



- 1) 04 APR: ISIS claims SVEST against Shi'a Popular Mobilization Units (PMU) in Mashada.
- 2) 04 APR: ISIS claims SVBIED, police say SVEST, at joint Iraqi Army and police checkpoint near Jisr al-Muthanna.
- 3) 04 APR: ISIS VBIEDs target Iraqi Security Forces (ISF) south of Karma.
- 4) 04 APR: ISIS claims SVBIED at Camp Tariq.
- 5) 15 APR: ISF thwart ISIS SVEST attacks in Zafaraniya.
- 6) 23 APR: ISIS claims SVBIED against Shi'a Popular Mobilization Unity (PMU) in al-Husseiniya district north of Baghdad.
- 7) 23 APR: ISIS SVBIED targets checkpoint in al-Rashidiyah.
- 8) 25 APR: ISIS claims SVEST against 70 PMU and ISF in Baghdad al-Jadida.
- 9) 25 APR: ISIS SVBIED detonates against ISF and PMU in Karma.
- 10) 25 APR: ISIS VBIED detonates near Iraqi Army convoy in Latifiyah.
- 11) 28 APR: ISIS claims two VBIEDs and a four-man SVEST attack against ISF in Fallujah.
- 12) 28 APR: Security forces thwart VBIED attack outside Diyala Provincial Council in Baquba.
- 13) 29 APR: ISF find and clear IEDs directed at Imam al-Kadhim Shi'a pilgrims in Dora.
- 14) 30 APR: ISIS SVBIED detonates against Shi'a pilgrims in Nahrawan. The claim was the first within ISIS's "Invasion of Sheikh Abu Ali al-Anbari" operation.
- 15) 02 MAY: ISIS SVBIED detonates against 40 Shi'a pilgrims in Dora.
- 16) 02 MAY: ISIS claims SVEST against PMU barracks near Khalis.
- 17) 04 MAY: ISF kill "100" ISIS members and destroy 8 SVBIEDs during clearing operations south of Fallujah.
- 18) 06 MAY: ISIS SVEST targets ISF checkpoint on Radhwariyah highway.
- 19) 08 MAY: Iraqi Police stopped an ISIS SVEST targeting a funeral in Abu Ghraib.
- 20) 09 MAY: ISIS VBIED detonates in Baquba north of Baghdad.
- 21) 11 MAY: ISIS SVEST targets ISF checkpoint in Kadhimiya in northern Baghdad.
- 22) 11 MAY: ISIS SVBIED detonates in Adil District, a predominantly Sunni area of Baghdad.
- 23) 11 MAY: ISIS VBIED detonates in Oreba Market in Sadr City in northeast Baghdad.

Content by ISW Research Team
Graphic by Sarah Crockett

ISIS carried out explosive attacks in Baghdad and its environs to undermine an increasingly fragile Iraqi government through April and early May. The group exploited a security system both distracted by ongoing political upheaval caused by a stalled reform and burdened with protecting thousands of Shi'a pilgrims travelling to northern Baghdad for a major Shi'a holiday. ISIS has generally used suicide vests (SVEST) in 2016 due to the ISF's increasing ability to spot and thwart its vehicle borne improvised explosive devices (VBIED) and suicide VBIEDs (SVBIED). ISIS last executed a VBIED attack on January 11. It since refrained from VBIED and SVBIED attacks in favor of SVESTs due to the ISF's increasing ability to spot and destroy such attacks. The resurgence of successful VBIEDs and SVBIEDs attacks suggests the weakening ability of the ISF to adequately and consistently protect the greater Baghdad area. They also show ISIS reverting to its core expertise as a terrorist organization as it loses its capability to project force from its decreasing terrain. These explosive attacks will play a major factor in the ongoing political dynamics in Baghdad and aggravate already tense relations between the government and protesters if the government fails to guarantee basic security in the city.