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Weekly Iraq .Xplored report
23 June 2018

Prepared by Risk Analysis Team, Iraq

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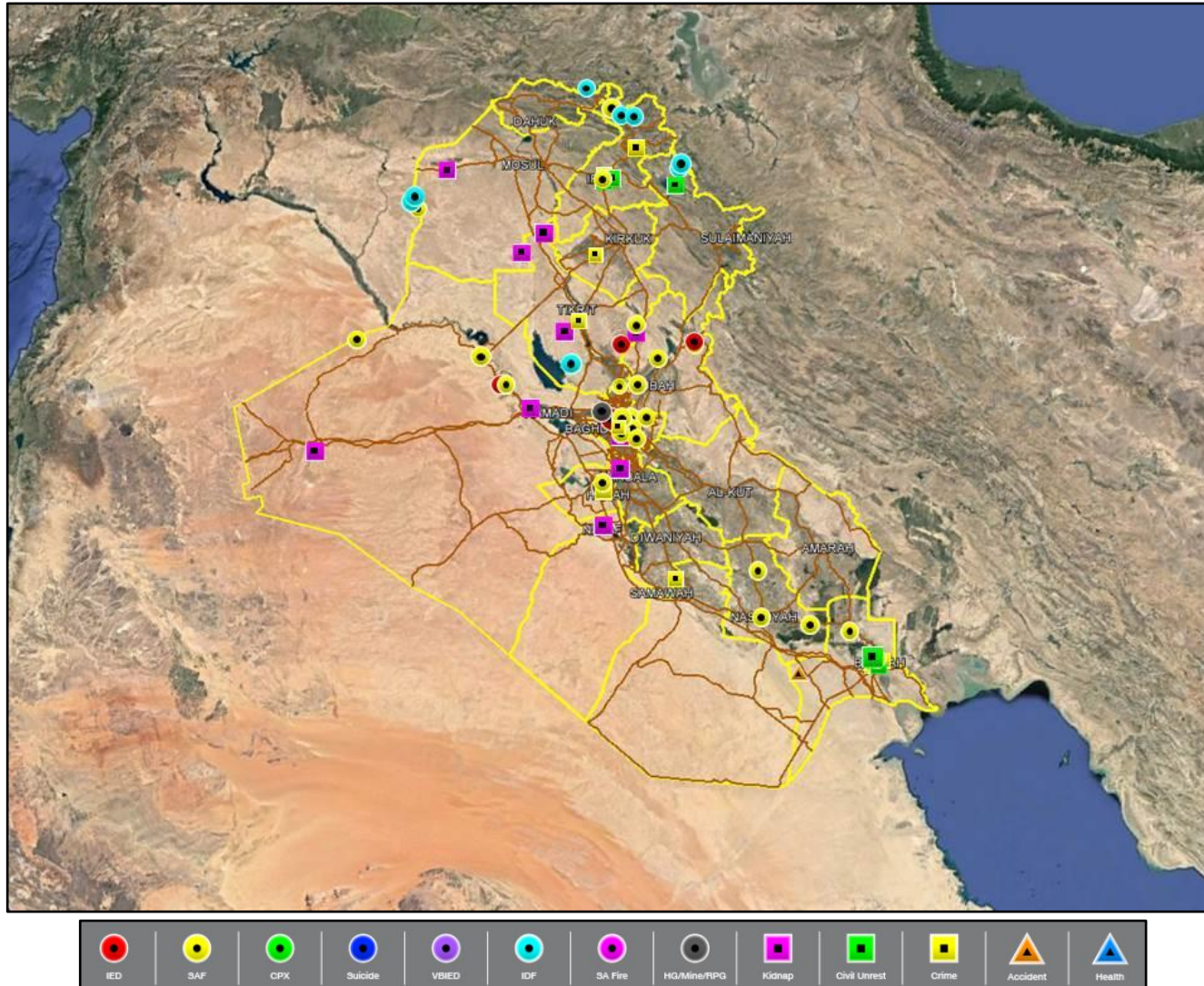
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ACTIVITY MAP

| IED | SAF | CPX | Suicide | VBIED | IDF | SA Fire | HG/Mine/RPG | Kidnap | Civil Unrest | Crime | Accident | Health |

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OUTLOOK

Short term outlook

▪ The results of the May 12 parliamentary elections will likely dominate headlines in the immediate outlook. In line with earlier assessments, there was no widespread use of violence over the election period. However, there is now an increased risk that confrontations between supporters of various parties may occur following the Iraqi parliament's changes to the country's election law to allow a full manual ballot recount for the May parliamentary elections. The Federal Supreme Court ruled to uphold these changes on June 21. As a result of this decision it is assessed that political violence might occur if political parties lose votes in comparison to the original results. As an indicator of future trends, on June 10, an IHEC warehouse in Rusafah, Baghdad, which contained a large number of ballot boxes, was burned down, with Prime Minister Abadi stating that the fire was part of a plot to sabotage the country's democratic process.

▪ Shortages of water and electricity in Iraq have prompted protests in the capital, the southern provinces, and also online condemnation of the government, as the situation rapidly approaches a critical level. Hundreds of citizens have taken to the streets in Baghdad and elsewhere, protesting at worsening electricity supplies. Social media users also strongly condemned water shortages, blaming neighbouring Iran and Turkey for building dams which have hit Iraq's share of the River Tigris's water. Further, demonstrations over the issue of electricity and water supply can be expected in the next few weeks as demand for both commodities becomes even greater during the hot summer months. The potential for these demonstrations to turn violent remains elevated.

Medium to long term outlook

▪ A protracted period of coalition building will likely follow the elections. A period of transition will follow in which bureaucracy will increase as incumbents and policy changes.

▪ The election result and government composition will have a significant impact on the security environment in northern Iraq. In the absence of a concerted effort to engage the disenfranchised Sunni population of the country, these areas will remain at risk of sectarian violence from radical Sunni elements, especially in Nineveh, Salah al-Din and western Kirkuk.

▪ Tensions remain following the Kurdish independence referendum, temporarily exacerbated by electioneering in the run up to the September 30, 2018 Kurdish regional elections. Acts of low-level violence, intimidation and provocation have been reported in Nineveh, Kirkuk, Salah al-Din, and Diyala. Relations between Baghdad and Irbil have thawed somewhat since GOI's decision to reopen the KR-Is airports to international traffic and release payments for Kurdish civil servants.

▪ Islamic State activity will continue to dominate security reporting with focus on the potential resurgence of an insurgent campaign in northern and western Iraq. Despite ongoing ISF efforts to clear remaining IS pockets, the group retains a degree of freedom of movement in the rural regions of Anbar and along the Syrian border. From a security perspective, the main focus will be on preventing the resurgence of IS, which in turn is connected with the ongoing campaign to militarily defeat their remaining elements in Syria.

▪ Low-level incidents related to criminality, personal disputes and tribal tensions are likely to continue in Basra and the southern region. Long-term tensions are also expected to be driven by the return of militia factions expecting material and social rewards for their contribution in the campaign against IS.

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

Supreme Court rules recount of votes in May election should go ahead

In a ruling issued on June 21, the Iraq's Federal Supreme Court upheld the law calling for a nationwide recount of votes in the May 12 parliamentary election but ruled that cancellation of overseas, displaced, and Peshmerga votes was unconstitutional. The ruling from the Federal Court approves the recount process, which has already begun after judges took over leadership of Iraq's Independent High Electoral Commission (IHEC). The verdict is final and not subject to appeal. This will likely delay the announcement of the official election results far beyond the end of parliamentary term. The Council of Representatives has already proposed to extend its constitutional term, set to expire on July 01, which is likely to raise further constitutional controversies.

Iraqi PMF among casualties in air raid on a Syrian base; US denies responsibility

Syrian state media claimed that US-led coalition aircraft bombed an army position in eastern Syria on June 17. The attack took place in Harra, south-east of Albu Kamal, near the Iraqi border. In an official statement, the Iraqi paramilitary Popular Mobilisation Forces (PMF) condemned the raid and admitted that 22 of its members were killed in the incident. Several Iraqi political parties and coalitions have called for the expulsion of US troops from the country as a result. The US Central Command denied that coalition forces had recently carried out strikes near Albu Kamal, and media speculated Israel might have been, in fact, responsible. Although the incident prompted a temporary increase in anti-foreign rhetoric in Iraqi press and social media, there was no security incidents involving foreign assets or related demonstrations reported this week.

Iraqi security forces exchange fire with PMF elements in Baghdad

In an official statement, the Ministry of Interior confirmed that ISF members confronted elements of a Popular Mobilisation group in the course of a law-enforcement operation in Baghdad on June 20. The skirmish occurred during the pursuit of a man suspected of stealing a vehicle, who opened fire on the security forces. It was found that the suspect belonged to Kata'ib Hezbollah (KH), part of the Popular Mobilisation Forces. Although tensions between KH elements and security forces in the area may be elevated in the immediate outlook, there is no indication the incident is likely to trigger any wider confrontation with ISF. Later reporting suggested KH voluntarily agreed to hand over the suspects to security forces.

THREAT MATRIX

Region	Political	Terrorism	Militancy	Crime	K&R
KRG*	Moderate	Low	Moderate	Low	Low
North**	Moderate	High-Extreme	High	High	High
Baghdad	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate
Anbar	Moderate	High	High	High	High
South***	Moderate	Low	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate

Threat Scale	Minimal	Low	Moderate	High	Extreme

*   **KRG** – Dohuk, Erbil & Sulaymaniyah
**   **North** – Nineveh, Salah ad-Din & Diyala
*** **South** – Babil, Wasit, Karbala, Najaf, Diwaniyah, Dhi Qar, Muthanna, Maysan & Basra

OVERVIEW

Political

Supreme Court rules recount of votes in May election should go ahead

In a ruling issued on June 21, the Federal Supreme Court upheld the law calling for a nationwide recount of votes in the May 12 parliamentary election but ruled that cancellation of overseas, displaced, and Peshmerga votes was unconstitutional. The ruling from the Federal Court approves the recount process, which has already begun after judges took over leadership of Iraq's Independent High Electoral Commission. The verdict is final and not subject to appeal.

Political factions who came top in the parliamentary election warned of the possible repercussions of the manual recount of the vote. The winning Sa'eroun coalition led by Muqtada al-Sadr has warned against factions exploiting the "constitutional vacuum" that will result from the decision if recounting is not completed by the end of the month. In a public statement, Muqtada al-Sadr called on the government "not to expand its authorities" in the event that the recount extends past the parliament's term ending with June. For his part, leader of the pro-Iranian Fatah alliance and a former paramilitary commander, Hadi al-Amiri, said he considered the Prime Minister al-Abadi and IHEC responsible for irregularities during the elections. Amiri noted that his "Fatah coalition has from the start called for manual counting and sorting to reassure political partners and voters".

Iraqi parliament considers extending its term

The Council of Representatives (CoR) held an extraordinary session on June 22 to vote on a bill to extend its constitutional term, set to expire on July 01. During the session, the parliament's legal committee proposed a bill extending the parliament's term until the results of the May 12 election are endorsed by the Supreme Court. The bill had been signed by 60 MPs. In an online statement, the Parliament Speaker Salim al-Jabouri said CoR is committed to extending its term as the disputes over the election results are yet to be resolved. A prominent member of the Kurdistan Democratic Party and former Minister of Foreign Affairs, Hoshyar Zebari, said he expected the bill to be approved and the terms of both the parliament and cabinet to be extended until the end of this year. However, the attempts to extend CoR's term are likely to meet with resistance from other institutions and political actors.

Negotiations over the new Iraqi Government's composition set to continue

As talks on forming the parliamentary majority following Iraq's May 12 parliamentary election enter their second month, media suggested that both the current Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi, who leads the Nasr Alliance, and Vice President Nuri al-Maliki, who leads the State of Law Coalition, are invited "under certain conditions" to join the coalition announced on June 12 by Muqtada al-Sadr (Sa'erun bloc) and Hadi al-Amiri (Fatah alliance). PM al-Abadi has called on the political blocs to meet after the Eid al-Fitr holiday, to agree on how to move forward with the formation of the government. Al-Abadi said his invitation was intended to establish a workable political programme and begin the process of building state institutions. He called on political actors to respect the constitutional provisions regarding the results of elections. He added that the government will resume its duties after the parliament's term expires, in the event that the results of the election are not determined by then. "There is no constitutional vacuum up to this point."

Kurdish electoral body to open registration for political alliances in regional elections

The Iraqi Kurdish electoral commission has opened registration for political alliances intending to run in elections to the regional parliament on September 30. That registration began on June 18 and would be extended until June 24.

Security

US denies responsibility for attack on a Syrian base; Iraqi PMF among casualties

Syrian state media claimed that US-led coalition aircraft bombed an army position in eastern Syria on June 17. The attack took place in Harra, south-east of Albu Kamal, near the Iraqi border. Iraqi media claimed that members of several Iraqi Popular Mobilisation (PMF) groups - Kata'ib Hizbollah, Asaib Ahl al-Haq, Nujabaa Movement - were killed or injured in the attack. In an official statement, the Iraqi paramilitary Popular Mobilisation Forces (PMF) condemned the raid, initially accusing the US of carrying out the operation. "At 2200 [1900 GMT] on June 17, a US fighter jet targeted a permanent location for the 45th and 46th brigades of the PMF on the border with Syria with two rockets, leading to the martyrdom of 22 fighters and the injury of 12 others," the PMF said on June 18. The group added that it had formed a committee to investigate the incident and would refer the outcome to Iraqi Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi. The Iraqi Ministry of Foreign Affairs condemned "any air operations targeting forces in areas where they are fighting Islamic State (IS), whether in Iraq, Syria or any other area where there is a battlefield against this enemy that threatens humanity", but refrained from making further comments. On their part, the US Central Command denied that coalition forces had carried out any recent strikes near Albu Kamal.

Iraqi security forces exchange fire with PMF elements in Baghdad

In an official statement, the Ministry of Interior confirmed that ISF members confronted elements of a Popular Mobilisation group in the course of a law-enforcement operation in Palestine Street, east Baghdad, on June 20. The statement said that a skirmish occurred during the pursuit of a man suspected of stealing a vehicle, who opened fire on the security forces. It was found that the suspect belongs to Kata'ib Hezbollah (KH), part of the Popular Mobilisation Forces. Security forces surrounded the suspect and some of his companions at a safe house and they opened fire in their direction. Two policemen and one militiaman were injured and the perpetrator was captured. The statement stressed the confrontation occurred in the course of routine ISF operations to limit criminality and illicit use of arms, regardless of the identity of the party involved.

PM Abadi renews calls for disarmament of militias

In a meeting with security and military commanders on June 17, Prime Minister Haider spoke about a controversial issue of the possession of arms by individuals and militias. He stressed that arms should only be in the government's hands. "The presence of any arms outside this framework is a violation and [could lead to] chaos. Efforts to collect these arms are underway," Abadi said. He also stressed that the armed forces should be kept out of any political differences and disputes. **COMMENT**: 'The collection of arms from the government-sponsored Popular Mobilisation Forces remains a point of contention among leading political blocs. The issue was again highlighted last week when an ammunitions cache exploded in Baghdad's Sadr City, killing at least 17 people and wounding 80 others. Muqtada al-Sadr, prominent Shia cleric and leader of the winning coalition in Iraq's parliamentary elections, has urged the Ministry of Interior to start a nationwide disarmament campaign after the holy month of Ramadan.' **COMMENT ENDS**

Turkish PM says 400 sq km cleared of PKK in northern Iraq

Turkey has cleared 400 square kilometres of the Qandil Mountain region off Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK) militants, Turkish Prime Minister Binali Yildirim was quoted as saying on June 21 by the Turkish Hurriyet newspaper. "We are shelling the Kandil Mountain through air operations at times. This time the PKK terrorists are crossing into Iran when they are on the back foot". The operations have not caused any friction with Iran, Yildirim added. "We cleared the area in north-western Syria's Afrin district during 'Operation Olive Branch.' We will do the same in the Kandil Mountain area," he added. On his part, President Erdogan also vowed to continue attacks on PKK in Qandil at an election campaign rally on June 20.

Economy

Internet cuts expected between June 21 and July 12 due to exams

The Ministry of Education has announced that internet provision would be intermittently disrupted country-wide over the next three weeks, in coordination with the Ministry of Communications, due to the public examination session. Internet access is to be cut off between 0600hrs and 0800hrs on exam days (June 24, 27, 30; July 03, 07, 10, 12).
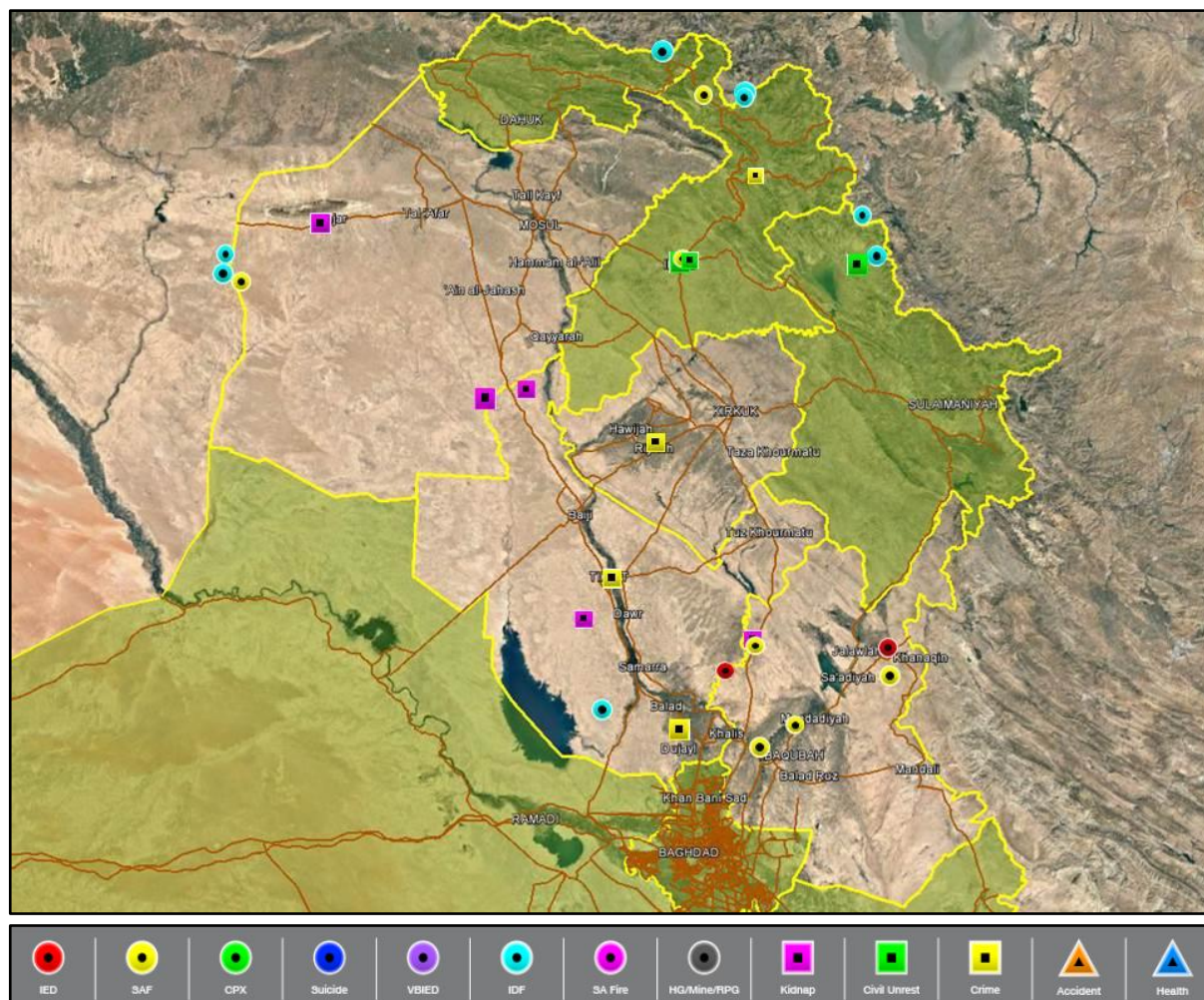
Local activists call for protests over foreign employment in Basra

The President of the Federation of Trade Unions in Basra, Jassem Mohammed Salhi, called on workers in Basra province to participate in a demonstration outside the Basra Provincial Council building on June 20, protesting against the employment of foreign workers in the province's oil sector. Around three hundred of unemployed Iraqis gathered; some protesters were detained by the Basra Police but released shortly afterwards. The "Youth Activists" group that was involved in the protest have stated that they plan to stage another protest at the Basra Oil Company headquarters in Basra city on June 25 and another in the Rumaila area on June 28, if their demands in regard to employment opportunities are not addressed.

WEEKLY OPERATIONAL ASSESSMENT

Countrywide Military/Security Situation

Northern Provinces

Further operations by the Turkish military were seen on the northern outskirts of Iraq during the week. Air strikes and artillery shelling were recurrently reported across the Qandil region, as well as in the Avasin-Basyan area, near Bradost, Sinat Haftanin, Hawkurk and Kani Masi. Weapon storage facilities and PKK shelters were targeted. According to a statement by the Turkish military 87 Kurdistan Worker's Party (PKK) elements were "neutralized" during operations in south-eastern Turkey and northern Iraq between June 15 and June 21. Six Turkish soldiers were also confirmed dead and 12 others were wounded in action. According to local officials, PKK has withdrawn from several positions after the Turkish forces intensified operations in the Qandil region. While the Turkish intervention against PKK continues, a number of activist and members of a PKK-related group, the Kurdish National Congress (KNK), organised a march against the operations in the Qandil Mountains on June 18.

Otherwise, there were no major hostile incidents seen within KRG borders. There were three fatal shooting incidents in Irbil city this week. Although all incidents appear to have likely steamed from local disputes, they highlight the underlying risk from low-level violence and communal conflicts in the Kurdish Region, often underreported in local media.
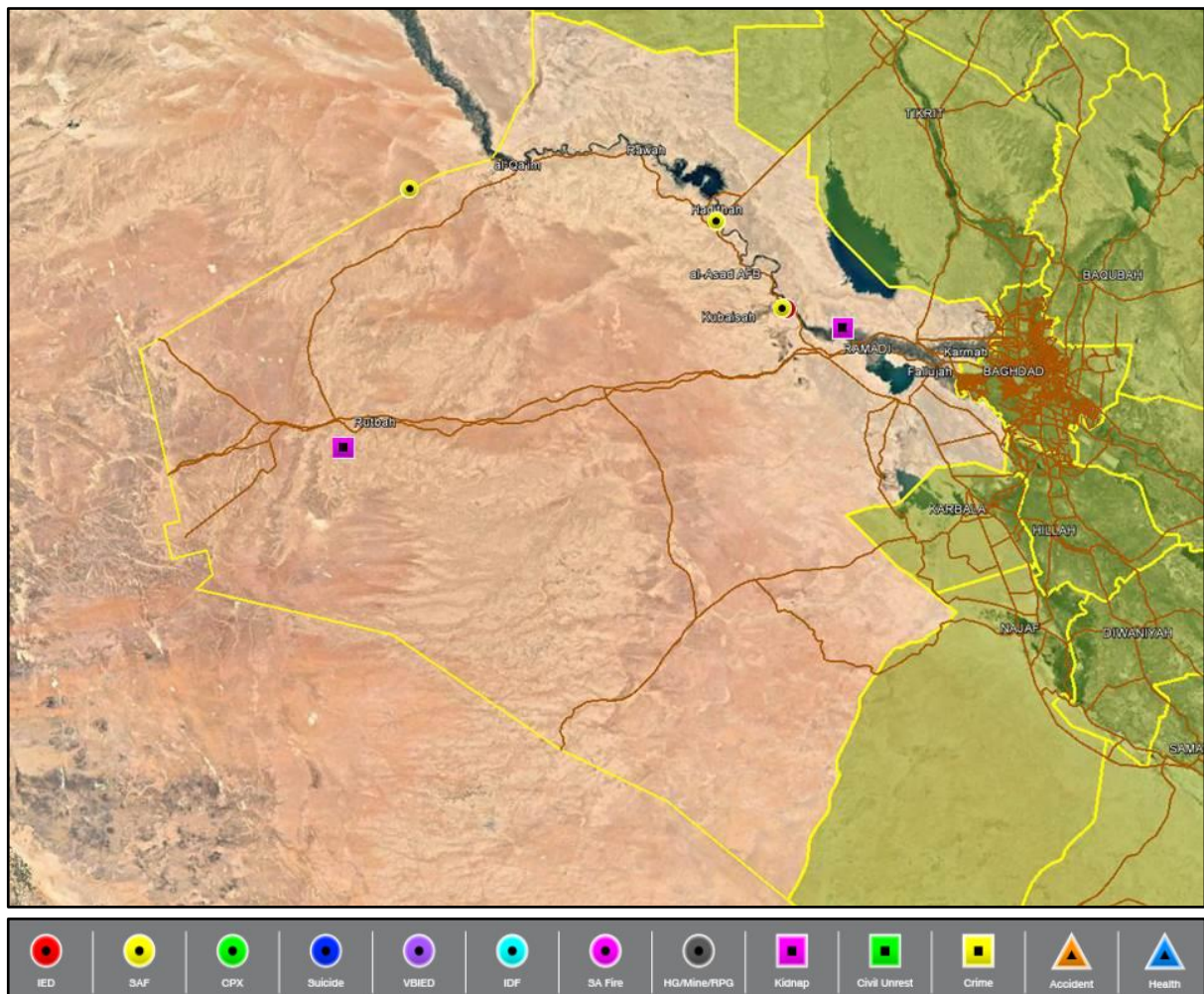
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Reporting from Nineveh province comprised primarily routine cases of arrests and security raids. Numerous individuals suspected of links with IS were arrested in Mosul. The detainees reportedly included members of the Islamic State's religious police, property office, media outlets, and treasury. Meanwhile, the western areas of the province remain restive. There were several skirmishes reported as ISF or Popular Mobilisation confronted militants who tried to cross into Iraq from Syria. On June 21, ISF claimed nine insurgents were killed and four others were captured when a group of 30 militants attempted to cross into Nineveh province. The frequency of such confrontations may increase further as the Syrian government forces increase pressure on the remaining territory controlled by Islamic State in Syria.

The Nineveh – Salah al-Din border region saw a number of attacks on the Sunni Shammar tribe throughout the week. Bodies of six kidnapped tribesmen were found near Hadhar, Nineveh province. The chairman of the Dawr local council claimed IS kidnapped up to 30 members of the Shammar tribe in the Jazeera area west of Dawr, calling the Prime Minister for assistance. On June 20, militants tried to attack the town of Tulul al-Baaj but were forced to withdraw. The captured militants allegedly confessed that they were involved in recent killings and kidnappings in the area. There were no major hostile incidents elsewhere in Salah al-Din, with further security operations and finds of cached weapons reported in Baiji, Tikrit and Samarra.

Kirkuk province saw a relative lull in reporting likely attributable to the Eid al-Fitr holiday period. Incidents in Kirkuk city reflected primarily criminal activity and local disputes. Reporting from the province comprised primarily accounts of ISF raids and clearance operations around the city and in Hawijah district. Following the conclusion of Eid al-Fitr, ISF announced that elements of the Federal Police had started a large-scale search operation in the province. Multiple IEDs were reported cleared in Hawijah district, including ten near the Ramel village, one near Riyadh, and thirteen in Rashad sub-district, including one planted near an electricity pole.
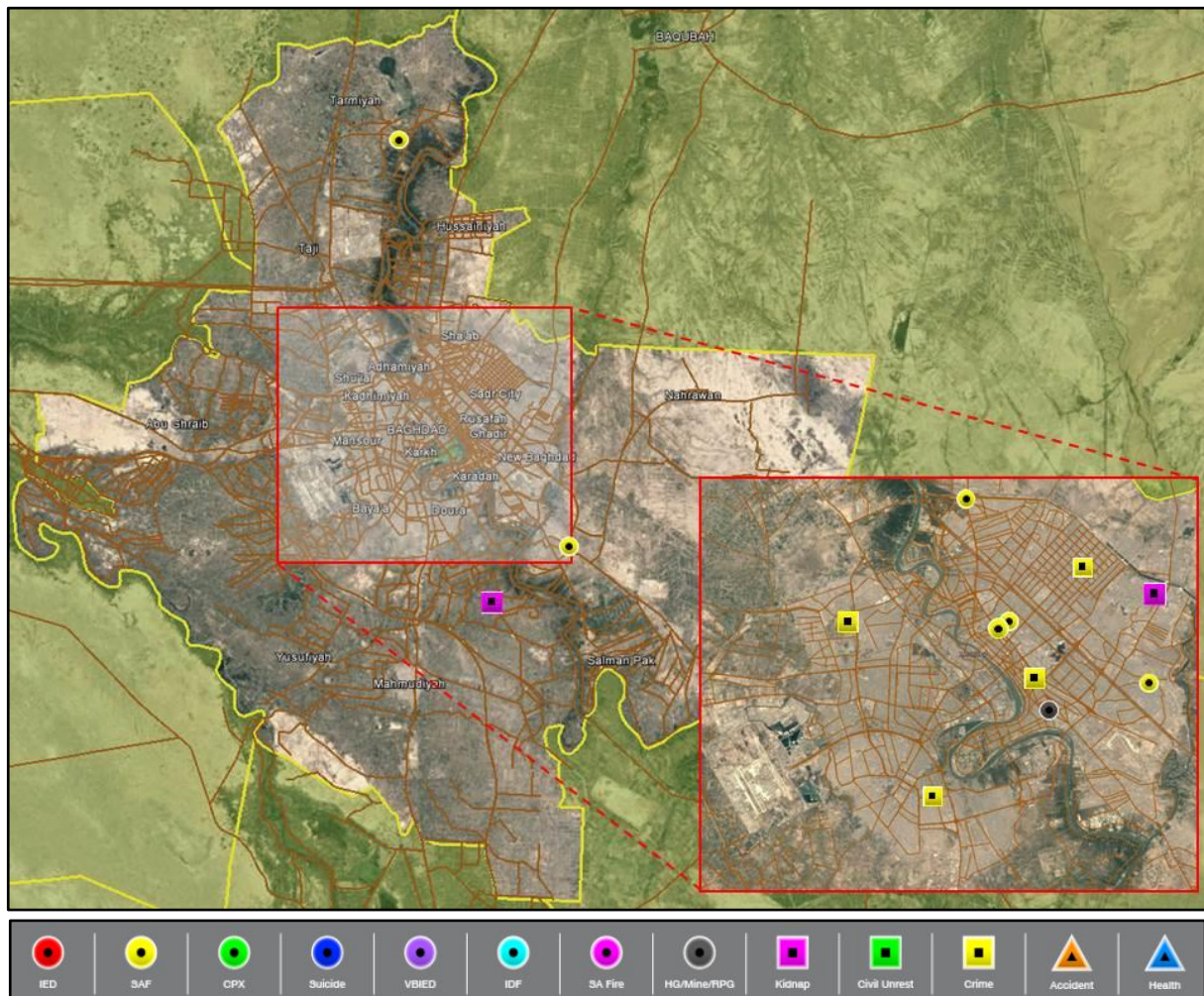
Diyala Province sees regular insurgent activity with IED and SAF attacks reported daily. The security environment in eastern districts, towards the border with Iran, remains particularly challenging. Residents of Khanaqin town held a peaceful strike on June 21, protesting over the deteriorating security situation in the district, while local officials claimed that a number of Kurdish families have left their homes in Khanaqin over the past few days due to security concerns. This is in line with incident reporting which has shown a consistent pattern of attacks around Khanaqin. In the same region, PMF 24th Brigade elements reportedly thwarted an attack on a security outpost near Naft Khana on June 20. Four insurgents were killed in nearby Wadi Thalab.

In western parts of Diyala, the Kirkuk-Baghdad road saw further kidnappings and attacks on security forces this week. On June 17, a group of militants set up an illegal checkpoint on the highway in Adhaim district; three people were reportedly killed and seven others were abducted. Head of the PUK office in Qara Tepe claimed that Highway 2 was again blocked by IS militants near al-Adhaim between 2200-0400hrs on June 18. Subsequently, ISF announced a series of raids along the highway in search of hostages and IS militants. However, two other policemen were reportedly killed on the highway near the Safra village on June 19. A checkpoint in the Hawi al-Adhaim area was attacked on June 22.

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Anbar Province

ISF operations in search of remnants of Islamic State and legacy explosives continue to dominate the security setting in Anbar province. The border with Syria was again in the focus of attention this week after 22 members of Iraqi paramilitary groups were killed in an airstrike against a Syrian military base on the other side of the border (see *Security overview* section for details). Meanwhile, routine patrolling and search operations continue along the border. Eleven suspects were arrested and sixteen mortar shells were cleared in around Qaim, Akashat and Kusr. Two IS militants were killed as they attempted to cross into Qaim from Syria. Notably, the Popular Mobilisation forces reportedly foiled an attempt to sabotage a rig at Akkas Gas Field near Qaim and the site was subsequently shut down by an operational team from the Ministry of Oil. ISF and allied forces continued anti-insurgent operations in the sparsely populated desert areas of the province. Iraqi Army 1st DIV elements, supported by local police, launched a clearance operation in Rutbah district, along the Horan Valley. Several insurgent camps were reportedly destroyed. Another operation began in the desert areas of Rutbah, following the abduction of four civilians by suspected IS militants on June 19.
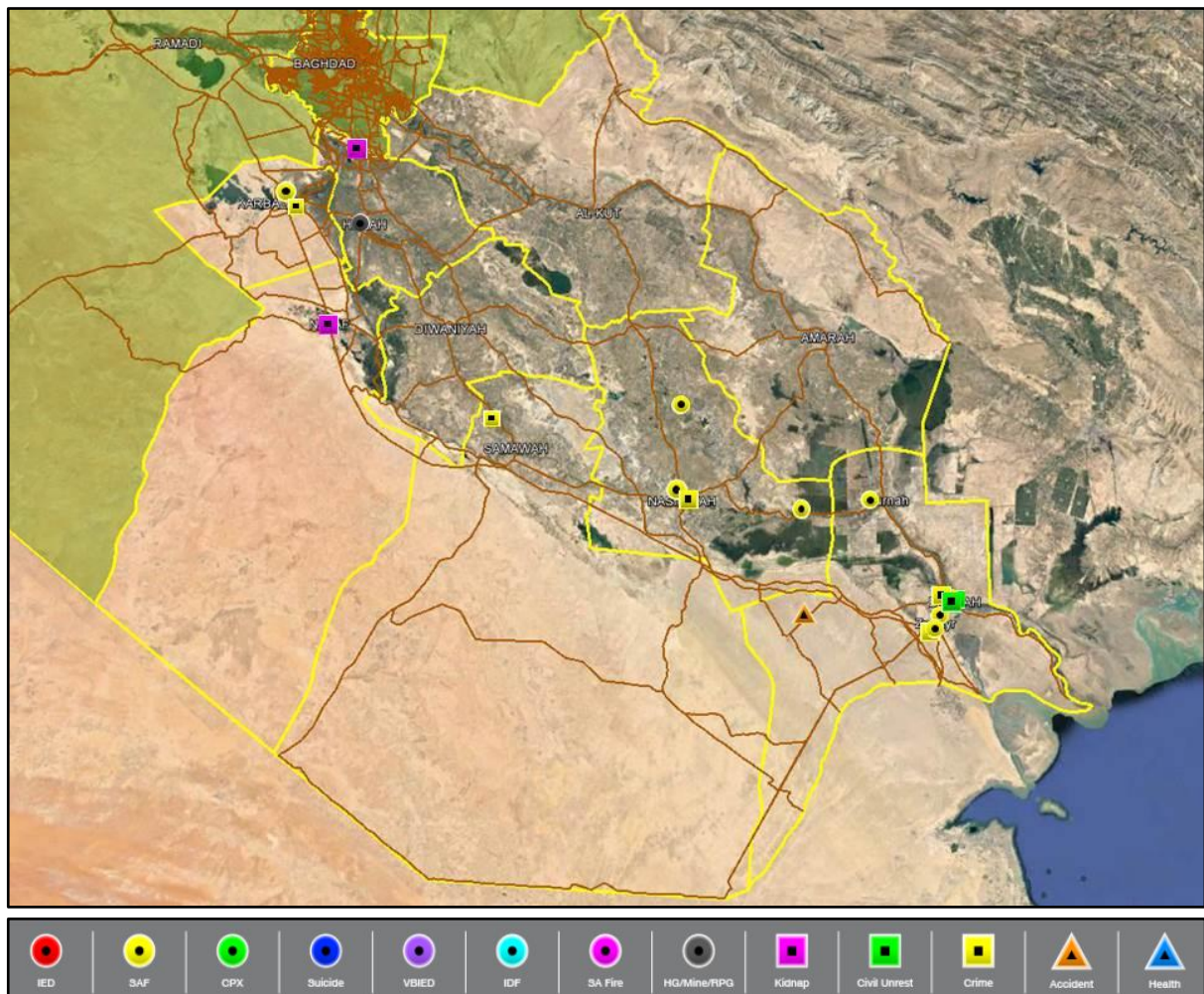
Intermittent attacks and legacy IED detonations continue to be seen along the Euphrates River Valley, with Hit and Ramadi seeing recurring activity. ISF reported that they had killed two IS members and foiled an attempt to blow a mosque in Hit on June 20; two other IS members were also reported arrested. North of Ramadi, the Anbar Operations Command reported the destruction of an insurgent camp, along with a quantity of food and two motorcycles, during an operation south-west of Lake Tharthar. Clearing of explosive devices continues in the Falluja-Ramadi corridor, with dozens of devices cleared around Falluja (Falahat, Salam) and Ramadi (Zankura, Albu Assaf, 35 Kilo area, Albu Dhiyab).

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Capital Region (Including Baghdad City)

The security environment in Baghdad remains stable and permissive for commercial operations provided the adoption of adequate security measures. Reporting from Baghdad city was relatively subdued, in line with the forecast for the Eid al-Fitr holiday period, typically characterised by low levels of background activity. It is likely the number of incidents will increase in the coming week after media outlets and public institutions have resumed regular operations. The most notable incident was an exchange of gunfire between ISF and a group of PMF-affiliated gunmen in central Baghdad on June 20, which resulted in three casualties. Although the incident was initially reported as a major confrontation between ISF and militiamen, it seems it was in fact related to criminal activity.

There were a number of reports on SAF incidents and non-lethal detonations consistent with the pattern of routine, background activity in the city. Two low-yield detonations occurred in the Shula neighbourhood, north-west Baghdad, causing material damages only. A hand grenade detonated on a private vehicle in the Karada neighbourhood early on June 18. There is no indication the incident was linked to terrorist activity, and IED/grenade detonations occurring in small hours are typically intended for personal intimidation. On the other hand, SAF attacks continue to result in the vast majority of casualties in the capital. Fatal incidents were primarily seen in the eastern neighbourhoods of the city, including Sadr City (June 16, 17), New Baghdad (June 16, 18), Adhamiyah (June 20, 22). A number of criminal arrests were announced throughout the week, with charges ranging from kidnapping, theft, burglary to fraud and illegal possession of weapons.

Outside the city limits, Tarmiyah district remains the hotspot of activity with a long-established support base for extremist elements, fuelled from the neighbouring areas of Salah al-Din. An insurgent shelter was found during an operation in the Qusayr area. On 22 June IS made the claim via its messaging app to have killed a tribal figure from Tarmiyah for encouraging participation in the parliamentary elections. Reporting south of Baghdad was muted, with several isolated attacks including SAF in Jisr Diyala and one kidnapping recorded. Six legacy IEDs were found in the Saadan village, south-west of Baghdad.

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Southern Provinces

There were no high-profile attacks in the southern region during the week, in line with the forecast for the Eid holiday period, when local threat groups, such as tribal and criminal gangs, often scale down their operations.

Recurring incidents and finds of cached weaponry highlight the underlying threat of terrorism in the northern parts of Babel and outlying desert areas neighbouring with Anbar. On June 21, a roadside IED detonated on a civilian vehicle in the Bahbahan area near Jurf al-Sakhar, wounding two employees of the Ministry of Industry. Two Popular Mobilisation elements were injured by an IED detonation near a checkpoint in the Khidir area on June 22. There were also two attacks on ISF members in Hilla, but there is no indication the incidents were related to terrorist activity and such targeted attacks are more likely to occur in the course of personal or business disputes. On June 21, unidentified gunmen intercepted the car of a police officer, director of the Babil Passport Office, in central Hilla and shot him dead, in what seemed to have been a targeted assassination possibly linked to the victim's official function.

The remainder of incidents reflected routine criminal activity and low-level disputes. This included several incidents in Karbala and Najaf, which have enjoyed a high level of security presence in recent years. Najaf police rescued an abducted young girl and arrested her female captor. An armed quarrel was reported in Karbala city on June 19, prompting an ISF intervention. Dhi Qar province again saw relatively elevated levels of activity, including tribal violence, family disputes and criminal operations.

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Reporting from Basra this week included SAF incidents and ISF-led operations which remain concentrated on criminal activity - narcotics supply and use and the possession of illegally held firearms. There were several separate shooting incidents in the province, including two cases of casualties caused by celebratory fire. A number of arrests on drug trafficking charges were again reported in Basra city. In addition, the Oil Police Force reportedly apprehended four smugglers and seized four tanker trucks loaded with contraband crude oil and two pickup trucks during a recent operation in Zubayr.

ACRONYM LIST

AII - Area of Intelligence Interest
AKA - Also Known As
AO - Area of Operations
APC - Armored Personnel Carrier
APIED - Anti-Personnel IED
AQ - Al-Qaeda
AT - Anti-Tank
ATGW - Anti Tank Guided Weapon
AVIED - Anti-Vehicle IED
BBIED - Body Borne IED
Bde - Brigade
Bn - Battalion
BXP - Border Crossing Point
CET - Convoy Escort Team
CLC - Concerned Local Citizens
CoP - Chief of Police
CP - Check Point
C-PERS - Captured Personnel
CPX - Complex Attack (attack using multiple weapon systems)
CQA - Close Quarter Assassination/Attack
DBS - Drive by Shooting
Div - Division
DoD - Department of Defense
DoS - Department of State
DoS - US Department of State
ECP - Entry Control Point
EFP - Explosively Formed Projectile
EOD - Explosive Ordinance Disposal (Bomb Squad)
ERW - Explosive Remnants of War
FoM - Freedom of Movement
GoI - Government of Iraq
HCN - Host Country National
HG - Hand Grenade
HME - Home Made Explosive
HMG - Heavy Machine Gun
HVT - High Value Target
IC - International Community
IDF - Indirect Fire (i.e.: rockets, mortars)
IDP - Internally Displaced Persons
IEC - Independent Electoral Commission
IED - Improvised Explosive Device
IM - International Military
IOC - International Oil Company
IRAM - Improvised Rocket Assisted Mortar
IRL - Improvised Rocket Launcher
IS - Islamic State
IVCP - Illegal Vehicle Check Point
IVO - In Vicinity Of
IZ - International Zone
KIA - Killed in Action
LN - Local National/Iraqi Civilian
MAIED - Magnetically attached IED (aka UVIED)
MIA - Missing in Action
MoD - Ministry of Defense
MoF - Ministry of Finance
MoFA - Ministry of Foreign Affairs
MoHE - Ministry of Higher Education
MoI - Ministry of Interior
MoJ - Ministry of Justice

MoO - Ministry of Oil
MoT - Ministry of Transportation
MSR - Main Supply Route
NFDK - No Further Details Known
NGO - Non-Governmental Organization (aid/charity)
NSTR - Nothing Significant To Report
OCG - Organized Crime Group
OPF - Oil Protection Force
PAX - Person, Persons or Passenger
PBIED - Person-Borne Improvised Explosive Device (UN Term)
PoI - Point of Impact (for IDF)
PoO - Point of Origin (for IDF)
PSAF - Precision Small Arms Fire
PSC - Private Security Company
PSD - Private Security Detail
RCIED - Remote-Controlled IED
RPG - Rocket Propelled Grenade
RTA - Road Traffic Accident
SAF - Small Arms Fire
SAFIRE - Surface to Air FIRE
SF - Special Forces
SVBIED - Suicide Vehicle Borne IED
SVEST - Suicide Explosive Worn Vest
TCN - Third Country National
TCP - Traffic Control Point
Technical - An improvised weapon-mounted pick-up truck
TTP - Tactics, Techniques and Practices
UVIED - Under Vehicle IED
UXO - Unexploded Ordnance
VBIED - Vehicle Borne IED
VCP - Vehicle Checkpoint
WIA - Wounded in Action

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