

Iraq Situation Report: July 28, 2014

1 IA Aviation bombed ad-Dor, south of Tikrit, killing two people, wounding four others, including women and children, and destroying two homes.

2 IA Aviation conducted airstrikes against gunmen headed from Mutassim sub-district, northwest of Balad, to attack police and tribal elements in Dhuluiya. 10 ISIS vehicles were reportedly destroyed.

3 IA mortars struck various neighborhoods in Fallujah, killing four people and wounding 12 others.

4 ISIS attacked the 8th Brigade headquarters in northern Ramadi and clashed with the IA, resulting in the death of seven ISIS members and the destruction of two vehicles. A force from the 12th IA Division killed four ISIS militants and destroyed one ISIS vehicle during further clashes in central Ramadi.

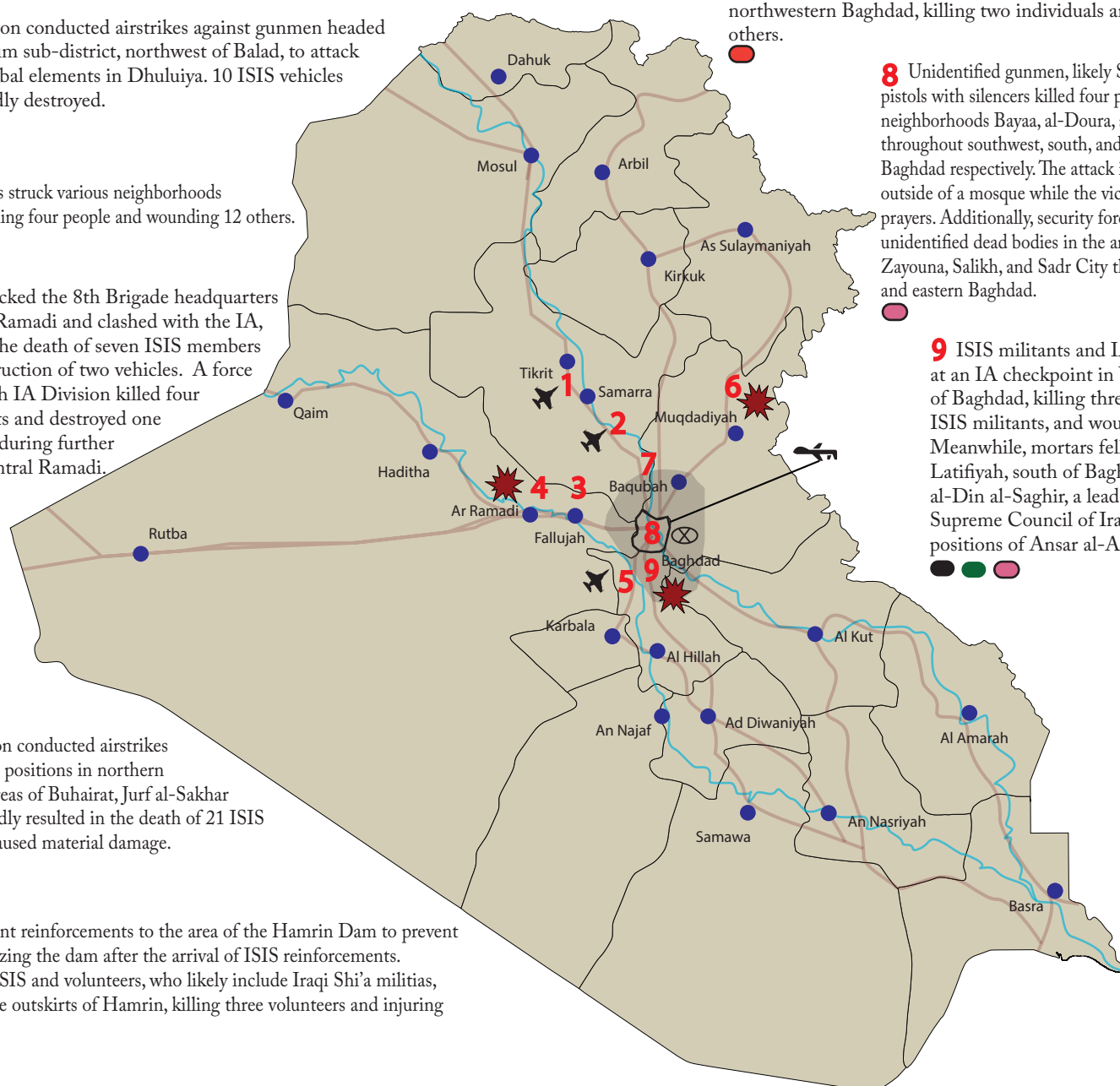
5 IA Aviation conducted airstrikes targeting ISIS positions in northern Babil in the areas of Buhairat, Jurf al-Sakhar which reportedly resulted in the death of 21 ISIS fighters and caused material damage.

6 The IA sent reinforcements to the area of the Hamrin Dam to prevent ISIS from seizing the dam after the arrival of ISIS reinforcements. Meanwhile, ISIS and volunteers, who likely include Iraqi Shi'a militias, clashed on the outskirts of Hamrin, killing three volunteers and injuring three others.

7 Approximately 15 mortars landed on an IA position in Taji, north of Baghdad, and on al-Shula, northwestern Baghdad, killing two IP members, two IA soldiers, and injuring 17 other individuals. Two mortar shells also landed in the al-Chakuk area, northwestern Baghdad, killing two individuals and injuring seven others.

8 Unidentified gunmen, likely Shi'a militias, using pistols with silencers killed four people in the neighborhoods Bayaa, al-Doura, and al-Shula throughout southwest, south, and northwestern Baghdad respectively. The attack in Bayaa occurred outside of a mosque while the victim was leaving Eid prayers. Additionally, security forces found 11 unidentified dead bodies in the areas of Bayaa, Zayouna, Salikh, and Sadr City throughout south and eastern Baghdad.

9 ISIS militants and IA soldiers clashed at an IA checkpoint in Yusufiyah, south of Baghdad, killing three IA soldiers, two ISIS militants, and wounding four others. Meanwhile, mortars fell in the area of Latifiyah, south of Baghdad, while Jalal al-Din al-Saghir, a leader of the Islamic Supreme Council of Iraq (ISCI), visited positions of Ansar al-Aqida Companies.



- Major Cities
- ⊗ Execution
- ✈ Airstrikes
- ✈ Armed Drones
- ★ Major Clash
- Unknown Gunmen
- Shi'a militias
- ISF
- ISIS



by ISW Iraq Team, Lauren Squires, and Jennifer Cafarella

Reports that ISIS is sending reinforcements to the vicinity of the Hamrin Dam indicate that ISIS is seeking to control the dam as a military objective rather than pursuing it as a feint to divert ISF resources away from other targets. The Hamrin Dam is an important objective, and ISF is aware that ISIS control of the dam could cause significant damage to the city of Baquba or even further on to Baghdad. The recent surge of Iraqi Shi'a militia activity in Baghdad is worrisome. In the past three days, ISF has found approximately 28 unidentified dead bodies in the capital. Elsewhere in Baghdad, mortar attacks continue to target Shi'a neighborhoods which will likely lead to an increase in reprisal attacks. The presence of the militias in Latifiyah and continued clashes in Yusufiyah indicate that the front line between the ISF, militia, and ISIS has advanced beyond northern Babil and closer to Baghdad. ISW has anticipated a major ISIS offensive to culminate their year-long Soldier's Harvest campaign that began in Ramadan of last year. We have not yet seen an event to match up with the previous year's storming of Abu Ghraib prison, but as Eid al-Fitr has arrived to end the month of Ramadan that offensive may be either disrupted or soon to come.