

Iraq Situation Report: July 22, 2014

1 ISIS fired mortars on a residential complex located in the outskirts of the Peshmerga controlled area of Sinjar, west of Mosul. The complex housed mostly Iraqi Yazidis who predominantly populate Sinjar. Dozens of families fled the complex to central Sinjar with no reported casualties.

2 Three airstrikes targeted the area of Ba'aj, west of Mosul, which resulted in the death of five individuals and the injury of six others, including women and children.

3 ISIS published images that showed buses in Mosul labeled to designate that they are operated by the "Islamic State" without charge. The images showed the buses in service and used by the residents.

4 The IP found four unidentified dead bodies with gunshot wounds to the head and chest in a deserted yard in southern Samarra. Also, the ISF found 10 unidentified dead bodies with gunshot wounds in the Tigris, south of Samarra.

● Major Cities

✈ Airstrikes

★ Major Clash

✈ Armed Drones

🚗 VBIED

⊗ Execution

● ISF

● ISIS

● Shi'a militias

● Unknown Gunmen

5 Unidentified gunmen, who were likely ISIS, targeted an IA checkpoint in the area of Mashada, north of Baghdad. The attack resulted in the death of one and the injury of five other IA members.

6 Heavy clashes continued between the ISF and ISIS in areas north of Muqdadiyah. Eight ISIS fighters were reportedly killed while one IA member was killed and two others were injured.

7 Unidentified gunmen stormed a mosque in the area of Abu al-Khasib, south of Basra City. The gunmen killed the imam of the Mosque in addition to kidnapping three worshipers who were found dead later near the mosque. On 21 July, unidentified gunmen stormed a mosque in the area of Maqal in northern Basra City. The gunmen opened fire with automatic weapons killing one worshiper and injuring another.

8 A VBIED detonated in Nahrawan, east of Baghdad which resulted in the death of three individuals and the injury of eight others.



100km

ISW
INSTITUTE FOR THE
STUDY OF WAR

by Ahmed Ali, ISW Iraq Team, and Jennifer Cafarella

Iraqi Shi'a militias continue to escalate their campaign. The attacks in Basra are reminiscent of the killing of Iraqi Sunni tribal leaders in the city in November 2013 that ISW assessed to have been carried out by Iraqi Shi'a militias. In the context of the ongoing violence, the Basra mosque attacks, combined with the discovery of unidentified bodies in Samarra, will be viewed by the Iraqi Sunnis as part of a sectarian retribution campaign that is moving beyond Baghdad. The ISIS attacks around Baghdad are indicative of the organization's intent to continue the weakening of Baghdad defenses. The attacks will likely result in further ISF and Iraqi Shi'a militia deployments into the Baghdad belts. ISIS has targeted Sinjar three times since July 17. These persistent attacks signify ISIS's intent to broaden its anti-Kurdish campaign that has thus far been limited to Kirkuk and Diyala.