

## OIR IN BRIEF

The 14th quarterly report from the Lead Inspector General for Operation Inherent Resolve (OIR) summarizes the quarter's key events and oversight of the U.S. operation to defeat ISIS.



### ISIS Violence Continued but Iraq Elections Proceeded

pp. 19-20, 25-29

- Security forces **prevented ISIS** from **disrupting** Iraq's 5th parliamentary **election** since 2003.
- Preliminary results showed Shia cleric **Moqtada al Sadr's** electoral list **winning** the most seats, followed by an **Iran-linked** alliance of militia leaders.
- Iraq's Supreme Court ordered a partial recount of the vote due to **allegations of fraud**.
- ISIS **violence declined** nationwide but stayed **constant or increased** in **Kirkuk, Diyala, and Salah ad Din** provinces.
- More than **2 million** Iraqis remain **displaced—10 percent fewer** than the previous quarter.

### Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF) Resumed Operations Against ISIS

pp. 42-44

- On **May 1**, the SDF **renewed efforts to push ISIS** out of eastern Syria, bolstered by Kurdish fighters returning to the counter-ISIS fight.
- The **U.S. and Turkey** agreed to **deescalate tensions around Manbij** through joint patrols and the withdrawal of Kurdish forces from the town.

**“On May 1, the SDF resumed offensive operations against what is now the last 2 percent of ISIS-held territory.”**

—Brett McGurk, Special Envoy, Counter-ISIS

### Syrian Civil War Continued with Russia and Iran Supporting the Regime

pp. 41, 47-50

- On **April 14**, the **U.S., France, and U.K. bombed** targets linked to Syria's **chemical weapons** program after a chemical attack outside Damascus.
- With **Russian** support, the **Syrian regime retook territory** around Damascus and **launched offensives** against rebels in southern Syria.
- U.S. countered **Iranian influence** by **interdicting weapons** and supporting **local forces**.
- The DoD's **Syria policy did not change**, and the continued **freeze of \$200 million** in U.S. stabilization funding for Syria hindered programs.

### Oversight

pp. 66-74

**The Lead IG agencies and partners completed 16 reports:**

**DoD OIG:** Maintenance of Army equipment in Kuwait and Qatar did not meet prescribed standards.

**DoS OIG:** Five recommendations resolved and three unresolved in audit of contractors maintaining food safety standards.

### Investigations

pp. 75-77

Lead IG investigations resulted in **1** arrest, **2** criminal charges, **29** personnel actions, **3** suspensions, **12** debarments, and fines and recoveries of nearly **\$1.2 million**.

## OPE-P IN BRIEF

The 3rd quarterly report from the Lead Inspector General for Operation Pacific Eagle-Philippines (OPE-P) summarizes the quarter's key events and oversight of the U.S. mission to support the Philippine government in its fight against ISIS affiliates and other terrorist organizations.

### Damaged Infrastructure Slowed IDP Returns

pp. 112-113

- More than **208,000 IDPs returned home**, but **214,000** remained **displaced**.
- **24** of Marawi's **96** neighborhoods were effectively **destroyed**, and **reconstruction** has not yet begun.
- Up to **127,000** residents may remain **displaced** for at least **2 to 3 years**.

### U.S. Supported Philippine Security

pp. 103-108

- **250 U.S. military advisors** supported Philippine counterterrorism operations.
- Philippine forces engaged in **low-level clashes** with ISIS-P.
- **8,000 U.S. and Philippine troops** engaged in **joint training exercises**.
- Most of the **\$32.4 million** spent on OPE-P in FY 2018 was for **aerial surveillance support**.
- **Indonesia and Malaysia** announced **joint patrols** with the Philippines **separately from U.S. efforts**.

### ISIS-P Attempted to Regroup

pp. 108-109

- The estimated number of ISIS-P militants **dropped to 200, down from 1,000** during last year's fighting.
- ISIS-P has **lacked a single leader** since October 2017, but **5 leaders** vied for the position of "emir."