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J. Ditz 22.12.2017

Over 9,000 Civilians Killed in Battle of Mosul

There hasn't been a lot of good analysis of the civilian toll of the 2016-2017 battle of Mosul before, with the Pentagon only admitting to a trivial number of deaths over many months. The Associated Press, however, <u>has finally tried to come up with figures</u>, and <u>unsurprisingly they're a lot higher than</u> previously stated.

The AP analysts <u>came up with between</u> 9,000 and 11,000 civilians killed in the <u>course</u> of the fight, spanning some 10 months from October to the following July. Data came from several independent sources, including Airwars.

The Iraqi government claimed only 1,260



civilians killed in the entire battle, while the US-led coalition put the figure at 326. The coalition slammed the new figure, despite strong evidence behind it, including names of people from the morgue, saying it was "irresponsible" to focus on the deaths.

Col. Thomas Veale said if anything, the thousands killed saved lives in the long run because if the US hadn't killed all those people, the terrorists would've won and produced "decades of suffering."