

Flygtningenævnets baggrundsmateriale

Bilagsnr.:	380
Land:	Syrien
Kilde:	LIFOS.
Titel:	Syrien. FSA-aktiviteter i Azaz, brott mot mänskliga rättigheter av brigad inom FSA (Omar Elbas-brigaden). Azaz före och efter FSA.
Udgivet:	30. september 2013
Optaget på baggrundsmaterialet:	29. oktober 2013

2013-09-30

Fråga-svar

Syrien. FSA- aktiviteter i Azaz, brott mot mänskliga rättigheter av brigad inom FSA (Omar Elbas- brigaden), Azaz före och efter FSA.

Fråga

Inkom 2013-09-06

1. Landinformation och utvecklingen i Syrien och FSA.
2. Har någon brigad (Omar Elbas- brigaden) under FSA gjort sig skyldiga till grova överträdelser av mänskliga rättigheter mot civila och regimlojala?
3. Vad hände i Azaz innan det att FSA tagit kontroll över staden och efter att de förlorat kontrollen? Vilka kontrollerar staden nu (brigader)?

Svar: sammanställning av information från olika källor

1. Senaste nytt om utvecklingen i Syrien.

Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) (2013):

“...the conflict situation on the ground in Syria has continued to deteriorate, with heavy clashes between the Free Syria Army (FSA) and GoS forces and more frequent clashes between the FSA and extremist groups, though a ceasefire was reached in one area, suggesting that battalions under the main umbrella groups do not always follow the same ideologies or military tactics.

Fighting also raged between Kurdish armed groups and Al-Qaeda linked groups in the bid for the strategic and oil-rich north.”

“In September, fighting in Aleppo city has been less widespread than in previous months. Clashes and shelling have been concentrated in the east and southeast countryside (Kwaires, Dayr Hafir, Rasm El Abbod, Khan Al Assal) and in the north (Balleramoun, AlKindi Hospital, Byanoun, and around Aleppo Central Prison). ISIS [The Islamaic State of Iraq] gained control of Al Bab city after expelling the Free Syrian Army (FSA) fighters based there. On 8 September, 13 women standing in line in front of a bakery were shot in Al Akramieh neighbourhood. In an attempt to infiltrate Western Aleppo, the FSA shelled New Aleppo. Despite the Syrian Armed Forces (SAF) re-gaining control of Khanasir, which was taken by the opposition in August, the road for Western Aleppo is still inaccessible. Clashes between the Kurdish popular protection units (YPG) and the FSA in the Kurdish neighbourhoods of Sheikh Maqsoud and Ashrafiyye resumed in September, with the YPG making progress.”

2. Har någon brigad, Omar Elbas- brigaden gjort sig skyldiga till grova brott mot mänskliga rättigheter?

Ingen information har hittats om Omar Elbas- brigaden i någon av de källor jag sökt i och på de olika namnformer som finns. I övrigt om grova brott mot mänskliga rättigheter begångna av FSA, se svar nedan;

Human Right Watch (2013):

“The rebel Free Syrian Army (FSA) themselves have unlawfully contributed to civilian casualties by deploying headquarters and other military objectives in densely populated areas.”

Human Right Watch (2012):

”... Human Rights Watch has reason to believe that FSA fighters and prison authorities had also tortured or mistreated at least some of the six detainees who denied during their interviews that they had been abused. “Sameer,” whom the FSA arrested in the beginning of August, told Human Rights Watch. The FSA fighters

who caught me first brought me to their base. I spent a night there, together with one other prisoner. They beat me a lot, with a wooden stick, on the soles of my feet. It lasted for about two hours. First, I refused to confess, but then I had to. Once I confessed, they stopped beating me.”

“A detainee who had been held in a school told Human Rights Watch that FSA fighters there had beaten him regularly for 25 days before he was transferred to the detention facility where Human Rights Watch interviewed him: They beat me every two or three days. They tied me to a cross with my face down. Five guys started beating me, using cables. The first time they hit me for about an hour. The third time they hit me from early in the morning until noon. They also hit me in the face. The FSA fighters wanted me to confess to having killed several people with a knife. Eventually I confessed because they beat me, although I have not killed anybody. The FSA fighters said that they would kill me if I said something about the torture. Bruises on the detainee’s body were consistent with his account and still visible several weeks after he said the beating had taken place. The detainee also showed Human Rights Watch a blackened fingernail on his right hand, which he said resulted from trying to protect himself from the beating. Another detainee said that FSA fighters had beaten him when he was held in a school for four or five hours before he was transferred to the detention facility where Human Rights Watch interviewed him: They accused us of being *shabeeha* (pro-government militia). They beat us and hit us with sticks. We were blindfolded so I don’t know exactly how many they were, but they were many.”

3. Vilka kontrollerar Azaz nu?

Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) (2013):

“On 18 September, after heavy clashes with the FSA, ISIS [Islamic State of Iraq] took control of Azaz city in northern Aleppo near the Turkish border in an attempt to control the Bab Al Salamah border crossing, a strategic route for humanitarian aid, weapons and fighters from Turkey. Clashes between ISIS and FSA battalions have expanded this month to Andan, a village in western Azaz, Tabqa village in Ar-Raqqa with the assassination of two new FSA leaders. Opposition infighting began on 22 September between ISIS and Jabhat Al Nusra along

Syria's northern and eastern borders in Ar-Raqqa, Al-Hasakeh and western Aleppo.”

The Daily Star (2013):

”Fighters from the Islamic State of Iraq and Greater Syria (ISIS) stormed the town of Azaz, 5 kilometers from the Syrian-Turkish border and killed at least five Free Syrian Army members, the activists said, adding 100 people were arrested.”

The Times (2013):

“Jihadist rebels linked to al-Qaeda yesterday seized a town close to the Turkish border from the Western-backed Free Syrian Army. The town of Azaz, which is 2 miles inside Syrian territory, was captured by the hardline Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIS). At least five members of the Free Syrian Army were reported killed and more than 100 people were arrested. Azaz had been in the hands of the Free Syrian Army since it drove out government forces in May 2012.”

The Washington Times (2013):

“Extremist and more moderate rebel groups fighting Mr. Assad's forces have increasingly turned on each other in recent months. Last week, fighters from the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant defeated units of the **Free Syrian Army** and seized control of **Azaz**, a strategic town close to the border with Turkey.”

“Other members of the new rebel alliance include the Tawheed Brigade, which is thought to be the largest rebel group in the northern city of Aleppo, and the 19th Division, which identifies itself as part of the **Free Syrian Army**.”

UN General Assembly (2013):

“20. In the afternoon of 15 August, the town of Azaz was subjected to heavy aerial bombardment from two fighter jets. The aerial bombardment caused the deaths of tens of civilians, many of whom were children and elderly persons. Dozens of residential homes were destroyed. The house of the Danoun family was directly hit, killing 20 family members.”

”...According to interviewees who were residents of Azaz and who witnessed the bombardment on 15 August, the FSA had occupied two positions in Azaz, the former prison building and the former office of the Ba’ath Party.”

Konsulterade källor

Sökning har gjorts utan resultat i följande källor om Omar Elbas- brigaden:

Dow Jones Factiva
Ecoi
Google
Landinfo
Lifos
RefWorld

Denna sammanställning av information/länkar är baserad på informationssökningar gjorda under en begränsad tid. Den är sammanställd utifrån noggrant utvalda och allmänt tillgängliga informationskällor. Alla använda källor refereras. All information som presenteras, med undantag av obestridda/uppenbara fakta, har dubbelkontrollerats om inget annat anges. Sammanställningen gör inte anspråk på att vara uttömmande och bör inte tillmätas exklusivt bevisvärde i samband med avgörandet av ett enskilt ärende. Informationen i sammanställningen återspeglar inte nödvändigtvis Migrationsverkets officiella ståndpunkt i en viss fråga och det finns ingen avsikt att genom sammanställningen göra politiska ställningstaganden. Refererade dokument bör läsas i sitt sammanhang.

Källförteckning

Human Right Watch, *Death from the skies. Deliberate and indiscriminate air strikes on civilians (Syrien)*, 2013-04-10 (Lifos 30142)

Human Right Watch, *Syria: End Opposition Use of Torture, Executions*, 2012-09-17 (Lifos 28498)

Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), *Regional Analysis Syria*, 2013-09-26 (Lifos 30841)

The Daily Star: Lebanon News, *Jihadists overrun FSA to seize Azaz*, 2013-09-19
<http://www.dailystar.com.lb/News/Middle-East/2013/Sep-19/231787-jihadists-overrun-fsa-to-seize-azaz.ashx#axzz2gN4t9FC1> (2013-09-27)

The Times, *ISIS fighters seize Azaz from FSA*, 2013-09-19
<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/world/middleeast/article3873028.ece>
(hämtad 2013-09-27)

The Washington Times, *Alliance calls for Islamist new Syria; Hits U.S effort for strong democracy*, 2013-09-26, (hämtad ur prenumerationsdatabasen Factiva 2013-09-27)

UN General Assembly, *Report of the independent international commission of inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic**, 2013-05-02
http://www.ecoi.net/file_upload/1930_1363180450_a-hrc-22-59-en.pdf

