

# OPERATION INHERENT RESOLVE Public Affairs Office

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# **One Mission, Many Nations**

**Highlights from Around the Coalition** 

**SOUTHWEST ASIA** – Across Iraq and Syria, the Combined Joint Task Force-Operation Inherent Resolve works by, with, and through our partner forces to ensure an enduring defeat of Daesh (ISIS). Training, mentoring, advising, and assisting are key components for building our Security partners' capacity to defeat Daesh remnants and create regional stability. Highlights from around the Coalition are included below:

- French, Australian and New Zealand instructors partner to conduct training for Iraqi soldiers
- DANCON brings Coalition forces together for 22km march
- Australian brothers in ADF deploy for separate missions, reunite in Iraq
- Spanish soldiers train Iraqi troops on M74 light mortars to combat against Daesh
- French host grueling Spartan Race—Four Coalition nations participate

#### TG Taji, TF Monsabert partner for first time to conduct M4 training course

Australian and New Zealand instructors with Task Group Taji 9, partnered with French instructors from Task Force Monsabert, to conduct an M4 rifle training course for the 22nd Brigade, 6th Iraqi Army Division on October 8, 2019.

This course was the first time these three Coalition nations partnered together for a training opportunity and provided a joint approach to the Advise and Assist mission for Combined Joint Task Force-Operation Inherent Resolve. During the training, 30 Iraqi Special Forces were taught vital skills and best practice with the M4 rifle to a key weapon in the Iraqi Security Forces' fight against Daesh.

(Source: Op Chammal Public Affairs Office)(Photos courtesy of Op Chammal)





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#### **Coalition members participate in Danish Contingent March**

Coalition forces from several of the more than 30 nations deployed in Iraq as part of the Combined Joint Task Force Operation Inherent Resolve participated in a Danish Contingent March at Al Asad Air Base, Oct. 13, 2019.

The march is a social and physical readiness event that invites troops allied with Denmark, to participate in a 22k loaded march. The Danish Army held the first DANCON march while deployed in Cyprus in 1972. The event was originally used as a test of soldiers' physical fitness but since then the DANCON March has evolved into a tough but rewarding mass participation social event for deployed troops.

(Source: CJTF-OIR Public Affairs Office/ <a href="https://www.dvidshub.net/image/5835164/al-asad-air-base-danish-contingency-march">https://www.dvidshub.net/image/5835164/al-asad-air-base-danish-contingency-march</a>)(U.S. Army Photo by Spc. Zachary Myers)







### Australian brothers serving reunite in Iraq

Two brothers serving in the Australian Defence Force recently reunited at the Taji Military Complex, 20km north of Baghdad.

Australian Army Sgt Scott Cowan and Royal Australian Air Force Squadron Leader Ben Cowan, from North Lakes, Queensland, last saw each other on Christmas Eve 2018 and subsequently deployed to Iraq on separate operations.

Sgt. Cowan is deployed as trainer with Task Group Taji 9 as part of the international coalition's building partner capacity mission with the Iraqi Security Forces. Squadron Leader Cowen is a NATO Mission Iraq embed at Forward Operating Base Union III in Baghdad as a training systems officer under the US-led Operation Steadfast.

"It's good to know we are undertaking different roles in separate locations to support the same mission," Sergeant Cowan said.

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(Source: TG Taji Public Affairs Office/ <a href="https://news.defence.gov.au/people/brothers-reunite-iraq">https://news.defence.gov.au/people/brothers-reunite-iraq</a>) (U.S. Army Reserve photo by Cpl. Tamara Cummings)





#### Spanish soldiers conduct live fire mortar range training with ISF

Spanish soldiers with Task Force Besmaya trained Iraqi soldiers during a live fire mortar range at the Besmaya Range Complex, Iraq, Oct. 9, 2019.

The training focused on proper aiming and operation of the M74 light mortar, a key support weapon for the Iraqi Security Forces in the fight against Daesh throughout Iraq. The Spanish soldiers also made sure that proper safety procedures were emphasized in all aspects of training Iraqi soldiers.

(Source: CJTF-OIR Public Affairs Office) (Portions of photos were blurred for operational security/U.S. Army photo by Spc. Brandon Best)







#### French TF Monsabert hosts Spartan Race in Baghdad

French Task Force Monsabert hosted a Spartan Race in Baghdad, Iraq, for multiple Coalition nations.

A total of 120 participants made up 21 competing teams with personnel from four different countries. The race

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consisted of a 2.5K run with a series of obstacles along the way including crawling under barbed wire, wall climbing and sand bag carries.

The event offered the opportunity for several nations to work together to overcome obstacles and move towards the same goal.

(Source: Op Chammal Public Affairs Office) (Photos courtesy of Op Chammal)





