

15 Oct 2008

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## Iraq Overview

Activity levels decreased across the country with 51 incidents reported including: 35 x IEDs, 2 x UVBTs, 7 x SAF, 1 x IDF and 6 x others.

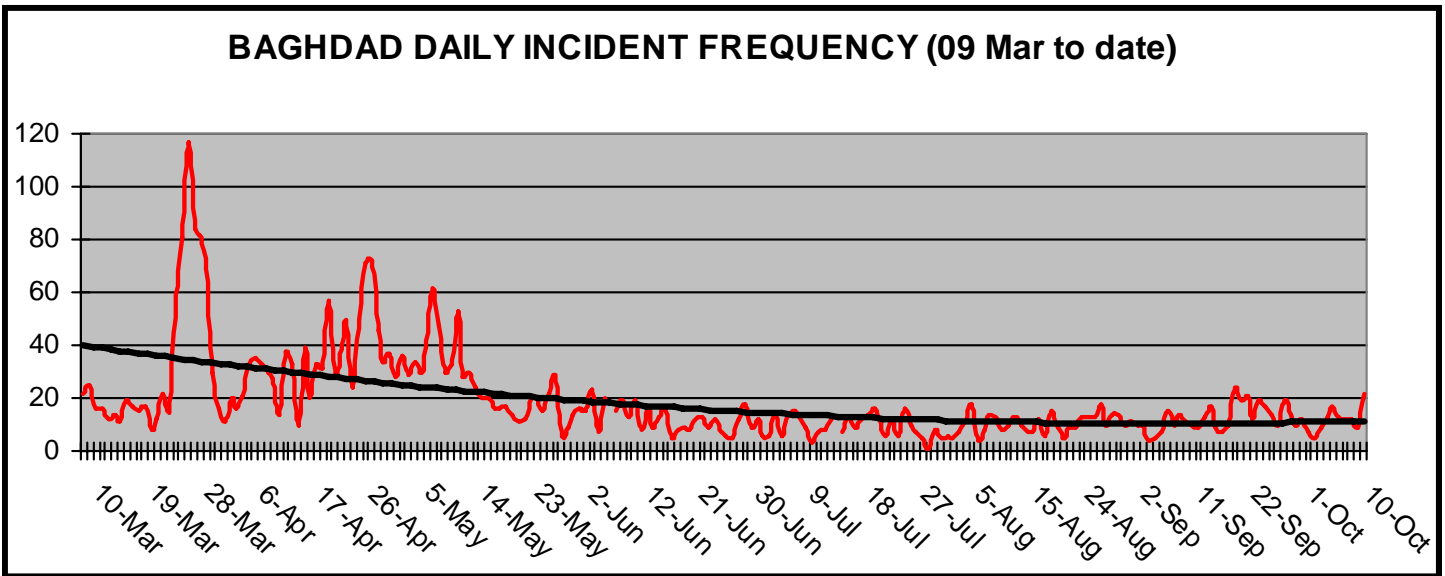
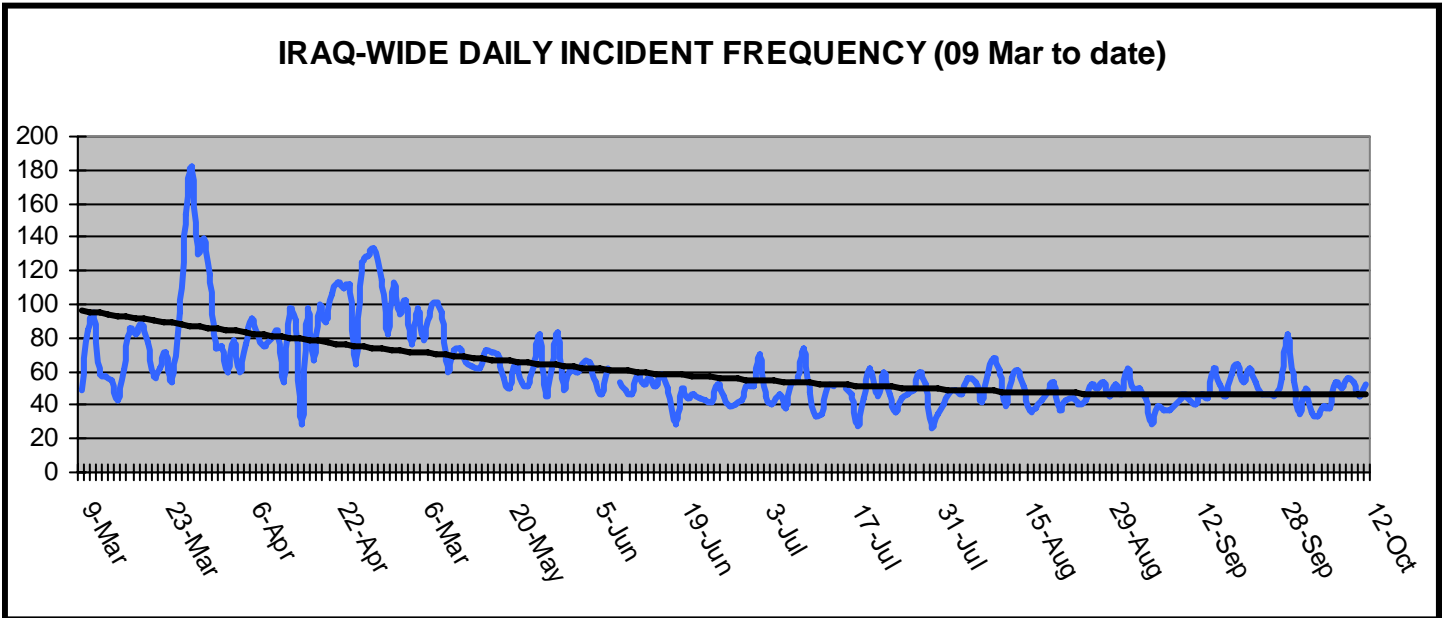
## Headlines

US and Iraqi negotiators have agreed on a draft security pact that would govern the presence of American troops in Iraq after January, Bush administration officials say, but its final approval is far from certain. The draft calls for US troops to pull out of Iraqi cities by the end of June next year and leave Iraq by December 31, 2011, unless the Baghdad government asks them to stay. It also includes a compromise on the biggest bone of contention: legal immunity for American forces, according to the officials. The draft, reached after months of halting and often tense talks, contains elements that are expected to further aggravate an already difficult effort to get the Iraqi government and parliament on board, the officials said. It also may draw objections from US lawmakers, whose support is not legally required but is considered essential to the eventual success of any deal, according to the officials. However, the negotiating teams have decided they cannot improve on the proposal and have sent it to higher-ups for a political decision as time runs out on both the Bush administration and the UN mandate under which US troops now operate, which expires on December 31, they say. Without an agreement soon, the officials said Tuesday that the two sides will have to begin to look more seriously at alternatives that include extending the UN authority, which is fraught with complications.

The Iraqi foreign minister Hoshiyar Zebari on Tuesday voiced his country's willingness to end the dossier of missing Kuwaitis since the 1990 Iraqi invasion of Kuwait. Zebari was speaking during a meeting with Genadi Tarasov, the UN coordinator on the issue of Kuwaitis missing in Iraq, the Iraqi Foreign Ministry said. During the meeting, they mulled over possible concrete steps that could lead to an end to this field in the UN Security Council, it said. The minister reiterated the "Iraqi government's sincere desire to work with Kuwait in full transparency and with sincere intentions in order to end such an issue on the basis that the issue of missing Kuwaitis and lost properties are bearing on humanitarian aspects from which both peoples suffered and were equally victims of the former regime." He noted that Iraqi agencies involved were cooperating with the UN coordinator over practical proposals to notch up tangible progress in this respect. Tarasov is in Baghdad at the invitation of the Iraqi government to thrash out the dossier of Kuwaitis missing in Iraq. Tarasov was appointed by the UN Security Council last April.



Statistics:



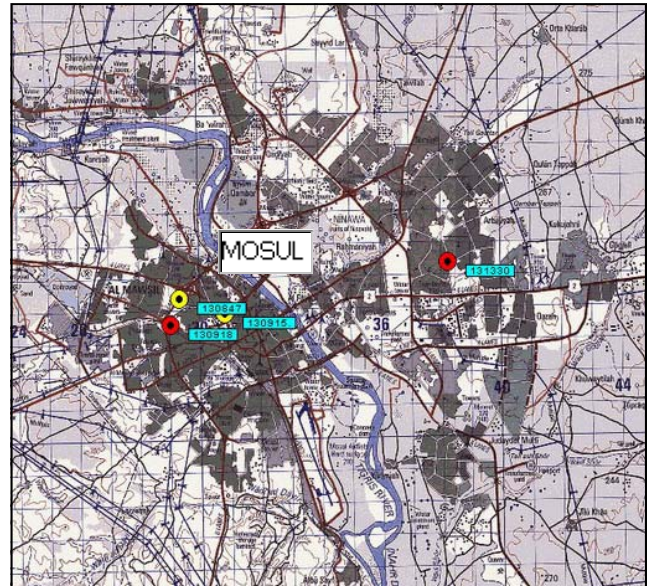
VBIED	SVB	IED	UVBT	SAF/ Snipe	CPX	IDF	HG	Mine	Unspec Attack	SAFire	RPG
●	■	●	■	● ■	●	■	●	○	■	●	●



## North Region

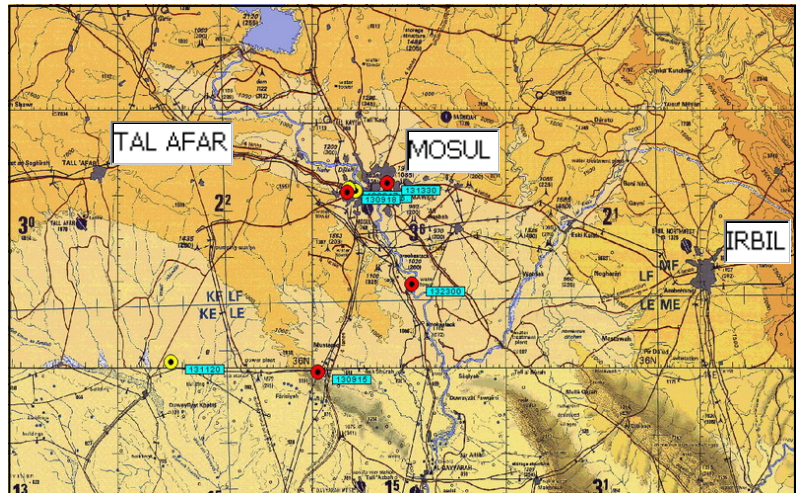
Incident numbers increased this period, with 8 officially reported (previously 9); incidents consisted of 4 x IED, 3 x SAF and 1 x IDF.

An IED attack on an IPS patrol in western **MOSUL** wounded two IPS members. There was an IED attack reported in eastern **MOSUL**, this was also targeted on an ISF element. Open sources reported that a civilian was killed and another wounded in a drive-by shooting in central **MOSUL**. An IED incident was reported in the town of **HAMMAM al-ALIL** to the south of **MOSUL**. A SAF incident occurred in the desert area to the south of **TAL AFAR**. An IED attack was reported in **AMEDI**.



## Significant Activity

130918 hrs - IED attack on CIV in **MOSUL**.



## Kurdish Region

NSTR.

## Summary

Incidents in **MOSUL** have reduced significantly, with only two IEDs being seen. This reduction is believed due to the increased ISF in the city after the recent attacks on the minority Christian group. This heightened security forces activity may continue, as there was a 'surge' operation for the city already planned.

The incidence of VBIED attacks in **MOSUL** is expected to continue, as the insurgents react to the heightened ISF activity inside the city. Recent munitions cache finds have contained large quantities of explosives, believed destined for the manufacture of VBIEDs. The majority of the victims are civilian, even in those attacks that target the MNFI/ISF. The threat of Insurgents attempting to carry out 'spectacular' mass casualty attacks against civilians also continues, both in the city and the urban areas of Nineveh Province.

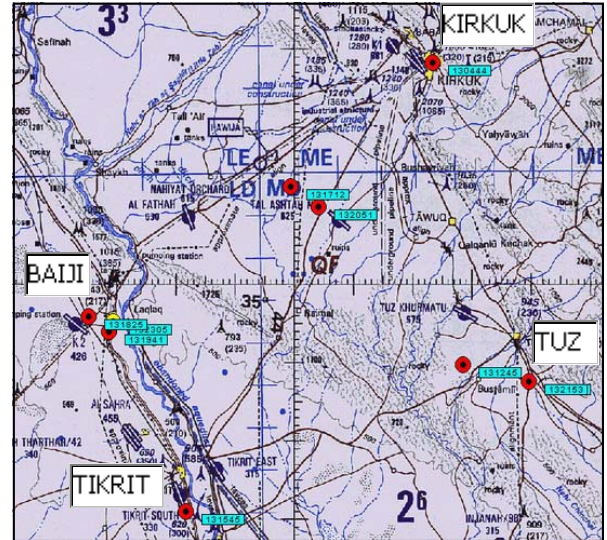
Attack TTPs are expected to continue to be mainly IED and SAF related, although the VBIED will increasingly be utilized. It is hoped that the new ISF operation against AQIZ will produce a lasting reduction in the number of incidents being seen in **MOSUL**, the city is reported as being al-Qaeda's last stand in Iraq.



## North Central Region

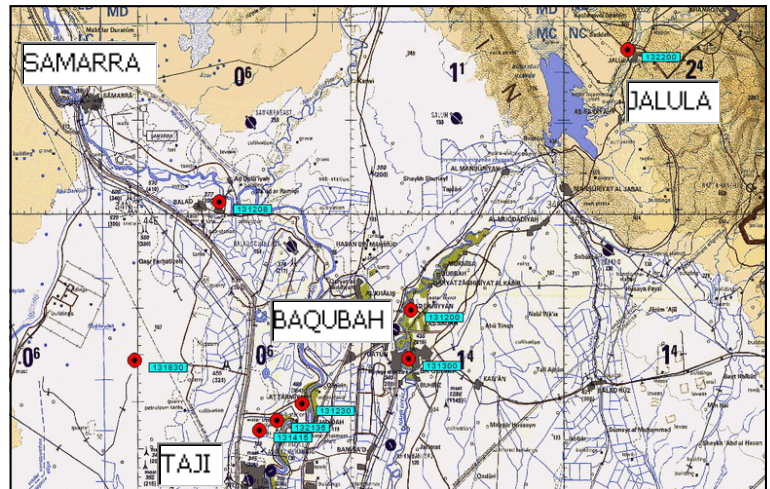
Incident numbers remained level in the region, with 24 officially reported attacks (previously 12); incidents included 19 x IED and 1 x SAF.

An oil pipeline IVO **KIRKUK** was blown up, the pipeline carries unrefined gas from the **BAI HASAN** oilfield. There were two IED explosions reported IVO **TUZ KHURMATO**, five civilians were reported wounded in the incidents. An IED was inside **BAIJI**, and another device was found on MSR Tampa IVO the town. There was also a SAF attack reported on Tampa IVO **BAIJI**. An IED was used in an attack on a IA location to the north of **BAQUBAH**, resulting in the death of an IA member. Three IED incidents occurred in the area between **TARMIYAH** and **TAJI**. UXO finds were made IVO **TARMIYAH** and **SAMARRA**, and two were made IVO **BALAD**.



## Significant Activity

- 131230 hrs - IED attack on CIV IVO **TARMIYAH**.
- 131245 hrs - IED attack on ISF IVO **TUZ**.
- 131415 hrs - IED attack on CIV IVO **TARMIYAH**.
- 131830 hrs - IED attack on CIV IVO **BALAD**.
- 131950 hrs - IED attack on CIV IVO **BALAD**.
- 132153 hrs - IED attack on CIV IVO **TUZ**.
- 132200 hrs - IED attack on ISF IVO **KHANAQIN**.



## Summary

There has been yet another attack on an oil infrastructure target this period. It is believed that this may be a result of the ethnic tensions in the area and not just insurgent activity. Attacks on infrastructure are designed to cause problems for the people of the area by creating shortages of basic life support facilities, i.e. gas - electricity - water. Oil facility attacks may be related to the current article 140 situation, as these incidents create problems for the local economy and so for the Provincial Government.

Recent cache finds IVO **BAQUBAH** have included many suicide vests, and the recent capture of a female suicide VEST bomber in the city before she could reach her target, indicates that AQIZ will continue to attempt to utilize the suicide TTP in Diyala Province and the surrounding areas.

Tensions in the mixed faction areas in the east of Diyala are high. ISF operations there are continuing, although the ISFs presence in the area is still resented by the local population, as this predominantly Kurdish area was previously protected by Peshmerga forces. Most incidents in this area are believed to be clashes between the ISF and Kurdish security.

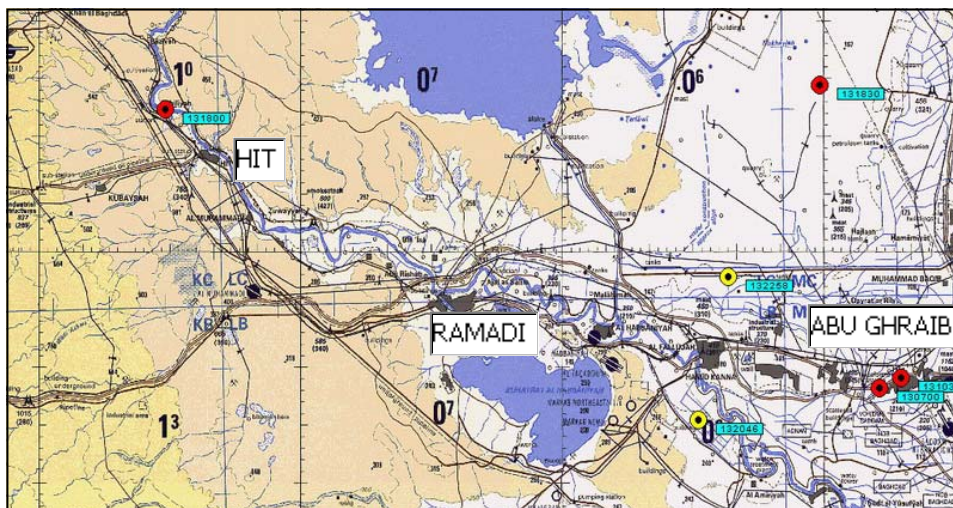
## West Region

There were 5 officially reported incidents in the west this period (previously 5); incidents consisted of 3 x IED and 2 x SAF.

An IED find was made on a main road to the northwest of **HIT**. A SAF attack occurred to the north west of **KARMAH**, another SAF attack on a MNFI element was seen to the south of **FALLUJAH**. There were two IED incidents reported IVO the **ABU GHRAIB** area, one was a device find and the other was later reported to be a MINE incident.

## Significant Activity

No officially reported significant activity.



## Summary

As expected, the **KARMAH** area saw renewed activity. This region borders the believed AQIZ safe haven in the desert area that abuts Lake Tharthar to the north. There are ongoing security forces operations here, seen as an attempt to clear the desert of AQIZ safe havens.

Attacks are expected to remain focused on MNFI/ISF elements traveling on the main routes in the **RAMADI - BAGHDAD** corridor, with the victim operated IED the preferred TTP. The **ABU GHRAIB** area remains the most active part of the corridor, with two more incidents on a major road this period. The far western town of **RUTBAH** has seen an increase in incidents recently, both in the town and on transit routes to the border. This is also expected to continue, as insurgents here attempt to disrupt cross border traffic to/from Jordan.

There are still many problems in the province due to disputes between the Awakening Council and the Iraqi Islamic Party (IIP). This political tension between ANSAC (Anbar Salvation Council) and the IIP will intensify when the Provincial elections take place, as both organizations vie for control of the Province.



## Southern Regions

There was 2 officially reported incident in the southern regions (previously 6); incidents consisted of 1 x IED and 1 x UVBT.

An IED incident was reported from the **MADA'IN** area. An under vehicle bomb was reported in the south of **NAJAF** City.

## Significant Activity

No officially reported significant activity.



## Summary

Babel Province is expected to remain the most active in the region. This area sees constant harassing attacks on road movements by Sunni insurgents. Recent attacks in this area have mainly targeted MNFI/ISF elements, although the threat of an attack on large gatherings of civilians is still prevalent. This area is expected to continue to see constant low level harassing type attacks for the near future, these will mainly be IED and SAF incidents, targeted on MNFI/ISF/CLC elements.

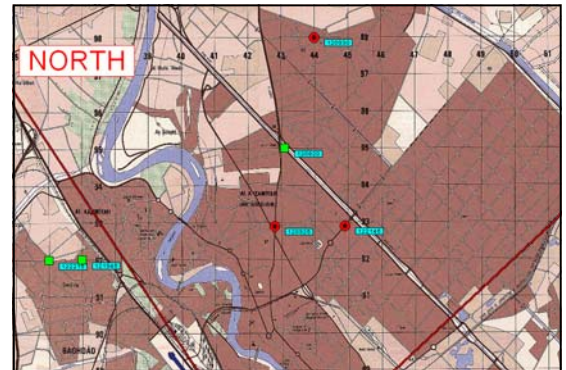
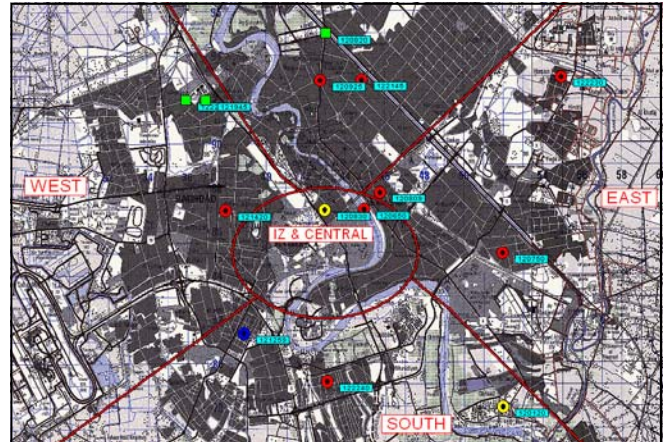
The main threat in central areas is also from IED and SAF attacks on road movements, this includes the possibility of EFP devices being seen. Militia activity in **AI-KUT** are expected to continue, as they look to protect their supply lines from Iran. This background militia activity is also being seen in other urban areas across the region.

**NASIRIYAH, AI-AMARAH** and **BASRAH** are particularly contentious areas, with harassing militia attacks on ISF likely to continue. The **AMARAH** area has seen a concentration of attacks recently, most targeted on ISF/MNFI elements. This is being blamed on local militias, and is expected to continue in the run up to the Provincial elections. The elections were originally planned for October 08, but then reportedly postponed until late January 09. It is now being reported that the Gol are attempting to get the Provincial elections completed before the end of the year.

## Baghdad

Overall activity decreased with 13 incidents in this reporting period, including; 9 x IED, 12 x IED, 1 UVBT, 1 x SAF and 2 x UXO.

- Increase in IED activity in the SHAAB and UR areas
- MNF attacked with EFP in the area of SADR city.
- Unconfirmed IDF attack against IZ on 13 Oct 08.
- Large march planned by SADRIST block for Sat 18 Oct 08.



## Significant Activity

### International Zone

Kidnap threat assessed as MEDIUM: personnel should adopt the relevant security measures as a result. IDF remains the highest threat to personnel within the IZ.

- NSTR

### BIAP Road

No activity reported on the route in this period. Activity levels have now stabilised in AMERIYAH with AQIZ now targeting returning IDPs.

### North BAGHDAD 4 Incidents (previously 4)

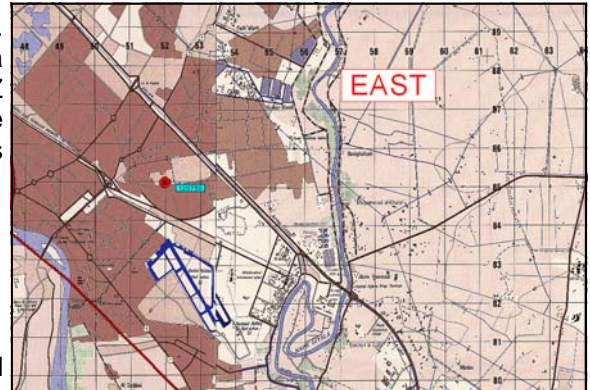
Official sources confirm a moderate increase in IED activity in the area on the 13 Oct with 1 x effective IED against ISF and one EFP against MNF. As previously assessed, the area is expected to stay relatively quiet with a small surge of attacks expected following the signing of the US/Iraq security pact.

- 130914hrs - Effective IED attack against ISF in ADHAMIYAH district.
- 130950hrs - EFP attack against MNF in SADR city.

**Central/East BAGHDAD 1 incident (previously 5)**

Activity levels decreased in this period with 1 x IED being reported. The attack targeted a market place in KARRADAH which has become a regular target for AQIZ elements operating in the area. Overall AQIZ activity levels remain low in the area few significant incidents since the passing of Eid. The group retains the ability to target Shia social areas with infrequent VBIEDs and the grouping remains a threat in the area.

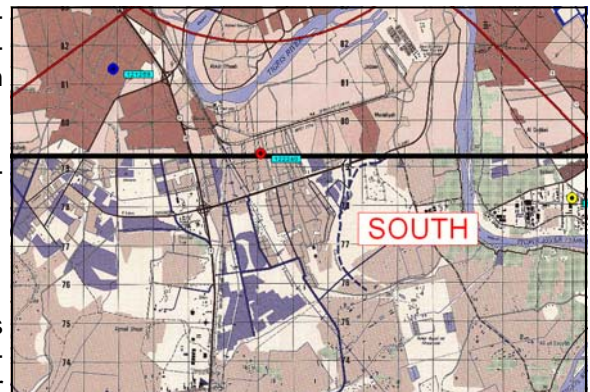
- NSTR



**South BAGHDAD 1 incident (previously 3)**

Activity levels decreased in the reporting area in this reporting period with 1 x UVBT attack. No further VBIED activity was reported after a series of attacks in the BAYAA and SAYDIYAH areas. The recent activity demonstrates an increased operational ability within AQIZ groupings in the South West of the capital and the area remains under an increased threat of spectacular attacks.

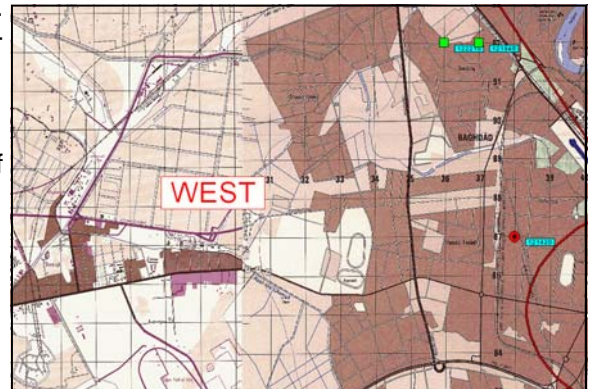
- 130730hrs - UVBT attack against unknown target in ZAFARANIYAH district.



**West BAGHDAD - 5 x incidents (previously 4)**

Incident levels remained constant in this reporting period with 4 x IEDs and 1 x SAF. IED incidents were reported in both AMERIYAH and JIHAD districts. AQIZ elements remain active in both areas with similar activity also being noted in ABU GHRAIB to the west of the capital. AQIZ continue to target the homes of Shia IDPs and the group is expected to continue to attack soft targets in the forthcoming period.

- 131500hrs - IED attack on vacant house in AMERIYAH district.
- 131357hrs - Sniping attack against ISF in the vicinity of GHAZALIYAH district.



**Summary**

Activity levels decreased across the capital, however, an increase in IED/EFP activity was noted in the north of the city. Local sources report that SG members have been instructed to limit attacks against MNF and conduct 'training' attacks in areas not normally associated with SG activity. The report compliments official reporting with SG areas remaining relatively quiet and UVBTs and SAF incidents being seen in HAIFA, ZAFARANIYAH and KARRADAH district over the last 7 days. Further reporting indicates that SGs intend to launch a series of attacks against MNF (EFP) and the IZ (IDF) once the security agreement extending US troop presence is signed. The agreement is expected within the next seven days and an increase in significant incidents can be expected in the 48hrs following the announcement. The situation in the west of the city remains unchanged with AQIZ continuing to conduct intimidation attacks against the local population. **LOCAL SOURCES REPORT THAT A LARGE MARCH HAS BEEN PLANNED FOR SAT 18 OCT. THE MARCH HAS BEEN PLANNED BY THE SADRIST BLOCK AND IS TO DEMONSTRATE AGAINST THE EXPECTED SIGNING OF THE US/IRAQ SECURITY PACT. THE MARCH WILL START AT SADR CITY AND IS EXPECTED TO MOVE TOWARDS THE IZ.**

## Glossary

AMS	Association of Muslim Scholars	AIF	Anti Iraqi Forces
CP	Check Point	AQIZ	Al Qaeda in Iraq
CCP	Concerned Citizens' Program	ASR	Alternate Supply Route
CLC	Concerned Local Citizens	AT	Anti Tank
DBE	Department of Border Enforcement	BIAP	Baghdad International Airport
ECP	Entrance/Exit Check Point	CPX	Complex attack (ambush – SAF/RPG/IED)
ECM	Electronic Counter Measures	COP	Combat Out Post
FRE	Former Regime Elements	CoP	Chief of Police
FOB	Forward Operating Base	DBS	Drive-by shooting
FPS	Facility Protection Service	EFP	Explosively Formed Projectile
IVO	in Vicinity of	HG	Hand Grenade
IHP	Iraqi Highway Police	HE	High Explosives
IA	Iraqi Army	HME	Home Made Explosives
IPS	Iraqi Police Service or IP	IDF	Indirect Fire (mortar/rocket)
ING	Iraqi National Guard	IED	Improvised Explosive Device
INA	Iraq National Accord	IRL	Improvised Rocket Launcher
ISF	Iraqi Security Forces	JSS	Joint Security Station
ISI	Islamic State of Iraq	LRCT	Long Range Cordless Telephone
IDP	Internally Displaced People	MG	Machine Gun
JAM	Jaish al-Mahdi	MIED	Magnetic IED (under vehicle)
JAI	Jaish al-Islam	MSR	Main Supply Route
KIA	Killed in Action	PJOC	Provincial Joint Operations Centre
LN	Local National	PIC	Provincial Iraqi Control
MAM	Military Aged Males	PSC	Private Security Company
MM	Mehdi Militia	PSD	Private Security Detail
MNF	Multi-National Force	RPG	Rocket-Propelled Grenade
NFD	No Further Details	SAF	small Arms Fire
NTR	Nothing to Report	SAFIRE	Surface to air fire
NSTR	Nothing Significant to Report	SAM	Surface to Air Missile
OMS	Office of the Martyr SADR	SVIED	Suicide Vest IED
SF	Security Forces (MNF/IPS/IA)	UXO	Unexploded Ordnance
SIIC	Supreme Iraqi Islamic Council	UXP	Unknown Explosion
SoH	Soldiers of Heaven (Shi'a militia)	VBIED	Vehicle-Borne IED (suicide car bomb)
SoI	Sons of Iraq (Awakening Council)	VCIED	Vehicle-Concealed IED (car bomb)
SG	Special Groups (rogue JAM)	VOIED	Victim Operated IED (pressure plate/trip wire)
TTP	Tactics Techniques and Procedures	QRF	Quick Reaction Force
VCP	Vehicle Checkpoint		
WIA	Wounded in Action		

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