

# *U.S.-led Airstrikes Kill Hundreds of ISIL Terrorists in Syria*

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Washington, October 16 (RHC)-- The Pentagon has said ISIL still stands the chance of seizing the Syrian town of Kobani despite U.S.-led airstrikes that have resulted in the deaths of "several hundred" ISIL terrorists.

"We believe that we have killed several hundred ISIL fighters in and around Kobani," Pentagon spokesman Rear Adm. John Kirby told reporters in Washington on Wednesday. Kirby also said that most of the people living in Kobani have fled the town with the ISIL militants trying to seize the control of the mainly Kurdish town.

Despite the intensified U.S. air raids, Kirby said that the city "could still fall," calling it a "setback." The United States and its allies carried out nearly two dozen airstrikes against ISIL terrorists around Kobani on Monday and Tuesday.

Kobani and its surroundings have been under attack since mid-September, with ISIL militants capturing dozens of nearby Kurdish villages. ISIL militants made swift advances in much of northern and western Iraq over the summer, after capturing large swaths of northern Syria.

Since late September, the U.S. and some of its Arab allies -- Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Qatar, Jordan and the United Arab Emirates -- have been conducting airstrikes against ISIL inside Syria without any

authorization from Damascus or a UN mandate.

Some analysts have long maintained that the United States and its allies have seized on the ISIL threat to target the Syrian government. The U.S. and its allies have been accused of funding and arming the insurgency in Syria.

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