

UNITED STATES CENTRAL COMMAND

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF STAFF 7115 SOUTH BOUNDARY BOULEVARD MACDILL AIR FORCE BASE, FLORIDA 33621-5101

26 March 2020

Mr. Daniel J. Stotter Stotter & Associates LLC 408 SW Monroe Avenue, Suite M210E Corvallis, OR 97333

Dear Mr. Stotter,

This letter is a response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request and litigation (Ben Meindertsma v. Department of Defense Civil Action No. 1:19-cv-03580). The request seeks: (1) all documents; (2) reports; and (3) investigations related to an airstrike in Hawijah, Iraq, on a known Improvised Explosive Device (IED) building in an industrial area, on the 2nd or 3rd of June 2015, including the After Action Review made of this attack and the investigation into human casualties.

United States Central Command (USCENTCOM) conducted a thorough and good faith search and located 137 pages and one video. After reviewing the records, I am withholding 64 pages and the video in their entirety and partially releasing 73 pages to you. The withheld information is exempt from release pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(1), applying Executive Order (E.O.) 13526, Classified National Security Information, sections 1.4(a) military plans, weapons systems, or operations; 1.4(b) foreign government information; 1.4(c) intelligence activities, sources or methods; 1.4(d) foreign relations or foreign activities of the United States; and 1.4(g) vulnerabilities or capabilities of systems relating to the national security or defense against terrorism. Additional information is withheld pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(3) as it relates to 10 U.S.C. § 130b personnel in overseas, sensitive or routinely deployable units, 50 U.S.C. § 3024(i) intelligence sources and methods, (b)(5) inter-agency or intra-agency memorandums or letters, and, (b)(6) personal privacy interests.

If you have any questions, please contact Paul Mussenden at the Department of Justice, telephone (202) 252-7874.

Sincerely,

D. Scott McKean

Major General, U.S. Army

Enclosures:

- 1. AR 15-6 Investigation
- 2. 1574 Al Hawijah Investigation
- 3. Appt Orders and Legal Review

- 4. CIVCAS_DB Report_015. Draft EXSUM Al Hawijah VBIED Factory6. Findings and Recommendations Al Hawijah Investigation
- 7. Follow up Question
- 8. SCAR Report_Hawija 20150602