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REQUEST #97

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
COMBINED JOINT TASK FORCE - OPERATION INHERENT RESOLVE
CAMP ARIFJAN, KUWAIT
APO AE 09306

CJ33

08SEP17

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

SUBJECT: CIVCAS Credibility Assessment Report (CCAR) for 1206, Al-Mayadin, SY, 07AUG17

1. (U//~~FOUO~~) **BLUF:** I assess that the allegation of civilian casualties (CIVCAS) on 5-7 AUG 2017 in Al-Mayadin, SY 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.

2. (U) **CIVCAS Allegation:**

a. (U) **Source:** WebOps/Social Media

b. (U) **Time and Location:** 5-7 AUG 2017 IVO (b)(1)1.4a

c. (U) **Allegation:** (U) **CIVCAS Claims from CF Airstrikes in Al-Mayadin, Southeastern Syria:** Mainly pro-SMG and pro-Syrian opposition users circulated news via Twitter and Facebook that CF "committed a new massacre with airstrikes in the city of al-Mayadin." While none of these users posted a set number of alleged CIVCAS, some pro-Syrian opposition users said the airstrikes killed on female child and injured several others. This topic trended at medium level and resonated at a low level in the Arabic IE.

d. (U) **Discussion:** Pro-SMG and pro-Syrian opposition users of Facebook and Twitter claim that Coalition Forces committed a "massacre" in Al-Mayadin. A few allegations claimed one female child killed, and several other people were injured.

3. (~~S//REL USA, FVEY~~) **Analysis of Coalition Strike Activity:** On 07 AUG 2017, one strike was conducted within 3250 meters of the allegation location. (b)(1)1.4a, (b)(6) was on station for collection and was dynamically instructed to conduct the strike.

(b)(1)1.4a, (b)(6) with footage exploitation conducted by (b)(1)1.4a.

4. (~~S//REL USA, FVEY~~) **Strike** (b)(1)1.4a **Overview:** Strike number (b)(1)1.4a was a DYNAMIC strike that occurred on (b)(1)1.4a under ROE (b)(1)1.4a targeting (b)(1)1.4a, ISIS FIGHTERS AND EQUIPMENT at (b)(1)1.4a. An US (b)(1)1.4a (b)(1)1.4a, (b)(6) struck the target with (b)(1)1.4a. The strike resulted in 1x mobile weapons cache destroyed.

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a. (~~S//REL USA, FVEY~~) **Review of Supporting Intelligence:** (b)(1)1.4a was a Trailer located at (b)(1)1.4a CIED TARGETING assessed the target facility as a mobile weapons storage trailer, supported with moderate confidence by (b)(1)1.4c reports as recent as 01JUN17. The trailer's former function was unknown. The trailer was assessed to have been under the use and control of ISIS since at least 27APR17 and was assessed to be (b)(1)1.4a. Pre-strike aerial reconnaissance captured 4 hours and 15 minutes of Full Motion Video (FMV) producing a slant of 3/2/4 IVO the target at a nearby facility.

b. (~~S//REL USA, FVEY~~) **Collateral Damage Estimate (CDE):** The CDE call for this trailer was no collateral concerns.

c. (~~S//REL USA, IRKS~~) **Battle Damage Assessment (BDA):** The BDA call for this strike was 1x mobile weapons cache destroyed.

d. (~~S//REL USA, FVEY~~) **Review of Chat Logs:** The MIRC Chat Logs were readily available and indicate ISR coverage for over 1 hour before splash. At (b)(1)1.4a Z (b)(1)1.4a, (b)(6) reported that at (b)(1)1.4a Z one sedan entered the S FOV and parked on the W side of the trailer and became obstructed by the trailer." At (b)(1)1.4a Z, (b)(1)1.4a, (b)(6) reported that "approximately 20 vehicles passed that target per hour." At (b)(1)1.4a, (b)(6) reported "min slant 1/0/0" due to the suspected vehicle. At (b)(1)1.4a, (b)(6) reported that "... the sedan seems to have continued W down the road but was obstructed by the trees." Post-strike analysis confirmed the SLANT was to be 0/0/0. After the strike, (b)(1)1.4a, (b)(6) (b)(1)1.4a remained overhead for 30 minutes. During that time, there was no mention of CIVPOL or other personnel entering the area. Post-strike review indicates a SLANT of 0/0/0 throughout the strike. At no time was there a break in ISR coverage.

e. (~~S//REL USA, FVEY~~) **Review of FMV:** 35 seconds of FMV was provided from the strike. The FMV clearly shows the target and there are no CIVPOL or CDE considerations IVO the target before the strike. The target is cleanly struck and post-strike footage shows no evidence of CIVPOL.

f. (~~S//REL USA, FVEY~~) **CJTF-OIR SJA Legal Note:** (b)(1)1.4a, (b)(5)

(b)(1)1.4a, (b)(5)

5. (~~S//REL USA, FVEY~~) **Additional Information:** The intelligence that was gathered prior to the strike against (b)(1)1.4a was directed primarily gathered in relation the facility

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across the street ((b)(1)1.4a). During the target development process for ((b)(1)1.4a
((b)(1)1.4a) the mobile weapons storage trailer was observed. The mobile weapons
storage trailer was the target that was then struck and the subject of this CCAR.

6. (~~S//REL USA, FVEY~~) **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 USA, FVEY~~) The MIRC Chat Logs indicate that over 1 hour before and 30 min after the strike, ISR was observing the target and the surrounding area. Before the strike there was no significant CIVPOL, and transients or potential collateral were not observed. The strike was conducted without event, and for the remainder of the time that ISR was overhead, there was no observed civilian activity. The FMV that was provided supports this conclusion and shows no activity immediately before or after the strike.

7. (U) The point of contact for this memorandum is the undersigned at:

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

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

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IRJA

SUBJECT: Legal Review of CIVCAS Credibility Assessment Report (CCAR) –
Allegation #1206, Al-Mayadin, Syria, 7 August 2017

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

(b)(5)

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

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IRCS

SUBJECT: CIVCAS Credibility Assessment Report (CCAR) for allegation number 1206, Al-Mayadin, SY, 07 AUG 17

1. 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:

a. ☐ 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.

b. ☐ 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 further investigation, as no additional information could reasonably be discovered. Accordingly, CJTF-OIR CIVCAS Cell shall close this allegation and CJTF-OIR PAO shall publish the results of this assessment in a press release as soon as practicable.

c. ☒ The evidence supports a finding of NOT CREDIBLE. Without additional evidence, I direct that no further action be taken by this command. Accordingly, CJTF-OIR CIVCAS Cell shall close this allegation and CJTF-OIR PAO shall publish the results of this assessment in a press release as soon as practicable.

 23 SEP 2017

KENNETH L. KAMPER
BG, US ARMY
Chief of Staff

Approved for Release