

Iraq Situation Report: November 1-2, 2014

1 On November 2, ISIS reportedly stormed the guesthouses of a tribal Sheikh in Alam, east of Tikrit, and detained elders and youths. In addition, ISIS also carried out arrests in Alam capturing 70 individuals, mostly of the Jubur tribe, after youths replaced a number of ISIS flags with the Iraqi flag. Also in Alam, ISIS destroyed with explosives a house that belonged to Khamis Jbara, chairman of Sheikh's council in Salah ad-Din; the house of Marwan Jbara, the director of Sama Salah ad-Din TV channel; and the house of Jasim Jbara, the chairman of security committee in Salah ad-Din's local government; along with four other houses. Meanwhile, unidentified gunmen reportedly distributed leaflets in Alam near a square where the ISIS flag was reportedly burned and replaced with the Iraqi flag. The leaflets were reportedly from a group called "Knights of Alam" that claimed responsibility for the flag incident and also claimed that the group killed two ISIS members using sniper fire. The leaflets called for the residents to fight ISIS and warned against cooperation with it.

2 On November 1, a joint force from Baghdad Operations Command (BOC) and the IP in Babil reportedly "cleared" the areas of Qamushli, Hayat, and Girtani of Latifyah sub-district, south of Baghdad. The force dismantled 160 IEDs and seized three IED factories along with what were described as chlorine rockets.

3 Locals from Mosul reported that around 50 members of ISIS, masked and in uniforms, conducted a military exhibition under a bridge in the Zerai neighborhood, eastern Mosul. The locals added that other ISIS members guarded the site while gunmen demonstrated infantry tactics as well as using ropes tied to the bridge for an assault demonstration.

4 On November 2, Sheikh Naim al-Gaud, a leader in Albu Nimr tribe, stated that ISIS executed 67 members of the tribe including women and children in the Ras al-Ma area, near Lake Thar Thar. He added that those were among the 200 individuals besieged by ISIS in the area, and that others might be executed as well. Gaud stated on November 1 that ISIS carried out arrests against members of the tribe in Anna, Rawa, Rutba, and Qaim districts.

5 On November 1, a truck SVBIED detonated at a security checkpoint at the southern entrance of Baghdad killing 24 individuals and injuring 52 others. Also, a VBIED targeted a group of Shia commemorating the death of Imam Hussein in Mawal Square in the Palestine Street area of eastern Baghdad killing three individuals and injuring four others. In addition, an SVBIED targeted an IP checkpoint in Dura, southern Baghdad, killing five individuals and injuring 14 others. On November 2, an SVBIED targeted a group of Shia commemorating the death of Imam Hussein near the Darwish intersection of the Ilam area of south-western Baghdad killing at least five individuals and injuring 23 others. Also on November 2, a VBIED detonated near the Nassir Square in Sadun Street, central Baghdad, killing at least two individuals and injuring 24 others.

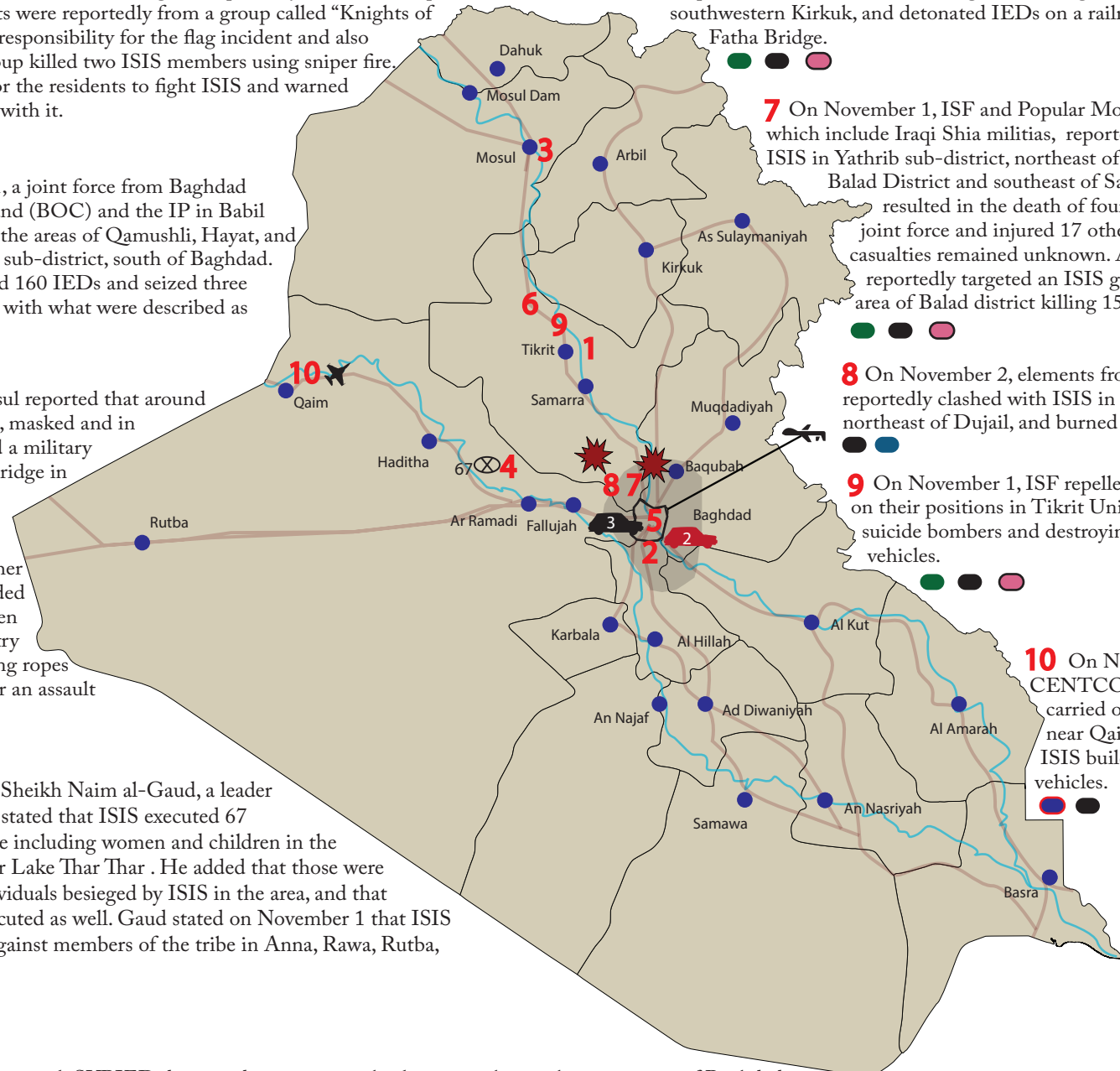
6 On November 1, a source from Salah ad-Din Operations Command stated that security forces in Baiji seized the main road in the district while reinforcements arrived to clear the remaining areas of Baiji and the Seneya area to the west. He added that the security forces began dismantling IEDs on the road leading to Baiji Oil Refinery, north of the district, to open a supply route to the ISF in the facility. The source also stated that the security forces repelled an ISIS attack and now controls the area of Mazraa, south of Baiji. On October 31, ISIS reportedly emplaced IEDs on the Fatha Bridge connecting Baiji to Hawija, southwestern Kirkuk, and detonated IEDs on a railroad track parallel to

7 On November 1, ISF and Popular Mobilization forces, which include Iraqi Shia militias, reportedly clashed with ISIS in Yathrib sub-district, northeast of Balad Airbase in Balad District and southeast of Samarra. The clashes resulted in the death of four members of the joint force and injured 17 others, while ISIS casualties remained unknown. Also, IA Aviation reportedly targeted an ISIS gathering in the Aziz area of Balad district killing 15 ISIS members.

8 On November 2, elements from the Khazraj tribe reportedly clashed with ISIS in the Haer area, northeast of Dujail, and burned three ISIS vehicles.

9 On November 1, ISF repelled an ISIS attack on their positions in Tikrit University, killing five suicide bombers and destroying three of their vehicles.

10 On November 1, CENTCOM reported that it carried out four airstrikes near Qaim targeting four ISIS buildings and four ISIS vehicles.



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



Content: Sinan Adnan
Graphics: Nichole Dicharry

ISF and Iraqi Shia militias continued the operation to retake Baiji district from ISIS. Meanwhile, ISIS increased its VBIED attacks in Baghdad as Shia commemorate the holy month of Muharram with gatherings in the open that make them vulnerable. Baiji is located just south of Hawija district of southwestern Kirkuk province, an area where ISIS and other armed anti-government armed groups enjoy sanctuary and where the ISF has not had presence since the fall of Mosul. It is also adjacent to Ninewa province, making it a potential staging ground to move towards land and urban centers in northern Iraq that are completely out of government control, such as Mosul. Although the status of the district remains unclear, the targeting of one of the crossings from Baiji to Hawija and the booby-trapping of the other by ISIS is a sign of a defensive posture rather than an offensive move. Also, if it is true that the ISF are clearing the road toward the refinery, this would end a nearly four month siege on the ISF in the facility that has forced the government to use aerial assets to resupply and reinforce it. Elsewhere, ISIS attacks on Iraqi Shia will likely increase as they commemorate the death of Imam Hussein in the month of Muharram and Shia pilgrims head to Karbala from various areas in the country. Finally, Alam is home to Iraqi Sunnis mainly from the Jubur tribe, many of whom are or were senior ISF and government officials, and is known for its anti-ISIS stance. ISIS will likely increase its targeting of the Jubur in Alam as it continues targeting Albu Nimr tribe in Anbar province in an attempt to stamp out any resistance by Sunni tribes.