
Control of Terrain in Syria: June 19, 2015



Syrian Kurdish YPG forces supported by FSA-affiliated rebels in the Euphrates Volcano Operations Room and U.S.-led coalition airstrikes seized the ISIS border crossing at Tel Abyad in northern ar-Raqqa Province on June 15, 2015. The fall of Tel Abyad severs a key line of ISIS reinforcement and resupply sourced from the Turkish border and positions joint YPG-FSA forces for a potential offensive south towards the ISIS stronghold of ar-Raqqa City. The YPG seizure of Tel Abyad also directly connects the Kurdish cantons of Kobane (Ayn al-Arab) and Cizire (Hasakah) for the first time in a major enabling step towards the eventual formation of a contiguous Kurdish autonomous region in northern Syria. Meanwhile, Jabhat al-Nusra (JN), Ahrar al-Sham, and other rebel factions participating in the Jaysh al-Fatah Operations Room seized the town of Mahambel and a number of surrounding regime-held villages east of Jisr al-Shughour on June 6, 2015, largely eliminating the remaining regime-held salient in Idlib Province. ISIS also continued to expand its gains southwest of Palmyra, seizing the Busairi Junction on May 24, 2015, and advancing into the Eastern Qalamoun Mountains. Finally, rebel factions in the FSA-affiliated Southern Front successfully overran the Brigade 52 military

base in eastern Dera'a Province on June 9, 2015, eliminating the largest regime military position in southern Syria and bringing rebel forces in direct proximity with

the Druze-majority city of Suwayda as well as the nearby Tha'lah Airbase.