



Combined Joint Task Force

Operation Inherent Resolve
APO AE 09306

December 20, 2015
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Military Strikes Continue Against ISIL Terrorists in Syria and Iraq

SOUTHWEST ASIA- On Dec. 19, coalition military forces continued to attack ISIL terrorists in Syria and Iraq. In Iraq, coalition military forces conducted 14 strikes coordinated with and in support of the Government of Iraq using attack, fighter, bomber, and ground-attack aircraft against ISIL targets.

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

Iraq

- Near Baiji, two strikes struck an ISIL tactical unit and destroyed an ISIL heavy machine gun, three ISIL fighting positions, an ISIL cave and cave entrance, and damaged six ISIL fighting positions.
- Near Fallujah, two strikes destroyed an ISIL vehicle borne improvised explosive device (VBIED) facility and denied ISIL access to terrain.
- Near Mosul, six strikes struck two separate ISIL tactical units and destroyed four ISIL excavators, an ISIL checkpoint, and suppressed an ISIL sniper position.
- Near Ramadi, three strikes struck an ISIL tactical unit and destroyed an ISIL VBIED facility, an ISIL rocket position, two ISIL buildings, an ISIL tactical vehicle, and an ISIL tanker.
- Near Sinjar, one strike suppressed an ISIL mortar position.

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.

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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, Netherlands, the United Kingdom, and the United States. Coalition nations which have conducted strikes in Syria include Australia, Bahrain, Canada, France, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

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