

Iraq Situation Report: September 17, 2014

1 The head of the Badr Organization, Hadi al-Ameri, criticized the U.S. intervention and called for Iraqis to rely on the ISF, Iraqi Shia militias, and volunteers. Ameri warned that U.S. intervention will have negative consequences on Iraq's future. Also, a statement issued by a CoR member supportive of the militias highlighted that Katai'b Said al-Shuhada would leave the front lines if U.S. troops were deployed to their area of operations. He maintained that U.S. air support is acceptable under Iraqi supervision.

2 On September 16, CENTCOM announced that U.S. airstrikes targeted ISIS positions northwest of Arbil, destroying an armed truck and a fighting position.

3 On September 16, U.S. Central Command (CENTCOM) announced that U.S. airstrikes targeted ISIS positions southwest of Baghdad, destroying a truck, an anti-aircraft artillery piece, a small group of militants, and two small boats on the Euphrates carrying ISIS supplies.

4 Security forces reportedly found 20 bodies belonging to security forces and tribal fighters in the Al-Gsairat area, east of Haditha. The source stated the bodies were decomposed and had gunshot wounds to the head and chest.

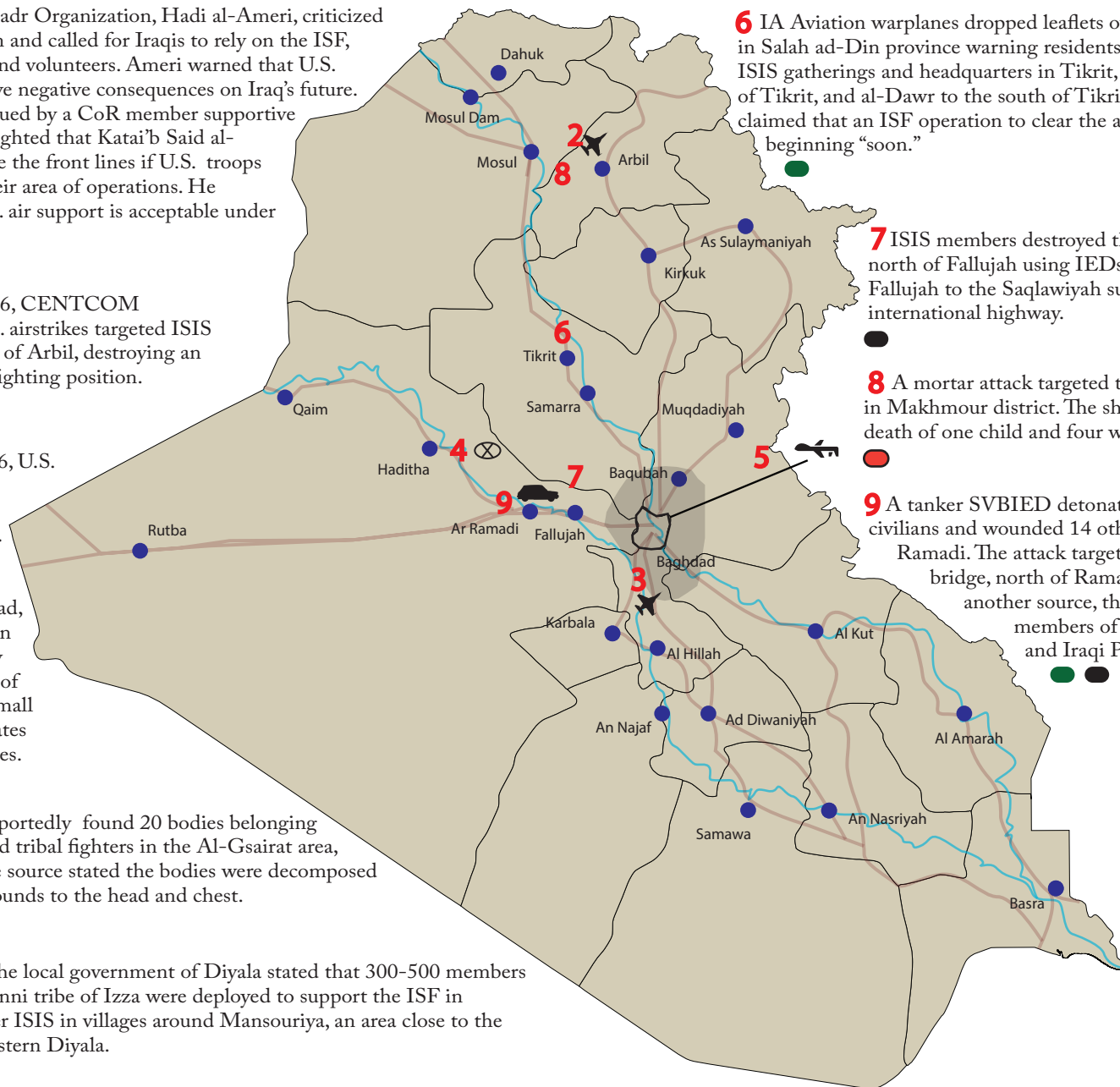
5 An official from the local government of Diyala stated that 300-500 members of the Iraqi Arab Sunni tribe of Izza were deployed to support the ISF in operations to counter ISIS in villages around Mansouriya, an area close to the Hamrin Ridge of eastern Diyala.

6 IA Aviation warplanes dropped leaflets over various locations in Salah ad-Din province warning residents to stay away from ISIS gatherings and headquarters in Tikrit, al-Alam to the east of Tikrit, and al-Dawr to the south of Tikrit. The pamphlets claimed that an ISF operation to clear the area would be beginning "soon."

7 ISIS members destroyed the al-Sechar bridge north of Fallujah using IEDs. The bridge connects Fallujah to the Saqlawiyah sub-district and the international highway.

8 A mortar attack targeted the village of Kbeba in Makhmour district. The shelling resulted in the death of one child and four women.

9 A tanker SVBIED detonated and killed six civilians and wounded 14 others in northern Ramadi. The attack targeted the Albu Faraj bridge, north of Ramadi. According to another source, the SVBIED targeted members of the Iraqi Army (IA) and Iraqi Police.



- Major Cities
- Anti-ISIS Iraqi Sunni Tribes
- Unknown Gunmen
- SVBIED
- Airstrikes
- ISF
- Iraqi Shi'a militias
- Execution
- Armed Drones
- ISIS
- USA



Content: Ahmed Ali
Graphics: Nichole Dicharry

Iranian-backed Iraqi Shi'a militias continue to voice their opposition to possible U.S. ground troops and the international anti-ISIS coalition. Hadi al-Ameri's statement is more significant given his leading role in coordinating with the Iranian Quds Force Commander Qassim Suleimani and leading Iraqi Shi'a militia effort in countering ISIS. Additionally, he is pursuing a formal leadership role in Iraq's security structure by seeking the Interior Minister position. The Iraqi government may be planning a major operation to retake parts of Salah ad-Din including its provincial capital of Tikrit. The Iraqi government has launched multiple operations to reclaim Tikrit in the past, but those operations have not had long-term strategic effects on ISIS's operations in Tikrit. Best,