

Russian Forces Have Used Incendiary Weapons 78 Times at least since They Intervened in Syria

Rain of Fire



SYRIAN NETWORK FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

الشبكة السورية لحقوق الإنسان

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Acknowledgment and Condolences

I. Introduction

We recorded the use of various kinds of incendiary weapons by the Syrian regime in many news, and monthly and yearly reports. This report, however, fully outlines what we believe to be a use of incendiary weapons by Russian forces that directly got involved in Syria on September 30, 2015. We recorded no less than 78 incendiary attacks by Russian forces in four Syrian governorates.

Despite that incendiary weapons, when used during military operations, are used for the purpose of concealing land forces' movements- while the smoke that comes out can disable infrared-based weapon tracing systems- which is a well-known fact to Russian forces, All the incidents included in this report targeted residential or agricultural areas, where no movements towards these areas were made by land forces whether they were Syrian, Iranian, or Russian, which supports the premises that incendiary weapons were used to cause human and materials damages, and absolutely not for military benefits. Incendiary weapons are excessively indiscriminate weapons, and are similar to cluster munitions to a large extent. In that, they scatter over large areas, and it is high possibility they might light up again later.

Assuming, for the sake of the argument, that armed opposition forces were stationed inside residential neighborhoods, and not only on clash lines (This something we couldn't verify in the incidents of this report), attacking forces should use weapons that can be used in a more discriminate manner more than incendiary weapons in order to distinguish between civil and military targets, as incendiary weapons lack any form of precision. For example, an artillery shell carrying incendiary ammunition can scatter over an area of



110 m2. Even though incendiary weapons are not classified as internationally-prohibited weapons, they violate the most basic principles of the humanitarian international law, when they are used outside their boundaries and carelessly, or deliberately, directed against civil targets, which can amount to war crimes.

Incendiary weapons containing (Phosphorus, thermite, or napalm) have indeed been used widely by the Syrian regime since 2012, and we are going to release an extensive study highlighting most of these attacks in one file. However, we have noticed a significant rise in the rates of incendiary weapons' use with the intervention of Russian forces in 2015 that even exceeded Syrian regimes' rates. Russia Today TV channel has published a [video](#) showing a ZAB-2.5SM RBK-(500) container carried by a fixed-wing Russian war-plane in Hmeimim airbase in Latakia city.

Fadel Abdul Ghani, chairman of SNHR, says:

“This huge number of incidents exhibits a pattern and carelessness, and sometimes deliberateness, by Russian forces to cause damages to the Syrian citizen and Syrian lands. Apparently, this is a methodology and policy by Russian forces rather than an indiscriminate individual use. Political Russian leaderships have to launch investigations to follow-up on these incidents, hold those who are responsible accountable, and compensate those who were affected. Otherwise, they are partners in these widespread violations. ”

This report includes a documentation for no less than 78 attacks using incendiary ammunition that were dropped by fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian. All of these attacks targeted civil areas and agricultural lands and wasn't followed by any attacks by Syrian-Iranian-Russian land forces. Also, these ammunitions targeted 15 vital civil facilities at least. It should be noted that this is the bare minimum, which we were able to document, where we relied mainly on survivors' accounts and eyewitnesses, and on pictures of remnants and fires that resulted from these attacks after we verified their authenticity. We have disregarded many incidents for which we couldn't find any virtual evidence or pictures of weapon remnants.

This report includes 10 accounts, and we have copies of all the videos and pictures included in this report.



II. Executive Summary

Between the start of the Russian airstrikes on September 30, 2015 and December 31, 2016, SNHR documented at least 78 attacks using incendiary weapons by fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian. Most of these attacks occurred in June, July, and August 2016. The distribution of these attacks across governorates is as follows:

Aleppo: 51

Idlib: 19

Homs: 6

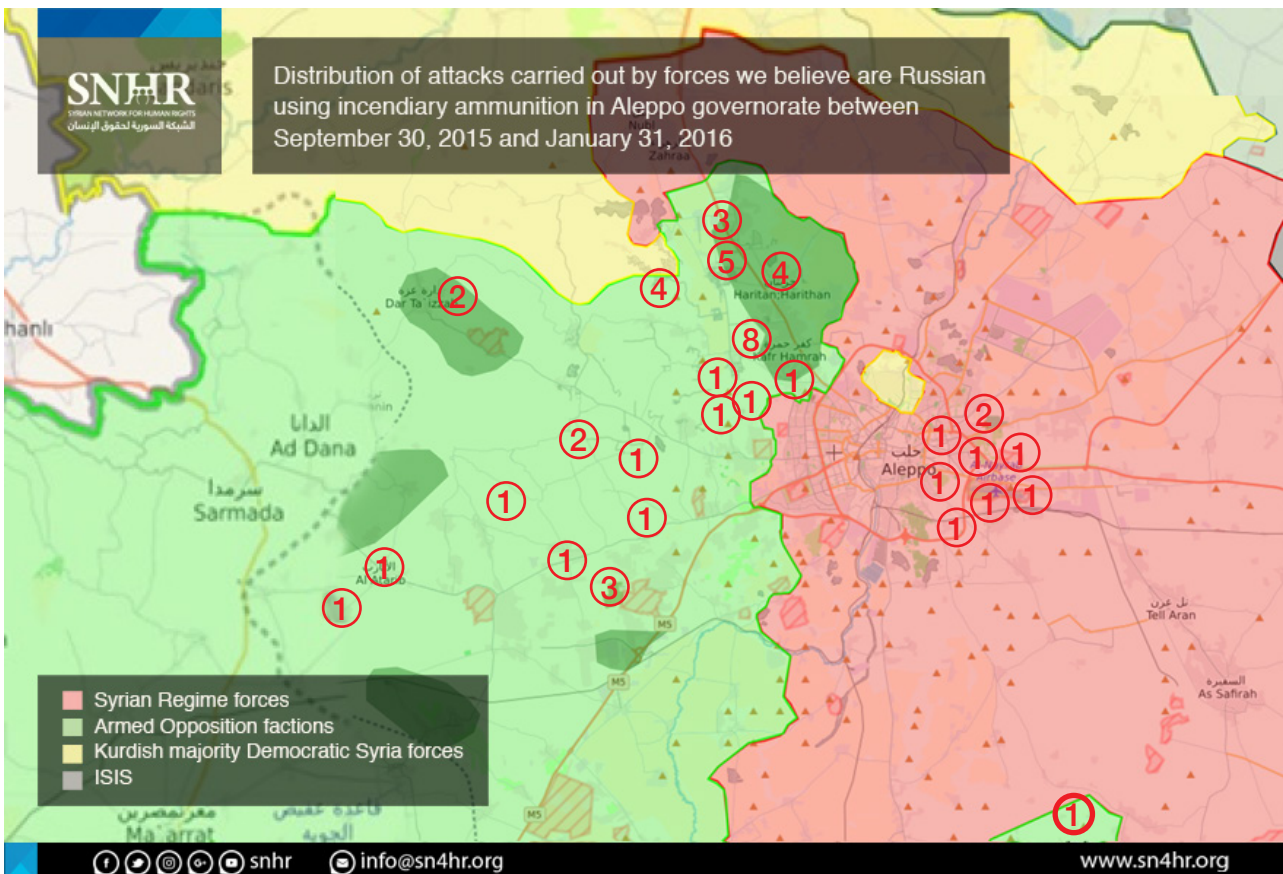
Damascus suburbs: 2

These attacks resulted in the killing of seven individuals including four children.

III. Details

Aleppo governorate

A map illustrates the distribution of attacks carried out by forces we believe are Russian using incendiary ammunition in Aleppo governorate between September 30, 2015 and January 31, 2016



Anadan city, Sunday, June 5, 2016

Fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian used incendiary weapons to target Anadan city, which is under the control of armed opposition factions.

[Video](#) showing remnants of incendiary weapons in the aftermath of an attack we believe was Russian

Hraitan city, Tuesday, June 7, 2016

Fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian used incendiary weapons to target Baghdad street in the southern parts of the city, which resulted in the killing of two individuals. The city is under the control of armed opposition factions.

Victims' names

1- AbdulGhani Hasan Bayya', 20-year-old.

2- AbdulAziz Jaqlan



Anadan city, Tuesday, June 7 2016

Fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian used incendiary weapons to target the northeastern neighborhoods in the city, which under the control of armed opposition factions.

[Video](#) showing fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian firing incendiary weapons



Kafr Hamra village, Friday, June 10, 2016

Fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian used incendiary weapons to target northern Kafr Hamra village, which is under the control of armed opposition factions.

[Video](#) showing remnants of incendiary weapons after an attack we believe was Russian



Qebtan Al Jabal town, Saturday, June 11, 2016

Fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian used incendiary weapons to target residential houses in eastern Qebtan Al Jabal town, which is under the control of armed opposition factions. The bombardment resulted in four injuries.

[Video](#) showing remnants of incendiary weapons in the aftermath of an attack we believe was Russian

Anadan city, Saturday, June 11, 2016

Fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian used incendiary weapons to target the middle of the city, which is under the control of armed opposition factions.

[Video](#) showing fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian firing incendiary weapons

Urm Al Kubra town, Sunday, June 12, 2016

Fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian used incendiary weapons to target the northern outskirts of the town, which resulted in the killing of one individual (Hasan Subhi Danyal) and six other injuries including a media activist. The town is under the control of armed opposition factions.



Majbina village, Monday, June 13, 2016

Fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian used incendiary weapons to target Al Huda hospital in Majbina village, which is under the control of armed opposition factions. The hospital building was moderately damaged, and, as a result, the hospital was rendered out of commission.



Kafr Hamra village, Tuesday, June 14, 2016

Fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian used incendiary weapons to target the middle of Kafr Hamra village, located in the northern suburbs of Aleppo and is under the control of armed opposition factions.

[Video](#) showing an incendiary weapons bombing by fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian

Anadan city, Wednesday, June 15, 2016

Fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian used incendiary weapons to target the vicinity of Anadan charity make-shift hospital. The hospital building was moderately [damaged](#), and an ambulance belonging to the hospital sustained damages.



Qebtan Al Jabal town, Thursday, June 16, 2016

Fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian used incendiary weapons to [target the eastern parts](#) of the town, which is under the control of armed opposition factions.

Kafr Hamra village, Friday, June 17, 2016

Fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian used incendiary weapons to target the northwestern parts of the village, which is under the control of armed opposition factions. [Video](#) showing fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian firing incendiary weapons

Urm Al Kubra town, Sunday, June 19, 2016

Fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian used incendiary weapons to target residential houses in a housing charity association "[Auli Al Albab Association](#)". The bombardment resulted in the killing of two children in the town, which is under the control of armed opposition factions.

Anadan city, Sunday, June 19, 2016

Fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian used incendiary weapons to [target residential houses](#) in southern [Anadan city](#), which is under the control of armed opposition factions.

Qebtan Al Jabal town, Sunday, June 19, 2016

Fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian used incendiary weapons to target residential houses in northern Qebtan Al Jabal town, which is under the control of armed opposition factions.

[Video](#) showing fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian firing incendiary weapons

Hayyan town, Monday, June 20, 2016

Fixed-wing warplanes we believe are [Russian](#) used [incendiary weapons](#) to [target](#) the road leading to [Byanoun](#) town in [Hayyan](#) town, which is under the control of armed opposition factions.

[Video](#) showing fires in the aftermath of an incendiary attack we believe was Russian



Kafr Hamra town, Monday, June 20, 2016

Fixed-wing warplanes we believe are [Russian](#) used incendiary weapons to target the residential [houses](#) in the southern parts of the village, which is under the control of armed opposition factions.

[Video](#) showing remnants of incendiary [weapons](#) in the aftermath of an attack we believe was Russian

Hraitan city, Monday, June 21, 2016

Fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian used incendiary weapons to target the residential houses in the vicinity of [Al Baraa ben Malek mosque](#) in the city, which is under the control of armed opposition factions.

Einjara town, Monday, June 20, 2016

Fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian used incendiary weapons to target Bala [housing](#) association in the town, which is under the control of armed opposition factions.

Hraitan city, Tuesday, June 21, 2016

Fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian used incendiary weapons to target the vicinity of Al Quds mosque in the [middle of the city](#), which is under the control of armed opposition factions.

Al Layramoun neighborhood, Tuesday, June 21, 2016

Fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian used incendiary weapons to target the vicinity of [Abu Bakr Al Siddeeq mosque](#) in the middle of the city, which is under the control of armed opposition factions.

Hayyan town, Wednesday, June 22, 2016

Fixed-wing warplanes we believe are [Russian](#) used incendiary weapons to target the southwestern parts of the town, which is under the control of armed opposition factions.

Khan Al Asal village, Thursday, June 23, 2016

Fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian used incendiary weapons to target Khan Al [Asal village](#), which is under the control of armed opposition factions.



Kafr Hamra village, Friday, June 24, 2016

Fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian used incendiary weapons to target the road leading to Ma'arat Al Arteeq town in [Kafr Hamra village](#), which is under the control of armed opposition factions.

Hayyan town, Friday, June 24, 2016

Fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian used incendiary weapons to target the southern parts of the town, which is under [the control of armed opposition factions](#).

Kafr Hamra village, Thursday, July 7, 2016

Fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian used incendiary weapons to target the northern parts of the village on the road leading to Al Layramoun neighborhood. The village is under the control of armed opposition factions.



Al Mash-had neighborhood, Sunday, August 7, 2016

Fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian used [incendiary](#) weapons to target Al [Mash-had neighborhood](#) in Aleppo city. The neighborhood was under the control of armed opposition factions at the time of the [incident](#), whereas it is, at the time of this writing, under the control of Syrian regime forces.

Al Sheikh Saeed neighborhood, Tuesday, August 9, 2016

Fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian used incendiary weapons to target the southern parts of [Al Sheikh Saeed neighborhood](#). The neighborhood was under the control of armed opposition factions at the time of the incident, whereas it is, at the time of this writing, under the control of Syrian regime forces.

Kafr Naha town, Tuesday, August 9, 2016

Fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian used [incendiary weapons](#) to target the southern parts of the town, which is under the control of armed opposition factions.

Al Rashideen neighborhood, Tuesday, August 9, 2016

Fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian used incendiary weapons to target the southwestern parts of the [neighborhood](#), which is under the control of armed opposition factions.



Qebtan Al Jabal town, Wednesday, August 10, 2016

Fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian used [incendiary weapons](#) to target [Qebtan Al Jabal town](#), which is under the control of armed opposition factions.

Urm Al Kubra town, Sunday, August 28, 2016

Fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian used incendiary weapons to target Al Hal market in Urm AL Kubra town, located in the western suburbs of Aleppo governorate and is under the control of armed opposition factions. [A number of shops](#) were burned as well as a [number of cars](#) which [were in the market](#).

Al Sukkari neighborhood, Wednesday, August 21, 2016

Fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian used incendiary weapons to [target the vicinity](#) of the vegetables market in Al Sukkari neighborhood. The neighborhood was under the control of armed opposition factions at the time of the incident, whereas it is, at the time of this writing, under the control of Syrian regime forces.

Bostan Al Qaser neighborhood, Thursday, September 22, 2016

Fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian used incendiary weapons to target the residential houses in the vicinity of Bader mosque in [Bostan Al Qaser neighborhood](#). The neighborhood was under the control of armed opposition factions at the time of the incident, whereas it is, at the time of this [writing](#), under the control of Syrian regime forces.

Al Asila neighborhood, Friday, September 23, 2016

Fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian used incendiary weapons to target the residential houses in eastern [Al Asila neighborhood](#). The neighborhood was under the control of armed opposition factions at the time of the [incident](#), whereas it is, at the time of this [writing](#), under the control of Syrian regime forces.



Al Qaterji neighborhood, Friday, September 23, 2016

Fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian used incendiary weapons to target the residential houses on the road leading to Al Qaterji neighborhood from Tareaq Al Bab neighborhood. The neighborhood was under the control of armed opposition factions at the time of the [incident](#), whereas it is, at the time of this writing, under the control of Syrian regime forces.

Al Sha'ar neighborhood, Friday, September 30, 2016

Fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian used [incendiary weapons](#) in the vicinity of Al Daqqaq hospital in Al Sha'ar neighborhood. The neighborhood was under the control of armed opposition factions at the time of the [incident](#), whereas it is, at the time of this writing, under the control of Syrian regime forces.

Al Sakhour neighborhood, Saturday, October 1, 2016

Fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian used incendiary weapons in the vicinity of the makeshift hospital in Al Sakhour neighborhood. The neighborhood was under the control of armed opposition factions at the time of the [incident](#), whereas it is, at the time of this writing, under the control of Syrian regime forces.

Al Qaterji neighborhood, Friday, October 14, 2016

Fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian used incendiary weapons to [target](#) the residential houses in the vicinity of Al Hussein mosque in Al Qaterji neighborhood. The neighborhood was under the control of armed opposition factions at the time of the incident, whereas it is, at the time of this writing, under the control of Syrian regime forces.

Darat Ezza city, Friday, November 11, 2016

Fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian used incendiary weapons to target the [northern parts of the city](#), which is under the control of armed opposition factions.

Darat Ezza city, Saturday, November 12, 2016

Fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian used incendiary weapons to [target](#) the [western parts of the city](#), which is under the control of armed opposition factions.



Al Qasimiya village, Saturday, November 12, 2016

Fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian used incendiary weapons to [target](#) the road leading to Einjara town in [Al Qasimiya village](#), which is under the control of armed opposition factions.

Beshqatin village, Monday, November 14, 2016

Fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian used incendiary weapons to target the western parts of the [village](#), which is under the control of armed opposition factions.

Abu Abda village, Monday, November 14, 2016

Fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian used incendiary weapons to target the [vicinity of Abu Abda school](#) in the [village](#), which is under the control of armed opposition factions.

Ma'arat Al Arteeq town, Monday, November 28, 2016

Fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian used incendiary weapons to target the road leading to [Kafr Hamra town](#) in Ma'arat Al Arteeq town, which is under the control of armed opposition factions.

Al Qasimiya village, Monday, November 5, 2016

Fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian used incendiary weapons to target the southern parts of the village, which is under the control of armed opposition factions.

[Pictures](#) showing the remnants of incendiary weapons in the aftermath of a Russian attack



Pictures showing remnants of incendiary weapons containers



Pictures showing [the aftermath](#) of a Russian [incendiary attack](#)

Kafr Hamra village, Monday, December 5, 2016

Fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian used incendiary weapons to [target](#) Al Andalus neighborhood in Kafr Hamra village, located in the northern suburbs of Aleppo governorate and is under the control of armed opposition factions.

Kafr Hamra village, Tuesday, December 6, 2016

Fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian used incendiary weapons to target the northern parts of Kafr Hamra village, located in [the northern suburbs of Aleppo](#) governorate and is under the control of armed opposition factions.

Al Sahhara town, Tuesday, December 6, 2016

Fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian used incendiary weapons to target the [western parts of the town](#), which is under the control of armed opposition factions.

[Remnants](#) of incendiary weapons in the aftermath of a Russian attack

The [aftermath](#) of a Russian incendiary attack

Hraitan city, Tuesday, December 6, 2016

Fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian used incendiary weapons to target the [western parts](#) of Hraitan city, located in the northern suburbs of Aleppo and is under the control of armed opposition factions.

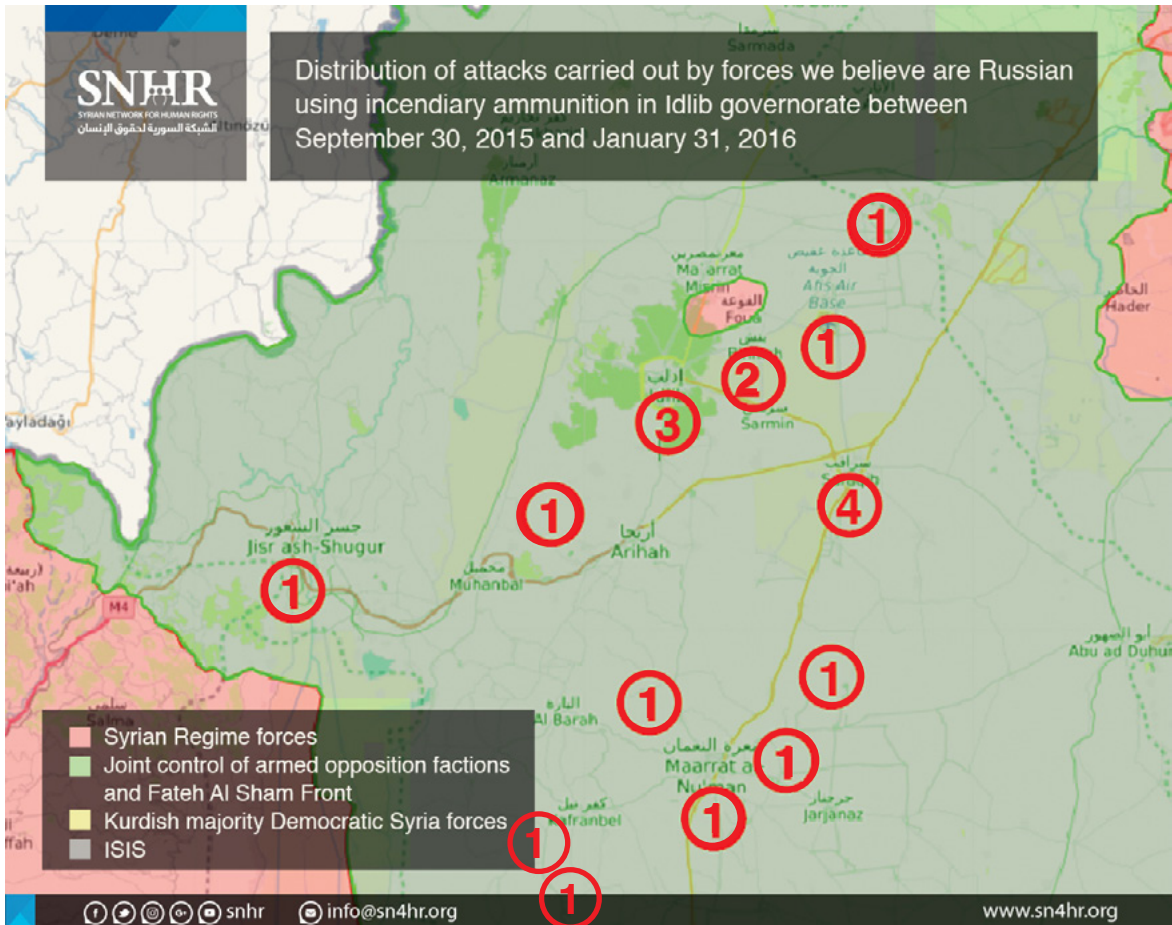


Kafr Karmin village, Wednesday, December 7, 2016

Fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian used incendiary weapons to [target](#) the western parts of Kafr Karmin village, located in the western suburbs of Aleppo and is under the control of armed opposition factions.

Idlib governorate

A map illustrates the distribution of attacks carried out by forces we believe are Russian using incendiary ammunition in Idlib governorate between September 30, 2015 and January 31, 2016



Sarageb city, Monday, December 2, 2015

Fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian used incendiary [weapons](#) to target the agricultural lands on the outskirts of Saraqeb city [50 meters away](#) from Al Ehsan Relief Institution, which started fires in the agricultural lands. The city is under the joint control of armed opposition factions and Fateh Al Sham Front.



We spoke to Abdou Al Hassoun, via Facebook, who works as a guard for the institution and was at the institution at the night of the [bombing](#):

“They used one missile from which a large number of bombs came out. These bombs stay burning for 5-6 seconds before exploding. There were about 150-200 bombs that scattered throughout the ground, and we saw the fire around us. We couldn’t see the warplanes because it was dark, but the observatories told us that Russian warplanes were in the sky.

Beneen town, Thursday, November 12, 2015

Fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian used incendiary weapons to target a small grove that is one kilometer to the east of Beneen town and seven kilometers to the north of Ma’aret Al No’mān city. The bombardment started fires in the agricultural lands that covered an area of approximately 500 meters. The town is under the joint control of armed opposition factions and Fateh Al Sham Front.

SNHR released a detailed report on this incident

Ma’arat Al Na’san village, Tuesday, December 15, 2015

Fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian used incendiary weapons to target a fuel market in Ma’arat Al Na’san village in Idlib, which started fires in the market and the vehicles that transfer fuel in addition to destroying the market facilities.



SNHR spoke to the media activist Taufiq Katyan, who provided us with his account:

“Around 9:30 AM, Russian warplanes carried out two airstrikes, according to the rebels’ observatories, on a market for fuel. The first airstrike was with three missiles that I believe were thermobaric considering the intensity of their explosion and the holes they created. The first airstrike targeted a funeral that was passing near the market, while the second airstrike was with two missiles, one of which was a cluster missile, and targeted the middle of the market. The container contained about 32 bombs, and the other one was a container that looks exactly like a cluster missile but it was carrying ammunition loaded with white substance that we saw on the ground. These ammunitions were burning in the sky at different altitudes between roughly 10-20 meters. It looked like fireworks with shooting stars.”



“There are no military bases inside the market or near it for the factions that are in control of the village, which are Ahrar Al Sham and Soqour Al Sham with a minor Fateh Al Sham presence. All the bases are outside the village.”

Saraqeb city, Tuesday, December 15, 2015

Fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian fired three missiles loaded with incendiary ammunition that targeted the Grand Mosque in the middle of the market, and Al Zawiya mosque on the north side of the market. The roofs on the two mosques were destroyed and their furniture were burned, while the third missile hit a residential house in the eastern neighborhood.

Laith Al Fares, a member of the civil defense, whom we contacted via Facebook provided is with his account:

“Around 15:45, two warplanes soared at a high altitude and dropped three missiles on Al Zawiya mosque, the Grand Mosque, and a house that is 800 meters away from the two mosques. I saw small burning bombs that resulted from the missile’s explosion. Each bomb contained a substance like a gray pressurized powder that turns white after it burns which were the same bombs that were used by the Russian warplanes in Ma’aret Al Na’san village on the same day. There are no military bases in the targeted areas that would justify targeting is with phosphorus.”

[Pictures](#) showing remnants of incendiary weapons in [Saraqeb city](#)



Ma'arshoureen – Ma'arshemsha road, Friday, June 17, 2016

Fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian used incendiary weapons to target Ma'arshoureen – Ma'arshemsha road in southern Ma'arshoureen village, which started fires in the agricultural lands. The area is under the control of armed opposition factions.

SNHR spoke to the media activist Omar Elwan, via Facebook, who went to the site with the civil defense team and provided us with his account

“I saw fires in the agricultural lands and counted more than 20 ammunitions that look like empty cans. The fires would die in minutes and leave white ashes. Inside the ammunition, there was something like melted metal from which smoke and a burning smell were coming out. However, when I held it I felt that the melted metal smelled like garlic and his color was gray with a hint of blue.”

[Picture](#) of one of the remnants of the incendiary weapons near Ma'rshourein

Saraqeb city, Sunday, June 26, 2016

Fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian used incendiary weapons to target a residential area in the middle of Saraqeb city, which resulted in two injuries. Additionally, a house was partially destroyed, a residential building was damaged, and fires were started in a number of adjacent houses.

SNHR spoke to Mr. Laith Al Fares, a civil defense member, via Facebook after he went to the targeted site:

“Around 9:45 AM, the observatory made a public warning about Russian warplanes soaring in the sky. I then saw balls of fire falling from the sky. Some bombs exploded as they were falling, while others exploded after hitting the ground. The bombs fell near a residential building and a cemetery, while the container fell on a residential house.”

“These bombs started fires everywhere they fell. We managed to contain the fires. However, a smell like matches on fire spread out and caused some breathing difficulties for us. The bombardment also resulted in two individuals getting injured as they were at the place that was targeted. One of them sustained severe burns all over his body, whereas the other one sustained less serious burns and minor wounds in his legs.”



Pictures of remnants of the incendiary weapons in the aftermath of an attack we believe was Russian -Picture by: Laith Al Fares-



Pictures of [remnants](#) of incendiary weapons in the aftermath of an attack we believe was Russian



Pictures showing the aftermath of a fire and damages in a house in the middle of Sarageb city in the aftermath of an attack we believe was Russian using [incendiary weapons](#)

Idlib city, Sunday, August 7, 2016

Fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian used [incendiary weapons](#) that dropped in the schoolyard of Haroun Al Rashid school in the western parts of the city. The city is under the joint control of armed opposition factions and Fateh Al Sham Front.

Idlib city, Sunday, August 7, 2016

Fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian used incendiary weapons to target the high education building at the university administration "Idlib University" in the western parts of Idlib city, which resulted in moderate damages. The city is under the joint control of armed opposition factions and Fateh Al Sham Front.



Idlib city, Monday, August 29, 2016

Fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian carried out two airstrikes; one of which were using incendiary weapons. The airstrikes targeted the specialized surgical hospital building. The bombardment resulted in heavy damages to the building and equipment, which, in result, rendered the hospital out of commission temporarily. Additionally, an ambulance belonging to SEMA (Syrian Expatriate Medical Association) was damaged, and its structure was slightly damaged. Also, an ambulance belonging to the relief and development organization was damaged.

[Picture](#) showing the destruction in the specialized surgical hospital after a bombardment we believe is Russian

[Picture](#) showing a container loaded with incendiary weapons that was dropped by warplanes we believe are Russian

Binnesh city, Friday, September 2, 2016

Fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian used [incendiary weapons](#) to target residential houses in the eastern neighborhood of the city. The city is under the joint control of armed opposition factions and Fateh Al Sham Front.

Saraqeb city, Saturday, September 3, 2016

Fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian used incendiary weapons to [target](#) the industrial area in the eastern neighborhood of the city. The city is under the joint control of armed opposition factions and Fateh Al Sham Front.

[Video](#) showing remnants of incendiary weapons in the aftermath of an attack we believe is Russian



Bsaida village, Saturday, September 3, 2016

Fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian used incendiary weapons to [target](#) the middle of the village, which is under the joint control of armed opposition factions and Fateh Al Sham Front.



Khan Al Soboul village, Saturday, September 3, 2016

Fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian used incendiary weapons to [target](#) the middle of the [village](#) near a gas station. The town is under the joint control of armed opposition factions and Fateh Al Sham Front.

Tar'ie village, Monday, September 12, 2016

Fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian used incendiary weapons to target the farm of Tar'ie village. The village is under the joint control of armed opposition factions and Fateh Al Sham Front.



Binnesh city, Sunday, November 6, 2016

Fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian used incendiary weapons to target residential houses in the northern neighborhood and an area near Al Fou'a town. The bombardment resulted in the killing of two children. The city is under the joint control of armed opposition factions and Fateh Al Sham Front.

Victims' names

- 1- Child Jamil Ahmad Ali Basha
- 2- Child Moath Ibrahim Badawi

[Picture](#) showing remnants of incendiary weapons burning after it was dropped by fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian on Binnesh city. November 6, 2016

Jesr Al Shoghour city, Monday, November 14, 2016

Fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian used [incendiary weapons](#) to target Asmaa school in the middle of the city. The city is under the joint control of armed opposition factions and Fateh Al Sham Front.

Kourin town, Tuesday, November 22, 2016

Fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian used [incendiary weapons](#) in two airstrikes on the town. The first airstrikes targeted civilians' houses in the middle of the town, while the second airstrike targeted the western outskirts of the town. The town is under the joint control of armed opposition factions and Fateh Al Sham Front.



Ma'aret Al Nu'man city, Monday, December 5, 2016

Fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian used incendiary weapons to target [Al Qa-laa area](#) at the northwestern entrance of [Ma'aret Al Nu'man](#), which started fires. The city is under the joint control of armed opposition factions and Fateh Al Sham Front.

[Remnants of an incendiary](#) weapon container after a Russian attack on Al Qala area in Ma'aret Al Nu'man city

[Incendiary weapons remnants](#) after a Russian attack on [Al Qala area in Ma'aret Al Nu'man city](#)

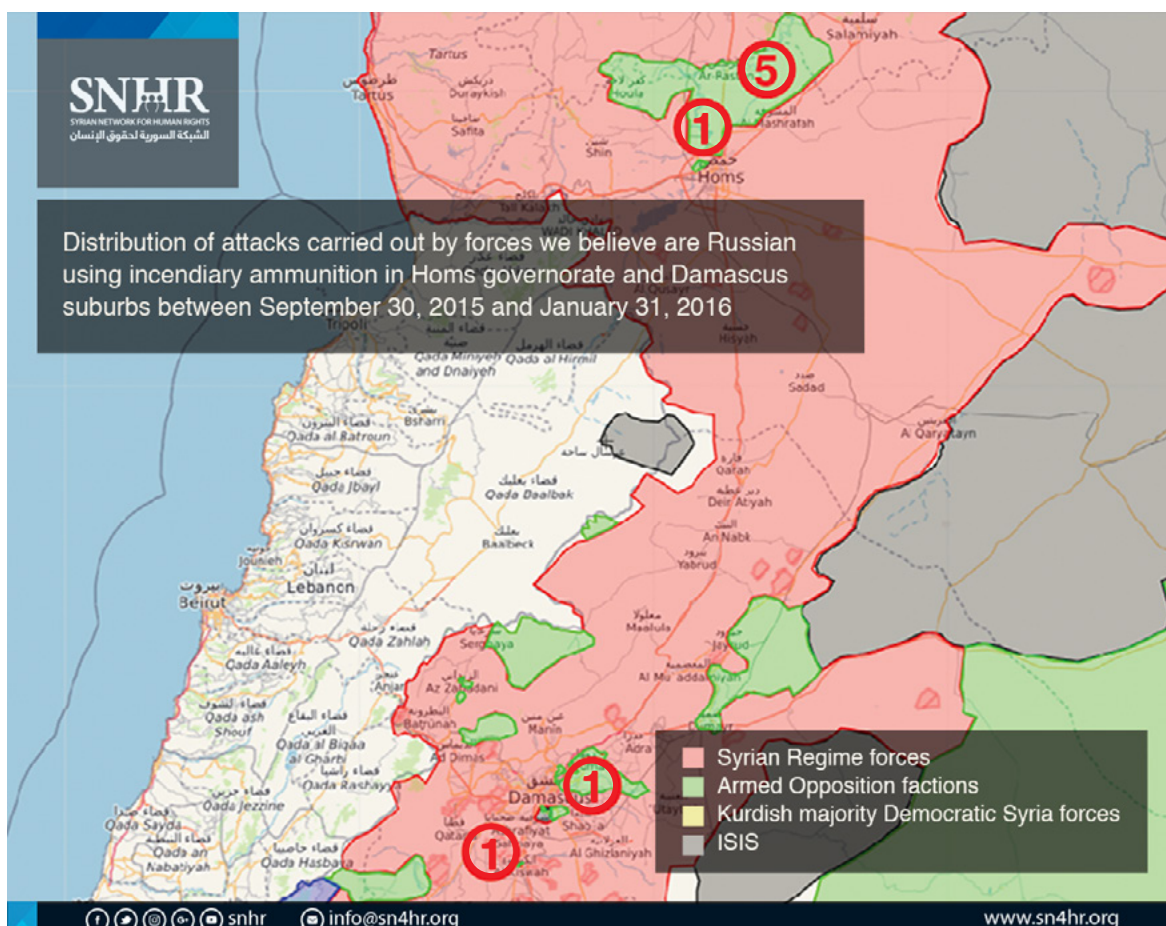
The aftermath of incendiary [weapons](#) after a Russian attack on [Al Qala area](#) in [Ma'aret Al Nu'man city](#)

Taftanaz city, Monday, December 5, 2016

Fixed-wing warplanes we believe are [Russian](#) used [incendiary weapons](#) to [target](#) several [neighborhoods](#) in the city, which resulted in two [injuries](#), and started [fires](#) in the places where they fell. The [city](#) is under the joint control of armed opposition factions and Fateh Al Sham Front.

Damascus suburbs governorate

A map illustrates the distribution of attacks carried out by forces we believe are Russian using incendiary ammunition in Homs and Damascus suburbs governorates between September 30, 2015 and January 31, 2016



Khan Al Sheih, Wednesday, August 24, 2016

Fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian used incendiary weapons to target an area near Khan Al Sheih camp, which resulted in fires and damages in the targeted area. The town is under the control of armed opposition factions with a minor presence for Fateh Al Sham Front.

SNHR spoke to Mr. Mustafa Al Dirani, a reporter for the Syrian Media Organization (SMO) in Damascus and its suburbs, via Facebook:

“The warplanes fired a missile from which fires came out and fell from the sky. The missile was exploding in the sky and burning bombs were coming out of it. These missiles don’t make a big explosion noise, but a horrifying scene and large fires. The fires lasted for nearly an hour and a half, and we couldn’t put them out with water, as oxygen increase their intensity. The bombardment targeted an area to the west of the camp called Al Iskan Al Askarie. Also, there is a mosque in the area called Al Rahman mosque. That area is completely void of any presence for the Free Army.”

“The bombardment being at night, and me not being able to see the warplanes made me believe that bombardment was by a Russian warplane.”

[Video](#) showing the moment of targeting

[Pictures](#) of an [incendiary](#) weapons container that was dropped by fixed-wing warplanes we believe were Russian



[Picture](#) of the fires that resulted from an incendiary weapons airstrike by warplanes we believe were Russian



Douma city, Monday, November 10, 2016

Fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian used incendiary weapons to target the residential neighborhoods in the middle of Douma city, which is under the control of armed opposition factions. The bombardment resulted in large fires in the residential buildings and damaged three cars approximately.

bellingcat blog posted a documentation for this [incident](#), saying that these kinds of ammunition weren't used before the Russian intervention on September 30, 2016

SNHR spoke to Mr. Younes Taha, an eyewitness, via Facebook who provided us with his account:

"I heard warplanes nearing at the middle of the night, which was followed by a small explosion. I saw balls burning in the sky that look like bunches of grapes. Three shells fell underneath the building where I live, and 10 other shells fell in the garden behind it. The shells burned the trees and cars. Also, a nearby internet café was burned as well."

"The fires lasted for two hours, and we couldn't put it out with water because it kept burning even more. A weird smell came out of the fire. The houses and cars turned into ashes."

"The area that was targeted is a civil area with no military aspects. We have never seen this kind of weapon before the Russian intervention."

[Pictures](#) showing the [damages](#) that resulted from incendiary ammunition in Douma city
-Pictures by Younes Taha-



[Pictures](#) showing [incendiary](#) ammunition that was found in [Douma](#) city-[Picture](#) by Younes Taha-

[Video](#) showing fires and incendiary ammunition after an attack we believe was Russian

Homs governorate

Deir Foul town, Monday, August 22, 2016

Fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian used [incendiary weapons](#) to target Deir Foul town, located in the northern suburbs of Homs and is under the joint control of armed opposition factions and Fateh Al Sham Front.

Al Rastan city, Friday, September 2, 2016

Fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian used incendiary weapons to [target](#) the farms of Al Rastan [city](#), which is under the control of armed opposition factions.



Al Rastan city, Saturday, September 17, 2016

Fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian used incendiary weapons to target the western farms of Al Rastan city. The bombardment started fires in amongst the olive trees. The city is under the control of armed opposition factions.

SNHR spoke to Mr. Hosam Ayoub, an eyewitness, via WhatsApp who provided us with his account:

“About 4:00 o’clock, Russian airstrikes started targeting the northern suburbs of Homs. One of the airstrikes targeted the western farms of Al Rastan city. The warplanes dropped a container loaded with bombs carrying incendiary substances that caused a big fire in an olive farm. Splinters kept scattering out from these bombs for about 15 minutes, covering large distances. We tried to extinguish the fires with water before the civil defense teams’ arrival, but this made the fires grow bigger. The civil defense members told me that this kind of fires are put out with soil or flour.”

[Picture](#) showing the damages that resulted from incendiary weapons after an attack by fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian



Al Rastan city, Tuesday, September 20, 2016

Fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian fired two missiles loaded with incendiary ammunition targeting the southern parts of the city. A number of civilians' houses, as well as shops, were damaged. In addition, a physical therapy building and equipment were damaged.

[Pictures](#) showing remnants of incendiary weapons dropped by fixed-wing Russian warplanes on Al [Rastan](#) city

Al Rastan city, Saturday, October 1, 2016

Fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian used incendiary weapons to target multiple areas in Al [Rastan](#) city. The [bombardment](#) caused fires in the [agricultural](#) lands.

SNHR spoke to Mr. Foad Shahoud via WhatsApp who provided us with his account:



“Around 1:30 AM, the Free Army observatories made a public warning about Russian warplanes soaring in the sky. A few minutes later, missiles containing burning bombs. One of the missiles fell on the southern farms of Al Rastan city. On the next day, we found the container in which the bombs, it weighted roughly 25 kilograms. There aren't any military bases in the targeted area.”

Al Rastan city, Sunday, October 2, 2016

Fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian used incendiary weapons. One of the missiles fell on the southern entrance to the city, which is under the control of armed opposition factions. The bombardment resulted in damages to six residential houses.

SNHR spoke to Mr. Mohammad Ayoub, via WhatsApp, who provided us with his account:

“Nine missiles carrying bombs that I believe were phosphorous targeted the northern suburbs of Homs after midnight. The bombardment was by Russian warplanes as the rebels' observatories announced. One of the missiles fell on the southern entrance to the city of Al Rastan, which started fires among the civilians' houses. Also, six houses were partially destroyed after the bombs fell on them. I saw about 65 remnants of the bombs as well as the container. Some of these bombs melted the same way lead melts.”



[Pictures](#) of [remnants](#) of incendiary weapons dropped by fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian

IV. Conclusions and Recommendations

Russian forces have used incendiary weapons against residential neighborhoods where civilians live. These forces didn't incorporate any measures to minimize the damages caused to civilians and civil facilities and buildings. On the contrary, they were used with no military justification, from our standpoint, as these attacks weren't followed by any land advancement. These attacks didn't involve any destruction or damages to military facilities or trenches. Therefore, Russian forces and their political leadership have violated the international humanitarian law in Syria through the use of incendiary weapons that resulted in casualties and injuries. These violations can be classified as war crimes.

Conclusions

Russian forces

Political leaders have to take every step possible to prevent the reoccurrence of these crimes and punish those who were responsible.

An independent committee should be formed to investigate these violations, and other serious violations of the international humanitarian law that were included in past reports. The findings of these investigations must be made public, and those who were responsible must be held judicially accountable.

Insure that incendiary weapons are not to be used again in residential civil areas.

Compensate the victims and their families for all the human and materials damages that they suffered. And provide medical care for the tens of civilians that were injured by Russian incendiary weapons.

Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic
Investigate the incidents included in this report, and add it to the upcoming report that will address the violations in Aleppo governorate once they are verified in accordance with the Commission's methodology.

Include the rest of the governorates in upcoming reports, and call on the Russian government to uphold its responsibility, compensate the victims, and hold the perpetrators accountable.



The international community, especially the European Union
Higher forms of punishments must be enforced on Russia given the enormity of the crimes and violations that are being perpetrated by Russian forces in Syria. Because the economic and political sanctions are weak, Russia continues to commit more crimes as it is not paying for the crimes and interference in Syria even in the slightest.

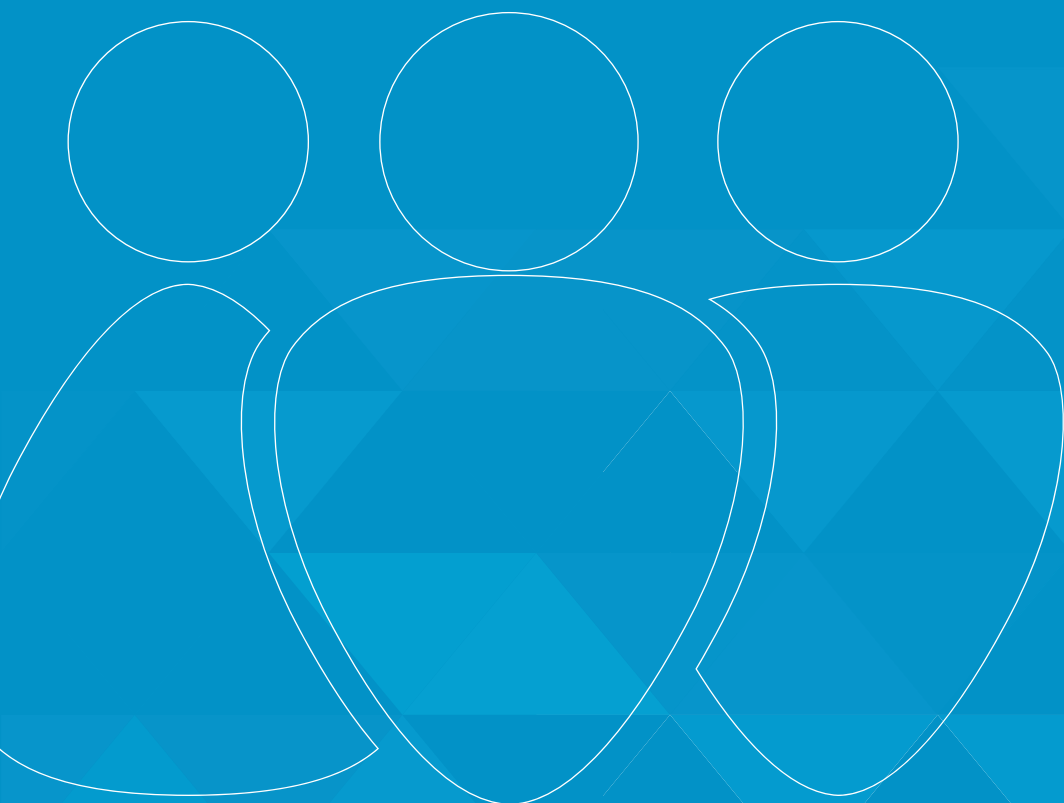
Security Council

Adopt a Resolution condemning the excessive use of incendiary weapons in Syria that would address irreversible mechanisms and serious political and economic sanctions that are to be imposed on anyone who would breach the Resolution.

Acknowledgment and Condolences

Our most sincere thanks and appreciation to all the residents and media activists who majorly contributed to this report. Our most heartfelt condolences go out for the victims' families.





@snhr



Info@sn4hr.org

www.sn4hr.org

