



- 1) **Algerian** security forces discovered a tunnel under the Algerian-Libyan border at **Ghadames**, as well as a large store of weapons including MANPADs in **Guemar**, northeast Algeria on March 11. The revelations indicate likely resourcing from ISIS in Libya, which may have seized the weapons from former Gaddafi stores.
- 2) Tunisian ISIS militants conducted an organized attack against security targets in **Ben Guerdane, Tunisia**, on March 7, leading to days of clashes with security forces. As ISIS continues to develop its safe haven in Libya, it will continue to direct and resource attacks throughout the region in order to exacerbate disorder and ultimately expand the caliphate.
- 3) ISIS's Wilayat Fezzan (**Southern Libya**) claimed an attack on Libyan armed forces on the road between Mizdah and Qaryat, south of Tripoli on March 12. ISIS militants also launched an attack on the Sarir power plant in al-Kufra, Libya, south of Ajdabiya on March 15. Movement of ISIS fighters to locations south of the group's control zone points to an attempt to establish a ground line of communication between ISIS's continuous zone of control in the central Libyan coast and pro-ISIS groups in Tunisia.
- 4) An ISIS militant carried out an SVEST attack on Istiklal street, a popular **Istanbul** tourist location on March 19. This attack, as well as the January 12 attack in the Sultanahmet district, demonstrate a shift to targeting tourist targets in **Turkey**, where ISIS had previously attacked mostly security and Kurdish targets.
- 5) ISIS's Wilayat Sinai demonstrated new operational capability with a sophisticated, remotely-detonated IED attack on a fortified military location in **Rafah, north Sinai** on March 17, and an SVBIED attack on the **Safa** checkpoint south of al-Arish on March 19, reportedly prompting the MFO base to evacuate checkpoints.
- 6) ISIS lost control of **Palmyra, Syria** to pro-regime forces on March 27. The group will likely continue to launch spectacular attacks in Iraq and Syria as it has done following other territorial losses in both safe havens.
- 7) **Saudi** security forces conducted a raid in the northern **al-Jawf** region on March 13, killing one suspected ISIS member and capturing Sweilem al-Ruwali, who was wanted in connection with Wilayat Najd's explosive attacks on Shi'a mosques in May 2015.
- 8) ISIS's Wilayat Qawqaz claimed IED and SVEST attacks against security forces in **Kaspiysk and Sirtych, Dagestan** on March 30. These two attacks on a single day constitute a significant acceleration in attack pacing after the group's first claimed explosive attack less than two months prior on February 15.
- 9) ISIS's Wilayat **Aden-Abyan** conducted three SVBIED attacks near the Burayqah district of Aden on March 25, indicating that the group is retaining and expanding its operational capability despite reported defections to AQAP in December 2015.
- 10) Unidentified gunmen attempted to assassinate Ayed al-Qarni, a Saudi anti-ISIS cleric identified as a target in the February 2016 issue of *Dabiq*, while he was giving a lecture in the southern **Philippines**. ISIS-inspired "lone wolf" attacks in the Philippines may indicate that ISIS's network of supporters in Southeast Asia is growing.

*ISIS continued to pursue ongoing campaigns both regionally and further abroad throughout March. The group carried out a spectacular, sophisticated terror attack in Brussels on March 22. The attack, which was unprecedented in Belgium, is part of ISIS's ongoing campaign to attack and polarize the West, sowing disorder to make way for future expansion to a global Caliphate. The group also continued to demonstrate its intent to remain and expand in North Africa by establishing lines of communication between the group's Libyan stronghold and ISIS-linked groups in Tunisia and Algeria. ISIS also showed expanded operational capability in the Sinai, with a pair of increasingly sophisticated explosive attacks, and in the Caucasus with an accelerated set of explosive attacks. ISIS has shown resiliency by persisting in these campaigns in the near and far abroad despite losses inside of Iraq and Syria, such as the loss of Palmyra to pro-regime forces on March 27.*

This map draws upon sourcing and analysis provided by our partners at the Critical Threats Project at the American Enterprise Institute.

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