



OIR IN BRIEF

The 23rd quarterly report submitted by the Lead Inspector General for Operation Inherent Resolve (OIR) summarizes the quarter's key events and oversight of the U.S. mission to defeat ISIS and train, advise, and assist local partners to improve regional stability.

CJTF-OIR Transitions to Phase IV

pp. 10–14, 27

- The Coalition **shifted** from training and assisting to **advising and enabling** Iraqi Security Forces (ISF) and Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF).
- Coalition established the **Military Advisory Group** in Iraq to advise and enable the ISF.
- The increasing capability of the ISF and SDF to conduct operations against ISIS with **little to no Coalition support** contributed to the timing of transition.

ISIS Remains a Low-level Insurgency

pp. 15–18

- CJTF-OIR: ISIS maintained a **low-level insurgency** in Iraq and Syria, continued to pose a global threat.
- **ISIS revenue reduced** “to a trickle” as more than 65 countries have arrested ISIS financial facilitators.

ISIS Attacks Security, Religious Targets in Iraq, SDF and Pro-regime Forces in Syria

pp. 18–24

- **In Iraq**, ISIS targeted the ISF, Shia groups, and religious gatherings to foment ethno-sectarian unrest.
- ISIS attacks mostly involved **IEDs and small-arms fire**, with some mortars and rocket attacks.
- **In Syria**, ISIS focused attacks in Dayr az Zawr and conducted larger attacks against pro-regime forces.

Partner Forces Increase Operations Against ISIS

pp. 25, 49

- CJTF-OIR: ISF **counter-ISIS operations** increased pressure, caused decrease in ISIS-claimed attacks.
- The ISF cleared more than 250 Diyala villages in the “**Heroes of Iraq**” campaign; more than 470 additional operations conducted, most without Coalition air support.
- In Syria, the SDF increased **counter-ISIS operations** after ISIS activity indicated risk of “localized resurgence.”

Coalition Departs from Bases, Announces Troop Reduction

pp. 11–12

- The Coalition **departed from** the Besmaya Training Complex and Camp Taji in Iraq.
- The U.S. began **reducing troop numbers in Iraq** from 5,200 to 3,000.

U.S. Deploys Mechanized Vehicles to Syria

pp. 59–61

- The U.S. deployed **Bradley fighting vehicles** after increased Russian military aggression in northeastern Syria.
- USCENTCOM: **Russia trying to pressure** Coalition forces to depart from Syria.
- Russian aggression increased after the SDF signed an **oil agreement** with a U.S. company to help refine and market oil.

U.S. Threatens to Close Embassy if Iraq Fails to Stop Iranian-backed Attacks

pp. 32–35

- Iranian-backed militias **increased rocket and IED** attacks on Coalition facilities and supply lines.
- Secretary of State Mike Pompeo **threatened to close the U.S. Embassy** in Baghdad if Iraq does not take action to strengthen security.

U.S. Announces New Humanitarian Aid to Iraq at Strategic Dialogue Talks

pp. 14, 47

- U.S. and Iraqi officials held a new round of **Strategic Dialogue** talks in Washington, D.C.
- During the talks, U.S. announced nearly **\$204 million** in additional humanitarian aid for Iraq.

Oversight and Investigations

pp. 80

- Lead IG and partner agencies completed **8** reports related to OIR; **28** projects are ongoing, **16** planned.
- Lead IG and partner agencies completed **14** investigations, initiated **2**, coordinated on **100**.