

Iraq Situation Report: June 17, 2014

June 17: Commander of the Iraqi Army (IA) in the district of Tal Afar, Maj. Gen. Khalid al-Khazraji (also known as Abu al-Walid and rumored to have been captured yesterday) stated today that most areas of the district are under ISF control. It is unclear if the four-day-old ISIS assault on Tal Afar has stopped. ISIS gunmen still control areas of the district.

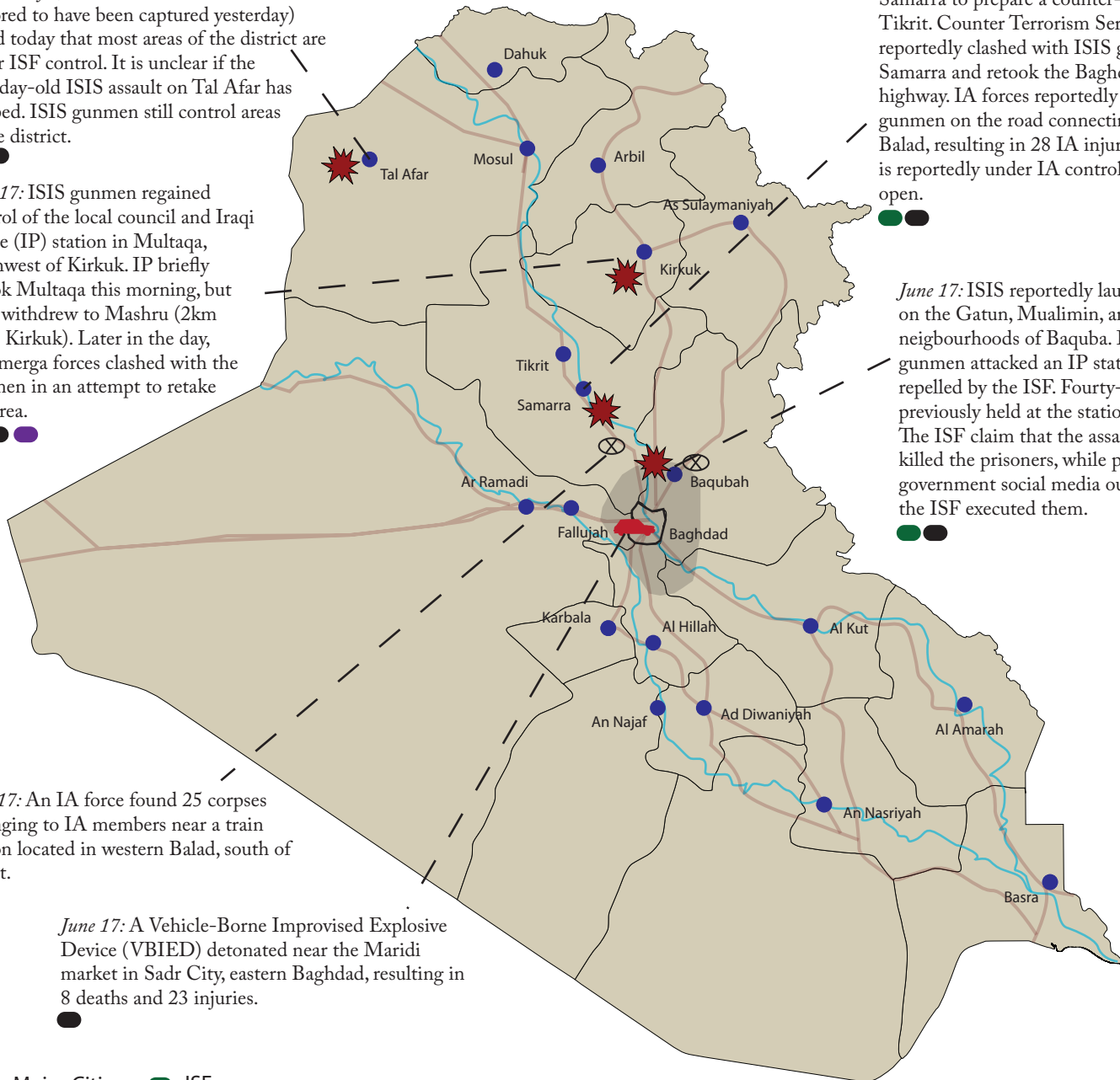
June 17: ISIS gunmen regained control of the local council and Iraqi Police (IP) station in Multaqa, southwest of Kirkuk. IP briefly retook Multaqa this morning, but then withdrew to Mashru (2km from Kirkuk). Later in the day, Peshmerga forces clashed with the gunmen in an attempt to retake the area.

June 17: An IA force found 25 corpses belonging to IA members near a train station located in western Balad, south of Tikrit.

June 17: A Vehicle-Borne Improvised Explosive Device (VBIED) detonated near the Maridi market in Sadr City, eastern Baghdad, resulting in 8 deaths and 23 injuries.

June 17: Salah ad-Din Police Commander General Hamad al-Namis arrived in Samarra to prepare a counter-attack on Tikrit. Counter Terrorism Services reportedly clashed with ISIS gunmen in Samarra and retook the Baghdad-Samarra highway. IA forces reportedly clashed with gunmen on the road connecting Ishaqi and Balad, resulting in 28 IA injuries. The road is reportedly under IA control and is now open.

June 17: ISIS reportedly launched assaults on the Gatun, Mualimin, and Mafraq neighbourhoods of Baquba. In Mafraq, the gunmen attacked an IP station but were repelled by the ISF. Forty-four detainees previously held at the station were killed. The ISF claim that the assaulting gunmen killed the prisoners, while prominent anti-government social media outlets claim that the ISF executed them.



- Major Cities
- ⊗ Execution
- ★ Major Clash
- 🚗 VBIED
- ISF
- ISF and Militias
- ISIS
- Peshmerga



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The Islamic State of Iraq and al-Sham (ISIS) attacked Baquba, Diyala Province, the third major urban center it has targeted since the fall of Mosul. Diyala contains ethnic and sectarian fault-lines and borders Iran. Diyala will therefore be a major front in the contest between ISIS, the Ba'athist JRTN, Peshmerga, ISF, and the militias. The ISF counter-offensive continues in Tal Afar, where security forces have engaged ISIS. If the ISF can regain terrain and withstand ISIS' follow-on assault for multiple days, it will indicate that some elements of the ISF have regrouped. A VBIED in Baghdad and conflicting reports of the deaths of 44 detainees held in a police station in Diyala can exacerbate sectarian violence.