



DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
HEADQUARTERS, 1ST INFANTRY DIVISION AND
COMBINED JOINT FORCES LAND COMPONENT COMMAND - OIR
UNION III, BAGHDAD, IRAQ
APO, AE 09348

IRIZ-JA

3 July 2017

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

SUBJECT: (U//~~FOUO~~) CIVCAS Credibility Assessment Report (CCAR) – ICRC Report, Strike on 18 March 2017 (CJFLCC-OIR 120/17)

1. (~~S//FVEY~~) **BLUE**. This allegation is **NOT CREDIBLE**. A thorough review of all available strike records indicates there is not sufficient information to establish the alleged civilian casualties occurred as a result of a Coalition strike. This allegation should be reassessed if further information becomes available.

2. (U//~~FOUO~~) **CIVCAS Allegation**.

- a. (~~S//FVEY~~) *Source*. International Committee of the Red Cross.
- b. (~~S//FVEY~~) *Time and Location*. Approximately 1600c, 18 March 2017; Al Risala Neighborhood, West Mosul.
- c. (~~S//FVEY~~) *Description*. The ICRC reported around 1600c on 18 March 2017, an airstrike hit a house in the Al Risala area of West Mosul, allegedly killing three (3) civilians.

3. (~~S//FVEY~~) **Review**. CJFLCC-OIR OSJA reviewed all available records to determine whether any Coalition strikes on 18 March 2017 could possibly correlate with the allegation, noting the allegation does not attribute the attack specifically to Coalition Forces. One airstrike, (b)(1)1.4a occurred within the Al Risala neighborhood during this time. The following is an analysis of this Coalition airstrike, based on strike log, mIRC chat log, and post-strike assessment.

4. (~~S//FVEY~~) (b)(1)1.4a

- a. (~~S//FVEY~~) On 18 March 2017, Iraqi Counter-Terrorism Service (CTS) special-forces, who were conducting clearance operations along the CTS axis of attack designated "GHAZLANI". CTS received effective recoilless rifle fire from an enemy defensive fighting position. At (b)(1)1.4a, the advise and assist force accompanying CTS, (b)(1)1.4a requested a strike. The strike was requested under Rule of Engagement (b)(1)1.4a, collective self-defense in support of ISF.

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b. (~~S//FVEY~~) The request provided the coordinates of the target structures, and stated no civilian pattern of life (CIVPOL) was observed in the vicinity. The request also stated observation and Positive Identification (PID) of the requested target structures was gained by ground force observation.

c. (~~S//FVEY~~) The strike was authorized by the Target Engagement Authority (TEA) at the Erbil Coalition Joint Operations Center (CJOC). The aircraft delivering the munitions was a U.S. (b)(1)1.4a with a call sign of (b)(1)1.4a, (b)(6) Joint Tactical Air Controller (JTAC) (b)(1)1.4a, (b)(6) passed a strike request to (b)(1)1.4a, (b)(6) aimpoints were identified for the strike.

d. (~~S//FVEY~~) The strike occurred at (b)(1)1.4a. The target grids were military grids (b)(1)1.4a. The first ordinance used was (b)(1)1.4a munition. The second ordinance used was (b)(1)1.4a munition bomb. Both munitions used a delayed fuse to allow the munition to penetrate the target structure before detonating. This resulted in containing the blast to a smaller radius than if the munition detonated outside of the structure. The use of precision munitions with delayed fuses are measures intended to reduce the risk of collateral damage.

e. (~~S//FVEY~~) The Battle Damage Assessment (BDA) was one recoilless rifle neutralized, three enemy defensive fighting positions destroyed, and five enemy killed in action.

f. (~~S//FVEY~~) There are no additional records available at this time. Consultation with the Coalition Air Operations Center (CAOC) confirmed Weapon Sight Video (WSV) for this engagement was not available due to (b)(1)1.4g. Consultation with Union III Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance Liaison Officer (ISRLO) confirmed ISR video was not available due to (b)(1)1.4g.

g. (~~S//FVEY~~) Based on the information reasonably available, there is no indication this strike resulted in CIVCAS.

5. (~~S//FVEY~~) **Credibility Assessment.** On the basis of the details contained in the allegation and a thorough assessment of all reasonably available evidence, this civilian casualty allegation is deemed **NOT CREDIBLE** insofar as it relates to Coalition forces. That is, there is insufficient evidence to corroborate the allegation. If more information becomes available, this allegation should be reassessed.

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6. (U//~~FOUO~~) The point of contact for this CIVCAS Credibility Assessment Report is the undersigned at [REDACTED] (b)(3) 10 USC 130b; (b)(6)

2 Encls

[REDACTED] (b)(3) 10 USC 130b; (b)(6)

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I have conducted a legal review of the information 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, (b)(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.

4 ___ 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, U.S. Army
Commanding General

Sign
& Date

Pages 55 through 69 redacted for the following reasons:

Exhibits removed per agreement - Bates Numbers 4347-4351

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