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Military Airstrikes Continue Against ISIL Terrorists in Syria and Iraq

SOUTHWEST ASIA – Coalition military forces continued to attack ISIL terrorists in Syria and Iraq June 26. In Syria, coalition military forces conducted 14 airstrikes using attack, bomber, fighter and remotely piloted aircraft. Separately in Iraq, coalition military forces conducted seven airstrikes approved by the Iraqi Ministry of Defense using attack, fighter and remotely piloted aircraft against ISIL terrorists.

"Coalition airstrikes maintain pressure on Daesh across northern Syria, including their stronghold in Ar Raqqah, Syria," said Brig. Gen. Thomas Weidley, CJTF-OIR chief of staff. "Daesh's retreat at Tal Abyad, combined with defeats across northern Syria by anti-ISIL forces, provides an assessment about Daesh credibility as an effective conventional fighting force."

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

<u>Syria</u>

- Near Al Hasakah, two airstrikes struck an ISIL tactical unit, destroying two ISIL fighting positions, an ISIL tank and an ISIL weapons cache.
- Near Aleppo, one airstrike struck an ISIL assembly area.
- Near Ar Raqqah, five airstrikes struck three ISIL tactical units, destroying five ISIL excavators, an ISIL vehicle and an ISIL remotely piloted aircraft.
- Near Kobani, four airstrikes struck three ISIL tactical units, destroying two ISIL boats, an ISIL fighting position and an ISIL vehicle.
- Near Tal Abyad, two airstrikes struck an ISIL tactical unit, destroying an ISIL vehicle.

<u>Iraq</u>

- Near Baghdadi, one airstrike destroyed an ISIL excavator.
- Near Al Huwayjah, two airstrikes struck two ISIL tactical units, destroying two ISIL buildings, an ISIL cache, an ISIL heavy machine gun and an ISIL vehicle.
- Near Bayji, one airstrike struck an ISIL vehicle.
- Near Habbaniyah, one airstrike destroyed an ISIL mortar tube.
- Near Tal Afar, two airstrikes struck an ISIL tactical unit and an ISIL heavy machine gun firing position, destroying an ISIL building.

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

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, the region and the wider

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

Correction to the June 23 airstrike release; in which we reported there was a total of 14 airstrikes conducted in Iraq. Due to an administrative error there was only 13 airstrikes conducted in Iraq. We apologize for the error.

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