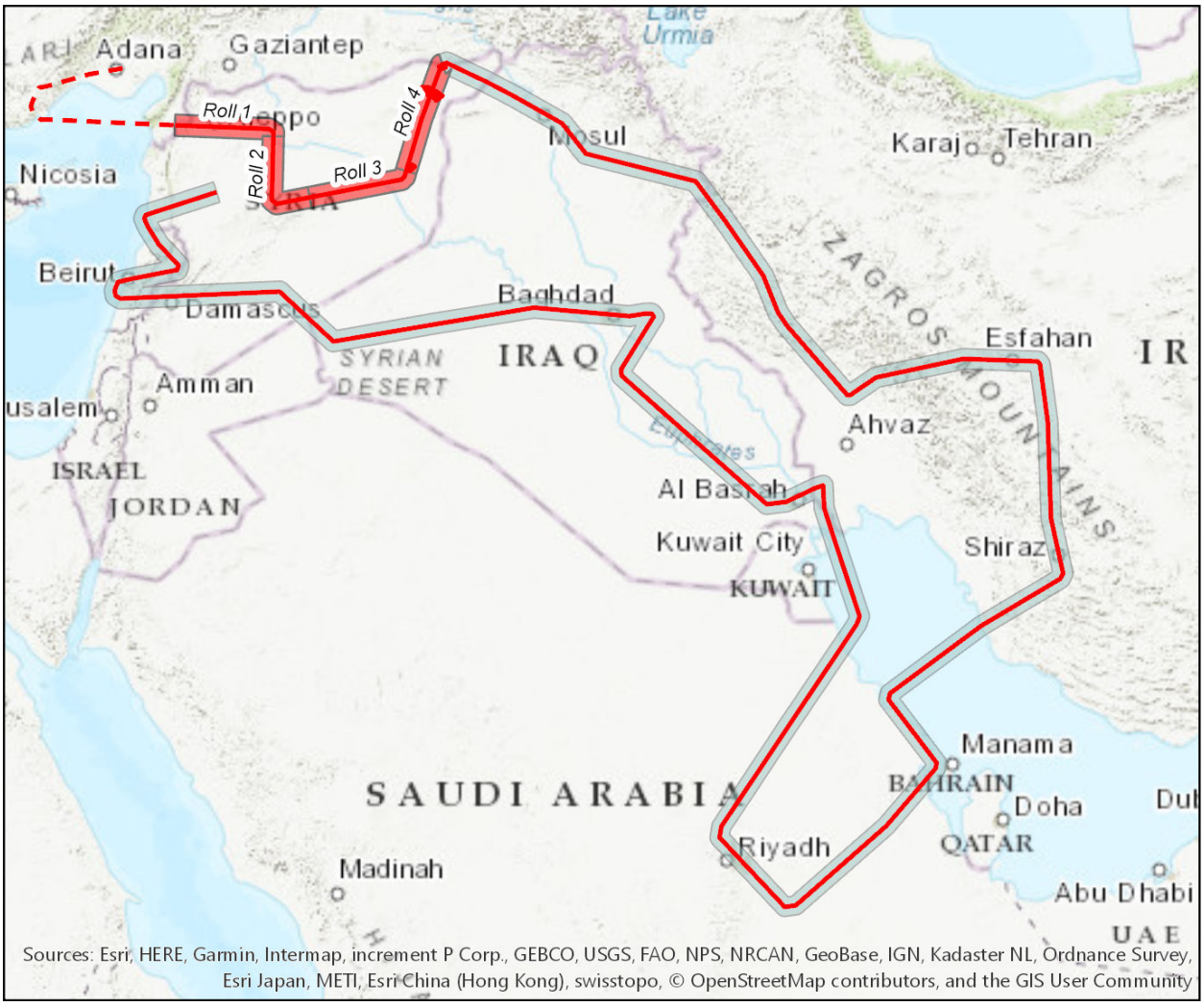
Mission 8638 10 Oct 1959



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

Flight path notes. The flight path was reconstructed from a declassified report (no. 4 below) and the tracking film. The flight path while Roll 4 was acquired has been confirmed via geo-referenced vertical frames. The end of the mission (after Hama, Syria) is unclear because of clouds in the tracking film.

Mode notes. Camera operated in 3-position Mode 2 during Roll 4; mode is uncertain for flight prior to and after Roll 4.

Main Camera notes. By Roll 4, the main camera clock was approximately two hours slow, compared to the tracking film clock. A declassified cable mentioned “INTERMITTENT CLOCK STOPPAGE” (no. 2 below). The main camera clock time therefore appears to be unreliable.

The main camera was certainly turned off at one or more points in the mission after frame 532 at the end of Roll 4.

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.

Tracking camera notes. The final 100 frames were not imaged or positioned because of 100% cloud coverage.

Relevant declassified documents in CREST

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

1. CIA-RDP33-02415A000300290081-7 Memo: malfunction report on missions up to 30 Sept 1959.
2. CIA-RDP78B05700A000400060001-1 Cable: film processing report
3. CIA-RDP78T05693A000200050015-0 Cable: film processing report
4. CIA-RDP78T05693A000200050017-8 Report: Notification of Completed Mission, with coordinates of targets covered
5. CIA-RDP89B00551R001000220012-2 Cable on successful mission

Film Rolls in NARA

MISSION	CAMERA	ROLL	STARTFRAME	ENDFRAME	TOTFRAMES	ON	BARCODE	CAN
8638	L	1	0	133	134	80298	6971	5605
8638	R	1	0	133	134	82244	7499	5625
8638	L	2	134	266	133	82234	7492	5606
8638	R	2	134	266	133	80354	6893	5626
8638	L	3	267	399	133	82191	7509	5607
8638	R	3	267	399	133	80328	6917	5627
8638	L	4	400	532	133	81866	9157	5608
8638	R	4	400	532	133	81861	9158	5628
8638	L	5	533	665	133	78105	7694	5609
8638	R	5	533	665	133	80052	7186	5629
8638	L	6	666	798	133	78182	7571	5610
8638	R	6	666	798	133	79315	6871	5630
8638	L	7	799	931	133	79324	6863	5611
8638	R	7	799	931	133	80325	6906	5631
8638	L	8	932	1064	133	79237	6858	5612
8638	R	8	932	1064	133	80264	6901	5632
8638	L	9	1065	1197	133	79316	6877	5613
8638	R	9	1065	1197	133	80317	6934	5633
8638	L	10	1198	1330	133	80288	6929	5614
8638	R	10	1198	1330	133	80380	6910	5634
8638	L	11	1331	1463	133	79323	6868	5615
8638	R	11	1331	1463	133	80323	6926	5635
8638	L	12	1464	1596	133	80314	6902	5616
8638	R	12	1464	1596	133	82248	7469	5636
8638	L	13	1597	1729	133	80271	6895	5617
8638	R	13	1597	1729	133	82245	7485	5637
8638	L	14	1730	1862	133	79317	6876	5618

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8638	R	14	1730	1862	133	82209	7440	5638
8638	L	15	1863	1995	133	80381	6898	5619
8638	R	15	1863	1995	133	82200	7488	5639
8638	L	16	1996	2128	133	80332	6941	5620
8638	R	16	1996	2128	133	82275	7445	5640
8638	L	17	2129	2261	133	82246	7487	5621
8638	R	17	2129	2261	133	78189	7577	5641
8638	L	18	2262	2394	133	82226	7519	5622
8638	R	18	2262	2394	133	82231	7498	5642
8638	L	19	2395	2527	133	78210	7561	5623
8638	R	19	2395	2527	133	78212	7562	5643
8638	L	20	2528	2540	13	78225	7584	5624
8638	R	20	2528	2553	26	78232	7532	5644
8638	TRACKER		1	1034	1034	81310	12736	5123

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