

# Airpower Effects

As of 31 July 2016

The flexibility of Coalition airpower continues to enable our partners on the ground to fight Da'esh, further degrading their combat capability to a point where their ability to sustain themselves has been significantly degraded. July's airpower summary demonstrates continued precision engagements achieving notable tactical, operational and strategic effects.

Airpower provides a vital contribution to Operation Freedom Sentinel. In July, B-52s made their first appearance in Afghanistan since deploying to the U.S. Central Command theater in April 2016, conducting 22 strikes while employing 71 weapons in support of counterterrorism operations. In all, nearly 500 combat strike sorties of varying platforms were flown in Afghanistan. Airstrikes continue to enable the success of U.S. and Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan counter-insurgency operations as well as providing round-the-clock protection for ground forces. Meanwhile in Resolute Support, the train, advise and assist mission continues to make progress as the Afghan government and the Afghan Defense and Air Forces continue to take the fight to terrorist organizations.

In Operation Inherent Resolve (OIR), the Air Coalition continues to strike targets with strategic effects. The Air Coalition entered July fresh off of dealing Da'esh a significant set-back, destroying 200-plus trucks and nearly 350 Da'esh fighters in a convoy strike in Fallujah. In July, the Air Coalition successfully conducted 1,875 combat strike sorties and nearly 4,500 total sorties against Da'esh. Strikes against logistics lines, command and control, weapons manufacturing areas and financial resources continue to shape the battlespace for Coalition ground forces and that in addition to the more than 600 strikes against vehicle borne improvised explosive devices since OIR began, are taking away Da'esh's tools of terror while shaping the battlespace in places such as Manbij.

Airpower and the ingenuity of Airmen enabled the Air Coalition, in concert with capable ground forces, to apply continued and persistent pressure on Da'esh. The presence of civilians, hostages really, requires the Air Coalition to act with discipline and exacting precision to avoid harming the people we seek to protect.

This air campaign is the most precise in history. Coalition airpower remains focused on enabling ground forces to dismantle Da'esh's advance and re-establish control over territory. Eroding revenue streams continued to remain a priority and will be a focus area headed forward. The Air Coalition has contributed to creating effects designed to create Da'esh decision-making confusion. Situations like the Fallujah convoy strike demonstrate the Coalition is having an impact on the enemy's ability to effectively command and control forces. Airpower will look to continue to create tactical, operational, and strategic effects to embolden partners and demonstrate the Air Coalition's commitment to taking the fight to the enemy.

# Combined Forces Air Component Commander 2011-2016 Airpower Statistics

## OPERATION INHERENT RESOLVE

### Close Air Support/Escort/Interdiction

### Number of Weapons Released



Sorties		Sorties with at least one weapon release		Number of Weapons Released												
Year	Sorties	Year	Sorties	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
2014	6,591	2014	2,003													6,292
2015	21,113	2015	9,914	2,426	1,853	1,685	1,862	2,145	1,683	2,823	2,758	2,380	2,694	3,227	3,139	28,675
2016	12,350	2016	6,575	2,718	2,090	2,052	2,582	2,341	3,167	2,411					17,361	

	2014	2015	2016
Intel, Surveillance and Recon Sorties	2,247	9,401	5,878
Airlift and Airdrop Sorties	1,992	10,050	5,100
Airlift Cargo (Short Tons)*	14,555	78,500	41,700
Airlift Passengers*	9,900	47,200	26,700
Supplies Airdropped (Pounds)	1,417,900	0	59,221
Tanker Sorties	4,859	14,737	7,391
Fuel Offloaded (Millions of Pounds)	282	912	447
Aircraft Refuelings	28,956	84,381	46,535

\* Iraq only



- Some figures may have changed due to data re-calculation and re-verification