

# Iraq Situation Report: September 30-October 1, 2014

**1** On October 1, ISIS reportedly launched an attack on the Bani Saad area, located near the Imam Said Mohammed shrine in Balad district, southwest of Dhuluiya. The attack has been ongoing since the morning and ISIS used mortar rounds and medium and heavy weapons, killing and injuring 16 individuals. Sheikhs and major figures of Balad called for IA and IA aviation support to repel the attack. Also, ISIS launched an attack on an IP station, east of Balad which initiated clashes that resulted in the death of five and injured nine others from the IP and the Popular Mobilization which includes Iraqi Shia militias.



**2** Leader of the Badr Organization Hadi al-Ameri stated that a joint force from the IA, Peshmerga, and Popular Mobilization, which includes Iraqi Shia militias, launched an operation from Tuz Khurmatu in eastern Salah ad-Din toward the Zarga bridge that connects Tikrit to Diyala and Salah ad-Din provinces. Ameri added that the force cleared five villages from ISIS on the way to the bridge. Ameri added that another attack was launched to clear villages west of Amerli.



**3** On September 30, an SVBIED detonated at a joint checkpoint at the Salam Bridge east of Karbala, killing and wounding an unknown number of people. Also, a VBIED or a sound bomb detonated in the Bab al-Tawrij neighborhood of central Karbala, wounding six people.



**4** On September 30, two VBIEDs detonated in parking garages in Babil province, one south of Hilla in al-Kifl and the other north of Hilla in Iskandariya. The VBIED in al-Kifl wounded seven people, while the VBIED in Iskandariya wounded eight people.



**5** On September 30, ISIS launched a major attack on Dhuluiya, southeast of Samarra from the northern and the eastern axes. The Islamic State of Iraq and al-Sham (ISIS) reportedly launched 23 mortars on the area and used one suicide bomber supported by gunmen. On October 1, IA Aviation reportedly targeted ISIS near Dhuluiya killing and injuring 40 ISIS members. Also on October 1, a source from the ISF in Salah ad-Din reported that "international airstrikes" targeted ISIS near Dhuluiya killing 30 ISIS members.



**6** On October 1, a VBIED detonated in Baghdad al-Jadida of eastern Baghdad killing at least 13 individuals and injuring 47 others. On September 30, two VBIEDs detonated in the al-Hurriyah area of northern Baghdad. Also, rockets and mortar shells fell on al-Hurriyah, al-Shuala, and Sabaa al-Bour in northern Baghdad causing an unknown number of casualties. Reports indicate that nine people died and at least 40 others were wounded. Also, a VBIED detonated near a restaurant in Zafaraniyah, southeastern Baghdad, killing five people and wounding 12 others.



**7** On September 30, the Peshmerga in Ninewa province launched an operation that reportedly reclaimed the town of Rabia from ISIS on the Iraq-Syria border. The Shammar tribe in Rabia supported the Peshmerga in their effort. The Peshmerga also launched an operation against ISIS positions in southern Kirkuk. The Peshmerga ministry denied media reports that indicated the participating of YPG and PKK forces in the operation.



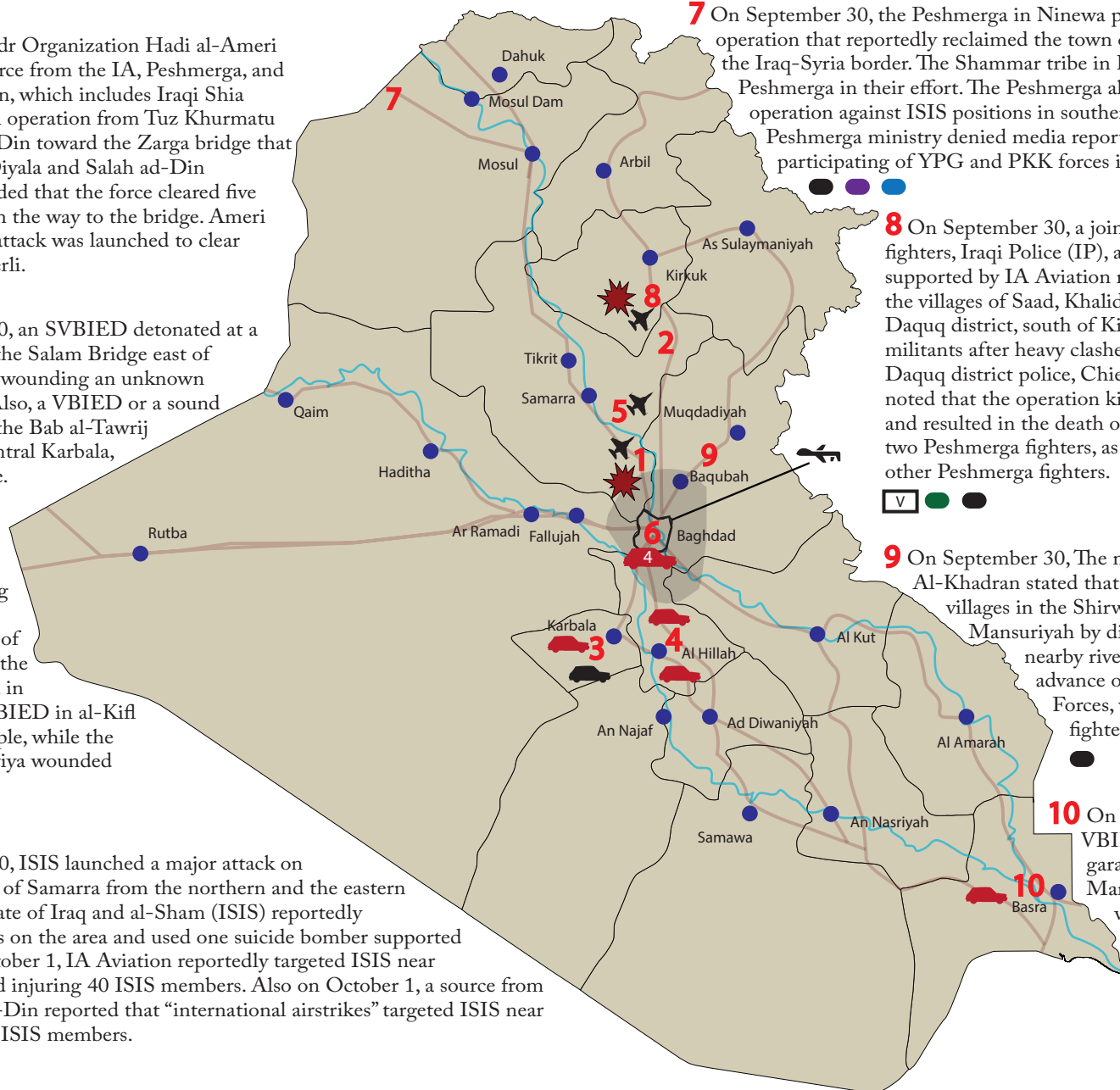
**8** On September 30, a joint force of Peshmerga fighters, Iraqi Police (IP), and volunteers supported by IA Aviation reportedly recaptured the villages of Saad, Khalid, and Wihda in Daquq district, south of Kirkuk, from ISIS militants after heavy clashes. The director of the Daquq district police, Chief Kawa Gharib, noted that the operation killed 15 ISIS militants and resulted in the death of three IP officers and two Peshmerga fighters, as well as injuring 18 other Peshmerga fighters.



**9** On September 30, The mayor of Khalis, Uday Al-Khadran stated that ISIS flooded nine villages in the Shirwain area, east of Mansuriyah by diverting water from nearby rivers to prevent the advance of Iraqi Security Forces, volunteers, and tribal fighters.



**10** On September 30, a VBIED detonated in a garage near the al-Dakir Market in central Basra, wounding six people.



- Major Cities
- ✈ Airstrikes
- 🚗 SVBIED
- 🚗 VBIED
- 🚁 Armed Drones
- ★ Major Clash
- 👤 Volunteers
- ISF
- ISIS
- Peshmerga
- Anti-ISIS Iraqi Sunni Tribes
- Iraqi Shi'a militias



Content: Ahmed Ali and ISW Iraq Team  
Graphics: Nichole Dicharry

There is an ongoing anti-ISIS effort in northern Iraq led by the Peshmerga and Iraqi Sunni tribes. The clearing of Rabia, on the Iraq-Syria border, is significant both due to the location of the area and the composition of anti-ISIS forces involved in the operation. The clearance of Rabia will allow for a potential operation to reclaim Sinjar and Tal Afar to its south, although the momentum of the combined Peshmerga and Shammar tribal effort will continue to be tested as the Shammar tribe will be hesitant to push beyond its power base of Rabia. The participation of the Shammar tribe in the Rabia operation signifies greater tribal involvement in the anti-ISIS effort resembling the ongoing anti-ISIS tribal effort in Dhuluiya, north of Baghdad. The Shammar role is additionally significant as the first major anti-ISIS tribal cooperation in Ninewa province. In response, ISIS will likely seek to violently neutralize any nascent tribal effort in other areas under its control as it has been doing in Kirkuk. Concurrently, ISIS's push north of Baghdad persists in order to control more territory and likely to cut off the ISF supply line between Baghdad and Samarra. As of now, ISIS is still able to maintain its momentum in the area.