

Syrian or Russian airstrike blamed for 26 deaths near Aleppo, mostly schoolchildren

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More than two dozen people, mostly schoolchildren, were killed in Syria Wednesday as the result of airstrikes ordered by President Bashar Assad's regime, witnesses and rescuers said.

The air raid struck targets Wednesday in the town of Haas in Idlib province in northwest Syria, which is located about 35 miles southwest of the contested city of Aleppo.

At least 26 people were killed by the strikes, including 22 children who were attending school in the area at the time of the attack. The child toll was reported by the United Nations' children's charity UNICEF.

"This latest atrocity may be the deadliest attack on a school since the war began more than five years ago," UNICEF executive director Anthony Lake said.

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