

## **Combined Joint Task Force**

Operation Inherent Resolve APO AE 09306

May 15, 2016 Release # 20160515-01 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

# Military Strikes Continue Against ISIL Terrorists in Syria and Iraq

**SOUTHWEST ASIA**- On May 14, coalition military forces continued to attack ISIL terrorists in Syria and Iraq. In Syria, coalition military forces conducted seven strikes using attack, fighter, and remotely piloted aircraft against ISIL targets. Additionally in Iraq, coalition military forces conducted nine strikes coordinated with and in support of the Government of Iraq using rocket artillery and bomber and fighter aircraft against ISIL targets.

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

### **Syria**

- Near Al Shadaddi, two strikes struck an ISIL tactical unit and destroyed an ISIL vehicle.
- Near Manbij, four strikes struck two separate ISIL tactical units and destroyed an ISIL mortar system, six ISIL artillery pieces, and an ISIL vehicle.
- Near Mar'a, one strike struck an ISIL tactical unit and destroyed an ISIL fighting position.

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

- Near Mosul, four strikes struck three separate ISIL tactical units and destroyed an ISIL fighting position, an ISIL assembly area, and three ISIL vehicles.
- Near Qayyarah, two strikes struck an ISIL vehicle borne improvised explosive device (VBIED) storage facility and destroyed two ISIL boats.
- Near Ramadi, one strike struck an ISIL tactical unit and destroyed two ISIL fighting positions, an ISIL supply cache, two ISIL rockets, an ISIL vehicle, and two ISIL heavy machine guns.
- Near Sinjar, one strike struck an ISIL tactical unit and destroyed two ISIL fighting positions.
- Near Waleed, one strike struck an ISIL tactical unit and destroyed an ISIL vehicle, an ISIL mortar system, and three ISIL weapons storage facilities.

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

#### -MORE-

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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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