

**“ISIS has latent capability to regenerate operations again.”**

Jessica Lewis McFate

**"The ISIS (IS) messaging machine will likely find ways to continue attracting recruits and encouraging lone wolf attacks despite the loss of Fallujah."**

Patrick Martin



Articles, quotes, and maps link to original postings.



Daily **Mail.com**

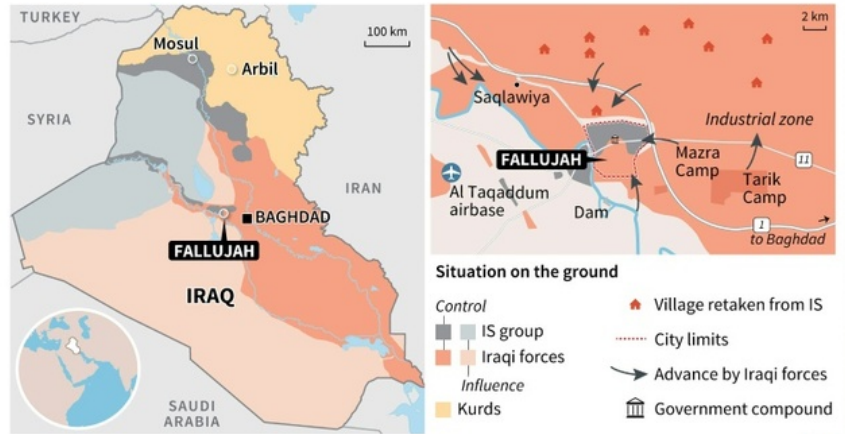
**The Economist**



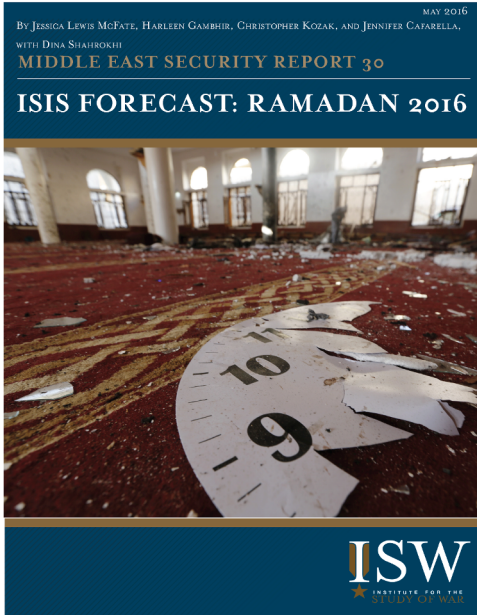
Economist.com

### The battle for Fallujah

Main government compound in central Fallujah retaken from Islamic State group



## *ISIS Forecast: Ramadan 2016*



"ISIS is seeking to use Ramadan 'as an occasion to reorient its strategy' with attacks both in its core arena of operations in Iraq and Syria and abroad. "

6/12/2016

**TIME**

"ISIS 'stands poised to expand its operations over the next six weeks, particularly in Turkey, Lebanon, and Jordan.'"

**THE DC**

6/27/2016

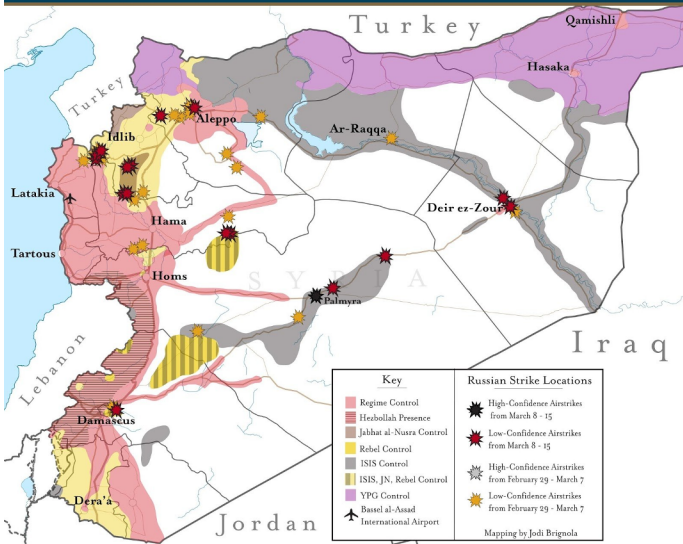
"ISIS will likely select targets in neighboring states that relieve pressure from the group in Syria while setting conditions for future expansion in those states... Targets that serve this dual purpose include foreign tourists, state security forces, and U.S. military elements in Turkey and Jordan."

6/29/2016

**VOA** Voice of America

## Russian Airstrikes Maps In the News

ISW Russian Airstrikes in Syria: February 29 - March 15, 2016



6/18/2016

*Business Insider*

“The rate and breadth of Russian airstrikes in Aleppo and opposition-held territory in Idlib province tripled over the course of three days last week...marking a dangerous shift in the Russian airstrike pattern to levels only seen prior to the brokering of the cessation of hostilities agreement in late February 2016.”

*DefenseOne | Business Insider*

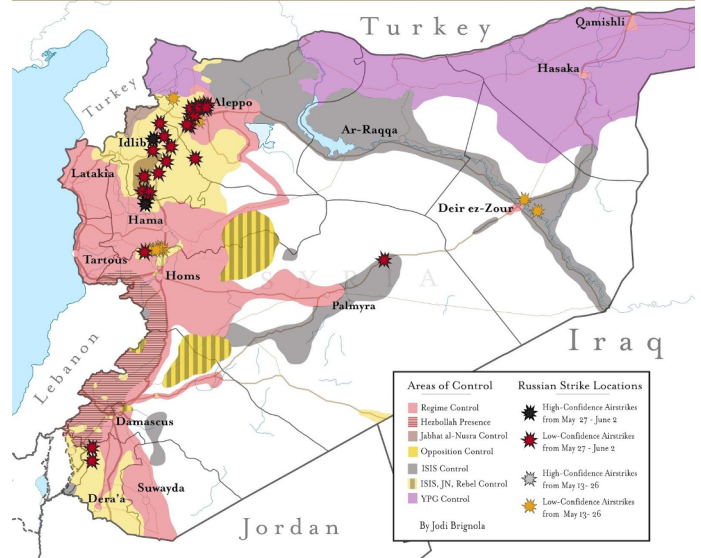
6/7/2016 | 6/6/2016



*The Interpreter*

6/18/2016

ISW Russian Airstrikes in Syria: May 13 - June 2, 2016



*Business Insider*

6/6/2016



**Genevieve  
Casagrande**  
*Syria Analyst\**

*\*And primary airstrikes map creator*

"The escalation marks a dangerous shift in the Russian airstrike pattern to levels only seen prior to the brokering of the cessation of hostilities agreement in late February."

6/6/2016



"Russia is clearly demonstrating its freedom of action in Syria."

6/12/2016



"In the past...the Syrian regime has targeted civilian targets because they did not have the ability to be precise. The Russian forces have that ability, and they are precisely targeting civilians."



6/16/2016



**Caitlin Forrest**  
*Counter-terrorism  
Research Assistant*

"There has been an increase in arrests of Islamist extremists reported across the former Soviet Union in the past few months, which could signal ramped-up activity by Islamic State cells."

6/30/2016





**Patrick Martin**  
*Iraq Analyst*

"It's going to be more of an issue now because of [the Shi'a militia's] proximity to Fallujah and the fact that they view Fallujah and its residents with great suspicion."

**AP**

6/3/2016

**"Operations like [Fallujah] chew through resources...It's just going to delay everything."**

6/2/2016

"No matter how the operation plays out, [Iranian-backed Shi'a militias] will try to take credit for everything."

"I wouldn't say the different forces in the Fallujah operation are cooperating: They've just **divided up the battlefield.**"

**U.S. News**  
& WORLD REPORT

**FP**  
Foreign Policy

6/9/2016

**AP**

6/7/2016

**"The ISIS (IS) messaging machine will likely find ways to continue attracting recruits and **encouraging lone wolf attacks** despite the loss of Fallujah."**

6/18/2016

**VOA** Voice of America

"[ISF] had all the newest equipment and all the newest training — but they ran out of water... This is not a training issue but a structural issue with the Ministry of Defence."

**FT**

"Within Iraq, we will see [ISIS] **shift more toward attacking civilians...** And outside the country, there will likely be a renewed emphasis on **sending foreign recruits to Libya.**"

6/23/2016

6/18/2016

**"The force composition is important...A lot of Sunni Arabs are mistrustful and it could contribute to them being nervous to accepting ISF into their home areas."**

**BUSINESS INSIDER**

6/30/2016

**VOA** Voice of America



**Harleen  
Gambhir**

*Non-Resident  
Counter-terrorism Fellow*

“ISIS’s Wilayat Khorasan maintains an overt military and social presence in Nangarhar Province in eastern Afghanistan.”

6/27/2016



**Christopher  
Kozak**

*Syria Analyst*

“The [Assad] regime and the Russians want to insert themselves into the conversation [about Raqqa’s future]. They want to draw the U.S. into some form of co-ordination with their forces.”

6/7/2016



"The block on our action stems from the political front and an unwillingness to even contemplate a confrontation with Russia in Syria despite the cost of inaction to our strategic objectives."

6/28/2016



"The [Syrian] government is making a 'low-cost investment' to position itself near Raqqa and 'message its involvement in the ISIS campaign, to bolster its international credibility.'"

6/6/2016



**Jennifer Cafarella**

*Syria Analyst*

*Evans Hanson Fellow*

“Russia is intentionally pressuring Turkey on multiple fronts in an effort to undermine and ultimately break the NATO alliance by driving a wedge between Turkey and the U.S.”

**Bloomberg** 6/2/2016

"The U.S. has two isolated programs that are not mutually supporting each other and are actually **sometimes at odds** with each other."

6/9/2016

**"Recapturing Manbij and ultimately advancing to Jarablus would disrupt but not eliminate ISIS's ability to resupply."**

6/2/2016

**THE DAILY BEAST**

“It’s a **self-fulfilling prophecy** because Russian bombardments have weakened critical mainstream opposition defenses, requiring Nusra to deploy reinforcements, after which Russia can point to Nusra and say that Russian strikes have targeted Nusra all along.”



**ALJAZEERA**

6/3/2016



**Jessica Lewis McFate**

*Director of Tradecraft and Innovation*

“ISIS has latent capability to regenerate operations again.”

6/16/2016

**VOA** Voice of America

**VOA** Voice of America

“Fallujah 2004 resonates with soldiers who came later, as a classic mission that was greater than the forces assigned to it.”

6/3/2016

*PBS NewsHour*

“Al-Qaida has managed to capture the echelon of Salafi jihadis who were **repulsed by ISIS’ brutality** but still have the ideology and want something that is just a half-step down.”

6/22/2016



**Chris Harmer**  
*Non-Resident Senior  
Naval Analyst*

**BUSINESS  
INSIDER**

## **Marine**<sup>CORPS</sup>**Times**

"Marine Corps aviation is **'on the verge of systemic failure'** because the fleet has been overused since Sept. 11, 2001."

6/23/2016

**"The 911 call pledging allegiance to ISIS shows he [Mateen] was emotionally or intellectually sympathetic to ISIS, but does not show that he had any contact with ISIS."**

6/14/2016

**"Everybody is focused on the destruction of the caliphate... but the more daunting task will be **combating their ideology** to inspire attacks, which is a virtually impossible problem to solve."**

6/13/2016

**Los Angeles Times**

**"At least 90 per cent of the military supplies, weapons, ammunition, and equipment that Russia supplies to the Syrian Assad regime are shipped from ports on the Black Sea, primarily Sevastopol and Sochi, through the Bosphorus and the Dardanelles, to the two Syrian ports, Tartous and Latakia."**

6/22/2016

**THE IRISH TIMES**

**"If the moderates separate themselves from Nusra, immediately the Russians and Assad go kill them... The idea that the moderate rebels will separate themselves from Nusra is just not going to happen. It [the administration's plan] is a Hail Mary pass that is dead on arrival."**



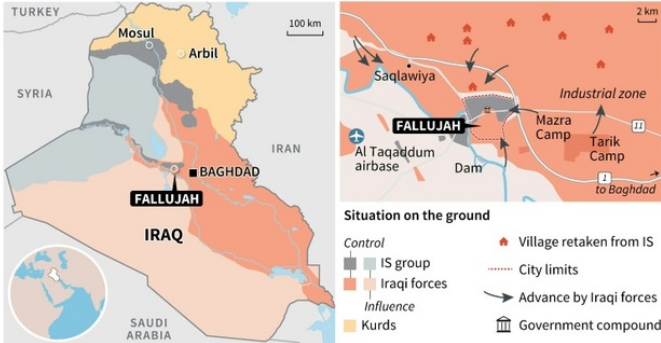
**REUTERS**

6/30/2016



## The battle for Fallujah

Main government compound in central Fallujah retaken from Islamic State group

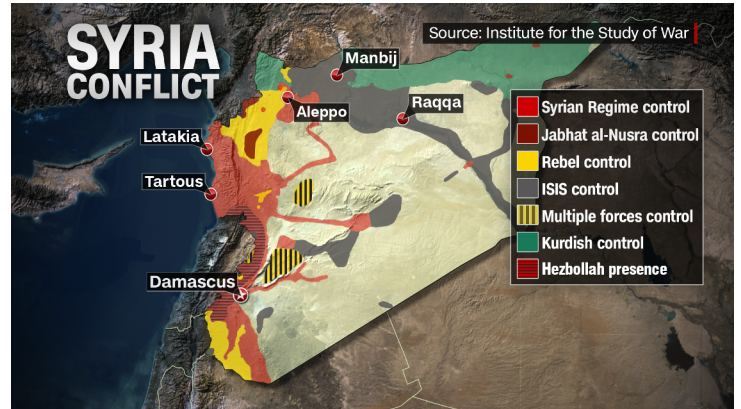


Sources: ISW, Thomas von Linge, AFP, UN

AFP

*Daily Mail*

6/18/2016



*CNN*

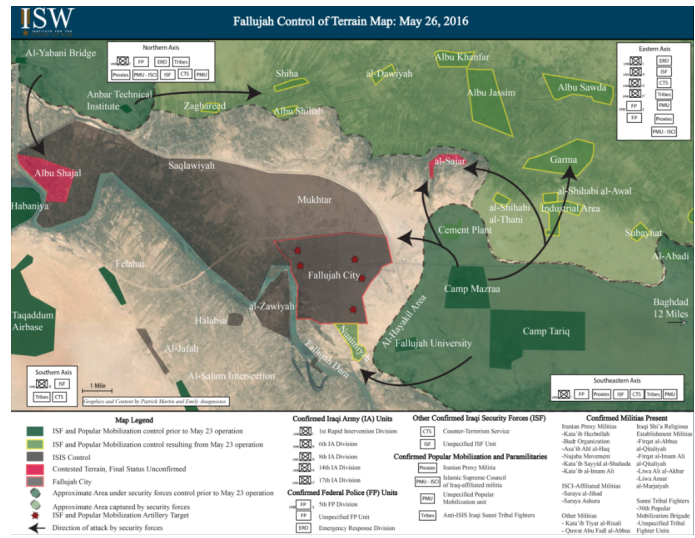
6/1/2016



Economist.com

*The Economist*

6/25/2016



*Business Insider*

6/2/2016

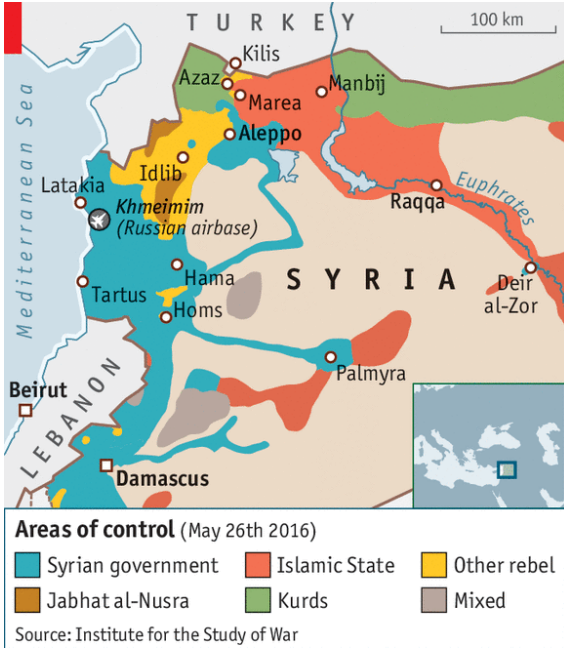
## More of ISW in the News

*The Daily Caller* | *The Washington Times* | *The Daily Caller* | *CNN*

6/14/2016 |

6/14/2016 |

6/15/2016 | 6/30/2016



Economist.com

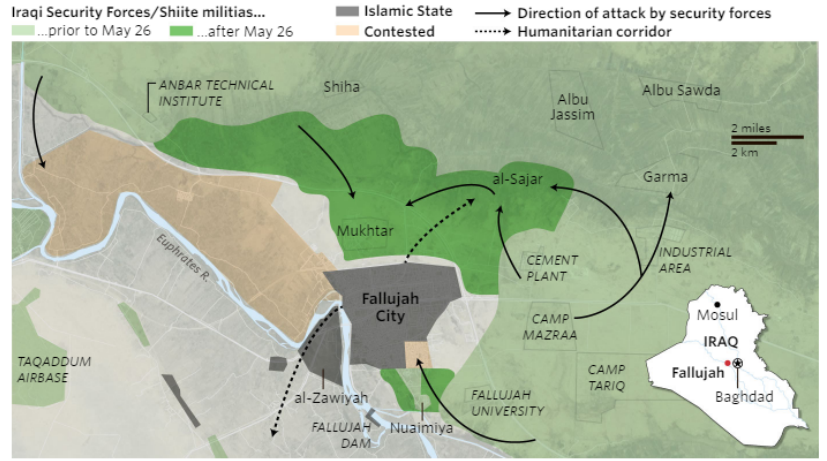
*The Economist*

6/4/2016



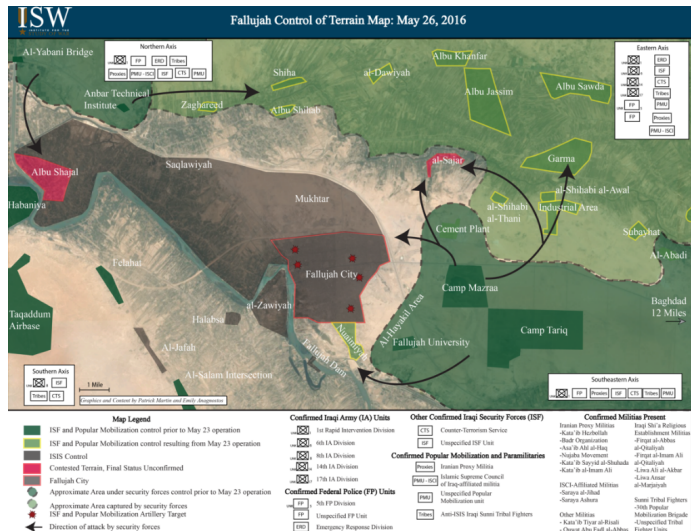
*CNN*

6/3/2016



*Wall Street Journal*

6/1/2016



*Business Insider*

6/2/2016

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*The Daily Caller* | *Gulf News* | *Stars & Stripes* | *The Daily Caller* | *Asia Times* |

6/3/2016 | 6/8/2016 | 6/8/2016 | 6/10/2016 | 6/12/2016 |