

Headquarters U.S. Air Force

Integrity - Service - Excellence

Air Force Precision Engagement – Current Fight



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Version 1.0**



Aug 14 - present



Breaking Barriers ... Since 1947



Rise of ISIL

- Emerges in 2011 from the remnants of AQ-Iraq
 - Declare caliphate stretching from Aleppo to Diyala – Islamic State is formed
- U.S begins airstrikes against ISIL in Iraq, 7 Aug 2014, and expands campaign to Syria the following month.
- U.S. and Coalition partners conduct more than 8,000 airstrikes in Iraq and Syria over the next year.





Operation Inherent Resolve

“Our objective is clear: We will ***degrade, and ultimately destroy, ISIL*** through a comprehensive and sustained counter-terrorism strategy.”

President Barack Obama

Washington D.C., 10 September 2014





AF Precision Engagement Trends

- **Initial TTPs / Weapon Solutions**

- **Increased Reliance on Legacy Weapons**

- **Weapons Expenditures**



CFACC Assets in Theater

- CAF assets already on established TSP / OEF / OFS
 - F-16 / F-22 / F-15E / B-1Bs / MQ-1 / MQ-9





Weaponneering / TTPs

- Initial TTPs / Weapon Solutions
 - Very OEF CAS/COIN Centric
 - MDS Loadouts still included GBU-38v4 /v5
 - Weapons still utilized DSU-33





Weapon Fail / Dud

- Aug – Nov 2014 – weapon / bomb unit fail seen from 11-19%
 - Lower impact angles
 - Fuze delays combined with non-support cup nose





Weapon Delivery Shift

- Recognized target set drastically different
- Increased use of 2,000lbs and Penetrator bomb bodies
 - Shifted mind-set from Close Air Support weaponeering
 - More similar to Air Interdiction – disguised as CAS
- CAS/COIN weapons saved for expected urban fights (Mosul / Fallujah)





Legacy Weapons

- JDAM variants still comprise a majority of OIR expenditures
 - GBU-31v1/v3, GBU-38, GBU-32
- Unexpected rise in expenditures renewed life on SDB-I / Hellfire
 - Prior to March 2014 – GBU-39 / AGM-114 Stockpiles believed to be healthy
- Weapons no longer on glide path to zero
 - AGM-114 – 8,000 (FY17)
 - GBU-39 – 8,000 (FY18)





Weapons Expenditures

- Since OIR – over 51,000 munitions expended
- Mission planners & operational crews aware
 - Weigh weapon flexibility vs. future stockpile constraints





Questions?