

AR 15-6 Investigation

)1.4 a, (b)(2)

Operation Cnoctaw

Non-Combatant Death

Event

~ 0930 on 31 December 2006

- [redacted] Mortar Platoon attempted mortar registration
[redacted] of target
- Mortar round landed [redacted] (b)(2)High
- Mortar round struck house of [redacted] (b)(6)
- Killed [redacted] son, [redacted] (b)(6)
- Wounded [redacted] daughter, [redacted] (b)(6)
- Significant damage to the house

(S)(6)

MISSION: [redacted] (1) [redacted] (2)Hi

TO: 30 0001C DEC 06

OWNING UNIT/CITY: 1-1AD, Al Bai

SEQUENCE OF EVENTS:

310930C DEC - [redacted] (2)Hi Mortar Platoon commences registration from location A. The desired Point of Impact was location B.

0935C [redacted] (1) (BN FSO) suspended registration after observing initial round out of impact [redacted] (2)Hi BN SCO cancelled registration after initial report from (BN FSO)

0950C - A HQ patrol arrives at the POI and determined the following:

• 1 x [redacted] (2)Hi round impacted house #10, location C [redacted] (2)Hi. The round struck the roof of the house, penetrated, and detonated on the floor. The fuse was set on delay.

• The subsequent detonation killed the male instantly. He was the only person inside at the time of detonation. [redacted] (b)(6)

• The [redacted] (b)(6) female (victim's sister) received injuries from flying glass. She was outside the house with the rest of the family at the time of impact.

• She was treated at the scene by a [redacted] (1) medic and released to her Uncle.

1050C - [redacted] (2)Hi BN SCO initiated 15-6 investigation upon return from patrol. Mortar registration is suspended until procedural review / safety and FDC verification are complete.

RESULTS:

1 x LN KIA [redacted] (b)(6) was killed by mortar round. [redacted] (2)Hi

1 x LN WIA [redacted] (b)(6) received a minor injury (laceration to [redacted] (b)(6)).

(S)(U) (S)(U)

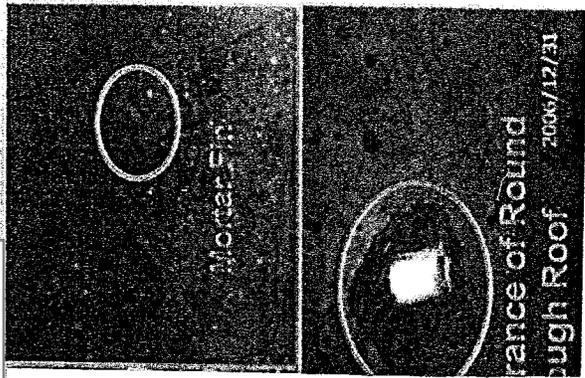
(S)(U) (S)(U)

(S)(U) (S)(U)

(S)(U)

(S)(U)

(2)Hi

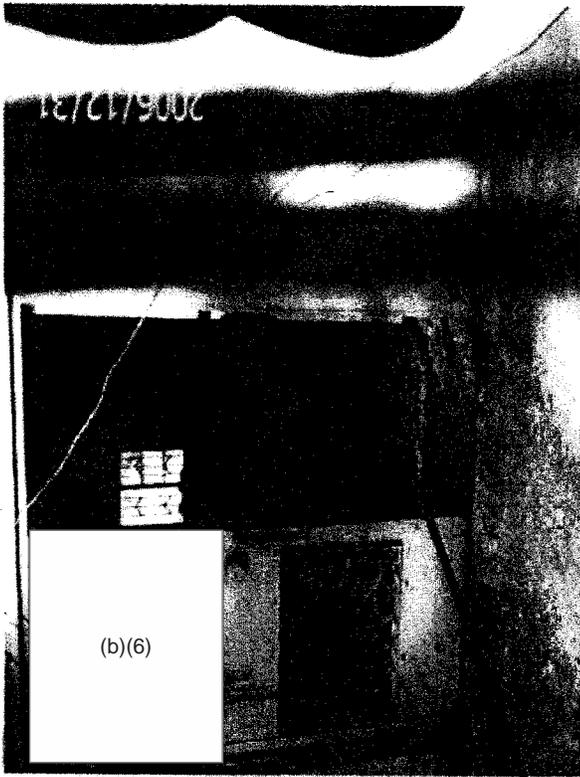


(S)(U)

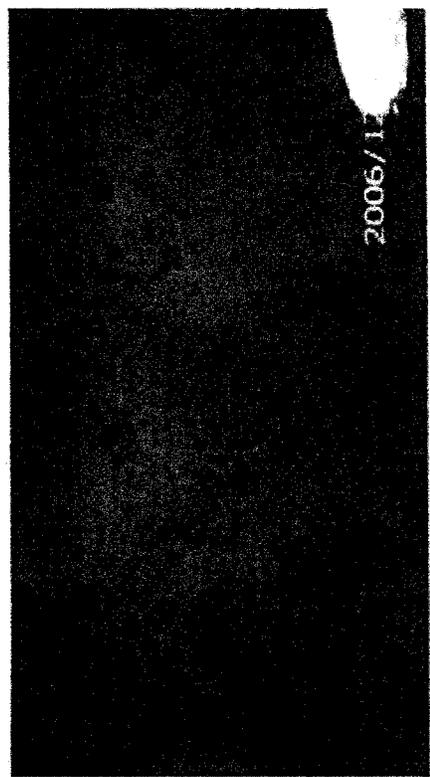
(S)(U)

SECRET OR CONTROLLED INFORMATION

Photos of House Post-Impact



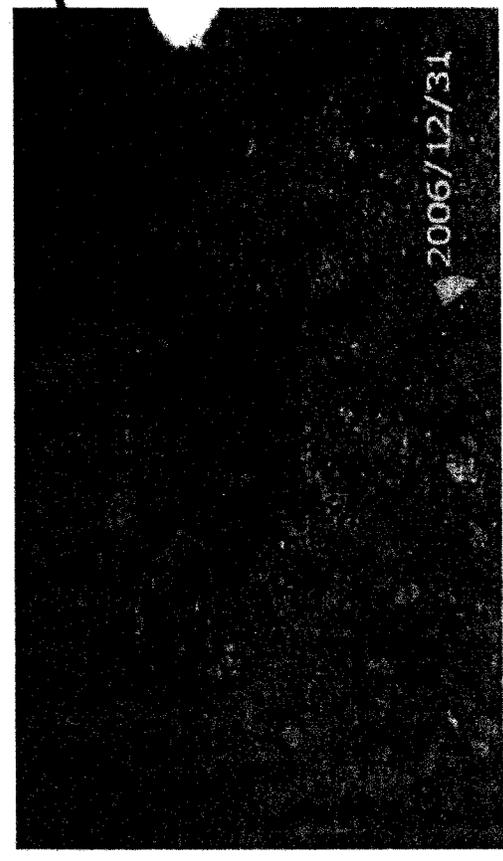
Front door



Interior wall

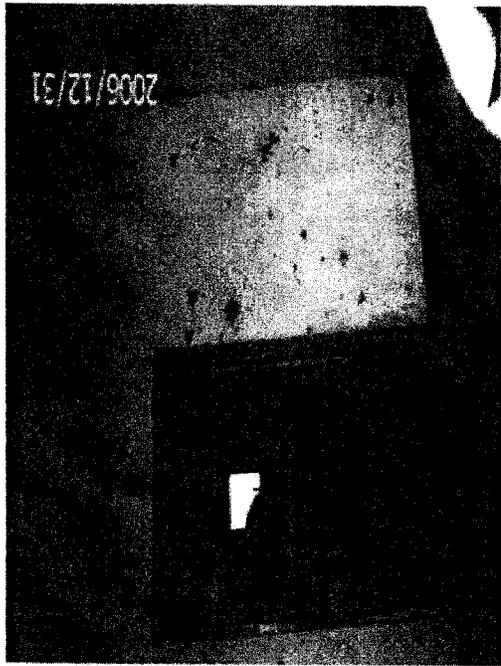


Exterior - broken glass and shattered door

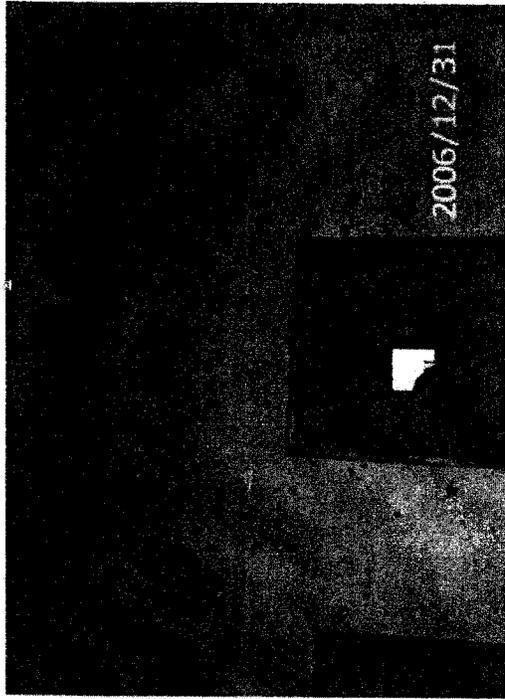


Crater in floor from detonation

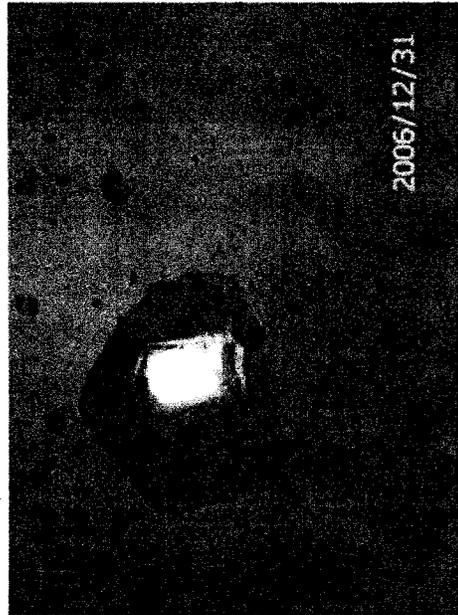
Photos of House Post-Incident



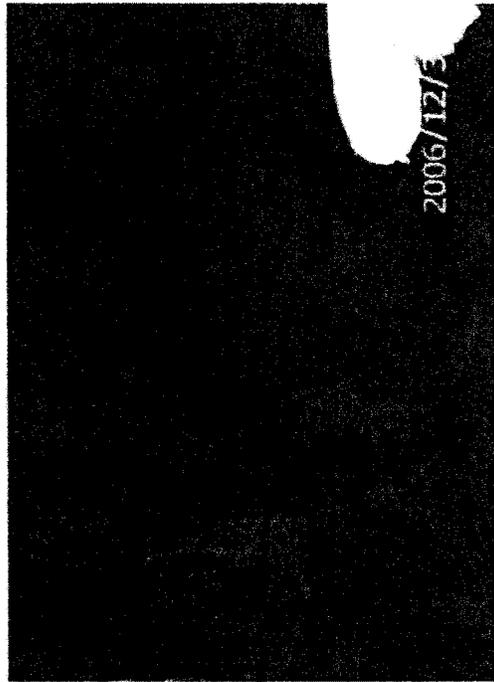
Interior - looking into kitchen area



Interior wall

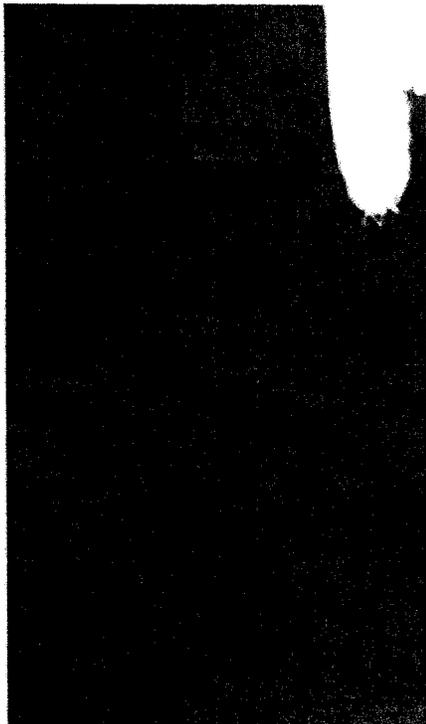


Entrance of round through Roof

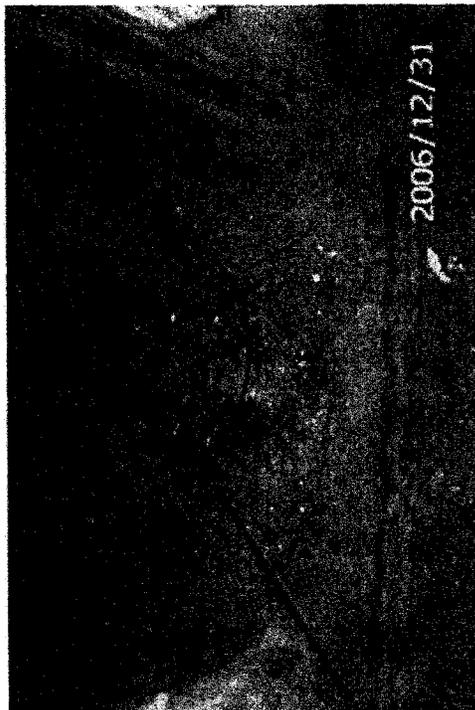


Interior room

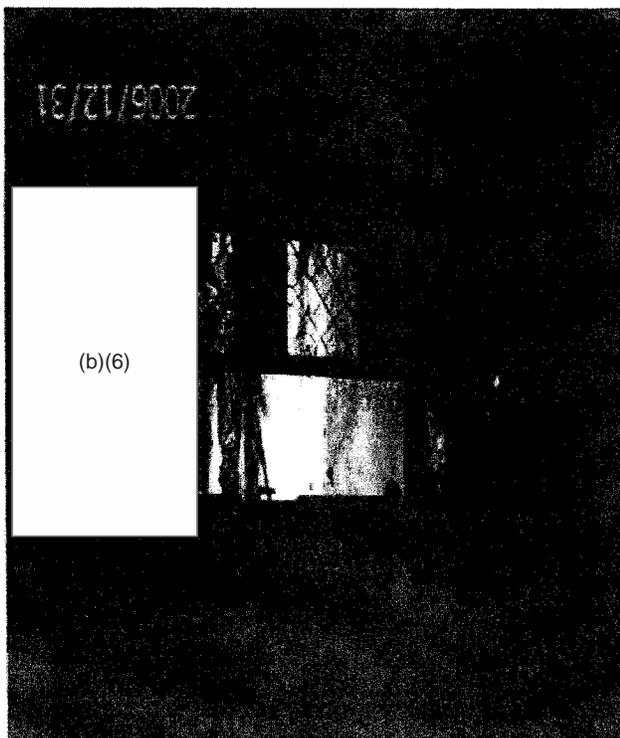
Photos of House Post-Impact



Interior room



view from outside front door - looking into house



interior - looking toward front door

Mortar Fin

Overview

(b)(1)1.4 a, (b)(2)High, (b)(3),(b)(6)

Sequence of Events

- ~ 0815 CPT [redacted] (b)(6) departs ACP to ID registration target [redacted] (b)(6)
- ~ 2117 [redacted] (b)(6) and 6-man security patrol [redacted] (b)(6)
- CPT [redacted] (b)(6) observes 2 MAVs watching the patrol [redacted] (b)(6)
- Concerned about burning village between patrol and ACP [redacted] (b)(6)
- Does not continue to the noninvest [redacted] (b)(6)
- CPT [redacted] (b)(6) selects target [redacted] (b)(2)High from the village [redacted] (b)(2)
- Assesses target to be [redacted] (b)(2)High
- Data passed & verified to mortar crew [redacted] (b)(2)High
- ~ 0930 Mortar launched IAW proper procedure [redacted] (b)(2)High
- Round impacts [redacted] (b)(2)High of intended target [redacted] (b)(2)High

Sequence of Events - 2

(b)(2)High

called

Proper procedures by the mortar crew

(b)(6)

CPT moves patrol into village to investigate

Discover that mortar round killed

(b)(6)

Local national

Overview - 2

(b)(1)1.4 a, (b)(2)High, (b)(3), (b)(6)

Commander's Guidance

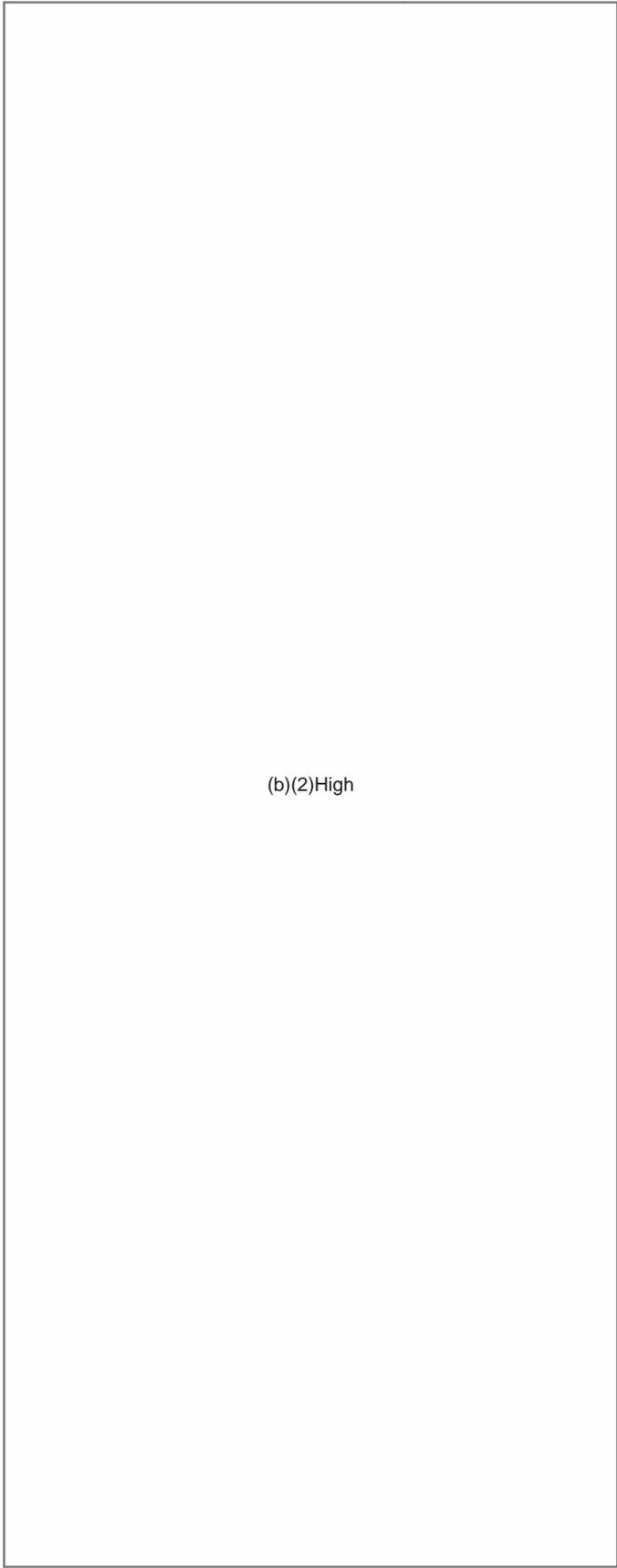
(b)(1)1.4 a, (b)(2)High

Overview - 3

(b)(1)1.4 a, (b)(2)High, (b)(3), (b)(6)

Mortar Inspection

Mortar was properly maintained prior to event.



(b)(2)High

Conclusions

(b)(5), (b)(2)High, (b)(6)

Conclusions - 2

(b)(5), (b)(2)High, (b)(6)

CONCLUSIONS - 3

(b)(5), (b)(2)High

Conclusions - 4

(b)(5), (b)(2)High, (b)(6)

Recommendações

(b)(1)1.4 a, (b)(2)High, (b)(5), (b)(6)

Backup Slides

Diagram showing probable impact area for installation
Based on Appendix C (Safety Procedures) of [redacted] (b)(2)High



(b)(1)1.4 a, (b)(2)High

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

(b)(1)1.4 a, (b)(2)High

CENTCOM 020660