

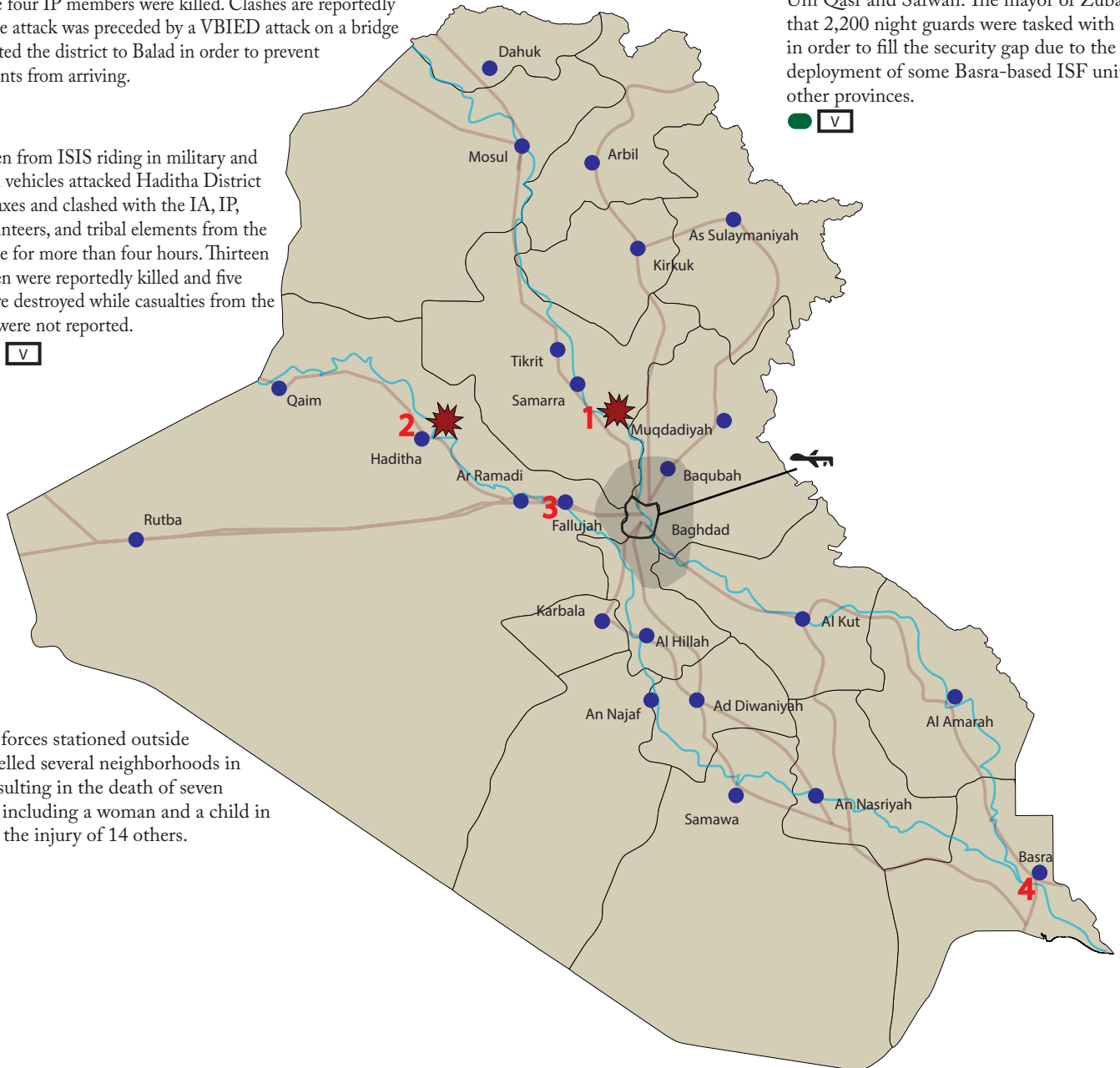
Iraq Situation Report: July 13, 2014

1 Approximately 80 gunmen from ISIS launched an attack on Dhuluiya, southeast of Samarra. The gunmen initiated the attack from the north and clashed heavily with the IP and tribal elements from the Jubouri tribe, resulting in the death of three ISIS members and the injury of seven others while four IP members were killed. Clashes are reportedly ongoing. The attack was preceded by a VBIED attack on a bridge that connected the district to Balad in order to prevent reinforcements from arriving.

2 Gunmen from ISIS riding in military and 4x4 civilian vehicles attacked Haditha District from three axes and clashed with the IA, IP, SWAT, volunteers, and tribal elements from the Jighaifa tribe for more than four hours. Thirteen ISIS gunmen were reportedly killed and five vehicles were destroyed while casualties from the other sides were not reported.

3 The IA forces stationed outside Fallujah shelled several neighborhoods in the city, resulting in the death of seven individuals including a woman and a child in addition to the injury of 14 others.

4 The local government in Zubair District in Basra created an operations room in order to tighten security in Zubair and the sub-districts of Um Qasr and Safwan. The mayor of Zubair stated that 2,200 night guards were tasked with security in order to fill the security gap due to the deployment of some Basra-based ISF units to other provinces.



- Major Cities
- ISF
- ISIS
- Anti-ISIS Tribes
- ★ Major Clash
- V Volunteers
- ✈ Armed Drones



by ISW Iraq Team and Aaron Reese

ISIS is trying to continue its maneuver campaign along the Tigris and the Euphrates. ISIS launched an attack on Haditha for the second time in two days, which indicates that its previously reported negotiations with the tribes did not succeed. The reported presence of volunteers who are likely Iraqi Shi'a creates an interesting dynamic and illustrates both the importance of Haditha to the government and the strong desire of tribes in Haditha to prevent ISIS from entering the district. Dhuluiya is the route by which historically AQI and ISIS transited from Diyala to Samarra. The attack upon Dhuluiya indicates the presence of an ISIS force in the vicinity of Samarra that is able to go on the offensive despite the heavy presence of Iraqi Shi'a militias to the north and the ISF in Balad airbase to the south. Meanwhile, Saddam Hussein's former vice president and Ba'athist leader, Izzat al-Duri, gave his first statement since the fall of Mosul. He highlighted the role of JRTN and other armed groups participating in the offensive and gave a special mention to ISIS, describing its members as "heroes and knights." Duri also called for unity among the anti-government forces and urged them to postpone their disagreements in order to achieve victory. Duri also called for the Jihadi and Islamic forces to transcend sectarian, ethnic, and regional differences. His statement is significant because it highlights the strategic role that JRTN and other Ba'athist groups are playing in the ongoing offensive, even though they likely support an end-state that collapses the Iraqi government more than establishing an Islamic Caliphate.