

## Combined Joint Task Force

Operation Inherent Resolve APO AE 09306

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## Military Strikes Continue Against ISIL Terrorists in Syria and Iraq

**SOUTHWEST ASIA-** On June 18, coalition military forces continued to attack ISIL terrorists in Syria and Iraq. In Syria, coalition military forces conducted 16 strikes using bomber, attack, fighter, and remotely piloted aircraft against ISIL targets. Additionally in Iraq, coalition military forces conducted 18 strikes coordinated with and in support of the Government of Iraq using rocket artillery and bomber, ground-attack, fighter, 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 Abu Kamal, one strike destroyed three ISIL oil well heads.
- Near Ar Raqqah, three strikes struck two ISIL-used bridges and an ISIL staging area.
- Near Ayn Isa, one strike destroyed two ISIL rocket systems.
- Near Dayr Az Zawr, one strike struck an ISIL tactical unit.
- Near Manbij, nine strikes struck nine separate ISIL tactical units and destroyed 11 ISIL fighting positions and an ISIL vehicle.
- Near Mar'a, one strike destroyed an ISIL vehicle and an ISIL heavy machine gun.

#### <u>Iraq</u>

- Near Al Baghdadi, two strikes struck an ISIL bed down facility and an ISIL staging area and destroyed an ISIL bunker.
- Near Bayji, two strikes struck two separate ISIL tactical units and destroyed an ISIL fighting
  position, three ISIL vehicles, an ISIL heavy machine gun, an ISIL recoilless rifle, and an ISIL
  mortar system.
- Near Fallujah, four strikes struck three separate ISIL tactical units and destroyed 22 ISIL fighting positions, two ISIL vehicles, 10 ISIL heavy machine guns, seven ISIL light machine guns, an ISIL recoilless rifle, three ISIL rocket propelled grenade systems, and an ISIL vehicle borne improvised explosive device (VBIED) and denied ISIL access to terrain.
- Near Kisik, one strike struck an ISIL tactical unit and an ISIL assembly area.

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- Near Mosul, one strike struck an ISIL oil headquarters.
- Near Qayyarah, five strikes struck an ISIL tactical unit and destroyed three ISIL mortar systems, an ISIL assembly area, an ISIL weapons cache, and an ISIL command and control node and denied ISIL access to terrain.
- Near Ramadi, two strikes struck two separate ISIL tactical units and destroyed an ISIL fighting
  position, an ISIL vehicle, an ISIL VBIED, an ISIL boat, and an ISIL light machine gun and
  damaged a separate ISIL boat.
- Near Tal Afar, one strike struck two separate ISIL foreign fighter command posts.

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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