

# Iraq Situation Report: October 2-3, 2014

**1** On October 2, the Islamic State of Iraq and al-Sham (ISIS) launched an offensive to take control of Hit in Western Anbar. The offensive included the deployment of three SVBIEDs that targeted security checkpoints at the western and eastern entrances to the city in addition to the Police Directorate. Iraqi Security Forces (ISF) reportedly sent reinforcement from the al-Asad airbase. The ISF were also supported by the Albu Nimr tribe. As of October 3, ISIS controls large parts of the city including government buildings after the ISF are reported to have withdrawn.



**2** On October 2, ISIS attacked ISF members and tribal fighters in the Yathrib sub-district and Albu Saud village, north of Baghdad, reportedly to cut off roads leading to Dhuluiya. ISIS also attacked Balad north of Baghdad from the areas of Bani Saad and Aziz Balad. The attack was repelled by ISF members and Popular Mobilization Units which include Iraqi Shi'a militias.



**3** On October 2, Iraqi Army Aviation reportedly dropped supplies and ammunition on the Iraqi Security Forces besieged by ISIS in the Albu Aitha area, north of Ramadi. The 240 soldiers in Albu Aitha have been trapped for approximately five days.



**4** On October 3, head of the Mansouriyah municipal council Raghieb Zaidan stated that ISIS flooded homes and 3000 acres of agricultural lands in the Mansouriyah area near Muqdadiah in Diyala province after it opened a canal of the Khalis River. Zaidan added that families have been displaced and called for the clearing of the al-Duwalib bridge which controls the main water supply for Mansouriyah.



**5** On October 2, clashes started between ISIS and the ISF who were supported by the Iraqi Shi'a militias in the Zarga Bridge area and Bir Ahmed village located in the western and southern sides of Tuz Khurmatu. On October 3, ISIS reportedly blew up the Zarga Bridge.



**6** On October 2, Peshmerga forces based in Taza south of Kirkuk targeted ISIS positions with mortars and artillery after ISIS forces based in Bashir village bombarded the Peshmerga forces.



**7** On October 3, CENTCOM announced that attack aircrafts conducted two airstrikes northeast of Fallujah against ISIS.



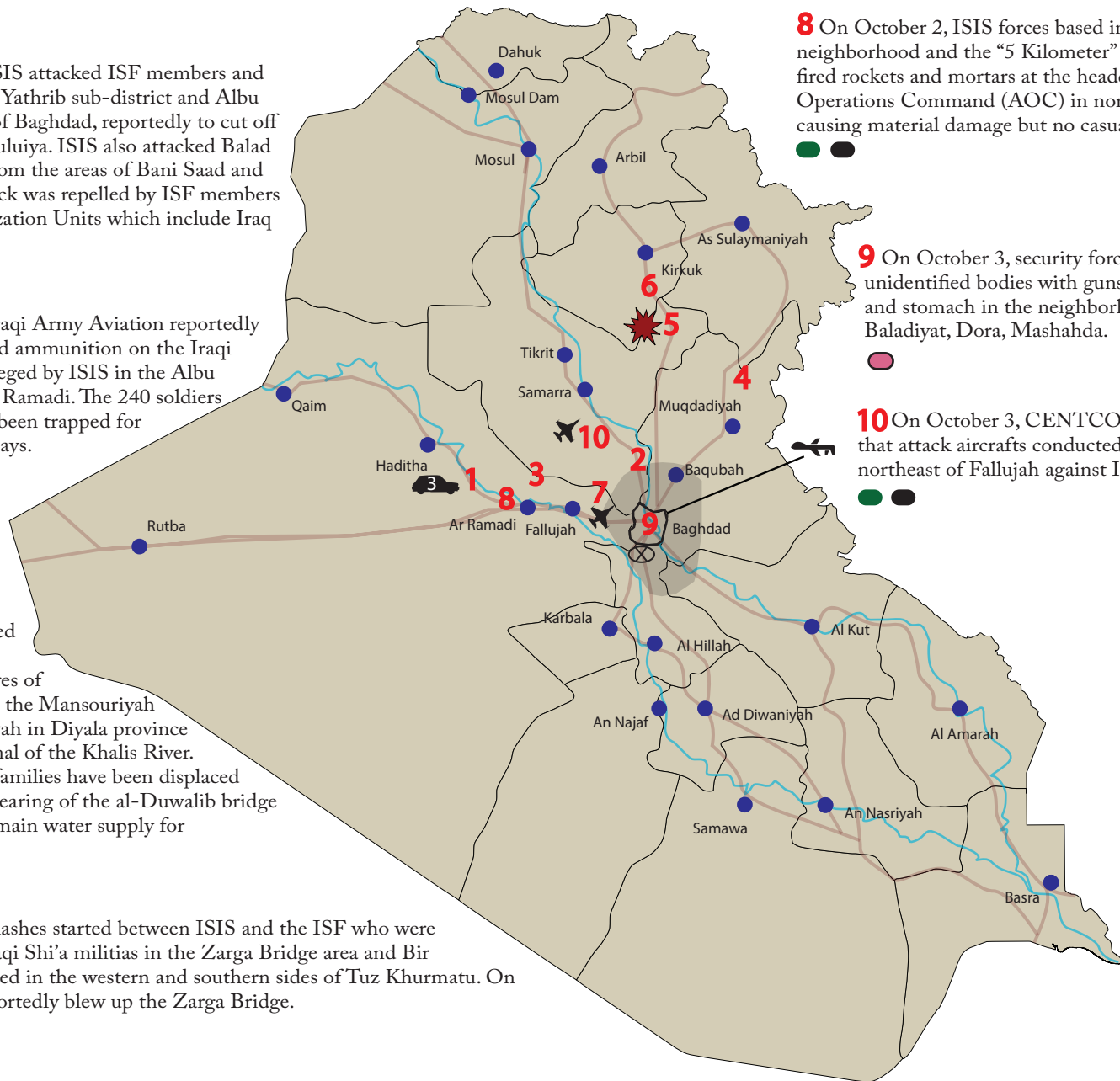
**8** On October 2, ISIS forces based in the al-Tamim neighborhood and the "5 Kilometer" area, west of Ramadi, fired rockets and mortars at the headquarters of Anbar Operations Command (AOC) in northern Ramadi, causing material damage but no casualties.



**9** On October 3, security forces found 11 unidentified bodies with gunshots to the head and stomach in the neighborhoods of Sadr City, Baladiyah, Dora, Mashahda.



**10** On October 3, CENTCOM announced that attack aircrafts conducted two airstrikes northeast of Fallujah against ISIS.



- Major Cities
- ✈ Airstrikes
- ⊗ Execution
- ☛ SVBIED
- ☛ Armed Drones
- ☛ Major Clash
- ISF
- ISIS
- Anti-ISIS Iraqi Sunni Tribes
- USA
- Peshmerga
- Iraqi Shi'a militias



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The consolidation of control by the Islamic State of Iraq and al-Sham (ISIS) in Hit signals further advances of ISIS in Anbar province. Controlling Hit will result in isolating Ramadi and Haditha, which ISIS has been targeting since January 2014, including a large scale attack on Ramadi on September 28. ISIS control of Hit will sever the supply lines between the ISF-held areas of Ramadi and Haditha and may prelude an ISIS attack upon the al-Asad airbase located 25 miles northwest of Hit city. The fall of al-Asad would also weaken ISF capabilities to defend Haditha. It is also likely that ISIS is seeking to neutralize any tribal resistance in Anbar through these attacks. ISIS also continued to attack ISF positions north of Baghdad in the vicinity of Dhuluiya. In Diyala, ISIS is using dams and water regulations as assets to impede the freedom of maneuver of ISF and Iraqi Shi'a militias as they attempt to exploit recent gains in the province. The presence of Iraqi Shi'a militias and the ISF around the strategic area of Tuz Khurmatu will continue to be challenged by ISIS, and ISIS will likely attempt to drive a wedge between the ISF force and the Peshmerga in this area.