

Iraq Situation Report: July 24, 2014

1 An IED detonated against an IA patrol in the area of Abu Ghraib, west of Baghdad. The attack was followed by small arms fire which resulted in the death of three soldiers and the injury of four others.



2 Two VBIEDs detonated in Karrada, central Baghdad. The detonations resulted in the death of at least 13 individuals and the injury of at least 29 others.



3 On July 23, clashes took place between forces from the 17th division of the IA and ISIS members in the area of Shakha 3 of Latifiya, south of Baghdad. Casualties were not reported.



4 Two sound bombs detonated in central Karbala, near the house of the minister of higher education who is also a member of PM Maliki's State of Law Alliance, Ali al-Adib. Another sound bomb detonated near the counter-explosives directorate in central Karbala and caused light injuries to a guard.



5 IA shelling of Garma, northeast of Fallujah, resulted in the death of 10 individuals and injured nine others.



6 Airstrikes targeted ISIS elements on the road between the villages of Shamseya and Bashir, south of Kirkuk city.



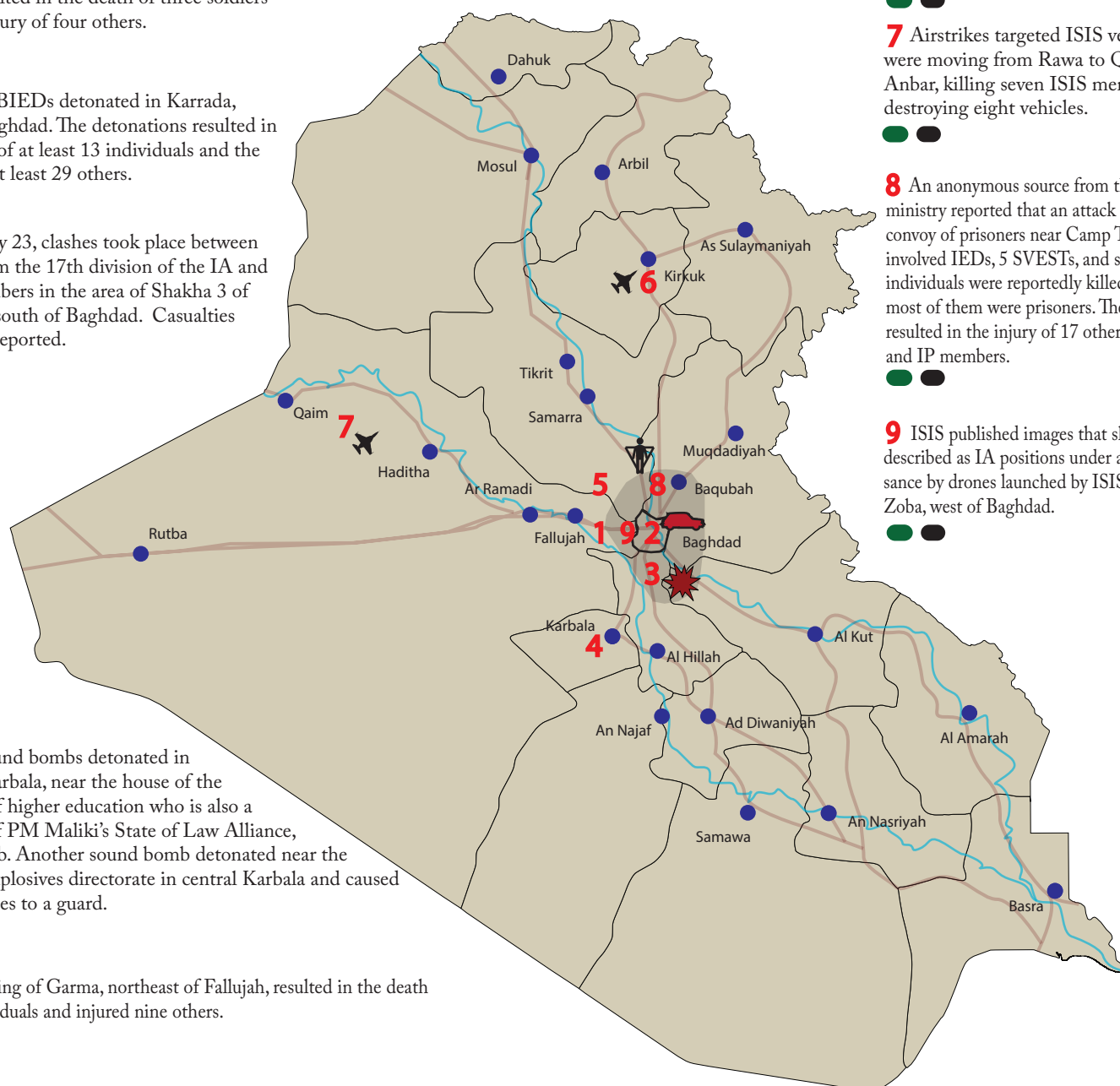
7 Airstrikes targeted ISIS vehicles as they were moving from Rawa to Qaim, western Anbar, killing seven ISIS members and destroying eight vehicles.



8 An anonymous source from the interior ministry reported that an attack took place on convoy of prisoners near Camp Taji. The attack involved IEDs, 5 SVESTs, and small arms fire. 62 individuals were reportedly killed during the attack, most of them were prisoners. The attack also resulted in the injury of 17 others to include IA and IP members.



9 ISIS published images that showed what was described as IA positions under aerial reconnaissance by drones launched by ISIS in the area of Zoba, west of Baghdad.



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| Major Cities | Armed Drones | Unknown Gunmen |
| Airstrikes | VBIED | ISF |
| Major Clash | SVEST | ISIS |



by ISW Iraq Team and Lauren Squires

ISIS continued to deploy VBIEDs in hardened areas in Baghdad, this time in Karrada, central Baghdad, indicating both the capability and the intent to focus efforts on the Iraqi capital. The clashes in Latifiyah are also significant given the proximity to the capital and the strategic location of Latifiyah on the Baghdad-Hilla highway. The circumstances regarding the death of the prisoners near Taji remain unclear. It is unlikely the gunmen who reportedly targeted the convoy aimed to kill the prisoners; if the prisoners were killed in the attack, then they were most likely executed by the ISF to prevent their escape. Finally, the shelling of Garma is part of the recent ISF effort to disrupt ISIS in areas of Anbar in order to prevent ISIS from achieving more gains in the province. The images published by ISIS of IA positions allegedly taken by drones indicate an attempt by ISIS to portray itself as an advanced force that is able to integrate technology into its combat operations. Although the drones that ISIS may be using are consumer electronics models, they may provide a simple reconnaissance capability for operations.