

Known UK Air and Drone Strikes in Iraq and Syria, 2021

Date	Detail given	Aircraft	Country	No. & type weapon fired	Given target
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		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	42 Paveway IV guided bombs and 10 Storm Shadow missiles in a series of strikes	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
17 Mar 2021	Typhoons destroyed 2 more Daesh-held caves in the mountains south-west of Erbil with Paveway IV bombs.	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 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	Typhoon	Iraq		ISIS occupied caves

	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
25 Oct 2021	On Monday 25 October, the crew of a remotely piloted Reaper, armed with Hellfire missiles, tracked a known terrorist in northern Syria, near the city of Ras al Ayn, and at a safe moment, when the individual was alone in a field, carried out a successful strike.	Reaper	Syria	2 Hellfire missiles	An individual known terrorist
14 Dec 2021	On Tuesday 14 December, hostile drone activity was detected around the At Tanf coalition base in Syria. A pair of Typhoon FGR4s from Royal Air Force Akrotiri were conducting one of their regular patrols over Syria and Iraq as part of the global coalition against Daesh, and were tasked to investigate. On arrival in the At Tanf area, the pilots were able to identify a small hostile drone, and despite the diminutive size of the target, succeeded in conducting an air to air engagement with an ASRAAM (Advanced Short Range Air to Air Missile) which eliminated the threat it posed to coalition forces.	Typhoon	Syria	1 ASRAAM missile	Small drone