

Iraq Situation Report: August 25, 2014

1 Two VBIEDs detonated in Karbala, one in Bab Twerij, which is located approximately 500 meters southeast of Imam al-Hussein Shrine. Another VBIED detonated in the Maytham al-Tammar area, eastern Karbala. The attacks killed eight individuals and injured 35 others.

6 Two VBIEDs detonated in Hillah. The first VBIED targeted shops in Greta, eastern Hillah killing one individual and injuring two others. The second VBIED detonated in a parking garage of a local Babil government building in Hillah proper, injuring two individual and burning more than 15 vehicles.

2 ISIS attacked the entrance of Tuz Khurmatu initiating heavy clashes with the Peshmerga, ISF, and volunteers who most likely include Iraqi Shi'a militia. The joint force repelled the attack with support from IA Aviation. Casualty figures remain unknown.

7 On August 23, a U.S. airstrike destroyed an ISIS vehicle in vicinity of the Mosul Dam. Also, on August 24 U.S. airstrikes destroyed an ISIS HMMWV near the dam and an ISIS armed vehicles near Arbil.

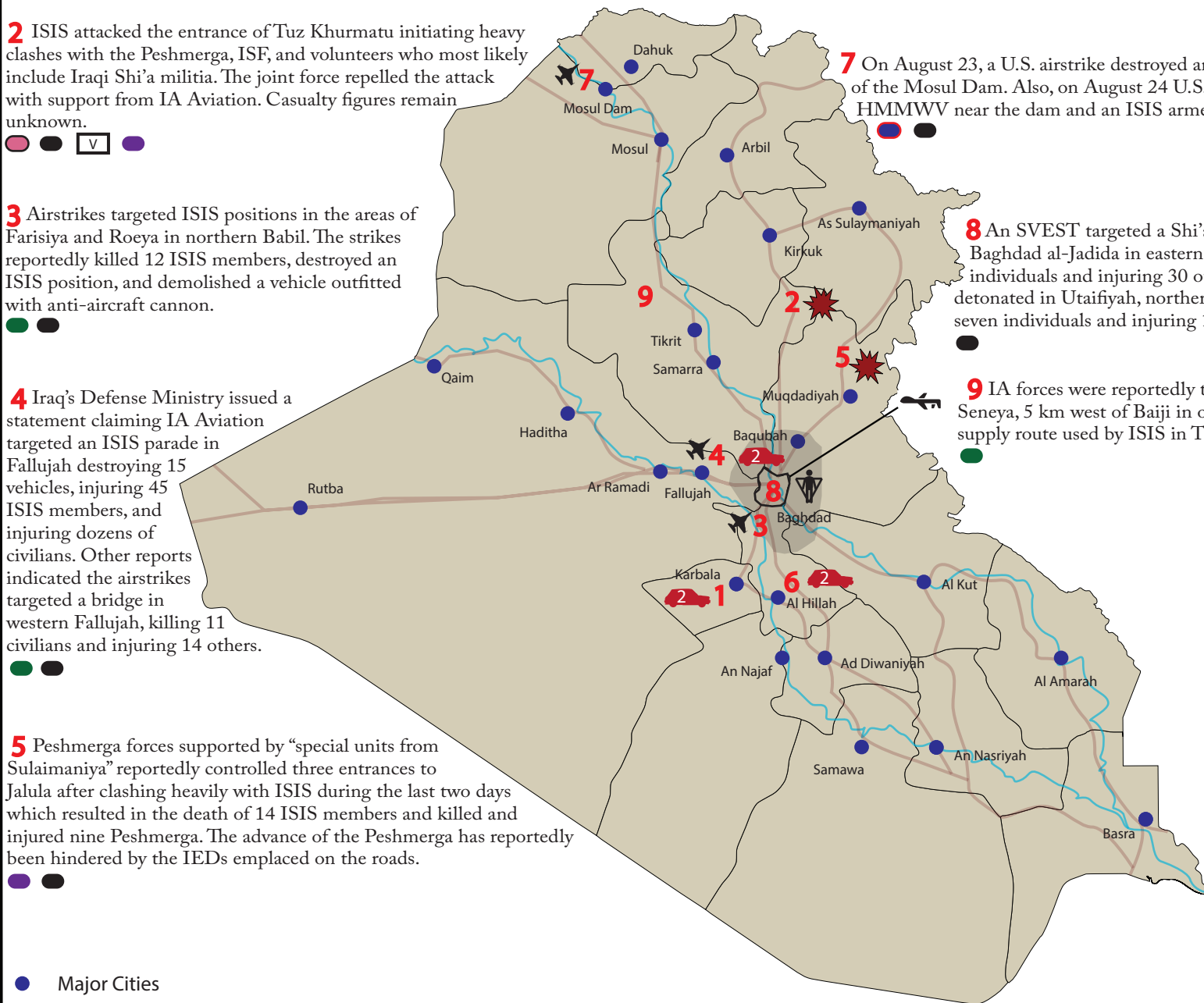
3 Airstrikes targeted ISIS positions in the areas of Farisiya and Roeya in northern Babil. The strikes reportedly killed 12 ISIS members, destroyed an ISIS position, and demolished a vehicle outfitted with anti-aircraft cannon.

8 An SVEST targeted a Shi'a mosque in the area of Baghdad al-Jadida in eastern Baghdad killing at least 30 individuals and injuring 30 others. Also, two VBIEDs detonated in Utaifiyah, northern Baghdad killing at least seven individuals and injuring 18 others.

4 Iraq's Defense Ministry issued a statement claiming IA Aviation targeted an ISIS parade in Fallujah destroying 15 vehicles, injuring 45 ISIS members, and injuring dozens of civilians. Other reports indicated the airstrikes targeted a bridge in western Fallujah, killing 11 civilians and injuring 14 others.

9 IA forces were reportedly transported via air assets to Seneya, 5 km west of Baiji in order to cut the northern supply route used by ISIS in Tikrit.

5 Peshmerga forces supported by "special units from Sulaimaniya" reportedly controlled three entrances to Jalula after clashing heavily with ISIS during the last two days which resulted in the death of 14 ISIS members and killed and injured nine Peshmerga. The advance of the Peshmerga has reportedly been hindered by the IEDs emplaced on the roads.



- Major Cities
- 🚗 VBIED
- ✈️ Airstrikes
- 👤 SVEST
- 🌟 Major Clash
- 🚁 Armed Drones
- Iraqi Shi'a militias
- ISF
- ISIS
- USA
- ☐ Volunteers
- Peshmerga



Content: ISW Iraq Team and Lauren Squires
Graphics: Nichole Dicharry

Jalula is the geographic nexus among Iraqi Kurds, Iran and its backed militias in Iraq, and ISF interests. The reported formation of a joint operations room in which ISF and Peshmerga coordinate security efforts to retake Jalula attests to this common interest. The Iranian regime has a strategic objective of securing its border and an operational objective of doing so along Iraq's Green Line demarcating Kurdish regions. The special units came from Sulaimaniya likely because the province is historically under the control of the former Iraqi President and Iranian ally Jalal Talabani rather than Masoud Barzani who has articulated his desire for an independent Kurdish region. In Baghdad, the ISIS VBIED command remains active for the third consecutive day. Although the attacks in Karbala and Hillah show ISIS reach into southern Iraq, the attacks in Karbala further foment sectarian tensions given their proximity to the Shrine of Imam al-Hussein.