation, the TF 94-7 strikes in the area, the relevant feeds and strike reports (b)(1)1.4a, (b)(6) (b)(1)1.1a, (b)(6) was unable to assess the credibility of allegation #431 during the TF 94-7 CIVCAS review board today. Additional information is not available to make a determination absent conducting interviews of the alleged casualty's family.

Media reporting indicates the strike that resulted in CIVCAS was on 21 APR 17. Between 20 and 21 APR 17, TF 94-7 conducted eight strikes in the Al Qariya area IVO Tabqah, Syria. Only two of those strikes, both executed on 20 APR 17, were in residential areas that could correlate to the area described in social media. The lack of specificity in the allegation and mismatch on strike dates prevents a credibility determination.

TF 94-7 requests this allegation be closed and be found inconclusive.

ASSESSMENT RESPONSE:

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

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

BLUF: TF 94-7 assesses social media allegations of CIVCAS during a Coalition Force airstrike against Al Qariya area IVO Tabqah, Syria as not credible. Assessment is based on review of all reasonably available information.

WHAT: O/A 21 APR 2017, CIVCAS were claimed on social media to be the result of a CF Airstrike in Al Qariya area IVO Tabqah, Syria.

WHO: Coalition Forces (CF)
FIRES: Airstrike
IMINT: n/a

WHEN: O/A 21 APR 2017

WHERE: Al Wasat Street, Al Qariya Neighborhood IVO
Tabaqah, Syria (Figure 1)

WHY: In response to alleged CIVCAS on media outlets

Total BDA: n/a

AMPLIFYING DETAIL:

Context

(U) According to local media, on 21 April 17, one woman died in an alleged Coalition airstrike on Al Wasat Street in Tabaqa. Multiple high quality sources named Mrs. Aisha Al-Ahmad as a victim of a Coalition raid. According to Manartv and Al-ahed, one person died and others were injured in a Coalition strike. According to Orient, "Activists said that Coalition aircraft launched several air raids on Friday on the Al-Qariya area in the city of Tabaqa, causing the death of a martyr and a number of casualties." Civilians reported killed: 1 woman; civilians reported injured: 2 or more.

(U) Pro-Syrian opposition Twitter and Facebook users circulated news that CF airstrikes allegedly killed one woman and injured several others IVO Central Avenue in Tabaqa. A prominent pro-Syrian opposition user and self-proclaimed journalist and activist from Raqqa (@Q_ALENEZY) tweeted that the CF strikes IVO Central Avenue were on a residential area, that the woman martyred, Aisha al-Nasir, was 30 years old, and that the strikes injured 30 individuals. Most pro-Syrian opposition users prayed for the woman while others prayed for God to avenge her. On an RBSS (Raqqa is Being Slaughtered Silently; Raqqa.SI) post about the news, user (jan.sat) cursed the Kurds saying, "May God curse the filthy Kurds and those who support them." This topic trended and resonated at a medium level in the Arabic IE.

Strike Narrative

(S//REL USA, FVEY) From 20 to 21 APR 17, (b)(1) conducted eight strikes IVO Al Qariya village, near Tabaqah, Syria. Of those eight, two met the description of a residential area

near central road. The other six strikes were in rural or non-residential areas.

(S//REL USA, FVEY) KS TF (b)(1)1.4a was a dynamic strike on armed ISIS fighters, staging for an attack at a compound in close proximity to SDF lines (within 6 minute movement time of SDF lines) in support of OPN (b)(1)1.4a (b)(1)1.4a and pursuant of ROE (b)(1)1.4a. Preceding strike (Figure 2), (b)(1)1.4a, (b)(6) maintained eyes on target building from (b)(1)1.4a z. At 20 (b)(1)1.4a APR 17, (b)(1)1.4a, (b)(6) observed three friendly weapon SPLASHES on building at (b)(1)1.4a assessed 2x EKIA, 1x building destroyed, and no SQUIRTERS or civilians observed. From (b)(1)1.4a, (b)(6) scanned Tabaqah and saw no indications of unintended effects or civilian casualties.

(S//REL USA, FVEY) KS TF (b)(1)1.4a was a dynamic strike on an ISIS Headquarter Facility in support of TM SYRIA and pursuant of ROE (b)(1)1.4a, (b)(1)1.4c assessed active coordination of ongoing attacks coming from the HQ. At 20 (b)(1)1.4a APR 17, (b)(1)1.4a, (b)(6) conducted a strike on the ISIS HQ Facility at (b)(1)1.4a. The BDA was assessed as 1x building and had no accompanying (b)(1)1.4c No CIVCAS were reported by (b)(1)1.4a, (b)(6) (b)(1)1.4a for the 25 minutes they were on station following the strike. There were no other separate observers, only the asset conducting the strike. For this reason, (b)(1)1.4a was 'Reported as Unobserved'.

Additional Information:

(U) The allegation has no photo or video evidence.

Assessment

Based on a review of all reasonably available information, (b)(1)1.4a assesses that the allegations of CIVCAS IVO Tabaqah, Syria are not credible.

ASSESSMENT CIVCAS: No

FURTHER ACTIONS DIRECTED: Not Reported

LESSON LEARNED/ROOT CAUSE: Not Reported

ASSESSMENT KILLED: 0

ASSESSMENT INJURED: 0

Status

CLASSIFICATION:	UNCLASSIFIED	RELEASABILITY:	FOUO
INVESTIGATION STATUS:	NONE	CLOSED DATE:	18-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 10:54	NA:	No
REASON FOR NO RELEASE:	Not Reported		