

Iraq Situation Report: October 27, 2014

1 According to a local source, ISIS transported concrete barriers, once used by the ISF in Mosul, to areas in southern and western Mosul in a step likely meant to place defenses in the face of a potential attack. A local source stated that ISIS imposed a hundred thousand Iraqi Dinar, or \$86, fine on street vendors in central Mosul. On October 25, ISIS reportedly arrested dozens of individuals and injured at least two others who participated in the funeral ceremony of General Abdul-Aziz Ali al-Juburi, a former IP officer executed by ISIS on October 24, 2014 in Qayara, South of Mosul. The general was one of 20 other IP and IA officers executed by ISIS on October 24, in Qayara. The officers were members of the ISF prior to the fall of Mosul. Also, ISIS arrested seven journalists in various areas of Mosul. On October, 23, ISIS arrested three other journalists in the city which prompted many others to flee Mosul.

5 Forces from the Badr Organization and Popular Mobilization along with the IP and Federal Police (FP) reportedly conducted an operation under the direct command of the leader of the Badr Organization, Hadi al-Ameri, to clear the Fadhliyah area of Jurf al-Sakhar and its strategic bridge which connects Babil, Baghdad, and Anbar. The operation initiated clashes with ISIS, killing 30 of its fighters. Meanwhile, unspecified number of residents of Farisiyah, south of Fadhliyah, reportedly displayed white banners to be distinguished from ISIS while forces from the Popular Mobilization which includes Iraqi Shia militias searched and "evacuated" them from the area. Also, ISF and Iraqi Shia militias open fired on an attacker wearing an SVEST which resulted in his death near their position in the Hujair area of Jurf al-Sakhar, northern Babil.

2 ISIS reportedly detonated IEDs against dozens of vacant houses that belonged to ISF members who fled Dour, south of Tikrit, after it fell to ISIS. This comes after ISIS gave a week notice for families of Dour residing in other areas to return or have their belongings confiscated and homes destroyed.

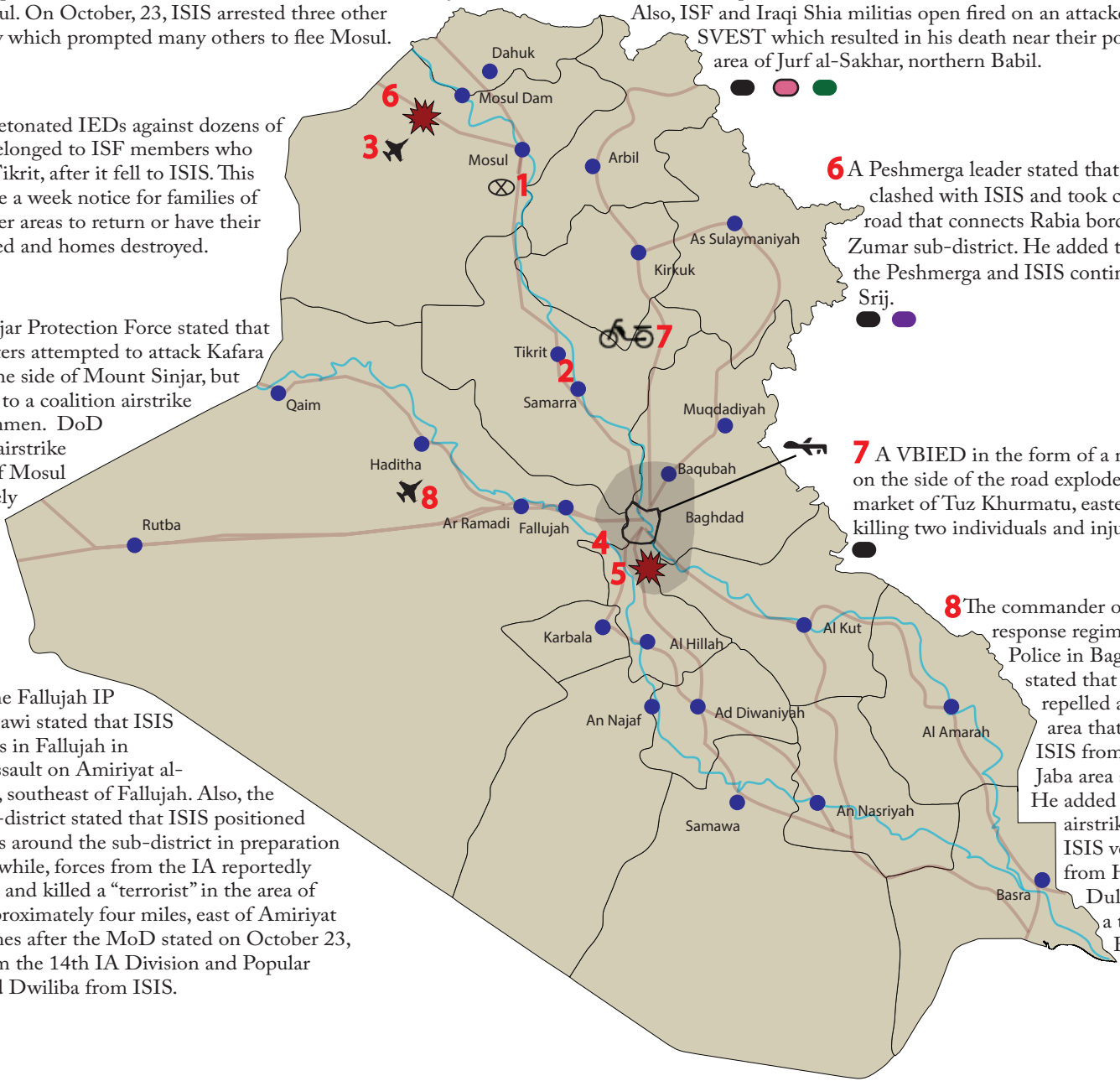
6 A Peshmerga leader stated that the Peshmerga clashed with ISIS and took control of a strategic road that connects Rabia border crossing and Zumar sub-district. He added that clashes between the Peshmerga and ISIS continued in the town of Srij.

3 A member of Sinjar Protection Force stated that a group of ISIS fighters attempted to attack Kafara Village, located on the side of Mount Sinjar, but the attack failed due to a coalition airstrike that targeted the gunmen. DoD reported that a U.S. airstrike targeted ISIS west of Mosul Dam, which was likely the same airstrike reported by the local source.

7 A VBIED in the form of a motorcycle parked on the side of the road exploded near the central market of Tuz Khurmatu, eastern Salah ad-Din killing two individuals and injuring 20 other.

4 Commander of the Fallujah IP General Faisal al-Issawi stated that ISIS gathered 250 fighters in Fallujah in preparation for an assault on Amiriyat al-Fallujah sub-district, southeast of Fallujah. Also, the chairman of the sub-district stated that ISIS positioned its forces in five areas around the sub-district in preparation for an assault. Meanwhile, forces from the IA reportedly dismantled 20 IEDs and killed a "terrorist" in the area of Dwiliba, located approximately four miles, east of Amiriyat al-Fallujah. This comes after the MoD stated on October 23, 2014 that forces from the 14th IA Division and Popular Mobilization cleared Dwiliba from ISIS.

8 The commander of the emergency response regiment of the Iraqi Police in Baghdadi sub-district stated that security forces repelled an attack on the area that was launched by ISIS from two axes, from the Jaba area and Dulab village. He added that coalition airstrike targeted seven ISIS vehicles heading from Hit district to Dulab village included a tank and a Humvee.



- Major Cities
- ★ Major Clash
- ⊗ Execution
- 🚲 MBIED
- ✈️ Airstrikes
- 🚁 Armed Drones
- ISIS
- Anti-ISIS Iraqi Sunni Tribes
- Peshmerga
- Iraqi Shi'a militias
- 🚩 Coalition
- USA
- ISF
- Yazidi Gunmen



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Iraqi Shia militias and the ISF expanded their operations in Northern Babil by working to neutralize ISIS pockets of resistance in the Farisiyah and Fadhliyah areas of Jurf al-Sakhar. ISIS will likely resort to launching VBIED, suicide, and indirect fire attacks on the security forces in order to destabilize the area. Meanwhile the ISF and Iraqi Shia militias will most likely need to commit a large force to Jurf al-Sakhar to defend the recently made gains given the large size and challenging terrain of the area. Fadhliyah is a strategic area that connects the Anbar system to the Northern Babil system and it will therefore be important to watch if ISF and allied militias will use the area as a staging ground to gather additional forces and expand operations in Anbar to disrupt ISIS. Defense Minister Khalid al-Ubaidi along with Army Chief of Staff Babakir Zebari visited Jurf al-Sakhar and met with leader of Badr Organization, Hadi al-Ameri. This visit is significant as an artifact of formal military leaders asserting their importance after a long period during which former Prime Minister Maliki exercised control over the Iraqi Security Forces through alternate channels. This is a departure from the Office of Commander in Chief, recently dismantled by PM Haidar al-Abadi, that sidelined the formal military chain of command. Yet, this formal leadership lacks control over an effective component of the fight against ISIS, the Iraqi Shia militias. Elsewhere, ISIS is moving to eliminate potential competitors that might challenge its presence in Mosul by rounding up and executing potential leaders of resistance.