

Operation Aleppo

*Back Ground Material
Related to Chapters 18, 19 &
20, detailing the collapse of
Islamic State resistance in
Syria during the summer and
autumn of 2017*

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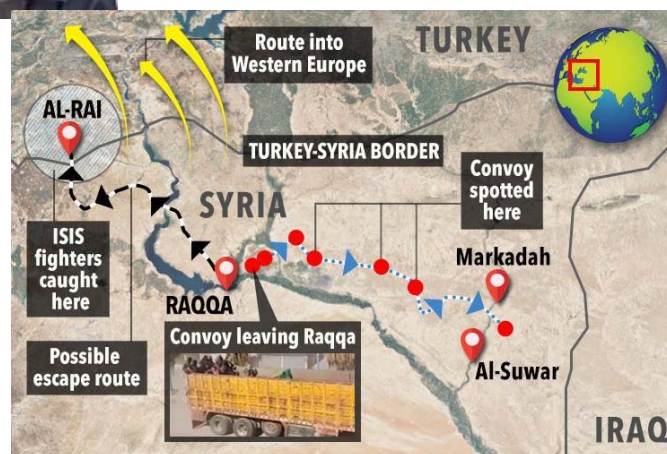
Defeat of Islamic State
in Eastern Syria
Sept-Dec 2017
compiled
by Tim Ripley

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ISIS evacuation from Arsal
Pocket to Dier Ez Zor region,
31 Aug 17
Source: New York Times

ISIS evacuation from Raqqa to Dier Ez Zor region, 12-14 Oct 17
Source: via BBC



This is a suspected ISIS leadership bolt hole. It was captured by the Syrian army in August 2017

timripley@hotmail.com

[Dalany Mokus @DalanyMokus Aug 24](#)

Captured [#ISIS](#) underground base in the mountains south of Bir Qadim village, Tuwaynan area of Syrian "Badia" region. [http://wikimapia.org/#lang=en&lat=35.016519&lon=38.404233&z=16 ...](http://wikimapia.org/#lang=en&lat=35.016519&lon=38.404233&z=16...)



[Dalany Mokus @DalanyMokus Aug 25](#) More

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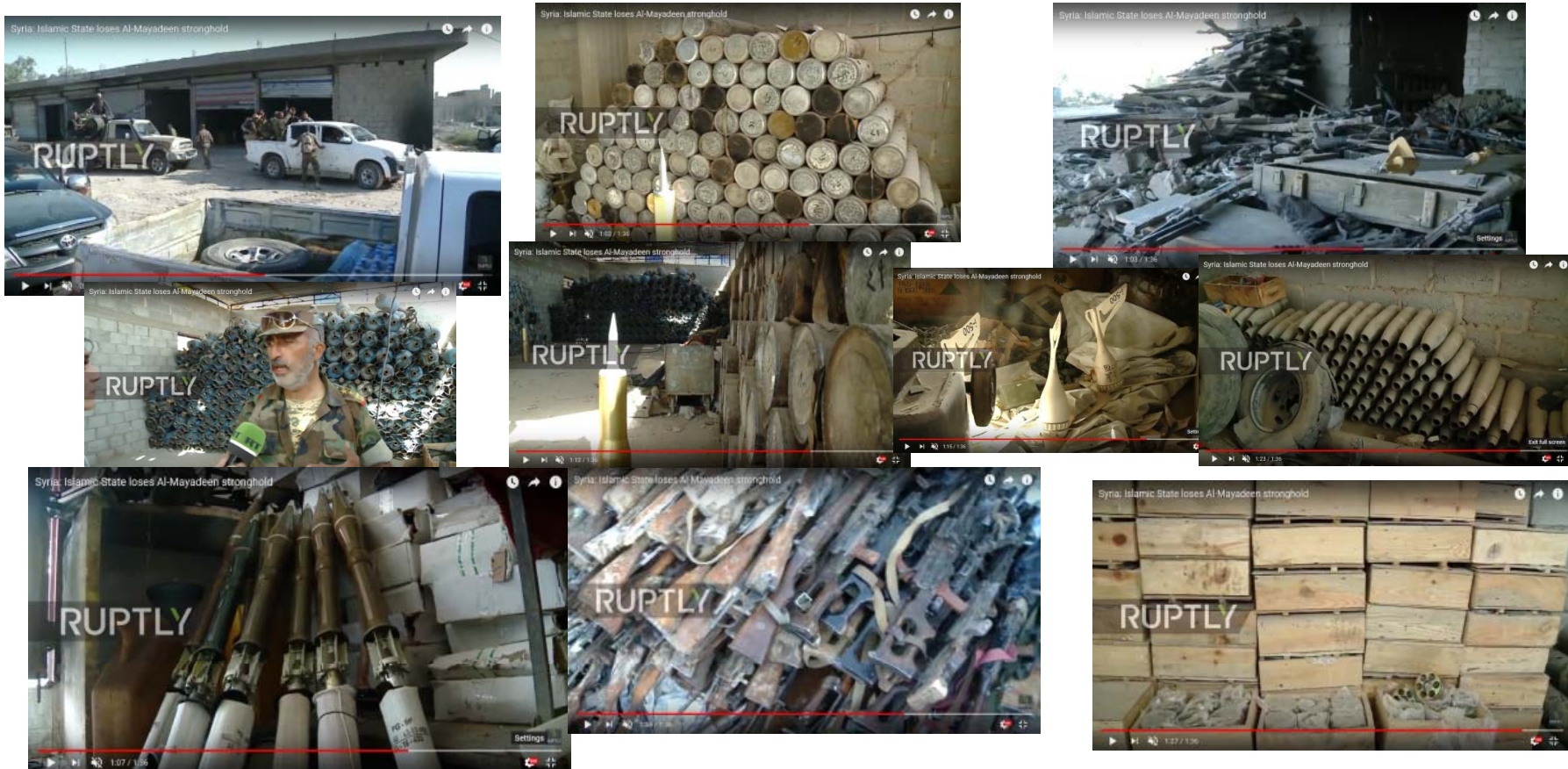
A group of underground shelters to the south of At-Tayba town..

<http://wikimapia.org/#lang=en&lat=35.031191&lon=38.854179&z=14>

...

ISIS ammunition dump captured by Syrian Army in Mayadeen in October 2017

timripley@hotmail.com



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=93D44GGzK9k>
mayadeen, ruptly 15 oct 17

Syrian Army shows of weapons haul in Mayadeen, south of Dier Ez Zor city Syrian Arab News Agency, 19 Oct 17

Sources:

<http://sana.sy/en/?p=116150>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=geHsHg-V-i4>

3 x trucks loaded
With munitiond

Assorted Small Arms , incl 1000+ rifles, assault, rifles and other weapons



Assorted drone components – poss improvised bombs?

ISIS Drones captured in Mayadeen, 19 Oct 17
Source: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=geHsHg-V-i4>

Drone #24 fitted with what appear to be bomb racks on fuselage



DJI Phantom class “hobby” drones #1-25

Drone control console



Delta wing drone #26?



“Big Drone” #25 awaiting fitting of wings. Poss 2 metre long

Conventional take off and landing Drone #27?

“Junaid ur Rehman, a senior ISIS drone pilot trainer and engineer, was killed by a Coalition airstrike in the village of al-Ashara, Syria, south of Mayadin. Rehman was an experienced engineer who was working to increase ISIS's ability to weaponize drones and to conduct aerial surveillance on the battlefield and plot attacks throughout the world”
Source: Date 7 Sept 17,
<http://www.centcom.mil/MEDIA/PRESS-RELEASES/Press-Release-View/Article/1301684/coalition-removes-isis-leaders-from-battlefield/>

Wings, possibly to be fitted to “Big Drone”?



Hand launched drones #28 & #29, with out full wings fitted

More ISIS drones on display in Mayadeen, 19 Oct 17

source: [@IvanSidorenko1](#)



Assorted drone components – possible bomb (same as seen in ammo store on slide 6)

DJI Phantom derivative UAVs and control stations. Drones in various state of repair, suggesting from repair facility



Tail of small conventional take off and landing drone #29



Hand launched drone #30 with full wings fitted



Hand launched drone, with camera and payload bay visible

ISIS Armour and Artillery captured at Mayadeen, 19 Oct 17

Source: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=geHsHg-V-i4>



ISIS Modified T-62, with ISIS tank "Workshop" marking

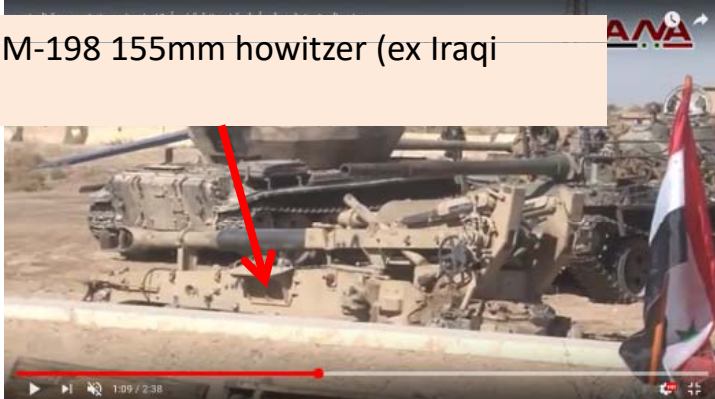


2 x T-55 with ISIS added slat armour

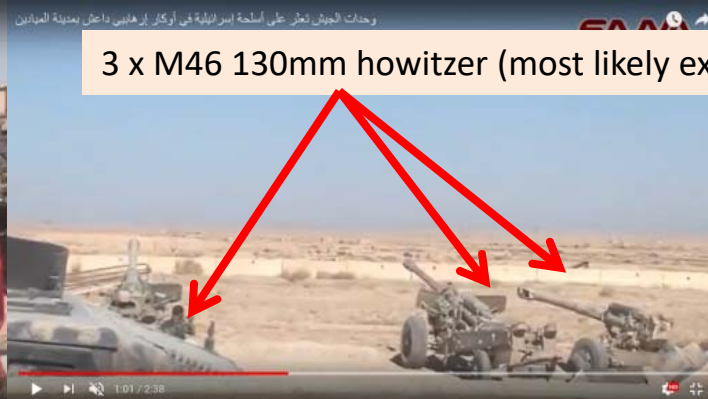


Vehicle-borne suicide IED

US-made M-198 155mm howitzer (ex Iraqi army)



3 x M46 130mm howitzer (most likely ex Syrian army?)



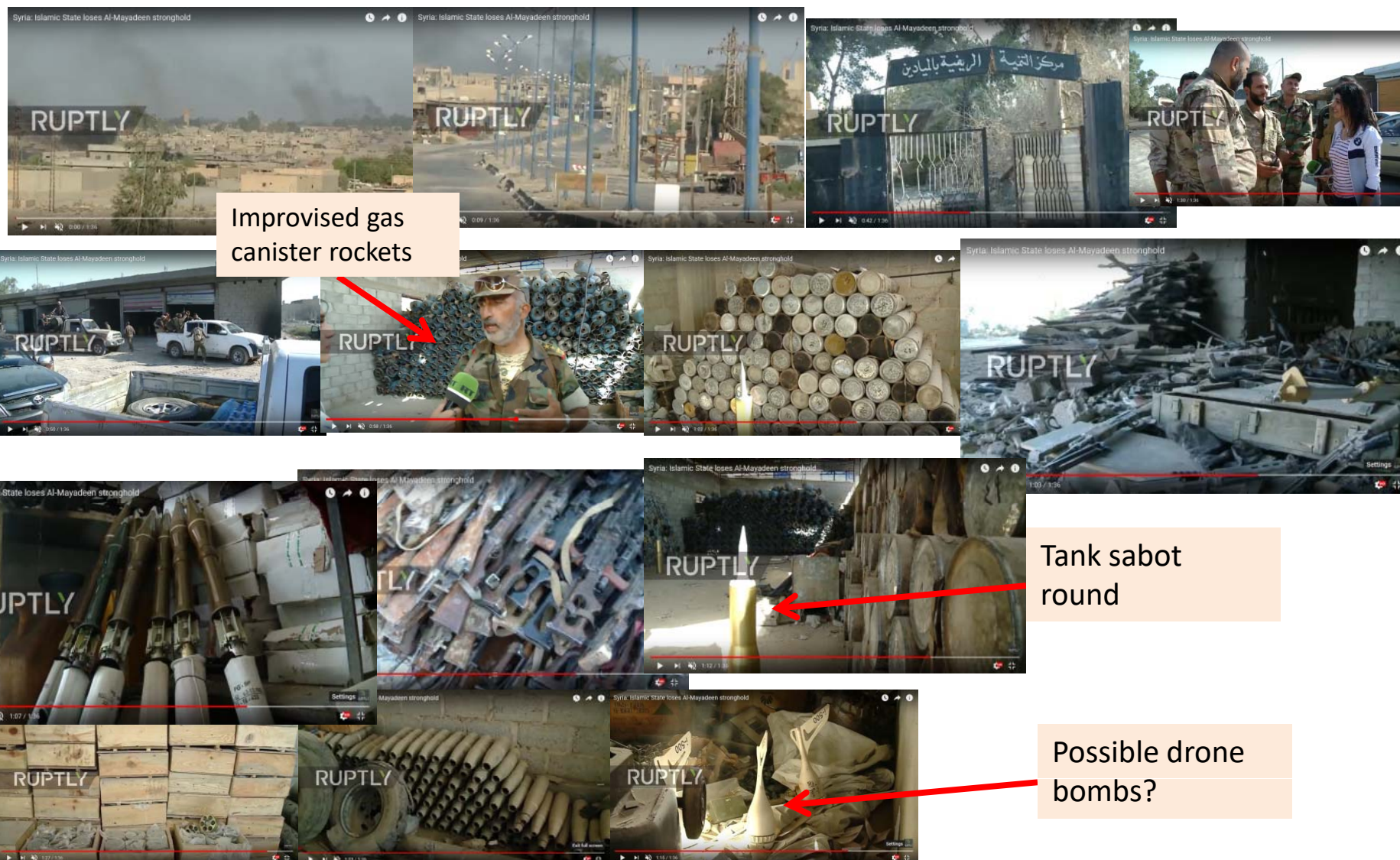
ISIS Armour and Artillery captured at Mayadeen, 19 Oct 17

https://southfront.org/syrian-army-captured-stunning-number-of-isis-weapons-and-military-equipment-in-mayadin-overview-photos-videos/?utm_source=dlvr.it&utm_medium=twitter



Syrian Army shows off haul of munitions in Mayadeen, 15 Oct 2017

Source: Ruptly, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=93D44GzK9k>



Improvised gas canister rockets

Tank sabot
round

Possible drone bombs?

Artillery shells

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ntCvfPtoh90>

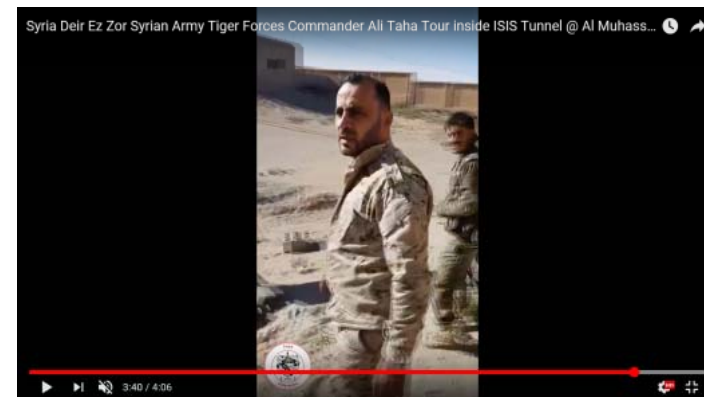
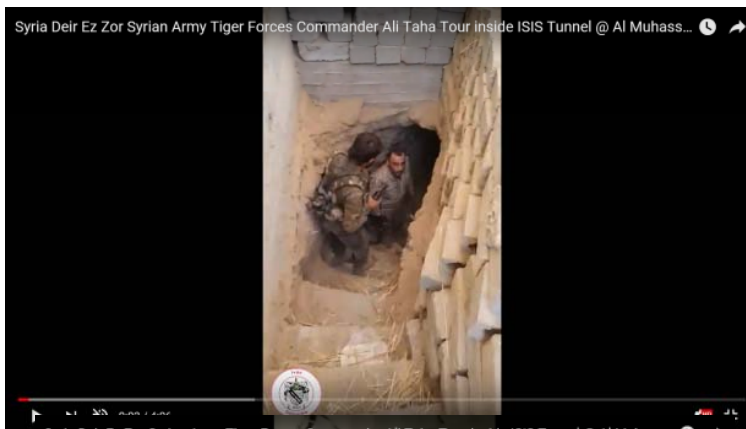
Syria Deir Ez Zor Syrian Army Tiger Forces Commander Ali Taha Tour inside ISIS Tunnel @ Al Muhassan. 20 oct 17

Published on Oct 20, 2017

<https://twitter.com/IvanSidorenko1>

Tiger forces. Taha regiment

Scanning one of the tunnels in AL Muhassan town. This tunnel leads to AL Bulayel and Al Mayadin

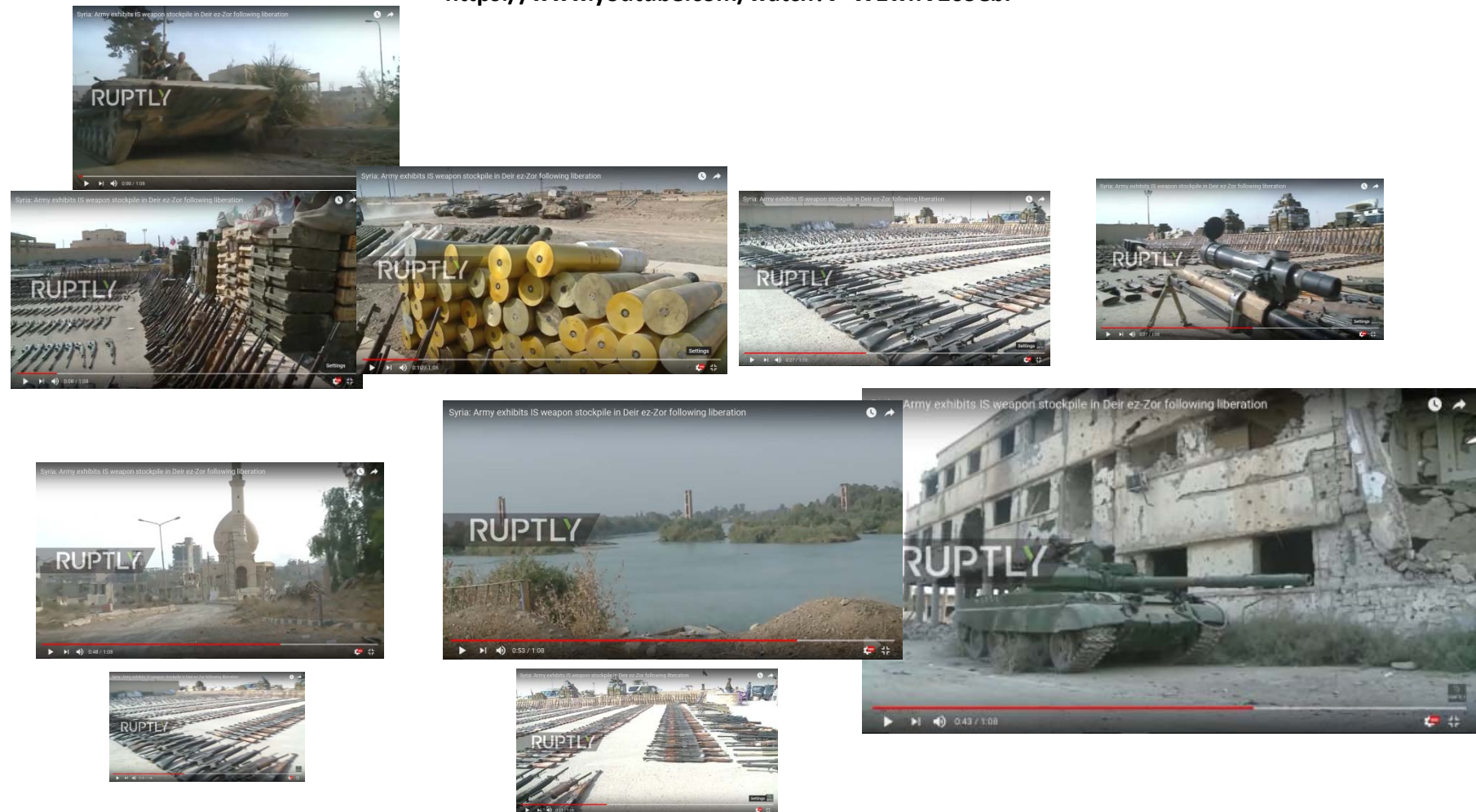


Published on Nov 6, 2017

The Syrian Arab Army (SAA) showcased a large quantity of weaponry and ammunition accumulated during the combing of Deir ez-Zor city, Sunday, after it was previously seized from the self-proclaimed Islamic State (IS; formerly ISIS/ISIL).

"While combing the city and pursuing the remains of ISIS, we found a huge number of different weapons produced by European countries, supporting this group," said Colonel Yunes.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W1wnV20SCbl>



ISIS weapons captured in DZZ city 14 Nov 17

<https://www.almasdarnews.com/article/huge-isis-weapons-storage-seized-syrian-army-deir-ezzor-video/>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wzcGNKst_W4



[@IvanSidorenko1](#) 29 Nov 17

[#Syria](#) [#DeirEzZor](#) This video being spread around today on Pro Government Pages is Allegedly A [#ISIS](#) [#Daesh](#) [#ISIL](#) Convoy during the withdrawal of Bukamal / Bokamal heading towards [#SDF](#) controlled Areas



[@IvanSidorenko1](#) 29 Nov 17

[#Syria](#) [#DeirEzZor](#) - video released today from Euphrates Post shows "Civilians Moving Across the Euphrates River to get away from Bombardment"

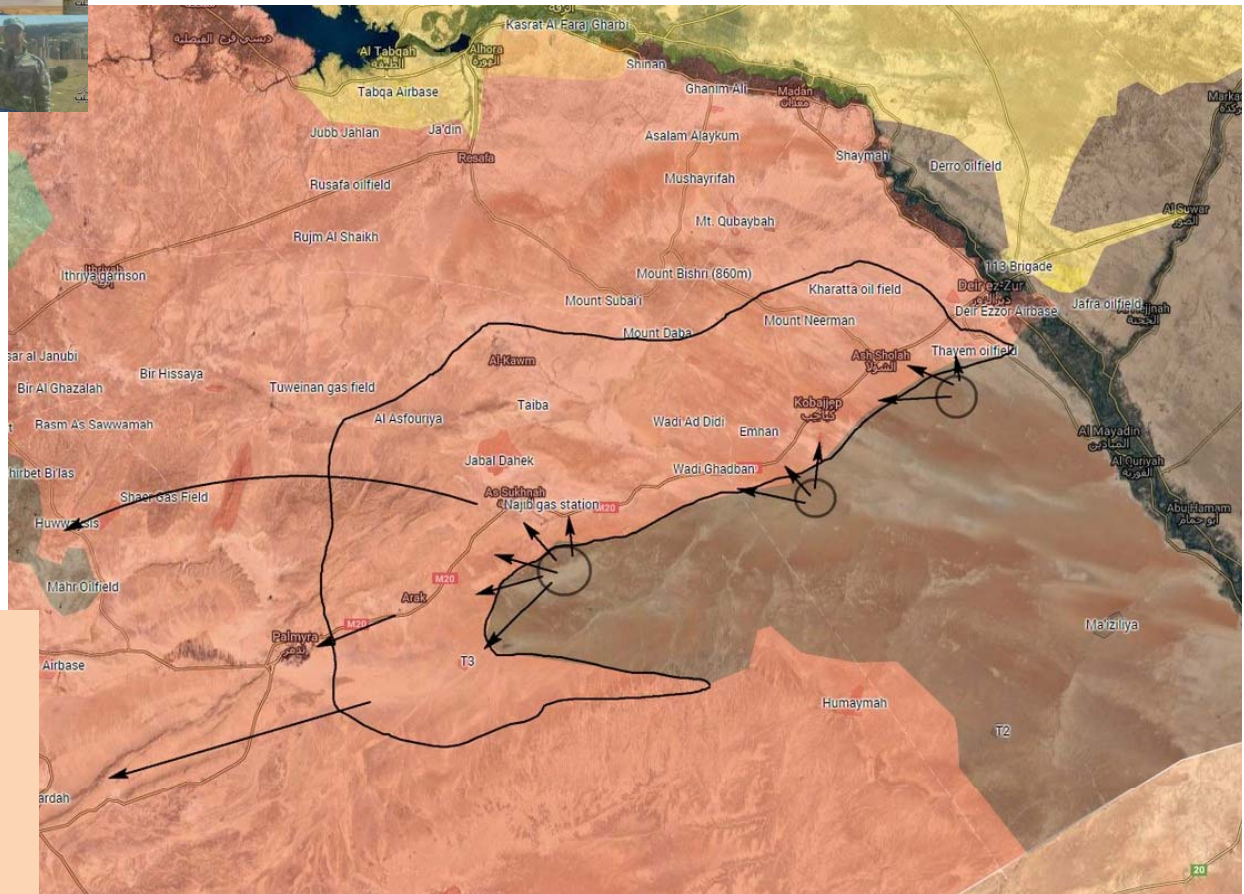


Islamic State Raiding Operations in Syria – Sept/Oct 17

ISIS Raids on Arak-Dier Ez Zor Road, 28 Sept-10 Oct 2017



Several obituaries appeared by dead
Hizbullah fighters killed on Arak-DZZ
road
28 Sept 17. Source: @QalaatAlMudiq



Two Russian were
captured on the
Arak-DZZ road on
28th Sept 17.
Russian media
subsequently
identified them as
former servicemen,
indication they
were PMC staff.
Source:
@Russian_Defence



SAA troops under ISIS attack from ISIS fighters, north of Sukhnah

[Source: Amaq, via @QalaatAlMudiq](#) 5
Oct 17 (see also above you tube clip)



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qamkEcJ8IDs>

Published on Oct 8, 2017

The truth about the death of two Russian mercenaries in Syria

October 6, 2017: Two Russian mercenaries in Syria, captured by ISIS prisoners in a battle on the Al-Sukhnah line - Deir Ezzor was executed by gunmen after refusing to declare war. their Christianity, become Muslims and join the ISIS

Two Russian mercenaries, believed to belong to the Wagner private-military company, were contracted to Syrian government Roman Zabolotny, 39, and Grigory Tsurkanu, 38. Both ISIS captured on the eastern desert of Homs, in a fierce battle to protect the arterial route to Deir Ezzor. A source from syria.liveuamap.com said that ISIS burned both warriors. This case was unveiled, on October 5, 2017, the Arabi Today web site published an article, providing details about the two Russian mercenaries falling into the hands of ISIS terrorists on 29 September.

A Syrian soldier who recounts details of the situation leading to two Russian fighters falling into enemy hands.

According to Syrian soldiers, his unit was ordered to flee al-Shula village along the Al-Sukhnah-Deir Ezzor highway. This unit was assisted by a submarine of ten Russian mercenaries to carry out an unexplained mission on the Syrian anti-terror mission.

Syrian military unit maneuvered by two heavy machine-gun pickup trucks and two bus on the highway. The convoy fell into the ambush of hundreds of terrorist gunmen. ISIS uses heavy machine gun fire directly on the convoy. When the vehicles stopped and caught fire, the more than 80 terrorists under fire from heavy machine gun fire attacked.

Syrian soldiers who survived the ISIS fire storm deployed on the spot, trying to reverse the attack. The Russian mercenaries, instead of retreating to preserve their forces, made a defensive presence on the spot after a bare ledge in the desert completely deserted and participated in the battle of ISIS blocking.

The ambush caused the Syrian military unit to suffer heavy casualties, causing a disparity of forces. A small group of Syrian soldiers and 10 Russian mercenaries fight off more than 80 terrorists with heavy firepower

Syrian soldiers said: "We ran out of ammunition, forced to retreat back." Russian mercenaries stayed behind the enemy. Maybe these soldiers have stopped blocking ISIS for allies to retreat. A few minutes later I heard screams, it seemed like a cold warfare with a weapon, but the majority did not belong to the soldiers. The Syrian soldier told Arabi Today.

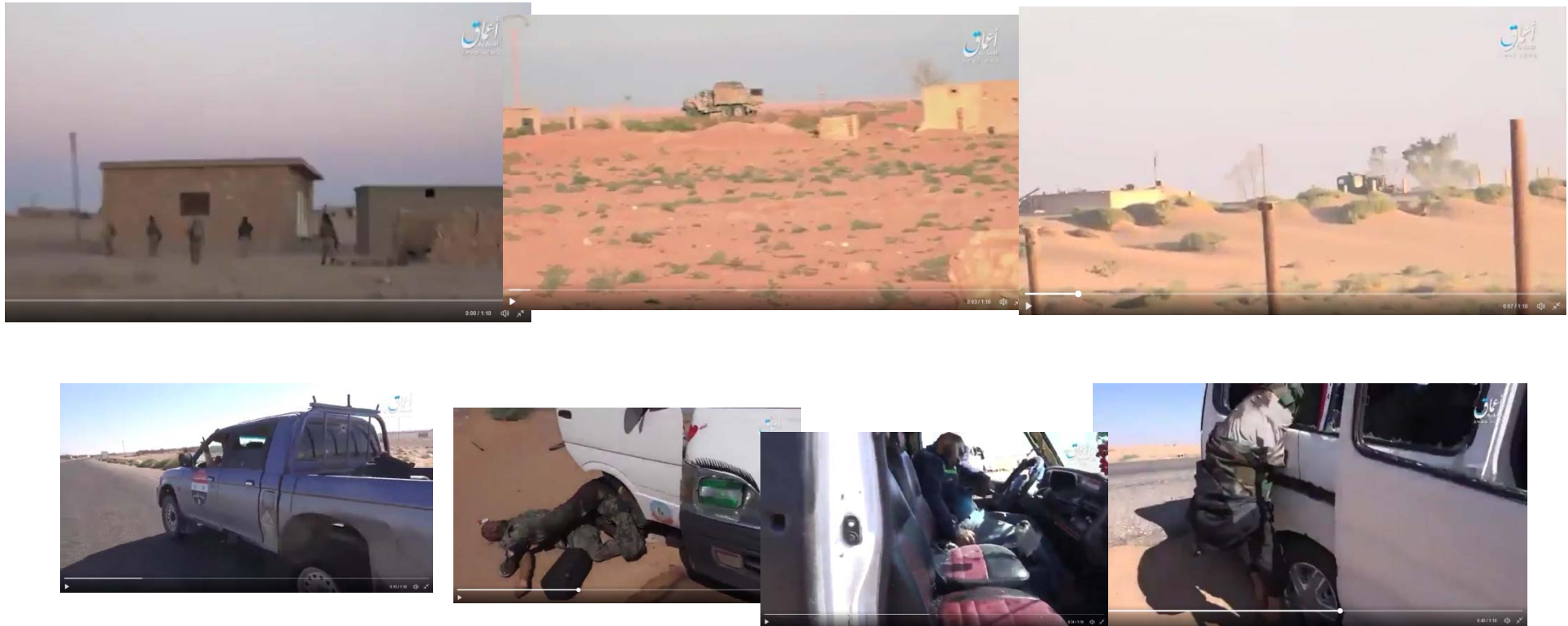
In another move, ISIS Hunters announced that it would pay ISIS \$ 1 million for each Russian brother ISIS released. Conversely, if IS executes them, the task of "Hunting ISIS" will hunt down and kill up to 100 terrorist gunmen for every Russian mercenary death.

Syrian soldiers say that he and the soldiers in the unit, survived the debt-stricken life with the PMC warriors. He added that he did not believe that he would survive without their sacrifice.

Today's Arabi does not provide the name of the Syrian soldier.

ISIS ambush near Shoulla, 28 Sept 17 west of Dier Ez Zor. Video showed SAA
convoy and shot up mini-bus

Source: Amaq, via [@AEJKhali1](#) 29 Sep 17





ISIS fighters and captured SAA armour east Sukhnah released 6 Oct 17 Amaq, via@QalaatAlMudiq



This vehicle appears on slide 9 without MLRS

ISIS fighters east Sukhnah 30 Sept 17. Amaq, via@QalaatAlMudiq



ISIS operations near Hayl oil field, posted 3 Oct 17. Amaq, via@QalaatAlMudiq

ISIS desert column, September-October? 2017

Images from a Amaq video were screen grabbed and published from 6 Oct 17 onwards, attributed to being either on the Dier Ez Zor road or in Qaraytayn .

Source, 10th October 2017, <https://www.almazdarnews.com/article/pictures-isis-takes-control-large-town-deep-behind-syrian-army-lines/>

The links between this and other sets of images suggest a single column of ISIS vehicles was involved in both the DZZ road and the Qaraytayn operations

This vehicle appears on slide 5 towing MLRS

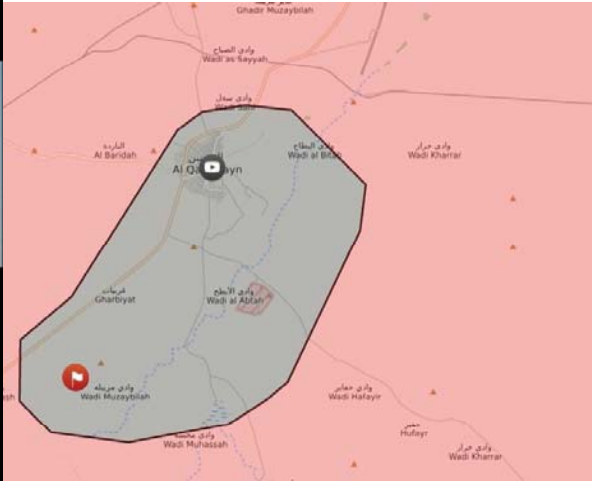


The fighters in this image are wearing the same white recognition scarfs as in next slide



ISIS Raid on Qaraytayn in Homs Province, 28 Sept 17 onwards to establish new pocket

This SU-22 appears in following set of images



ISIS in Qaryatayn
images, released
by Amaq,
9 Oct 17

Source:

@IvanSidorenko1



This vehicle appeared in previous set of images



The fighters in these image are wearing the same white recognition scarfs as in the previous slide



US and SDF convoy ambushed by ISIS on Khirafi Highway in rural Hasakah

Imagery released 25th Sept 17

Source: Amaq, via <http://en.alalam.ir/news/3058131>

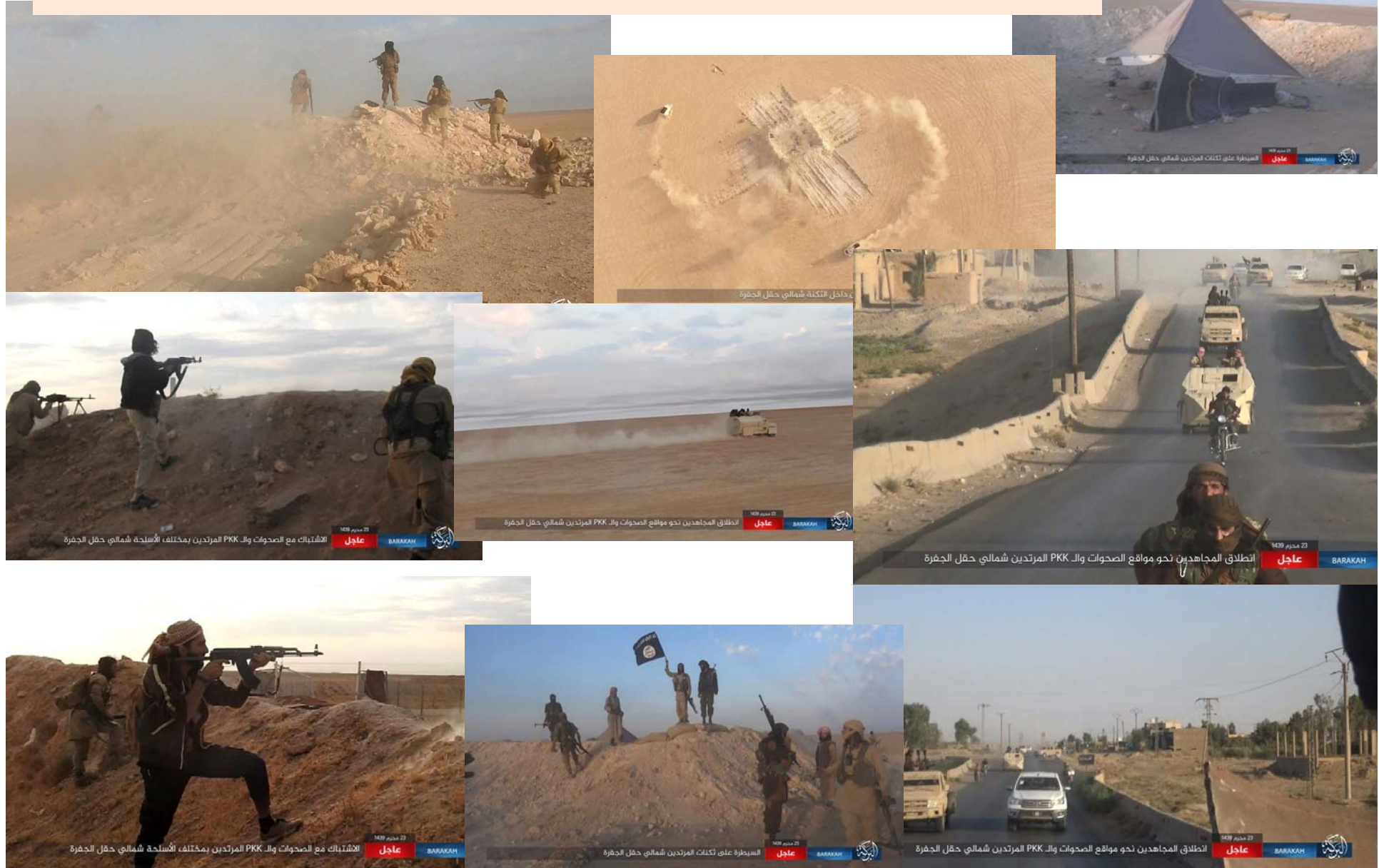


ISIS raid on SDF position near Jafir oil field, south Dier Ez Zor, imagery released 14th
October 2017

Source: Amaq, via,

<https://www.almasdarnews.com/article/horrific-images-isis-executes-kurdish-fighters-oil-field-deir-ezzor/>

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ISIS escape from Hama/Homs pockets to Idlib province, 9-10 Oct 2017

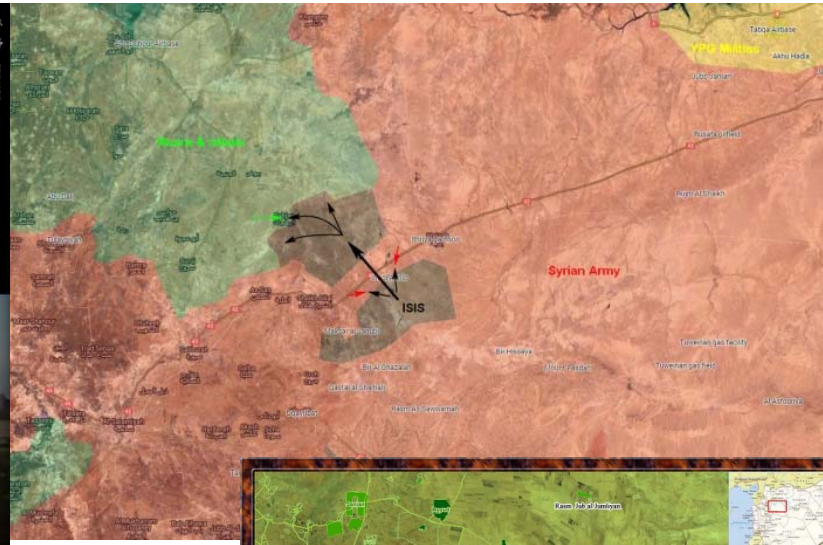
© timripley@hotmail.com



ISIS column photographed moving through northern Hama province into Idlib. Published along with this article in <http://aldorars.com/news/2033>

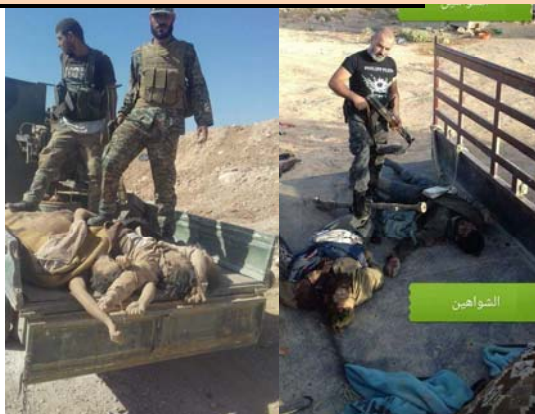
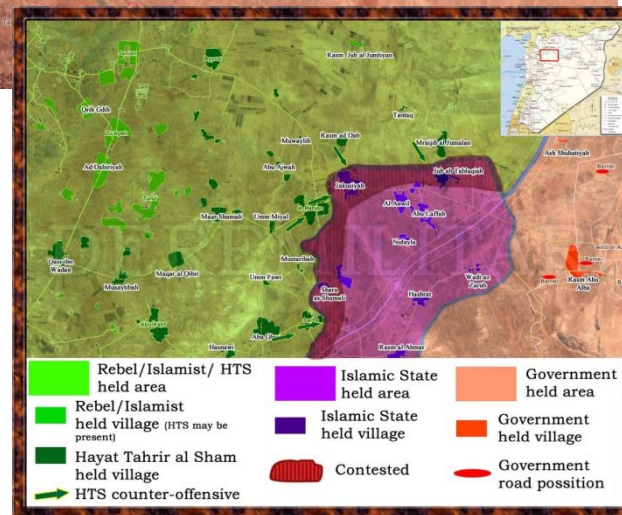
Al-Dahar Al-Shamiya:

The Sham Liberation Organization reached an agreement with the state organization on Sunday allowing the latter to enter the liberated areas on the condition of handing over the full weapon. He said, "Abu al-Harith," a leader in the Badia sector of the Liberation of the Sham [presumably Hay'at Tahrir al-Sham or HTS]"that the framework of the organization of the state came out after midnight from the area of Akerbat heading to the area of Al-Rajan after giving him security to enter our areas provided the delivery of weapons to us." The leader of the audio recording that "the organization after cutting the path of the archaeologist and passed through the Syrian regime barriers entered our areas of control and accompanied by three tanks and a cart and" BMB "and 20" pickup "was supposed to hand over weapons to us, but did not abide by it and launched Attack and control our positions." He pointed out that the Badia sector began to launch counter-attacks in order to restore the areas lost. In a statement, the state organization announced its control of 13 villages: "Hamassrat, Taret al-Ahmar, Al-Farah, Sareha, Al-Shamaliya, Umm Al-Fawz, Wadi Al-Zroub, Jib Al-Tablikleh, Abu Libal, Nafila.



[Qalaat Al Mudiq @QalaatAlMudiq Oct 9](#)

Video allegedly showing refugees leaving this morning [#Uqayribat](#) pocket towards NE. [#Hama](#). It's believed [#ISIS](#) infiltrated this convoy.



Syrian Army ambushed another group of ISIS in Wadi Al Adib who were trying to flee to Idlib from Hama 9 Oct 17 Source: Souria4Syrian

Pics showing [#HTS](#) storming [#ISIS](#) positions in NE. [#Hama](#) followed by escape of 20+ [#ISIS](#) fighters after [#HTS](#) breached defenses.

[Source, HTS via @QalaatAlMudiq](#) 15 Oct 17



Reports of fighting between ISIS and HTS/Nusra in Idlib

<https://www.almasdarnews.com/article/battle-footage-al-qaeda-captures-four-isis-members-executes-moments-later/>

<https://www.almasdarnews.com/article/pictures-isis-militants-flee-en-mass-al-nusra-tanks-drive-positions-east-hama>

ISIS prisoners captured in kati Island near Dier Ez Zor City, 17 Nov 16

Source: ISIS Hunters facebook page, via Arab Source



ISIS defending Abu Kamal city, 17 Nov 17

Source: Amaq , via Arab Source

