



OIR IN BRIEF

The 28th 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 enable partner forces in Iraq and Syria to defeat ISIS in designated areas of Iraq and Syria and set conditions for long-term security cooperation.

OIR Transitions to Advise, Assist, and Enable Role

pp. 10–11

- **U.S. forces with a combat role departed Iraq** ahead of the December 31 deadline.
- The transition included **repositioning U.S. personnel** to locations outside of Iraq, moving equipment from Iraq; **transferring military vehicles** to the Iraqi Security Forces (ISF); and **deploying new Coalition units** to advise, assist, and enable the ISF.

ISIS Attack Claims Decrease

pp. 20–27

- ISIS claimed fewer attacks in Iraq and Syria but **remained entrenched in remote, rugged areas**.
- In Iraq, **ISIS provoked deadly sectarian violence** and increased attacks in disputed areas.
- In Syria, **ISIS attacked** pro-Syrian regime forces; ISIS-related violence, indoctrination, and recruitment continued at the al-Hol camp.
- In November, the SDF, with Coalition support, **foiled an ISIS attack** on a detention facility in Hasakah governorate.

Iraq Holds Successful Parliamentary Elections

pp. 51–53

- Candidates associated with **nationalist Shia cleric Muqtada al-Sadr gained seats**, while the Iran-aligned Fatah Alliance lost seats.
- The DoS described the election as “technically sound”; negotiations to form a **new government** continued.
- CJTF-OIR praised the ISF's performance in **securing the elections**; following days of post-election protests, the Iraqi Prime Minister survived an **assassination attempt**.

Humanitarian Assistance Challenges Remain

pp. 63, 67, 92–93

- **Bureaucratic obstacles** in Iraq and violence in Syria impeded humanitarian operations.
- U.S. Government-supported humanitarian assistance implementers adjusted programs to accommodate **COVID-19 restrictions** on travel and social gatherings.

Partner Forces Demonstrate Improvement, Continue to Require Support

pp. 33–48, 70–78

- Iraqi Security Forces (ISF) ground forces conducted most of their patrols and clearance operations **without Coalition support**, including ISR collection.
- The **ISF still needs to improve** its logistics, command and control, target development, and ISR collection capabilities.
- The ISF and the Kurdish Security Forces **signed an agreement to create joint brigades** in disputed areas; combined forces conducted a joint operation after an uptick in ISIS attacks.
- The pace of Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF) **counter-ISIS operations** fell; the SDF continued to rely on the Coalition for all ISR collection.
- Iranian forces and Iran-aligned militias posed a threat to Coalition personnel and local partners in Syria; in October, **unmanned aerial vehicles** targeted the At Tanf Garrison, which houses U.S. personnel.

Repatriation and Reintegration of Displaced Persons Continues

pp. 57–60, 85–87

- The Iraqi government **repatriated 128 families** from the **al-Hol camp**; the situation for displaced persons in Iraq remained precarious.
- The U.S. Government continued to support efforts to **reintegrate** Iraqi and Syrian residents of the al-Hol and Roj camps safely into their home communities; **repatriation** of other foreign nationals at the camps also continued.
- USAID continued to support health, protection, food assistance, shelter, and other **assistance to displaced persons** in formal and informal IDP sites in Iraq.

Lead IG Oversight

pp. 94–107

- The Lead IG and partner agencies **completed 10 reports related to OIR**.
- These reports address various topics, including efforts to prevent **law of war violations** and **contract and program management**.