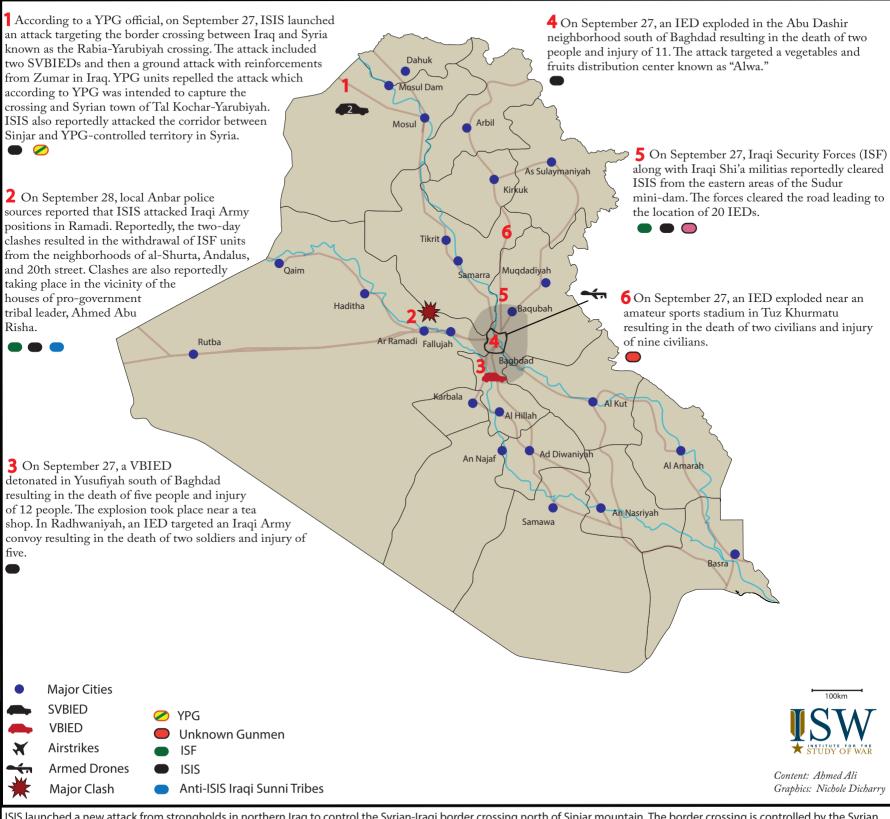
## Iraq Situation Report: September 27-28, 2014



ISIS launched a new attack from strongholds in northern Iraq to control the Syrian-Iraqi border crossing north of Sinjar mountain. The border crossing is controlled by the Syrian Kurdish YPG forces on both sides of the border, and the YPG successfully repelled the attack. This attack demonstrates that airstrikes in northern Iraq and northern Syria have not completely disrupted ISIS' ability to launch offensives in this zone. Concurrently, ISIS continued its Anbar offensive to seize control of neighborhoods within the city of Ramadi. While ISIS has not succeeded in controlling the Ramadi city center, the neighborhoods in question have been contested since January 2014. This second attack during the reporting period demonstrates that ISIS maintains the ability to launch multiple ground offensives within Iraq. Both the northern border attack and the Ramadi attack are likely attempts by ISIS to challenge opposing military forces within areas that ISIS seeks to control permanently. Meanwhile, the ISF and Shi'a militias advanced against ISIS positions northeast of Baghdad near Sudur mini-dam. ISF offensives in this zone may isolate ISIS forces in Diyala from those attacking in southern Salah ad Din and the northern Baghdad Belts.