



Two Massacres in Albara and Almagharah villages of Jabal Azzawiya-Edlib.

July 14th 2013

VDC-Violation Documentation Centre in Syria





Foreword

After examining the testimonies of eye witnesses and the areas that were targeted in one day and within few hours in the following villages: Albara, Almaghara, Kafernobul, Basamis and Ihsim, we, **VDC** find it obvious that it was a direct targeting to the shops and vehicles that sell and transport fuel to citizens, where the shelling targeted all areas of fuel sellers especially diesel and gasoline, either by explosive barrels or guided highly explosive missiles.

Albara:

An archeological village in Jabal Azzawiyah, Edlib governorate, with population of **18** thousand, **34** km to the south west of **Edlib** city.

On July **14th 2013**, a helicopter, believed to have come from Hama governorate shelled the village at its rush hour, where people are gathering to shop for Ramadan needs, what resulted in dozens of killed and wounded.

VDC contacted **Mosab Ashabib**, one of the activists in that village who was accidentally close to the area of shelling, Ashabib **said**:

Nearly at **02:00** pm, we heard a sound like that of Mig air fighter, we looked at the sky but we didn't see anything because usually it flies high, only few seconds later we heard the sound of huge explosion in the center of the village, nearly 500 m away, then we saw the black smoke raising up for tens of meters, and after few minutes another barrel was dropped causing enormous sound and white smoke and we knew that it was dropped on a residential building, we directly moved to the area and before we arrive the FSA and citizens informed us that the helicopter is on its way back to shell the place for the third time so we hid in an underground refuge, when the third barrel was dropped on the same area but at the side of the road.

We got out of the underground refuge and headed towards the area that was shelled by the first barrel, where it was dropped on the Garage area, also called the trade market which is a cross junction for four main roads, the first to the west is **Kasanfra** turn, to the east is **Deir Sounbol** turn, to the north is **Ihsim** turn and to the south **Kafernabul** turn, the barrel targeted a loaded fuel truck what burned totally and killed all inside it, in addition to many civilians who were near, the second barrel was dropped on one of the houses which is very close to the first barrel dropping area, and the house is owned by **Mohamed Salih Othman** who was luckily not inside the house when the second barrel was dropped.

The shelling caused dozens of killed and wounded including some of the displaced citizen from nearby villages due to the military operations in their villages and towns.



End of testimony.

For the names of the martyrs:

Albara martyrs

<http://goo.gl/CFEPX>

Displaced martyrs:

<http://goo.gl/450iq>

Alabara 80 martyrs since the begging of the Syrian revolution until making this report:

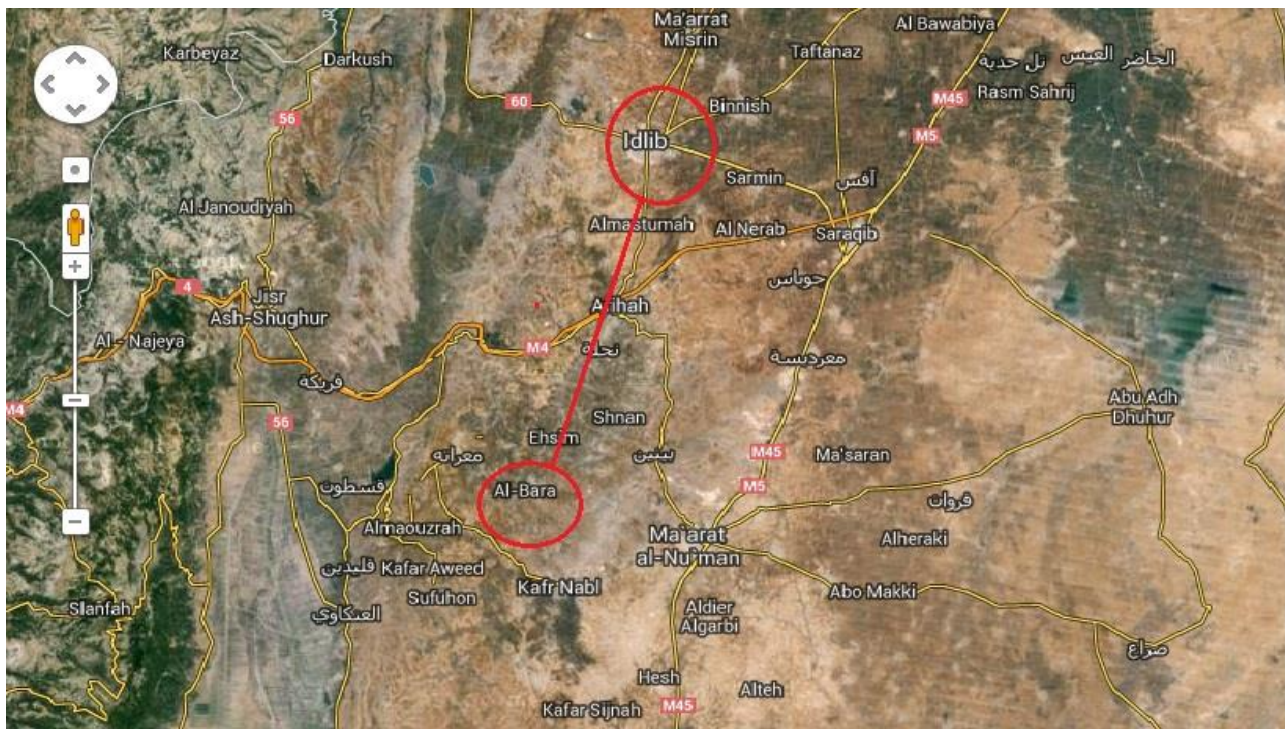
<http://goo.gl/gQpa5>

Video of destruction caused by the shelling:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=82rxR2oJv4c&feature=youtu.be>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fqWd8pfBCII>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iL1ZIk7PS5I>





Only few hours passed on Albara massacre when another massacre took place in a neighboring village called Almagharah.

Alamagharah:

A village in Jabal Azzawiyah, few km from Albara village and 27 km from Edlib city center, it has an archeological Roman cemetery goes back to the year **246** A.D.

A huge explosion took place in the village where the people firstly thought it was an explosive falling barrel for the warplanes shelled civilian areas in several neighboring villages within the last hours that preceded the explosion.

VDC contacted Nour Eddin Alahassoun who is one of the media activists and field cameraman who said:

People were waiting for Maghrib call for pray(nearly **07:57** pm) after a hard day of fasting, and due to high temperature, most people stayed outdoors , then we heard the sound of big explosion nearly 500 m away of where I am at **07:55** pm where I thought first that it was an explosive barrel but when we arrived there, a defected officer said that it was a highly explosive Russian surface-to surface missile and usually fired from Grad rocket launchers.

the smoke was so thick that we could not see through, where the missile hit a corner of a house and destroyed three other houses, next to the targeted house there is a shop and trucks for selling fuel which were destroyed and a big fire started, corpses were everywhere, I could see three totally charred corpses and remains, several wounded who were threw away in the air because of the pressure of the explosion, they were more than 20 wounded and 14 martyrs, most of them from the Alyousf family, including a mother and her six months old embryo(Rawda Ahmed Alyosef), although doctors managed to get her out from her womb but she didn't live long for the lack of oxygen so it died after few hours.

End of testimony.

Martyrs of Almaghara massacre list:

<http://goo.gl/TiBjx>

All martyrs of Almaghara:

<http://goo.gl/xtBXL>



Videos of the massacre:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3Xq-c38h-8A&feature=youtu.be>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2YJvJU8zjul&feature=youtu.be>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ILW-NVeVTHE&feature=youtu.be>



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