OIR IN BRIEF

The 34th 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 Degraded But Still a Threat  pp. 11–13
• ISIS conducted fewer attacks and suffered from leadership losses, but its violent ideology remained unconstrained.
• ISIS is unable to meet its financial obligations, including to its fighters, but is still able to draw on cash reserves and raise new funds.
• ISIS remained intent on freeing imprisoned fighters from SDF detention facilities.
• ISIS continued to attempt to indoctrinate and recruit residents of displaced persons camps, particularly al-Hol.

Third Party Forces Complicate the OIR Mission  pp. 39–42
• Türkiye conducted UAS strikes against SDF leaders in Syria and Iraq, saying they were affiliated with the Kurdistan Workers’ Party (PKK).
• Russia continued to violate deconfliction protocols it has agreed to with the U.S. military, flying over U.S. forces in Syria.
• Iran-aligned militias attacked U.S. and Coalition forces in Syria and increased rhetorical threats against the U.S. presence in Iraq.

Iraqi and Kurdish Partner Forces Show Little Capability Improvement  pp. 14–27
• The Coalition assessed that the ISF and KSF showed no significant change in warfighting capabilities compared to the previous quarter.
• Though the KSF coordinated with the ISF on one part of a major operation, there was little progress toward establishing Joint ISF-KSF Brigades.
• Internal Kurdish political tensions undermined efforts to transfer partisan forces to the Ministry of Peshmerga Affairs.

Repatriations Continue, Challenges Remain  pp. 28–38
• Partner forces continued to guard detention facilities holding an estimated 10,000 ISIS detainees in Syria.
• Forces guarding the al-Hol camp faced challenges in disrupting ISIS activity due to the small force size and susceptibility of some troops to ISIS bribes.
• The U.S. Government facilitated the repatriation of 18 Saudi detainees, while Iraq repatriated 50 Iraqi detainees and 659 Iraqi residents from al-Hol.

Iraqi Parliament Approves a Budget  pp. 14, 47–55
• The Iraqi Parliament approved a 3-year, $153 billion annual budget, funded largely by oil export revenues.
• The budget increased funding for the MoI, MoD, and Popular Mobilization Forces, but decreased force strength for the CTS.
• The Iraqi parliament set provincial elections for December 18 following passage of the budget.

No Diplomatic Progress in Syria  pp. 57–61
• In Syria, there was no progress on a political solution to the conflict based on UN Security Council Resolution 2254.
• State remained concerned about reports of Türkiye-supported opposition groups committing human rights violations in northern Syria.

Lead IG Oversight  pp. 72–80
The Lead IG agencies completed two oversight reports related to OIR, one about management of shipping containers, including at facilities that support OIR, and the other an inspection of the U.S. Embassy in Beirut, Lebanon.