

# Iraq Situation Report: October 28-29, 2014

**1** On October 28, ISIS initiated an attack from the Nebai area, northern Baghdad, against the Dujail district, southern Salah ad-Din. ISIS clashed with the IP and Popular Mobilization which includes Iraqi Shia militias. The clashes lasted for three hours and resulted in the death and/or disappearance of 15 members of the IP and the militias while 25 others were injured. Also, an ISIS vehicle was destroyed and its occupants were killed. On October 29, MoD stated that an Iraqi airstrike targeted ISIS in Nebai killing 35 fighters and destroying two fuel tankers and four vehicles outfitted with heavy machine guns.

**8** On October 29, Baghdad Operations Command stated that forces from the 14th IA Division, 6th IA Division, Federal Police (FP), and engineers from the 17th Division supported by IA Aviation and the air force cleared Rufush area, located near Radhwaniya and Zoba, southwest of Baghdad and the nearby area of Dwiliba. Also, On October 29, an SVBIED targeted an IP checkpoint in Yusufiyah, south of Baghdad, killing at least four individuals and injuring 15 others.

**2** On October 28, MoD stated that forces from the CTS, IA, and FP cleared the Hajaj and Albu Tuma villages located on the highway south of Baiji district. A CTS source stated on October 27 that the forces are advancing toward Mazraa area, located approximately three miles south of Baiji district. He added that ISIS emplaced the road with IEDs every 20 meters hindering the advance.

**9** ISIS reportedly executed nine IP members it detained earlier from Rawa district. ISIS opened fire on the IP members after it forced residents to gather around the execution site.

**3** On October 27, a VBIED detonated near a Shia mosque near Wathiq Square of Karrada, central Baghdad killing at least eight individuals and injuring 32 others.

**10** ISIS reportedly executed 30 to 55 "military personnel" and civilians from the Albu Nimr tribe in Hit after it detained them earlier from the Bakr neighborhood of central Hit. Meanwhile, the DoD stated that a US Air Force C-130 aircraft dropped aid to ISF members at Al-Assad Airbase. The airdrop of 7,000 meals was then delivered to members of the Albu Nimr tribe in response to requests for assistance after they fled their homes in Hit after ISIS moved into the district.

**4** On October 27, an SVIED targeted a gathering of Iraqi Shia militias within the Popular Mobilization on the outskirts of Jurf al-Sakhar, northern Babil. The attack killed at least 27 individuals and injured 60 others.

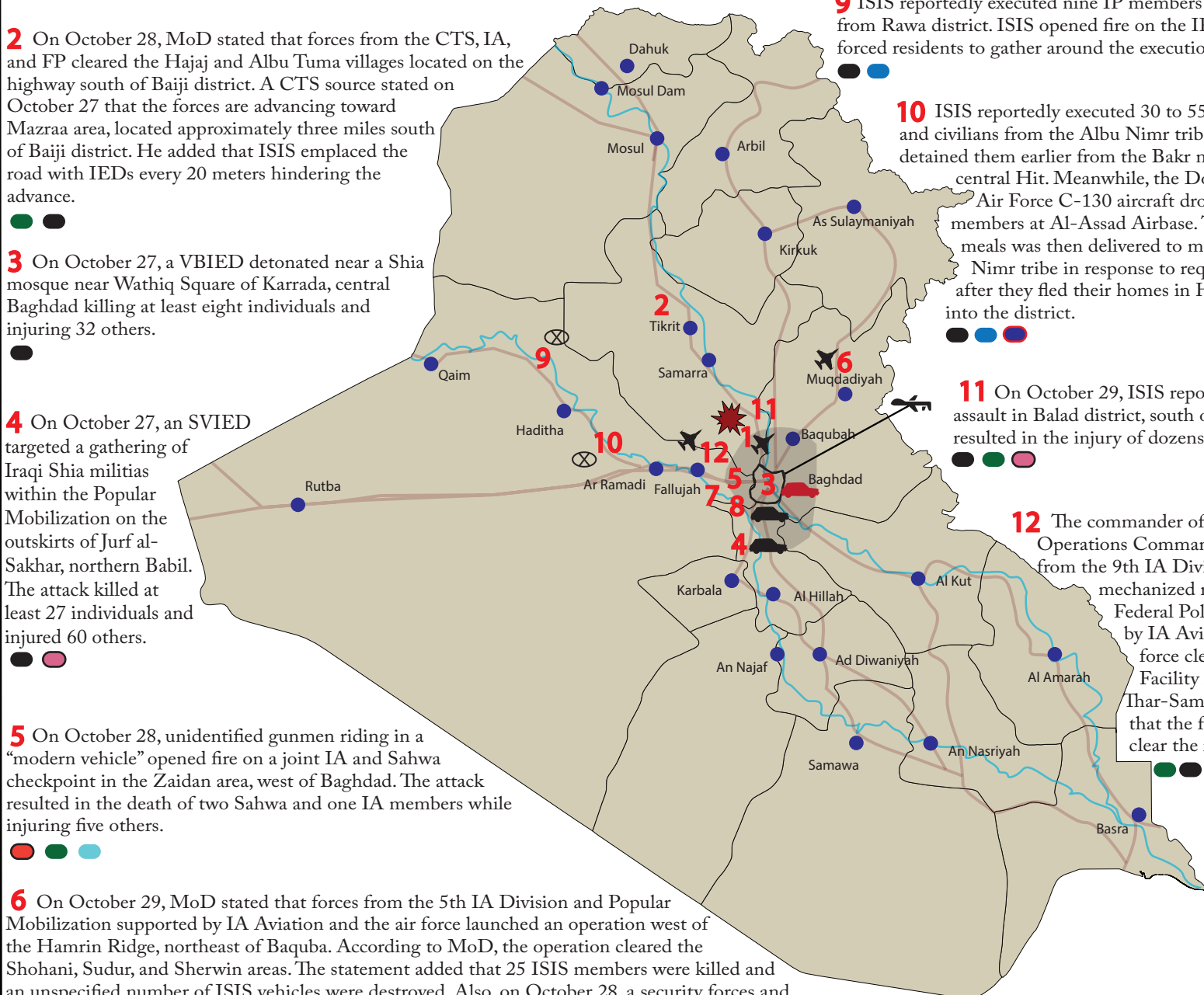
**11** On October 29, ISIS reportedly launched an assault in Balad district, south of Samarra. The attack resulted in the injury of dozens of residents.

**5** On October 28, unidentified gunmen riding in a "modern vehicle" opened fire on a joint IA and Sahwa checkpoint in the Zaidan area, west of Baghdad. The attack resulted in the death of two Sahwa and one IA members while injuring five others.

**12** The commander of Baghdad Operations Command stated that a force from the 9th IA Division and a mechanized regiment from the Federal Police (FP) supported by IA Aviation and the air force cleared the Muthana Facility located on the Thar Thar-Samarra road. He added that the force will proceed to clear the road of IEDs.

**6** On October 29, MoD stated that forces from the 5th IA Division and Popular Mobilization supported by IA Aviation and the air force launched an operation west of the Hamrin Ridge, northeast of Baquba. According to MoD, the operation cleared the Shohani, Sudur, and Sherwin areas. The statement added that 25 ISIS members were killed and an unspecified number of ISIS vehicles were destroyed. Also, on October 28, a security forces and Popular Mobilization reportedly cleared parts of Mansouriyat al-Jabal, east of Mansouriya, west of the Hamrin Ridge.

**7** On October 28, head of the Local Council of Amiriyat al-Fallujah, Shakir Mahmoud, stated that the ISF reinforced Amiriyat al-Fallujah with two armored regiments in preparation for an ISIS attack. Meanwhile, Anbar Operations Command is reportedly coordinating with Babil Operations Command to clear the areas of Owissat, Falahat, Fadhliah, and the desert area leading to Amiriyat al-Fallujah from northern Babil. On October 29, commander of Babil Operations Command stated that IA and Popular Mobilization Forces took alternate routes in their advance toward Owissat because of the IEDs emplaced by ISIS on the main routes.



- Major Cities
- ★ Major Clash
- ✈ Airstrikes
- 🚗 VBIED
- 🚒 SVBIED
- 🚁 Armed Drones
- ⊗ Execution
- USA
- Awakening
- Unknown Gunmen
- ISF
- ISIS
- Anti-ISIS Iraqi Sunni Tribes
- Iraqi Shi'a militias



Content: Sinan Adnan  
Graphics: Brian Fisher

Iraqi Security Forces (ISF) and Iraqi Shia militias are challenging ISIS on multiple fronts. In northern Babil, ISF and militias are capitalizing on their recent gains in Jurf al-Sakhar to clear ISIS strongholds in areas like Owissat and are using Fadhliah, adjacent to the Anbar system, to advance toward Amiriyat al-Fallujah in coordination with Anbar Operations Command (AOC). Also leading to the Anbar system, the ISF and militias are moving to reopen the Samarra-Thar Thar road. If this operation achieves success, the supply route would relieve the ISF in vicinity of Ramadi and allow the ISF increased freedom of movement. Although the clearing of Muthana is not confirmed, the presence of ISF along this road will limit ISIS freedom of movement and ability to shift resources. It is therefore important to watch for an ISIS counter attack to reverse the ISF gains. Moving further to the north, the ISF and militias continued advancing toward Baiji which is significant because their presence and operations on the road isolates Baiji from Tikrit, both areas where ISIS is entrenched. Despite these challenges, ISIS has not yet responded with a counter-offensive. Where ISIS next commits a significant force will be indicative of their priorities. Meanwhile, ISIS is responding to recent losses by eliminating potential sources of resistance behind its lines. The U.S. airdrop of aid to the Albu Nimr tribes fighting ISIS will most likely be a morale boost for the Iraqi Sunni tribes fighting ISIS.