

Combined Joint Task Force

Operation Inherent Resolve APO AE 09306

May 03, 2016 Release # 20160503-02 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Military Strikes Continue Against ISIL Terrorists in Syria and Iraq

SOUTHWEST ASIA- On May 2, coalition military forces continued to attack ISIL terrorists in Syria and Iraq. In Syria, coalition military forces conducted four strikes using fighter and remotely piloted aircraft against ISIL targets. Additionally in Iraq, Coalition military forces conducted 25 strikes coordinated with and in support of the Government of Iraq using rocket artillery, ground-attack, fighter, bomber, and remotely piloted aircraft against ISIL targets.

The following is a summary of the strikes conducted against ISIL since the last press release:

Syria

- Near Al Shadaddi, one strike struck an ISIL tactical unit.
- Near Ar Raqqah, two strikes struck an ISIL finance center and an ISIL weapons storage facility.
- Near Mar'a, one strike struck an ISIL tactical unit.

Iraq

- Near Al Baghdadi, one strike destroyed an ISIL vehicle and an ISIL weapons cache.
- Near Albu Hayat, one strike destroyed and ISIL vehicle.
- Near Ar Rutbah, one strike struck an ISIL tactical unit.
- Near Bashir, one strike destroyed an ISIL tactical vehicle and four ISIL tunnel entrances.
- Near Bayji, two strikes destroyed four ISIL fighting positions and two ISIL tunnel entrances and denied ISIL access to terrain.
- Near Fallujah, six strikes struck a large ISIL tactical unit and destroyed five ISIL fighting positions, three ISIL tunnel entrances, two ISIL staging areas, an ISIL bed down location, an ISIL-used bridge, an ISIL medium machine gun and an ISIL anti-aircraft artillery piece.
- Near Hit, one strike struck an ISIL tactical unit and destroyed two ISIL fighting positions and an ISIL heavy machine gun, and suppressed an ISIL mortar position.
- Near Mosul, seven strikes struck six separate ISIL tactical units and destroyed two ISIL vehicles, three ISIL assembly areas, three ISIL weapons caches, an ISIL mortar system, an ISIL rocket rail, and suppressed an ISIL mortar position.

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- Near Qayyarah, four strikes struck a large ISIL tactical unit and destroyed 19 ISIL rocket rails, an ISIL mortar position, and denied ISIL access to terrain.
- Near Ramadi, one strike destroyed an ISIL fighting position and an ISIL vehicle.

Strike assessments are based on initial reports. All aircraft returned to base safely.

A strike, as defined in the CJTF releases, means one or more kinetic events that occur in roughly the same geographic location to produce a single, sometimes cumulative effect for that location. So having a single aircraft deliver a single weapon against a lone ISIL vehicle is one strike, but so is multiple aircraft delivering dozens of weapons against a group of buildings and vehicles and weapon systems in a compound, for example, having the cumulative effect of making that facility (or facilities) harder or impossible to use. Accordingly, CJTF-OIR does not report the number or type of aircraft employed in a strike, the number of munitions dropped in each strike, or the number of individual munition impact points against a target.

Ground-based artillery fired in counter-fire or in fire support to maneuver roles are not classified as a strike as defined by CJTF-OIR.

The strikes were conducted as part of Operation Inherent Resolve, the operation to eliminate the ISIL terrorist group and the threat they pose to Iraq, Syria, and the wider international community.

The destruction of ISIL targets in Syria and Iraq further limits the group's ability to project terror and conduct operations. Coalition nations which have conducted strikes in Iraq include Australia, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, France, Jordan, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom, and the United States. Coalition nations which have conducted strikes in Syria include Australia, Bahrain, Canada, France, Jordan, the Netherlands, Saudi Arabia, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

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