

Iraq Situation Report: June 24, 2014

1 After reports that the Baiji oil refinery fell to ISIS on June 23, the ISF reportedly sent reinforcements while the Iraqi Army (IA) Aviation killed 19 ISIS gunmen in airstrikes near the facility. Seventy-five members of the Iraqi Police (IP) or Facility Protection Service, who had been guarding the refinery, reportedly left after reaching an agreement with ISIS. The refinery remains contested as the IA and the Counter Terrorism Services (CTS) actively resist ISIS control.



2 Heavy clashes took place between Peshmerga forces, other armed groups, and ISIS in Sadia, northeast of Baquba, prompting dozens of families to depart the area for Khaniqin, Diyala, and Kalar in Sulaymaniyah. The area remains contested.



3 On June 23, the ISF, commanded by Hadi al-Amiri, with support from tribal forces and most likely Iraqi Shi'a militias, reportedly cleared Udham. Al-Amiri is the leader of the Badr Organization and the Minister of Transportation. There are indications that ISIS has booby-trapped most of the homes in the area with explosives. Meanwhile, 700 families departed the area.



4 The IP command in Karbala ordered the Federal Police to secure Ayn Tamur, 30 miles west of the city. The IP has been administering Ayn Tamur until now. This measure intends to enhance security in the area, after yesterday's reports indicated that ISIS gunmen clashed with the IA near Nukhaib, west of Karbala.



- Major Cities
- Major Clash
- ISF Reinforcements
- Airstrikes
- ISF
- ISF and Militias
- ISIS
- Peshmerga
- Anti-ISIS Tribes



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The ISF is redeploying in order to halt ISIS advances from the Anbar desert towards the holy city of Karbala as well as southern Iraq. However, ISIS has other lines of advance to southern Iraq, including its positions in northern Babil Province. If the ISF redeployes away from Babil, it will leave an alternate path open for ISIS to advance toward the south. Meanwhile, the situation in northern Iraq remains fluid as the ISF cleared Udham, north of Baghdad, in an effort to reopen the Baghdad-Kirkuk highway. ISIS is meeting resistance to securing its gains in Diyala against Peshmerga and anti-ISIS tribal forces.