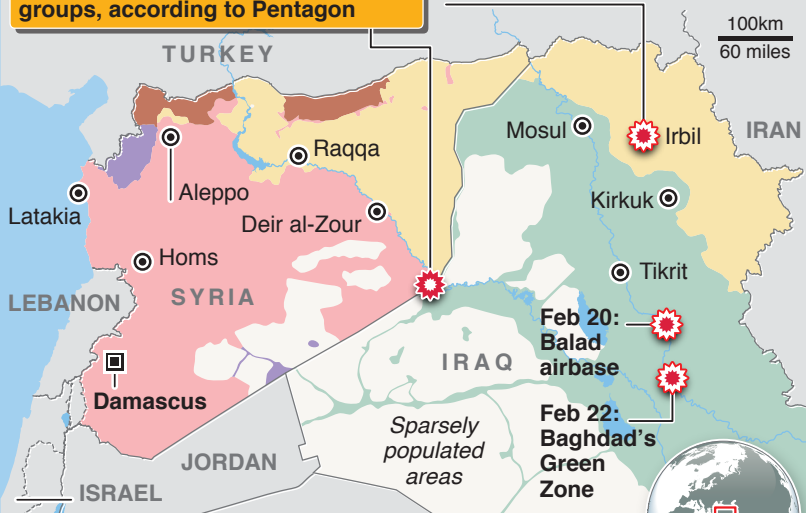


Biden authorises strikes in Syria

The U.S. has carried out air strikes against Iran-linked militias in Syria in retaliation for recent rocket attacks against U.S. targets in Iraq. The military action was the first ordered by President Joe Biden


Feb 26, 02.00 (local time):
"Up to a handful" of people killed in strikes at border control point used by Iranian-backed militant groups, according to Pentagon

Feb 15: Rocket attack on airport in Irbil kills one civilian contractor and wounds six others, including one U.S. service member



Areas of control: As of Feb 2021

- Syrian government and allies
- Kurdish forces
- Turkish-backed Syrian rebels and Turkish forces
- Syrian opposition forces
- Iraqi government

 Recent rocket attacks claimed by Shia militia groups

■ Strikes come as Biden administration is seeking to open talks with Iran to revive 2015 accord, aimed at limiting Tehran's nuclear programme in exchange for sanctions relief