

The U.S. Government Supplied ISIS' Iconic Pickup Trucks

By [Washington's Blog](#)

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U.S. counter-terror officials have [launched an investigation](#) into how ISIS got so many of those [identical Toyota pickup trucks](#) which they use in their convoys.

They don't have to look very far ...

The Spectator [reported](#) last year:

The [Toyota] Hilux [[pics](#)] is light, fast, manoeuvrable and all but indestructible ('bomb-proof' might not, in this instance, be a happy usage). The weapons experts Jane's claimed for the Hilux a similar significance to the longbows of Agincourt or the Huey choppers of Nam. A US Army Ranger said the Toyota sure 'kicks the hell out of a Humvee' (referring to the clumsy and over-sized High Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicle made by AM General).

The fact is the Toyotas were supplied by the US government to the Al Nusra Front as 'non-lethal aid' then 'acquired' by ISIS.

Al Nusra Front is [literally Al Qaeda](#).

Public Radio International – an American public radio outlet – also [documented](#) a specific shipment of Toyotas by the U.S. State Department in 2014:

Recently, when the US State Department resumed sending non-lethal aid to Syrian rebels, the delivery list included 43 Toyota trucks.

Hiluxes were on the Free Syrian Army's wish list. Oubai Shahbender, a Washington-based advisor to the Syrian National Coalition, is a fan of the truck.

"Specific equipment like the Toyota Hiluxes are what we refer to as force enablers for the moderate opposition forces on the ground," he adds. Shahbender says the US-supplied pickups will be delivering troops and supplies into battle. Some of the fleet will even become battlefield weapons.

That's exactly what happened ...

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