



OIR IN BRIEF

The 38th 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—including the Iraqi Security Forces (ISF) and Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF)—to improve regional stability.

ISIS Diminished but Continued to Attack

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- ISIS appeared to be **diminishing in personnel numbers** but was on track to **more than double** the total number of claimed attacks in 2023.
- ISIS continued to conduct mostly **small arms attacks, IEDs, and ambushes** targeting security forces and civilians.

Coalition Advising of Iraqi and Syrian Partner Forces Continued

pp. 13–33

- While Iran-aligned militias **maintained a temporary pause in attacks** against U.S. and Coalition forces and facilities, force protection remained a primary concern.
- In Iraq, advisors focused on improving the ability of the Joint Operations Command-Iraq to **plan operations against ISIS**.
- In Syria, training **remained paused** for SDF guard forces at detention facilities and security forces at displaced persons camps.
- Forces loyal to the **Syrian regime blocked transport** of supplies to the zone around the At Tanf Garrison, creating a humanitarian crisis.
- Turkish **airstrikes killed SDF personnel** and strained the SDF's ability to maintain operations against ISIS.

Repatriation from al-Hol Continued

pp. 34–36, 55–56,

- Iraqis repatriated from the camp faced **security screening delays and barriers to acceptance** into host communities due to known or perceived affiliation with ISIS.
- Security forces **continued to conduct patrols and operations** at the al-Hol displaced persons camp but lacked sufficient resources to curb ISIS smuggling.
- While repatriation of residents from al-Hol continued, about **41,000 people** remained at the camp at the end of the quarter.

U.S. and Iraq Discuss Future Relationship

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- During a visit to the United States in April, Iraqi Prime Minister al-Sudani met with President Biden and cabinet members, and signed 18 **memorandums of understanding** with U.S. companies.
- U.S. and Iraqi representatives continued to discuss **how and when U.S. forces in Iraq will transition** to a bilateral security arrangement.
- Prime Minister al-Sudani **faced domestic pressure** from some elements to ensure that the new arrangement includes the removal of U.S. forces from Iraq.

Iraqis and Syrians Continued to Suffer from Inadequate Public Services

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- In Iraq, **electricity generation** improved but is not enough to meet summer demand; water for personal use and agriculture is in short supply.
- In Syria, **Turkish airstrikes** threatened energy, water, and oil infrastructure in Hasakah governorate.
- **Elections** in northeastern Syria were **postponed** due to security threats.
- State and USAID funded programs to strengthen public services, **civil society, education**, and independent media.
- **Insecurity** limited the ability of USAID's third party monitors to access certain parts of Syria to monitor humanitarian assistance programming.

Lead IG Oversight

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- The DoD OIG issued two **oversight reports** related to OIR. The reports evaluated the combatant command **military deception planning** and audited the Army's **management of prepositioned stock-5 equipment**.