

UK Air Strikes in Iraq and Syria since fall of ISIS-held territory in March 2019 (April 2019 – September 2021)

Date	Detail given	Aircraft	Country	No. & type weapons fired	Target
24 Apr 2019	"Coalition intelligence efforts pinpointed a dispersed Daesh network of caves and tunnels in the hills some forty miles east-north-east of Tikrit, and two Typhoons were assigned to attack the six entrances on Wednesday 24 April. Paveway IV guided bombs were once again successfully employed by our aircraft in carrying out this mission."	Typhoon	Iraq	7 Paveway IV guided bombs	ISIS cave/tunnel network
19 May 2019	"On Sunday 19 May, a pair of RAF Typhoon FGR4s, based at RAF Akrotiri, were tasked to assist the Iraqi security forces with the destruction of a tunnel wherein a group of Daesh were reported to have established themselves. Our aircraft carefully checked the area, in the hills to the south-west of Mosul, for any signs of civilian activity that could be placed at risk, before conducting a precision attack with a pair of Paveway IV guided bombs which successfully destroyed the entrance to the tunnel."	Typhoon	Iraq	2 Paveway IV guided bombs	ISIS occupied tunnel
13 June 2019	"A further such attack in support of the Iraqi security forces was delivered by Typhoons on Thursday 13 June. A small group of Daesh terrorists had been tracked to an area of marshland some 27 miles south-west of Kirkuk. A single Paveway IV was released by our aircraft, and, despite the need to target them hidden in a thick bed of reeds, was reported to have successfully dealt with the terrorists."	Typhoon	Iraq	1 Paveway IV guided bombs	Small group of ISIS fighters
13 July 2019	"A Royal Air Force Reaper used Hellfire missiles to conduct a successful attack on a Daesh position some 35 miles south-east of Dayr az Zawr."	Reaper	Syria	2 Hellfire missiles	ISIS Position
16 July 2019	"On Tuesday 16 July, two Typhoon FGR4s from RAF Akrotiri, supported by a Voyager air refuelling tanker, were directed to a remote area of the desert in western Iraq, some 55 miles south-west of Ramadi, where a concealed terrorist stockpile of weapons had been identified. Our aircraft delivered an attack with a single Paveway IV guided bomb which scored a direct hit, destroying the stockpiled weaponry."	Typhoon	Iraq	1 Paveway IV guided bombs	Weapons stockpile
17 July 2019	"A further such mission in support of the Iraqi security forces was flown the following day. A group of terrorists had been identified at a building in the Al Jazirah desert in north-western Iraq, and a Typhoon flight was tasked to this location. As ever, our aircraft conducted a careful check of the surrounding area for any civilians who might have been placed at risk, then struck the Daesh-held building with Paveway IVs, destroying the building."	Typhoon	Iraq	5 Paveway IV guided bombs	ISIS occupied building
18 July 2019	"The crew of an RAF Reaper tracked a Daesh terrorist on a motorcycle in eastern Syria, and a Hellfire missile was used to successful effect against the target."	Reaper	Syria	1 Hellfire missile	Individual on motorcycle
14 Aug 2019	On 14 August 2019, Iraqi security forces operating some seventy miles north of Baghdad requested air support in dealing with a cave and tunnel network that was occupied by Daesh terrorists. Two RAF Typhoons responded and, having confirmed that there were no civilians nearby who might have been placed at risk, conducted a successful attack on the caves with two Paveway IV guided bombs.	Typhoon	Iraq	3 Paveway	ISIS occupied cave/tunnel network
23 Aug 2019	"On Friday 23 August, an RAF Reaper patrolled over the western deserts of Iraq's Anbar province, in support of operations by Iraqi security forces to prevent Daesh regaining a foothold in the area. Two	Reaper	Iraq	1 Hellfire missile	Weapons cache and fighters

	armed terrorists had been identified by another coalition surveillance aircraft, and the Reaper found the pair at a hole dug in the desert floor, believed to be a weapons cache. A single Hellfire missile was fired by the Reaper's crew, which struck the terrorists and the concealed weapons."				
2 Sept 2019	"A further strike in support of the Iraqi security forces was conducted by RAF aircraft on 2 September. Daesh had established a training camp in northern Iraq at a cluster of buildings in the desert, some 25 miles southwest of Ash Sharqat. Six specific targets amongst the buildings were identified, and two Typhoon FGR4s, armed with Paveway IV guided bombs, were duly dispatched from RAF Akrotiri. A coalition surveillance aircraft had kept a close watch on the site and confirmed that there was no sign of any civilians being present, whereupon all six targets were struck by the Typhoons."	Typhoon	Iraq	12 Paveway IV guided bombs in two strikes	ISIS training camp
25 Sept 2019	"On Wednesday 25 September, a pair of Typhoons responded to reports that a small group of Daesh extremists had been engaged in fighting with Iraqi security forces. Coalition surveillance aircraft had tracked the terrorists after the engagement to a group of buildings in the desert, some forty miles west of Bayji. The surveillance aircraft conducted a thorough check of the area for any civilians that might be placed at risk before the Typhoons attacked, using Paveway IV guided bombs to destroy the two key buildings occupied by the terrorists."	Typhoon	Iraq		2 ISIS occupied buildings
10 Apr 2020	"The Royal Air Force continues to fly daily armed reconnaissance missions over Iraq and eastern Syria as part of the global coalition against the Daesh terrorist movement. On Friday 10 April, one such patrol conducted air strikes in support of a counter-terrorism operation in northern Iraq. The pair of Typhoons, assisted by an RAF Reaper aircraft, identified Daesh terrorists occupying a group of fortified buildings in an isolated location west of Tuz Khurma, known to be inhabited by active terrorist commanders and fighters. The aircraft conducted a thorough check of the area for non-combatants, before using a combination of precision guided bombs to destroy the buildings."	Typhoon & Reaper	Iraq	6 Paveway IV 1 GBU-12 (Reaper)	ISIS occupied buildings
28 Apr 2020	"On night of Tuesday 28 April, a pair of Typhoons, operating out of RAF Akrotiri and supported by a Voyager aerial refuelling tanker, joined other coalition aircraft in an attack on a series of caves north-east of Bayji in northern Iraq. The Typhoons targeted six cave entrances where intelligence confirmed a group of Daesh terrorists were based. Following a thorough check of the surrounding area for any signs of non-combatants, the aircraft used Paveway IV precision-guided bombs to strike all six of the caves."	Typhoon	Iraq	6 Paveway	ISIS occupied caves
8 May 2020	"On 8 May, an RAF Reaper kept close watch on a bunker containing a group of Daesh fighters, west of Tuz Khumatu, in northern Iraq. When the Reaper's crew had identified the ideal moment to strike, the bunker was destroyed using a GBU-12 guided bomb."	Reaper	Iraq	1 GBU-12 bomb	ISIS occupied bunker
10 May 2020	"On 10 May 2020, a pair of Typhoon FGR4s, supported by a Voyager air refuelling tanker, flew an armed reconnaissance patrol over northern Iraq. Coalition surveillance aircraft had located a cave system occupied by Daesh terrorists southeast of Hatra, on the banks of the Tharthar River. Three targets at the entrances to the caves were identified and each successfully struck by a Paveway IV guided bombs."	Typhoon	Iraq	3 Paveway IV guided bombs	ISIS occupied caves
13 May 2020	"On 13 May, Reapers again saw action west of Tuz Khurmatu, when two of the RAF's aircraft used GBU-12s to destroy a further pair of Daesh-occupied bunkers."	Reaper	Iraq	2 GBU-12 bombs	2 ISIS occupied bunkers

23 May 2020	<p>“On 23 May, a group of Daesh fighters were located hiding in woods, along with stored equipment. A patrolling Reaper dropped one GBU-12, which hit its target and caused secondary explosions, indicating the likely presence of a significant stockpile of munitions.”</p>	Reaper	Iraq	1 GBU-12 bombs	Group of ISIS fighters
31 May 2020	<p>“A Royal Air Force remotely piloted Reaper investigated on Sunday 31 May a location in northern Iraq, some seventeen miles west of Tuz Khurmatu, where a Daesh group had been identified as having established themselves at a bunker situated in the mountains. The Reaper’s crew conducted a thorough check of the area, finding no signs of any civilians nearby but confirming the presence of several terrorists close to the bunker itself, who were attempting to conceal themselves in heavy foliage. The Reaper therefore conducted two attacks in succession, destroying the bunker with a GBU-12 guided bomb, then hitting those terrorists who were outside the bunker with a Hellfire missile.”</p>	Reaper	Iraq	1 GBU-12 bomb & 2 Hellfire missiles	Bunker and ISIS fighters outside
3 June 2020	<p>“On Wednesday 3 June, a pair of Typhoon FGR4s, supported by a Voyager air refuelling tanker, joined other coalition aircraft in an operation against Daesh positions which had been identified on a mountainous ridge some thirty-five miles north-west of Kirkuk. Having confirmed that there were no signs of civilians in the area, the Typhoons provided surveillance support to a strike by coalition jets, and were then allocated a cave, occupied by Daesh, as their own target. This position was struck with a single Paveway IV guided bomb, and Iraqi ground forces subsequently confirmed the attack to have been a success.”</p>	Typhoon	Iraq	1 Paveway guided bomb	ISIS occupied cave
22 Jun 2020	<p>“A further group of caves, situated thirty miles north-west of Tikrit, were confirmed as being used by Daesh both as accommodation and storage for improvised explosive devices. Two Typhoons were accordingly tasked to attack the terrorist position on Monday 22 June. Having checked the area for any civilians who might be at risk, four Paveway IVs were successfully used to strike four carefully selected targets within the cave network.”</p>	Typhoon	Iraq	4 Paveway IV guided bombs	ISIS occupied caves
24 Jun 2020	<p>“Intensive coalition surveillance efforts were able to confirm that another group of Daesh terrorists had established themselves in a cave network in the Makhmur mountains of northern Iraq. RAF Typhoons were therefore tasked with the destruction of this terrorist base on Wednesday 24 June. After the usual precautionary check of the area for civilians, our aircraft attacked with four Paveway IVs, all of which struck their targets successfully.”</p>	Typhoon	Iraq	4 Paveway IV guided bombs	ISIS occupied caves
20 Aug 2020	<p>“Intelligence analysis confirmed that a Daesh leadership group had established a cave network 85 miles west of Kirkuk in northern Iraq. An RAF Reaper kept a close watch on the location during the early hours of Thursday 20 August. When terrorists were identified at the cave entrance, the Reaper’s crew conducted an attack with a single hellfire missile, having first swept the areas for any signs of civilians who might be placed at risk. The missile struck the target accurately, and the blast was observed to emerge from another part of the cave network, indicating that the weapon’s effect had reached deep inside the caves.”</p>	Reaper	Iraq	1 Hellfire missile	ISIS occupied caves
26 Aug 2020	<p>“An RAF Reaper maintained surveillance on another set of caves in the area on Wednesday 26 August, which confirmed the presence of a number of Daesh extremists at the site. When terrorists were observed at the mouth of one of the caves, the Reaper crew engaged successfully with a Hellfire missile, the provided surveillance support to a follow-up attack by</p>	Reaper	Iraq	1 Hellfire missile	ISIS occupied caves

	two coalition fast jets which struck the rest of the Daesh position.”				
6 Oct 2020	“On Tuesday 6 October, a small group of Daesh extremists attacked Iraqi security forces in the desert of Anbar province, west of Baghdad. A coalition air strike provided immediate support to the Iraqi troops and succeeded in destroying half the attacking Daesh group. An RAF Reaper was then tasked to deal with the remaining terrorists. The crew of the Reaper successfully located them, and at an appropriate moment, with no sign of a strike posing any risks to friendly forces or any civilians, conducted a carefully planned attack with a GBU-12 guided bomb. The Iraqi forces subsequently reported that the threat had been eliminated.”	Reaper	Iraq	1 GBU-12 bomb	ISIS fighters
24 Jan 2021	“On Sunday 24 January, a coalition surveillance aircraft located a number of Daesh fighters based in two caves some ten miles north of Bayji, and two Typhoon FGR4s were tasked to strike them. Our aircraft conducted a careful check of the area around the caves, where were a mile and a half apart, for any sign of civilians who might be at risk, before conducting simultaneous attacks, using two Paveway IV guided bombs against each group. All four of the bombs struck their targets accurately and the strike was assessed to have been a success in eliminating the terrorist threat.”	Typhoon	Iraq	4 Paveway IV guided bombs	ISIS occupied caves
11 Feb 2021	“On Thursday 11 February, two Royal Air Force FGR4s were tasked to conduct strikes against terrorists who had been identified occupying two dispersed encampments on the banks of the Tharthar River, west of the city of Bayji. A preceding check of the area revealed there were no signs of any civilians who might be placed at risk and the RAF aircraft proceeded to conduct the strikes using Paveway IV bombs. Further surveillance of both sites confirmed that the series of different targets within the encampments were struck, and the mission had been a success.”	Typhoon	Iraq	8 Paveway IV guided bombs	2 ISIS encampments
10 Mar 2021	“The Iraqi forces recently identified a significant number of Daesh fighters using cave complexes south-west of Erbil. The caves identified were assessed to be particularly difficult targets and two RAF Typhoon FGR4s were therefore tasked to conduct strikes in support of ground forces from the highly capable Iraqi Counter-Terrorism Service. On Wednesday 10 March they conducted surveillance of the area to confirm that there were no signs of civilians who might be placed at risk, before conducting the first attack using Storm Shadow missiles, which had been selected as the most appropriate weapon for the task. Following the mission, the Typhoons weapons were confirmed to have struck their targets precisely.”	Typhoon	Iraq	42 Paveway IV guided bombs and 10 Storm Shadow missiles in a series of strikes	ISIS cave complex
11 Mar 2021	“Further surveillance efforts confirmed two additional locations in the same area were also occupied by Daesh. Two Typhoons conducted precision attacks on the extremists at both locations on Thursday 11 March, using six Paveway IV guided bombs.”	Typhoon	Iraq		2 ISIS occupied caves
12 Mar 2021	“RAF aircraft were again in action on Friday 12 March, when they struck another group of caves used by Daesh, with eight Paveway IV bombs”	Typhoon	Iraq		ISIS occupied caves
14 Mar 2021	“And again on Sunday 14 March, when six Paveway IVs were employed against Daesh-held caves in the same remote, mountainous area.	Typhoon	Iraq		ISIS occupied caves
22 Mar 2021	“Royal Air Force aircraft have continued to support security operations by the Iraqi Counter Terrorism Service in northern Iraq to eliminate small pockets of Daesh terrorism. Daesh extremists were confirmed to be based in a network of caves in the Makhmur	Typhon	Iraq		ISIS occupied caves

	mountains, south-west of Erbil, where the RAF has been actively assisting the Iraqi ground operations since 10 March. Since the caves were assessed to be a particularly challenging target, three Typhoon FGR4s were tasked to conduct an attack using Storm Shadow missiles on Monday 22 March, the remote area having first been checked to ensure that no civilians would be placed at risk. The strike on the Daesh targets there was assessed by subsequent surveillance to have been a success.”				
4 Apr 2021	“On Sunday 4 April, an RAF Reaper, armed with Hellfire missiles, identified a small group of Daesh terrorists in northern Syria, some fifty miles west of Al Hasakah. Having checked that there were no civilians nearby, the Reaper’s crew attacked the terrorists, striking the target successfully.”	Reaper	Syria	2 Hellfire missiles	ISIS fighters
11 May 2021	“On Tuesday 11 May, Iraqi security forces encountered a group of Daesh terrorists in a strong defensive position some twenty-five miles south west of Mosul. Coming under heavy small arms fire from the terrorists, the Iraqi troops requested air support from the global coalition, and a pair of Royal Air Force Typhoon FGR4s responded promptly. Liaising closely with the Iraqis, our aircraft attacked the Daesh terrorists with two Paveway IV precision guided bombs. The bombs hit the target and eliminated a number of the Daesh extremists.”	Typhoon	Iraq	2 Paveway IV guided bombs	ISIS position
6 Sept 2021	On Monday 6 September, Iraqi ground forces conducting security operations approximately thirty miles south of Erbil came under fire from a Daesh position in an area of heavy vegetation. Two RAF Typhoon FGR4s responded to a call for assistance and, working closely with the ground forces to ensure no risks were posed to either them or any civilians, used a single Paveway IV guided bomb to successfully eliminate the threat.	Typhoon	Iraq	1 Paveway IV guided bomb	ISIS position

Source: UK MoD, RAF updates: air strikes against Daesh, <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/update-air-strikes-against-daesh>
MoD responses to Drone Wars UK FoI requests: <https://dronewars.net/foi>