

# Iraq Situation Report: November 4-5, 2014

**1** On November 4, local sources reported that dozens of families from Baiji and Seneya, fled to Abbasi and Zab sub-districts of Hawija district, southwestern Kirkuk. The families reported that they fled because of the intensified clashes with ISIS in their areas and shelling of the ISF. They also reported that ISIS placed vehicles and weapons near civilian homes. Also, ISIS reportedly arrested Baiji residents to force youth to fight alongside ISIS while moving “heavy weapons” from the center to the outskirts of the district. Also, on November 5, ISIS detonated IEDs on 20 houses that belonged to tribal Sheiks and ISF personnel in central Baiji. Meanwhile, Department of Defense reported that U.S. and partner nations airstrikes targeted two small ISIS units, and ISIS vehicle, and an “ISIS occupied bunker.”



**2** Unidentified gunmen reportedly killed an ISIS member in the Islah al-Zerai area of western Mosul using light weapons. DOD reported that U.S. and partner nation airstrikes targeted an ISIS held building, destroying a “generator used for oil production” and another to manufacture IEDs and VBIEDs near Mosul.



**3** On November 5, ISIS reportedly launched 20 mortar rounds on Balad district injuring three individuals.



**4** On November 4, ISIS used IEDs to blow up 16 houses of pro-government tribal and security figures in al-Alam in eastern Tikrit.



**5** On November 4, an IED detonated in Latifiyah, south of Baghdad, targeting a vehicle of Shi’a pilgrims. The explosion killed two individuals and injured 12 others.



**6** On November 4, a source described as a “medical source from Anbar” stated that shelling targeted a local market in Qaim killing three civilians and injuring 37 others. On November 5, a medical source from Qaim Hospital stated that IA and Iraqi jets “randomly” targeted Risala neighborhood of Qaim killing five civilians and injuring two others.



**7** On November 4, security sources stated that a force of 3000 members arrived in Habaniyah and al-Asad airbases in Anbar to clear ISIS of areas in western Anbar including Hit. The force reportedly includes two regiments from the Iraqi Army (IA) and Popular Mobilization Units (PMUs). Additionally, Haditha local officials stated that an “air bridge” was established between Haditha and al-Asad to provide supplies to Haditha. Members of the Albu Nimr and Jughaifi tribes reportedly received military supplies to work with the ISF and PMUs to clear Hit. On November 5, a senior leader in the Albu Nimr tribe, Naim al-Gaud stated that fighters from the tribe are “massing” at al-Asad Airbase in preparation for a joint operation with the IA and IP to target ISIS in Hit district and Furat sub-district.



**8** Local media reporter accompanied the ISF and Iraqi Shia militias into the Hamrin Ridge. The reporter stated that members of AAH, Badr Organization, and the Peace Brigades were heavily present alongside the ISF in the area. The reporter described the frontline with ISIS as between the Ridge and Sudur Dam after the security forces cleared seven km from the Hamrin Dam toward Sudur area.



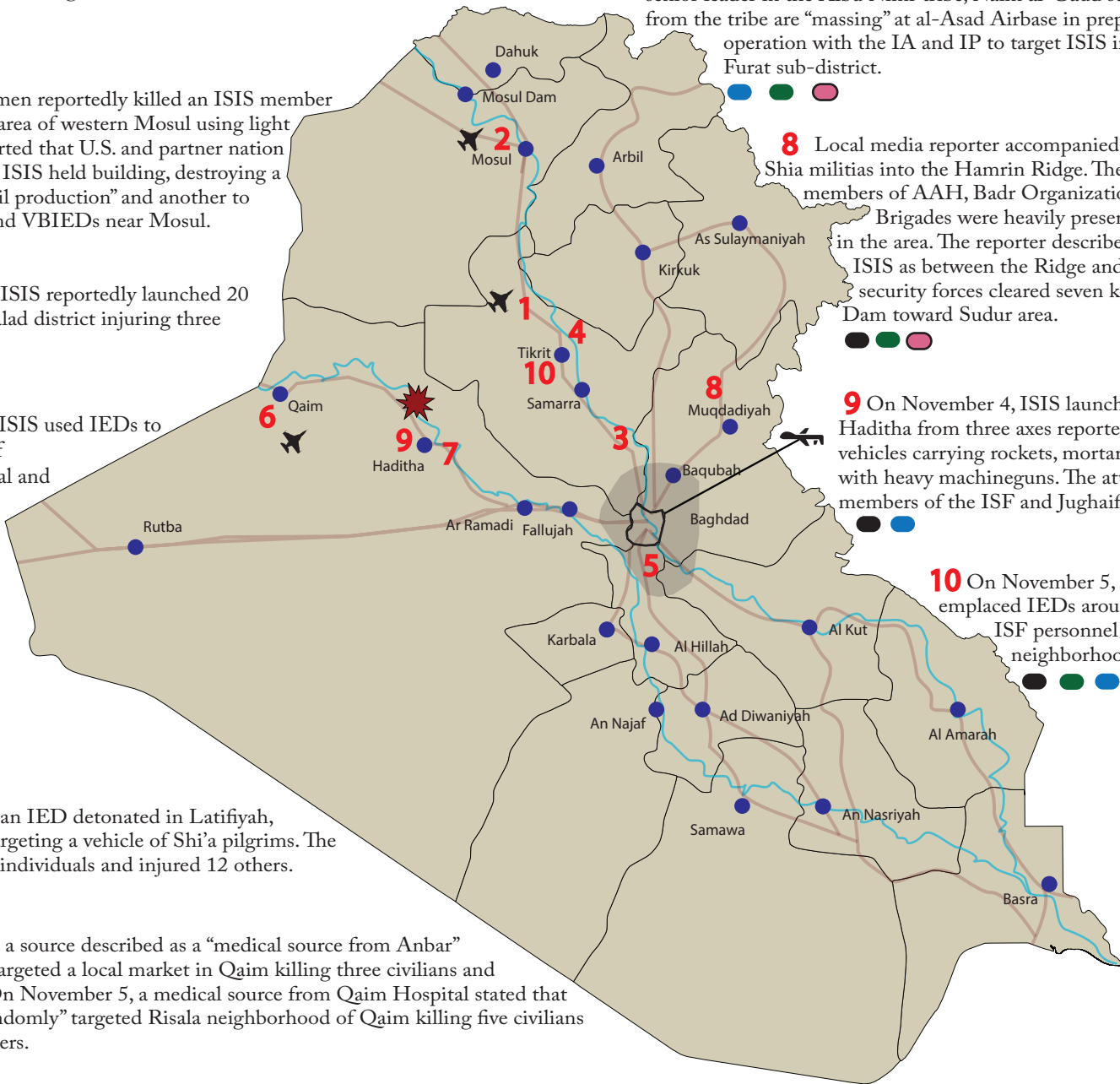
**9** On November 4, ISIS launched an attack on Haditha from three axes reportedly using eight vehicles carrying rockets, mortars, and outfitted with heavy machineguns. The attack was repelled by members of the ISF and Jughaifi tribe.



**10** On November 5, ISIS reportedly emplaced IEDs around 50 homes of ISF personnel in Qadsiyah neighborhood, north of Tikrit.



- Unknown Gunmen
- Coalition
- ISF
- ISIS
- Anti-ISIS Iraqi Sunni Tribes
- Iraqi Shi’a militias
- Major Cities
- Major Clash
- Airstrikes
- Armed Drones



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The contest for Anbar Province in western Iraq is intensifying. The Islamic State of Iraq and al-Sham (ISIS) has consolidated its presence in the town of Hit and environs in western Anbar. Iraqi Sunni tribes, Iraqi Security Forces (ISF), and Iraqi Shi’a militias within the Popular Mobilization Units (PMUs) are seeking to disrupt that momentum. ISIS actions in Hit and the killing of hundreds from the Iraqi Sunni tribe of Albu Nimr has resulted in creating a new and unique dynamic in the predominantly Iraqi Sunni province whereby Iraqi Sunni tribes welcome the participation of Iraqi Shi’a militias within the PMUs to counter ISIS. If this dynamic is replicated in other areas, such as Mosul, it could provide inroads for Iraqi Security Forces to reestablish itself in areas where distrust by local populations has hampered operations. Meanwhile, ISIS is clearly seeking to disrupt the campaign against it in Anbar by launching an attack on Haditha in order to divert security forces resources to the area.