



REPORT ON SITUATION IN NORTH EAST SYRIA 25th October 2019

Overview

Despite ongoing Russian patrols from Qamishlo to Dirbesiye and the arrival of a Russian convoy of 25 military vehicles in Kobane, attacks continue within the occupied region and its surroundings. The Syrian Army has established a base in Kobane and set up checkpoints on the M4 road near Masoudiyah village in Raqqa region. There are reports of a US military convoy returning to North East Syria.

The YPJ Women's Defence Units have confirmed that the woman who has been shown in the video footage of Turkish proxy forces is Cicek Kobane, who was injured in an attack on Mashrafah village near Ain Issa on the 21st October. Cicek Kobane, who fought against ISIS with the YPJ, is from Kobane, a turning point in the YPG/YPJ's resistance against ISIS. In the videos, Turkish proxy forces taunt and jeer at Cicek Kobane, who is wounded in the leg. The Syrian Observatory of Human Rights has published information indicating that one of the soldiers appearing in the video, Yaser Abdulrahim, is a member of al Majd faction, which stands accused of war crimes including maltreatment of prisoners of war.

The Kurdish Red Crescent confirmed the death of three paramedics who were kidnapped near Suluk in the surroundings of Tel Abyad on the 13th October. They have been identified as Media Bouzan, Hafin Khalil Ibrahim and Mohamed Bouzan Sidi, who was the ambulance driver. Their bodies were found dumped in the sewer. Reports indicate that Turkish-backed Ahrar al-Sharqiya was responsible for what is widely regarded as a "field execution" targeting health workers.

Humanitarian crisis

The UNHCR release figures of Syrian refugees arriving in Bardarash camp in Duhok, Iraq. There have been over 8,000 new arrivals in past week, 75% of whom are women and children. Some children arrive unaccompanied, and new arrivals continue. Amnesty International published a report documenting Turkey's forced settlement of Syrian refugees to border areas of Syria where there is ongoing conflict.

Sere Kaniye (Ras al Ain) Tel Abyad and Tel Tamer

Throughout the morning Turkish proxy forces attacked the villages of Leylan and Abu Rassen (Zarkan), east of Sere Kaniye. Turkish proxies also attacked the villages of Asadiyah, Nuh and Dardara, between Tel Tamer and Sere Kaniye. SDF forces attempted to regain Manajir, north of Tel Tamer. A Russian military patrol arrived in Abu Rassen (Zarkan), east of Sere Kaniye, coming from a patrol through Amude and Dirbesiye. Turkish artillery targeted villages Abdek Kabir and Kendar in the western countryside of Tel Abyad.

Ain Issa

In the morning there were attacks by Turkish backed forces in the countryside of Ayn Issa. A family was injured as a result of an attack on Rogeman village, north of Ayn Issa city. Reports that 3 children, aged between 4 and 10, were injured along with the parents.

Deir Ezzor

Unidentified gunmen attacked an SDF checkpoint near Al Busayrah city. A demonstration against the Assad regime took place.

Manbij

There are ongoing attacks of Turkish proxies in Manbij region, which is located west of the occupied zone. The villages of Arab Hassan and Umm Jalud, northwest of Manbij city, were targetted, and Manbij Military Council responded.