

# Airpower Effects

As of 31 August 2016

The Coalition's persistent air coverage continually exploits Da'esh's weaknesses, striking their revenue streams, restricting their freedom of movement, and ultimately enabling ground forces a tactical advantage. August's airpower summary demonstrates how the Air Coalition continues to accelerate the fight while applying persistent pressure on Da'esh as well as taking away territory from insurgents throughout Afghanistan.

Through Operation Freedom's Sentinel, U.S. airpower provides a vital contribution to the overall campaign. Precision air strikes continue to enable the success of Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan counter-insurgency and U.S. operations across Afghanistan as well as providing round-the-clock protection for ground forces. Aerial refueling, Intelligence, as well as Surveillance and Reconnaissance sorties provide critical support to the operations. Resolute Support will continue to train, advise and assist the Afghan government as they take the lead for security in Afghanistan. The Afghan Air Force has been able to maintain a retention rate around 94% and has approximately 70 aircrews, which we expect to see continued growth. With the delivery of three new MD-530s, the AAF now has more than 114 attack and airlift aircraft in theater. Additionally, they have 12 A-29s currently in use at Moody Air Force Base, Ga., as training assets for AAF pilots. These aircraft will gradually transition to Afghanistan throughout 2017 and 2018.

In Operation Inherent Resolve (OIR), the Air Coalition continues to strike targets with strategic effects. After months of intensive fighting, Da'esh fled from Manbij after being surrounded by the Syrian Democratic Forces, fighters recruited and trained by the U.S.-led coalition. The city has been liberated and is now under the control of Manbij Military Council. Throughout the duration of the Manbij campaign, the Air Coalition conducted more than 2,565 airstrikes, deploying more than 8,365 weapons in support of indigenous ground forces. The Air Coalition closed out August with the largest Vehicle Borne Improvised Explosive Device factory strike of 2016. A strike package of 17 aircraft, to include USAF F-16s and B-52s, Belgium F-16s, USMC F-18s and USN F-18s, conducted airstrikes destroying 43 Da'esh facilities, aiding in shaping the battlespace in Mosul for indigenous ground forces and removing Da'esh tools of terror from circulation.

In August, the Air Coalition successfully conducted 1,789 combat strike sorties and nearly 4,145 total sorties during operations against Da'esh. The commitment of the Coalition to destroy Da'esh tools of terror, to include VBIED facilities, Improvised Explosive Devices, and weapons caches, continues as the Air Coalition continues to work to degrade Da'esh's ability to detonate these devices in population centers, in the region and beyond. Additionally, the Air Coalition continues to make progress drying up Da'esh revenue streams, impacting their ability to pay fighters as well as obtain and sell oil.

# Combined Forces Air Component Commander 2011-2016 Airpower Statistics

As of 31 August 2016

## OPERATION INHERENT RESOLVE

### Close Air Support/Escort/Interdiction

### Number of Weapons Released



Sorties	
2014	6,591
2015	21,116
2016	15,904

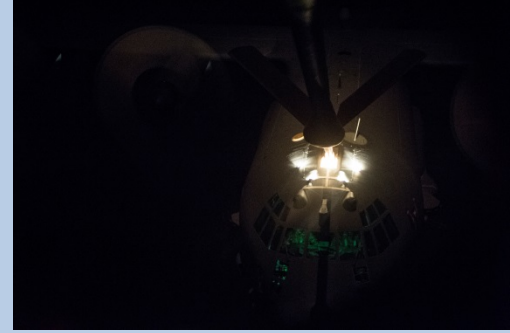
Sorties with at least one weapon release	
2014	2,003
2015	9,912
2016	7,871

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
2014								269	931	1,746	1,458	1,888	6,292
2015	2,426	1,853	1,685	1,862	2,145	1,683	2,823	2,758	2,380	2,694	3,242	3,145	28,696
2016	2,718	2,090	2,052	2,582	2,341	3,160	2,439	2,241					19,623

Operation Inherent Resolve

	2014	2015	2016
Intel, Surveillance and Recon Sorties	2,247	9,401	6,432
Airlift and Airdrop Sorties	1,992	10,050	5,800
Airlift Cargo (Short Tons)*	14,555	78,500	47,900
Airlift Passengers*	9,900	47,200	30,600
Supplies Airdropped (Pounds)	1,417,900	0	71,321
Tanker Sorties	4,859	14,737	8,630
Fuel Offloaded (Millions of Pounds)	282	912	519
Aircraft Refuelings	28,956	84,381	53,633

\* Iraq only



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

United States Air Forces Central Command  
Combined Air and Space Operations Center