On March 5, a joint force consisting of Anbar Operations Command (AOC), Baghdad Operations Command (BOC), and “tribal fighters” supported by IA Aviation launched an operation to clear eastern Garma, northeast of Fallujah. On March 6, a security source in Anbar province stated that a force from the IA was clearing houses in the Garma area when a House-Borne IED (HBIED) detonated as the force entered the house. Five soldiers were killed and four were injured. On March 6, Military Intelligence launched an attack using “Multiple Launch Rocket Systems” (MLRS) targeting ISIS “hideouts” in Garma, killing 13 ISIS members and destroying two Humvees and six vehicles outfitted with heavy machines guns. A source from BOC stated that the initial stages of the operation resulted in the death of 34 ISIS fighters, dismantling 100 IEDs and 22 IEDs rigged to homes, and destroying five vehicles outfitted with heavy machines guns. On March 6, DoD reported that a coalition airstrike “near Fallujah” struck an ISIS tactical unit and a headquarters, destroying two ISIS buildings and a vehicle.

On March 5, a security source in Salah al-Din province stated that ISIS launched an attack on a “Popular Mobilization” security checkpoint in al-Samelaat village, north of Dujail sub-district, located in southern Salah al-Din. Five “Popular Mobilization” members were killed and eight others were injured, including two civilians, while ISIS suffered “dozens” of casualties.

On March 4, an anonymous military source stated that Peshmerga supported by coalition airstrikes attacked ISIS positions in the main area of Sinjar district, west of Mosul, killing 20 ISIS members. The DoD reported that three coalition airstrikes “near Sinjar” struck a tactical unit and destroyed an armored vehicle and three ISIS vehicles.

On March 5, ISIS attacked a gathering of “security forces” in al-Mabidi village with eight SVESTs; however, “security forces” killed four of the attackers and destroyed their vehicles before they reached their target. Also, ISIS attackers used three SVESTs to target security forces in Tel Gisiba area, east of Tikrit on the Tikrit-Kirkuk highway, killing four security forces members and wounding 28 others. A joint force consisting of IA, IP, “Popular Mobilization,” and tribal fighters reportedly surrounded ISIS in Ajil Oil Field and later seized the area although ISIS set fire to the oil wells.

On March 4, a security source in Salah al-Din province stated that ISIS launched an attack on a “Popular Mobilization” security checkpoint in al-Samelaat village, north of Dujail sub-district, located in southern Salah al-Din. Five “Popular Mobilization” members were killed and eight others were injured, including two civilians, while ISIS suffered “dozens” of casualties.

On March 3, a leader of Iraq Sunni tribal fighters in Salah ad-Din, Khalid al-Jbara, stated that the combined forces entered Dour airport while a later report indicated that these forces seized the entire airport following clashes with ISIS.

On March 3, an anonymous military source stated that a force from military intelligence “shelled” an ISIS “military repository” in al-Rushiya area, south of Fallujah near the dam, killing 35 ISIS members and destroying 40 “U.S.-made” missiles held by ISIS. A force from military intelligence also reportedly destroyed a training camp near the Tewfik Mosque in the al-Jughayfi area in northern Fallujah. MoD also stated that a force from military intelligence “bombed” an IED “plant” on al-Ayada street in Fallujah, killing four ISIS members and an ISIS “official” responsible for “booby-traps.”