

Iraq Situation Report: October 7-8, 2014

1 On October 7, ISIS attacked Peshmerga positions in Akbashi and Wadi al-Awsaj in northeastern Diyala. Both areas fall between Sadia and Jalula and the Peshmerga repelled the attack which involved ISIS usage of heavy weaponry. By October 8, ISIS reportedly raised readiness levels for its members in the Hamrin Basin including Jalula and Sadia and deployed “tens” of its members from rural areas to Jalula and Sadia. IA aviation also reportedly shelled the gates of a canal in Muqdadiyah to prevent ISIS from cutting off the water to villages in Diyala.

2 On October 7, an SVBIED targeted a volunteer headquarters north of Samarra, killing 13 Sadrism Peace Brigade fighters and wounding 17 others. The SVBIED was reportedly an Iraqi Army Humvee and was followed by an ISIS ground attack targeting checkpoints. The attack was repelled by IA soldiers and Iraqi Shi’a militias supported by IA Aviation.

3 On October 7, Islamic State of Iraq and al-Sham (ISIS) militants in SUVs attacked an Iraqi Police (IP) checkpoint near al-Khasfa, west of Haditha, with medium and heavy weapons. Three IP officers were killed and six were wounded, and an IP Humvee as well as an IP armored personnel carrier (APC) were destroyed. On October 8, the tribes of Alus, Shammar, al-Obaid, Albu Khas, and Bayatin reportedly joined security forces to defend Haditha in case of an attack by ISIS.

4 On October 7, ISIS seized 48 homes belonging to Iraqi Army (IA) soldiers and IP officers in Hit district, northwest of Ramadi in western Anbar. ISIS also seized over 184 civilian and military vehicles in Hit district and expelled civilians from the Amina and al-Mualimin neighborhoods of western Hit. Anbar police sent ammunition, reportedly to be delivered via airdrop, to the police in Hit besieged by ISIS.

5 On October 7, a tanker-truck SVBIED detonated at a Badr Organization checkpoint at the entrance to the village of Maftul, near Amerli in eastern Salah ad-Din province. The attack killed three Badr Organization members and wounded six others. The attack was followed by an ISIS attack which was repelled by Iraqi Shi’a militias.

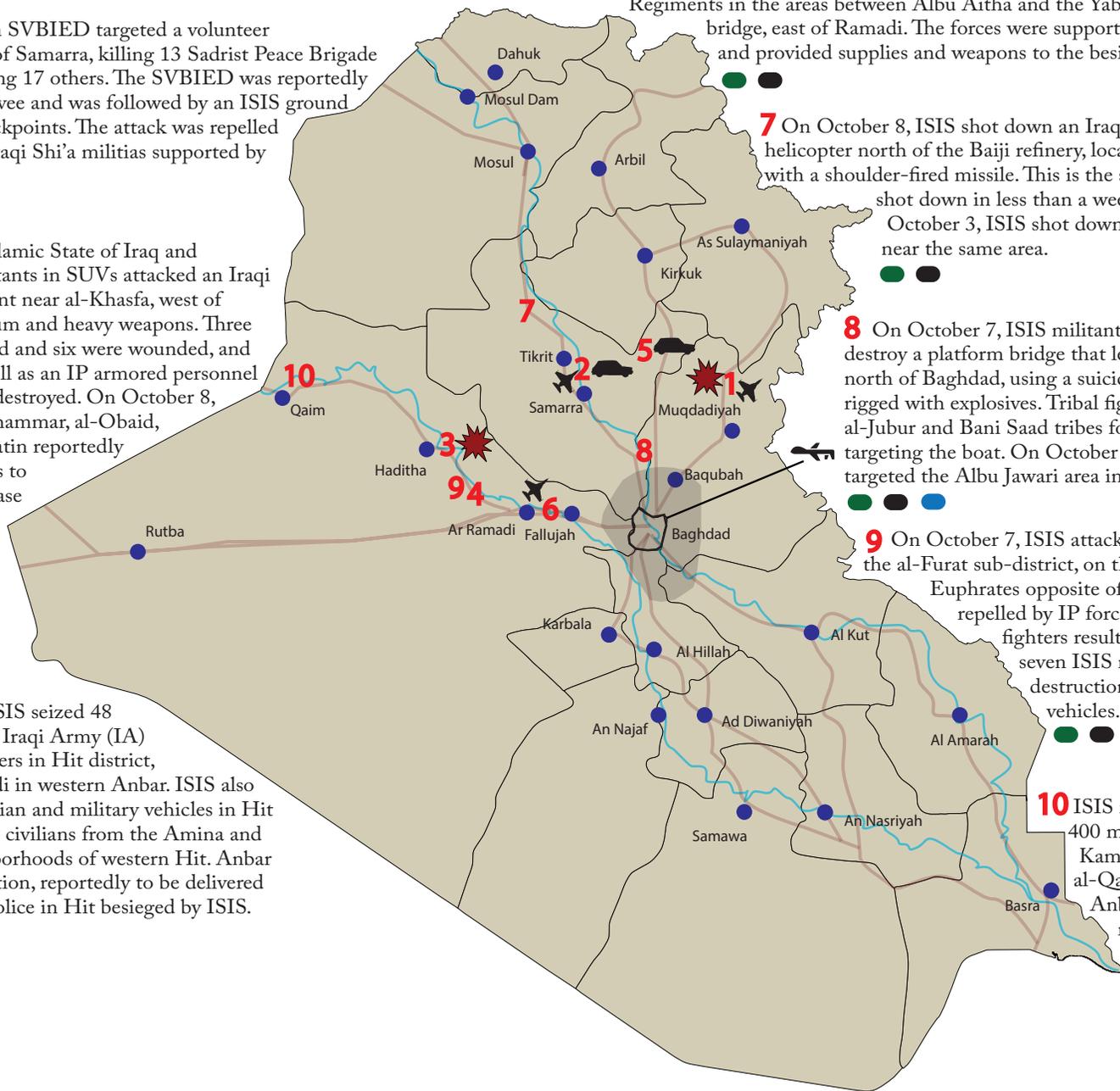
6 On October 8, Iraqi Security Forces including IA, counter-terrorism forces, and rapid response forces broke the ISIS siege of three Iraqi Army Regiments in the areas between Albu Aitha and the Yabani (Japanese) bridge, east of Ramadi. The forces were supported by IA Aviation and provided supplies and weapons to the besieged forces.

7 On October 8, ISIS shot down an Iraqi Army Bell 407 helicopter north of the Baiji refinery, located north of Tikrit, with a shoulder-fired missile. This is the second IA helicopter shot down in less than a week by ISIS. On October 3, ISIS shot down a Mi-35 helicopter near the same area.

8 On October 7, ISIS militants attempted to destroy a platform bridge that lead to Dhuluiya, north of Baghdad, using a suicide attacker on a boat rigged with explosives. Tribal fighters from the al-Jubur and Bani Saad tribes foiled the attack by targeting the boat. On October 8, the Iraqi military targeted the Albu Jawari area in Dhuluiya.

9 On October 7, ISIS attacked the perimeter of the al-Furat sub-district, on the eastern bank of the Euphrates opposite of Hit. The attack was repelled by IP forces and local tribal fighters resulting in the death of seven ISIS members and destruction of eight ISIS vehicles.

10 ISIS reportedly moved 400 members from Albu Kamal in Syria to al-Qaim in western Anbar. The members reportedly also moved weapons and “rockets” with them.



- Major Cities
- ✈ Airstrikes
- 🚛 SVBIED
- 🚁 Armed Drones
- 🔥 Major Clash
- ISF
- ISIS
- Anti-ISIS Iraqi Sunni Tribes
- Peshmerga
- Iraqi Shi’a militias



Content: Ahmed Ali
Graphics: Nichole Dicharry

ISIS continues to seek control of Anbar and is conducting operations to impose social control by removing possible opponents in Hit. ISIS's next target is likely to be Haditha as it is probing the area by launching attacks in the vicinity of the area. The mobilization of tribes in Haditha reflects their perception of ISIS as a great threat and their desire to counter the group as it threatens the area. The Islamic State of Iraq and al-Sham (ISIS) also continues to launch operations beyond Anbar. ISIS has designated the Hamrin Basin area in Diyala as a possible area for expansion. This is likely the result of the pressure it is experiencing in eastern Salah ad-Din including in Tuz Kurmatu and Amerli. In both cases, ISIS is operationally reinforcing its presence from Syria and surrounding areas.