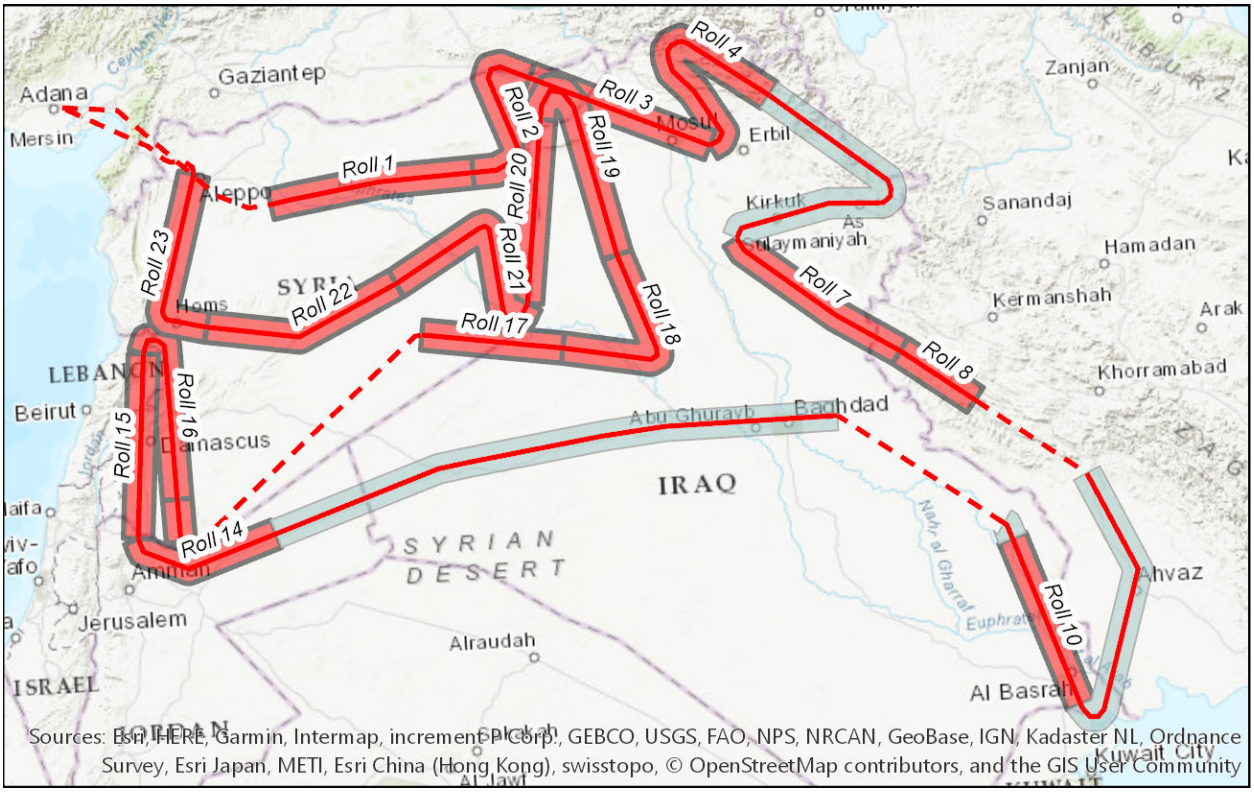
Mission 1554 29 Jan 1960



See http://arcg.is/1CjH0f for an interactive web map version.

Flight path notes. The flight path was reconstructed from declassified documents found in CREST (see below, nos. 6-7) and the tracking film frames. It was corrected for several segments with reference to georeferenced vertical frames from the main camera.

Mode notes. Main camera appears to have been in 3-position Mode 2 throughout. A declassified document (no. 7) appears to indicate three times when the pilot was to turn off Mode 2 during the mission (i.e., prior to the final shutoff at the end of photo capture). Inspection of film roll 11 confirmed the accuracy of this document for the shutoff east of Baghdad.

Main Camera notes. The frame numbers from the negative margins are not identical to the frame numbers next to the frame clock. Starting at some point after frame 209, the frame clock number is ahead by one. By frame 1352, the frame clock number is ahead by two. Based on the sequence of camera positions, the margin frame number appears to be the correct one.

Tracking camera notes. The tracking camera clock stopped at several occasions during the flight, including around frame 201 or 202.

Relevant declassified documents in CREST

See https://www.cia.gov/library/readingroom/collection/crest-25-year-program-archive.

1. CIA-RDP78T05693A000100010049-8 Post-mission report on areas and targets;
2. CIA-RDP78T05693A000100010050-6 Post-mission report supplement on targets in Iraq;
3. CIA-RDP78T05693A000100010052-4 cable
4. CIA-RDP78T05693A000100010053-3 Cable

To cite: Ur, Jason; Hammer, Emily, 2018, "Spatial Index of U2 Aerial Photography of the Middle East, 1958-1960", https://doi.org/10.7910/DVN/VD74QX, Harvard Dataverse.

5. CIA-RDP78T05693A000100010054-2 Post-mission report on areas and targets;
6. CIA-RDP89B00551R000400260002-7 Cable with target coordinates and times of overflight;
7. CIA-RDP89B00551R000400260003-6 cable with planned (?) target coordinates and instructions on camera modes of operation;
8. CIA-RDP89B00551R000400260008-1 Cable on successful mission;
9. CIA-RDP89B00551R000400260010-8 Cable;
10. CIA-RDP89B00551R000400260011-7 Cable reporting track coordinates;
11. CIA-RDP89B00551R000400260013-5 Cable

Film Rolls in NARA

MISSION	CAMERA	ROLL	STARTFRAME	ENDFRAME	TOTFRAMES	ON	BARCODE	CAN
1554	L	1	0	133	134	81010	8618	6419
1554	R	1	1	133	133	80152	7100	6442
1554	L	2	134	266	133	80967	8646	6420
1554	R	2	134	266	133	80185	7054	6443
1554	L	3	267	399	133	82224	7495	6421
1554	R	3	267	399	133	80222	7002	6444
1554	L	4	400	532	133	79392	6709	6422
1554	R	4	400	532	133	80324	6933	6445
1554	L	5	533	665	133	79326	6860	6423
1554	R	5	533	665	133	82194	7452	6446
1554	L	6	666	798	133	82227	7474	6424
1554	R	6	666	798	133	82235	7473	6447
1554	L	7	799	931	133	82228	7472	6425
1554	R	7	799	931	133	82229	7518	6448
1554	L	8	932	1064	133	82258	7437	6426
1554	R	8	932	1064	133	79988	7205	6449
1554	L	9	1065	1197	133	82205	7467	6427
1554	R	9	1065	1197	133	82207	7464	6450
1554	L	10	1198	1330	133	82264	7453	6428
1554	R	10	1198	1330	133	80159	7097	6451
1554	L	11	1331	1463	133	82222	7479	6429
1554	R	11	1331	1463	133	80251	7019	6452
1554	L	12	1464	1596	133	82201	7517	6430
1554	R	12	1464	1596	133	80176	7012	6453
1554	L	13	1597	1729	133	80203	7095	6431
1554	R	13	1597	1729	133	80142	7111	6454
1554	L	14	1730	1862	133	80172	7030	6432
1554	R	14	1730	1862	133	80081	7107	6455
1554	L	15	1863	1995	133	80191	7069	6433
1554	R	15	1863	1995	133	76458	9789	6456
1554	L	16	1996	2128	133	80248	7015	6434
1554	R	16	1996	2128	133	82251	7475	6457
1554	L	17	2129	2261	133	80226	7008	6435

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1554	R	17	2129	2261	133	82202	7504	6458
1554	L	18	2262	2394	133	80230	7004	6436
1554	R	18	2262	2394	133	82277	7451	6459
1554	L	19	2395	2527	133	80173	7011	6437
1554	R	19	2395	2527	133	82168	7502	6460
1554	L	20	2528	2660	133	80391	6891	6438
1554	R	20	2528	2660	133	80326	6924	6461
1554	L	21	2661	2793	133	80179	7047	6439
1554	R	21	2661	2793	133	82286	7439	6462
1554	L	22	2794	2926	133	80224	7003	6440
1554	R	22	2794	2926	133	76480	9766	6463
1554	L	23	2927	3060	134	80215	7025	6441
1554	R	23	2927	3060	134	80333	6897	6464
1554	TRACKER		1	930	930	81345	12648	6289

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