

## Iraq Situation Report: July 23, 2014

**1** On July 22, ISIS and Peshmerga forces clashed approximately 20 km north of Mosul, Ninewa Province. ISIS took control of the Ninewa Pharmaceutical Company and the Free Trade Zone after the withdrawal of Peshmerga forces. The clashes resulted in the death of two Peshmerga members and the injury of three. On July 23, Peshmerga forces launched mortars at the Ninewa Pharmaceutical Company. Also on July 23, ISIS seized the under-construction Badush Dam, 20 km northwest of Mosul, and a nearby bridge. ISIS is now reportedly 20 km from the nearby Mosul Dam.

**2** An official in Mosul's Kurdistan Democratic Party (KDP) stated that ISIS threatened Iraqi Kurdish families in Mosul with death if they did not leave the city.

**3** On July 22, airstrikes targeted the Mosul General Hospital in the al-Shafa neighborhood. The attack resulted in material damage and no reported casualties.

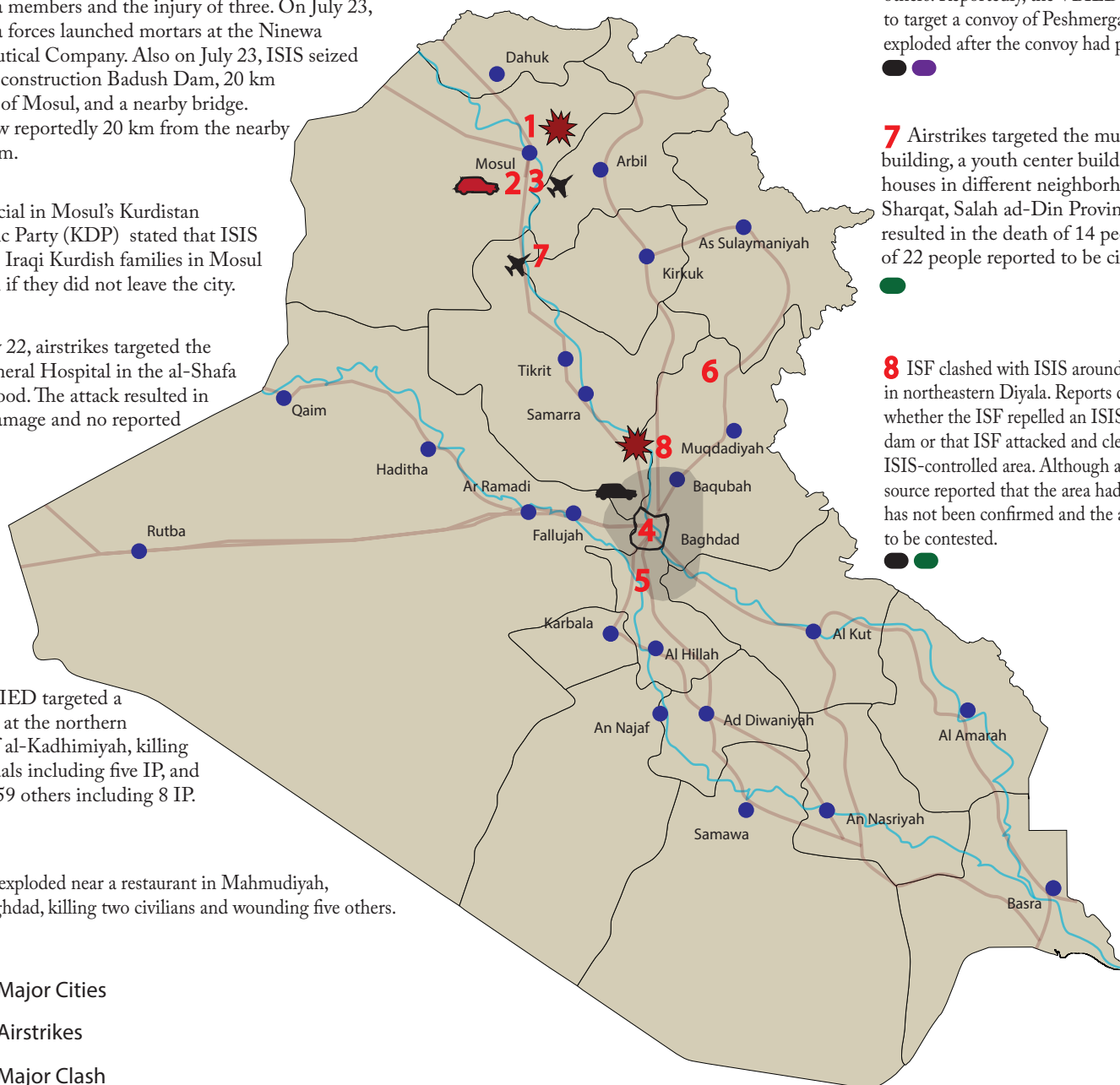
**4** An SVBIED targeted a checkpoint at the northern entrance of al-Kadhimiyah, killing 24 individuals including five IP, and wounding 59 others including 8 IP.

**5** An IED exploded near a restaurant in Mahmudiyah, south of Baghdad, killing two civilians and wounding five others.

**6** A VBIED detonated near the entrance to a market in Jalula, Diyala Province. The attack killed two civilians and wounded six others. Reportedly, the VBIED was intended to target a convoy of Peshmerga forces but it exploded after the convoy had passed.

**7** Airstrikes targeted the municipal building, a youth center building, and houses in different neighborhoods in Sharqat, Salah ad-Din Province. The attacks resulted in the death of 14 people and injury of 22 people reported to be civilians.

**8** ISF clashed with ISIS around the Hamrin Dam in northeastern Diyala. Reports differ as to whether the ISF repelled an ISIS attack against the dam or that ISF attacked and cleared an ISIS-controlled area. Although a local security source reported that the area had been cleared, this has not been confirmed and the area will continue to be contested.



- Major Cities
- Airstrikes
- Major Clash
- Armed Drones
- SVBIED
- VBIED
- ISF
- ISIS
- Peshmerga



*by Ahmed Ali and Heather L. Pickerell*

ISIS continued its campaign against Peshmerga-controlled terrain and infrastructure, gaining control of the Badush Dam, 20 km northwest of Mosul. The dam is still under construction but the bridge nearby, also under ISIS control, connects Mosul with Kurdish-claimed terrain. ISIS conducted a VBIED attack attempting to target Peshmerga in Jalula, in Diyala province along the Green Line disputed between Arabs and Kurds. These attacks plus those in Sinjar over the past week, illustrate ISIS's determined campaign to place pressure along the full breadth of Kurdish forces along their exterior lines, such that the Peshmerga cannot mutually support all three positions or reinforce any one without harming the other. ISIS also clashed with security forces around the Hamrin Dam in Diyala province, but it is not clear from sources whether the infrastructure was actually a military objective that the group sought. ISIS does not now hold this area. ISIS continues lethal VBIED attacks in Baghdad's Kadhimiyah neighborhood, this time targeting a checkpoint. ISW continues to assess that these VBIED attacks not only aim to harm Shi'a armed forces and civilians, but that they also aim to probe defenses in advance of further strikes in Baghdad.