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Sent: Tue, 23 Sep 2014 05:32:01 -0400
From: "Rice, Susan" <susan_e_rice@nsc.eop.gov>
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Fw: CENTCOM News Release -- U.S. Military, Partner Nations Conduct Airstrikes Against ISIL in Syria

All went as hoped/planned. Details in statement below.

----- Original Message -----

From: Meehan, Bernadette
Sent: Tuesday, September 23, 2014 05:15 AM
To: #SUITE; DL-WHO-Press; DMCOS
Subject: CENTCOM News Release -- U.S. Military, Partner Nations Conduct Airstrikes Against ISIL in Syria

The statement below was released by CENTCOM at approximately 3am today.

----- Original Message -----

From: CENTCOM CCCI Media Desk [mailto:mediadesk@centcom.mil]
Sent: Tuesday, September 23, 2014 03:13 AM
To: CENTCOM CCCI Media Desk
Subject: CENTCOM News Release -- U.S. Military, Partner Nations Conduct Airstrikes Against ISIL in Syria

September 23, 2014
Release #20140925

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

U.S. Military, Partner Nations Conduct Airstrikes Against ISIL in Syria

TAMPA, Fla. - U.S. military forces and partner nations, including the Kingdom of Bahrain, the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates, undertook military action against ISIL terrorists in Syria overnight, using a mix of fighter, bomber, remotely piloted aircraft and Tomahawk Land Attack Missiles to conduct 14 strikes against ISIL targets.

The strikes destroyed or damaged multiple ISIL targets in the vicinity of Ar Raqqa, Dayr az Zawr, Al Hasakah, and Abu Kamal and included ISIL fighters, training compounds, headquarters and command and control facilities, storage facilities, a finance center, supply trucks and armed vehicles.

To conduct these strikes, the United States employed 47 TLAMs launched from USS Arleigh Burke and USS Philippine Sea operating from international waters in the Red Sea and North Arabian Gulf, as well as U.S. Air Force, Navy and Marine Corps fighter, remotely piloted and bomber aircraft deployed to the U.S. Central Command area of operations. In addition, the Kingdom of Bahrain, the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates also participated in or supported the airstrikes against ISIL targets. All aircraft safely exited the strike areas.

Also, in Iraq yesterday, U.S. military forces continued to attack ISIL terrorists, using attack aircraft to conduct four airstrikes. The airstrikes destroyed two ISIL Humvees, an ISIL armed vehicle and an ISIL fighting position southwest of Kirkuk. All aircraft exited the strike areas safely. To date, U.S. Central Command has conducted a total of 194 airstrikes across Iraq against ISIL.

The United States conducted these strikes as part of the President's comprehensive strategy to

degrade and ultimately defeat ISIL. Going forward, the U.S. military will continue to conduct targeted airstrikes against ISIL in Syria and Iraq as local forces go on the offensive against this terrorist group.

Separately, the United States has also taken action to disrupt the imminent attack plotting against the United States and Western interests conducted by a network of seasoned al-Qa'ida veterans - sometimes referred to as the Khorasan Group - who have established a safe haven in Syria to develop external attacks, construct and test improvised explosive devices and recruit Westerners to conduct operations. These strikes were undertaken only by U.S. assets.

In total, U.S. Central Command conducted eight strikes against Khorasan Group targets west of Aleppo to include training camps, an explosives and munitions production facility, a communication building and command and control facilities.