

# Iraq Situation Report: October 21-22, 2014

**1** On October 21, mortar shells fell inside the Green Zone where major government facilities are located. Also on October 21, two VBIEDs detonated in the parking garage of a restaurant in Talebiyah, eastern Baghdad, killing three individuals and injuring 47 others. Also in Talebiyah, a VBIED targeted an IP patrol killing five and injuring 15 others. Additionally, 5 IEDs exploded in different locations in Baghdad resulting in the death of 8 people and injury of 40 people while a policeman was shot by sniper fire in the Zayounah area in Baghdad. On October 22, a VBIED detonated near a gas station in the Nidhal Street of central Baghdad killing at least five individuals and injuring at least 18 others. An additional VBIED detonated in Sadr City, northeastern Baghdad killing at least seven and injuring at least 21 individuals. Two further IEDs exploded in eastern and western Baghdad.

**2** On October 22, forces from the CTS launched an operation to reclaim Tikrit from the Dayom area, northwest; and from the University in the north. The attack was reported to be ongoing.

**3** ISIS reportedly forced employees of a brand new power station located in Qayara, south of Mosul, to generate power in order to operate water and sewer plants in Mosul. ISIS reportedly instructed the employees to use regular fuel in absence of the fuel required to run the station that should be provided by a Turkish company. One out of six units ran which ended a 10 day long water and power cut in Mosul.

**4** On October 22, ISIS launched an attack at dawn on the northern and eastern fronts of Furat sub-district and the Bakir neighborhood of Hit district initiating clashes with the IA and tribal forces of the Albu Nimr and other tribes in in the area. IA Aviation reportedly destroyed seven ISIS vehicles carrying weapons and rockets while the IA sent reinforcements to the area. The attack was reportedly repelled while smaller clashes continued in the area.

**5** On October 22, an Iraqi Army MI-8 Helicopter came down in al-Dur, east of Tikrit resulting in the death of the pilot and co-pilot. The reason for the crash is unknown. This is the third helicopter to fall or be shot down in Salah ad-Din in less than a month.

**6** On October 22, ISIS launched an attack from two axes on Amiriyat al-Fallujah sub-district, southeast of Fallujah. According to the director of the sub-district, around 400 ISIS members with tanks and armored vehicles attacked from the Hissi area, to the northwest; and from the Zoba villages area, northeast of Amiriyat al-Fallujah. Iraqi and coalition airstrikes targeted three ISIS positions while the assault was reported to be ongoing; the attack did not make gains in the sub-district. The day before, local authorities imposed a curfew in the area in response to ISIS forces amassing around Amiriyat al-Fallujah in preparation for the assault.

**7** On October 21, Iraqi Kurdish Peshmerga, Iraqi Police, and Iraqi Shi'a militias repelled the ISIS attack on the Qarah Tapa sub-district in northern Diyala. However, it is unclear if ISIS still controls parts of the villages of the sub-district it was able to capture earlier in the week.

**8** On October 21, local sources indicated that coalition airstrikes targeted a large ISIS gathering south of the Mosul Dam causing significant damage to the ISIS force. On October 22, CENTCOM announced that an airstrike targeted ISIS southeast of the dam.

**9** On October 21, Iraqi Security Forces (ISF) launched an operation in central Ramadi that reportedly cleared the 60th Street area and gave the ISF the opportunity to remove IEDs emplaced in areas leading to the Qassim Bridge which is reportedly a major ISIS supply line in the city.

**10** On October 22, ISIS and the Iraqi Army clashed in western Fallujah around the Falahat area. Additionally, a U.S. airstrike "suppressed" an ISIS attack north of Fallujah.



- Major Cities
- ★ Major Clash
- 🚗 VBIED
- ✈️ Airstrikes
- 🚁 Armed Drones
- 🇺🇸 USA
- 🇮🇶 ISF
- ⬛ ISIS
- 👤 Anti-ISIS Iraqi Sunni Tribes
- 👤 Peshmerga
- 👤 Iraqi Shi'a militias



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The Islamic State of Iraq and al-Sham's (ISIS) threat to Baghdad City is increasing. The threat is characterized by the deployment of Vehicle-Borne Improvised Explosive Devices (VBIEDs) and IEDs that are signature ISIS weapons typically used when ISIS is seeking to soften the defenses of an area. The threat is also manifested by the targeting of the Green Zone by mortar rounds and ISIS's ability to deploy suicide bombers throughout different areas of Baghdad. These tactics are also used when ISIS is unable to control terrain, but they illustrate ISIS freedom of movement in some areas of Baghdad. These attacks are intended to destabilize Baghdad and also to coincide with the occurrence of Ashura. It will be important to watch if these attacks result in forcing the ISF and Iraqi Shi'a militias to reposition forces from other areas to reinforce the capital. In Diyala and Anbar's Amiriyat al-Fallujah, ISIS continues to face difficulties as the Peshmerga, ISF, and anti-ISIS tribes are able to hold the terrain.