



DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

COMBINED JOINT FORCE LAND COMPONENT COMMAND - OPERATION INHERENT RESOLVE
UNION III, BAGHDAD
APO AE 09348

IRIZ-JA

3 DECEMBER 2016

MEMORANDUM FOR CIVCAS Team, Combined Joint Task Force- Operation Inherent Resolve, APO, AE 09306

SUBJECT: CIVCAS Credibility Assessment Report (CCAR) for Al-Jazeera allegation of CIVCAS IVO Tal Afar on 22 Nov 16

1. BLUF: The allegation of CIVCAS associated with strike numbers (b)(1)1.4a and (b)(1)1.4a are assessed to be NOT CREDIBLE. The only strikes IVO Tal Afar during the CIVCAS allegation window relates to the destruction of a downed Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV), which occurred in an area separated from any infrastructure and with no observed CIVPOL in the area. There are no CJTF-OIR or CJLFFC-OIR conducted strikes that align with strikes upon electricity stations, drinking water projects or schools during the days prior to the allegation.

2. CIVCAS Allegation:

a. Source: On 27 November 2016, CJTF-OIR Daily FRAGO tasked CJFLCC-OIR to investigate a CIVCAS allegation pertaining to strikes IVO Tal Afar. The source of the allegation was listed as an Al-Jazeera report, that was further circulated on Facebook and Twitter.

b. Time and Location: The information provided by CJTF indicates the reports were circulated at 0840Z on 22 Nov 16. It is unclear if this is the alleged strike time. However, this CCAR analyzed strikes for the two day period prior to this date. The allegation pertained to the general area of Tal Afar, but did not provide a specific location.

c. Description: The details provided by the CJTF-OIR CIVCAS OIC are that:

"CF airstrikes killed 15 civilians and wounded 33 others while targeting the area of Tal Afar."

and that

"...CF planes targeted an ISIL-controlled electricity station, drinking water project, and two schools."

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3. Analysis: The allegation is NOT CREDIBLE. On review of the CJFLCC-OIR and CJTF-OIR strike logs, the only strikes IVO Tal Afar during the time in question was a strike to deny a downed UAV, with no human activity observed in the area during the strike and a strike conducted by TF 94-7, on ISIL fighters 900m conducted in the open.

a. Target Information: There are no targets recorded in the CJTF-OIR strike log of schools, electricity stations or drinking water projects being targeted by Coalition air strikes (see Enclosure 1).

b. Coalition Strike Activity: There was one CJFLCC-OIR (CJOC-E) strike recorded as having occurred IVO Tal Afar during the time window of the alleged strike, the details of which are outlined below:

a. (b)(1)1.4a. (b)(1) conducted a strike on a downed UAV IVO Tal Afar under ROE (b)(1)1.4b. The bombs impacted on the downed UAV. The weapon system video for this strike is attached at Enclosure 2.

c. The only other strike IVO Tal Afar recorded by CJTF-OIR was a TF 94-7 strike on 20 Nov 16, the FMV of which was reviewed by CJFLCC-OIR and appears to have been 900m from any infrastructure.

d. Review of WSV/FMV: The FMV for the CJFLCC-OIR strike shows the downed UAV separated from any infrastructure, and there is no observable human activity in or around the strike area.

4. Credibility Assessment: Based on a thorough assessment of all reasonably available evidence, this CIVCAS allegation is deemed NOT CREDIBLE. Specifically, it is more likely than not that the CIVCAS incident did not occur as:

a. There were no Coalition air strikes IVO Tal Afar that impacted upon any civilian infrastructure.

b. The one strike conducted by CJFLCC-OIR in the vicinity of Tal Afar close to the date of the alleged CIVCAS was on a downed UAV, which did not occur near infrastructure nor with any human activity observed near the strike location on review of the strike video.

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5. (U) The point of contact for this memorandum is (b)(3) 10 USC 130b; (b)(6) at (b)(3) 10 USC 130b; (b)(5)

2 Encls.

1. CJTF-OIR Strike Summary
IVO Tal Afar, 20-22 Nov 16
2. FMV of Downed UAV Strike IVO
Tal Afar on 22 Nov 16

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

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I have conducted a legal review of the information contained in this CCAR and the supporting evidence. Based upon all reasonably available information at this time, I find that:

(b)(5)

(b)(3); 10 USC 130b; (c)(5)

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I have reviewed the information contained in this CCAR and the supporting evidence. Based upon all reasonably available information at this time, I find that:

____ The evidence supports a finding of CREDIBLE. That is, it is more likely than not that the CIVCAS incident occurred. I direct an investigation be conducted by this command.

____ The evidence supports a finding of CREDIBLE. That is, it is more likely than not that the CIVCAS incident occurred. However, at this time I direct no investigation be conducted by this command, as no additional information could be discovered by further investigation.

9 The evidence supports a finding of NOT CREDIBLE. Without additional evidence, I direct that no further action be taken by this command.


JOSEPH M. MARTIN
Major General, USA
Commanding

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Exhibits removed per agreement - Bates 2858