

## Munayrah bridge and screening site & expectations of displacement to Hamam al Alil, 12 January

### Munayrah bridge and screening site

A pontoon bridge (N 36°05.619' E 043°17.870') has been installed across the Tigris at Munayrah village. It is controlled by the ISF. NGOs are allowed to cross with signed documentation from the Ninewa Operational Command (NOC). Access to the bridge is straightforward. On the Nimrud side, about 5 km south of As Salamiyah, there is a signposted turning to the right. The bridge is about 10 minutes down a bumpy track. On the Munayrah side there is a turning off the main Qayyarah-Hamam al Alil road at N 36°05.083' E 043°17.031'. The bridge is open between the hours of 6am and 6pm. Travel time from the bridge to Erbil is under 2 hours.

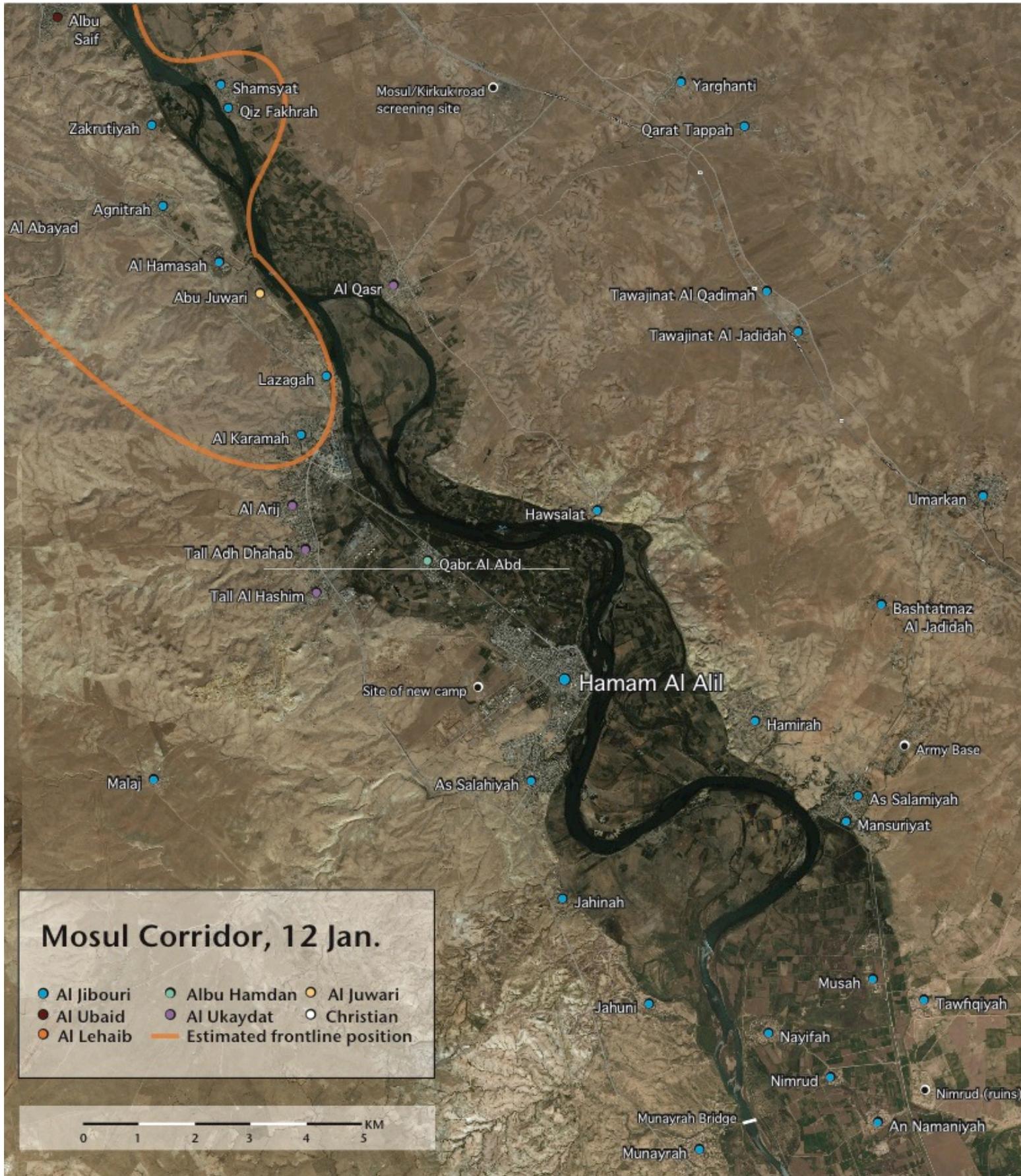
The screening site is located on the east (Nimrud) side of the bridge, just before the bridge itself. It consists of a small collection of portacabins and is run by members of the National Security Service from Baghdad. They reportedly receive between 200-800 families per day, mostly arriving on buses (supplied by the government) from the screening site at the Hamdaniyah junction on the Mosul-Erbil road. IDPs also arrive in private cars and taxis. As with other screening sites, the volume of traffic depends on the level of military activity in Mosul. Although we confirmed that the numbers given were families, not individuals, they seemed to be high estimates.

It is only men and boys above the age of 14 who are screened at this site. By the time they get there they have usually been screened around three times, often by different authorities. IDs are checked against a database and the process is fast. Because this is the fourth screening for most, it is not often that ISIS suspects are arrested here. On 12 January no ISIS suspects had been detained by the early afternoon. The previous day two had been detained and the same the day before. Please contact Rise for more information regarding detainees.

People arriving at the screening site are reportedly very tired and often suffering from illness. There are no working facilities at the site. Drinking water is often given by the ISF from their own supply and there is no food available. Waiting times, however, are short – families do not usually have to wait longer than an hour. IDPs do not stay the night at the screening site. When there is a large influx of IDPs waiting to cross the bridge, the National Security Service run four separate computers to speed up the process.

From the screening site IDPs travel onwards to camps at Jadaa or to stay with relatives in retaken villages in the Qayyarah, Shura and Hamam al Alil sub-districts. Some travel further to Tikrit, Baghdad, or elsewhere, depending on their family connections.

The priority need at the screening site is latrines. An NGO left a large shower unit near the bridge, but it has not been connected to a water supply and showers are not required anyway. Latrines are a major need. A rubhall tent to provide shelter in bad weather and ready-to-eat food supplies and bottled water were also identified as important needs.



### Reception centres/screening sites near to Hamam al Alil

There is no specific screening site or reception centre in the vicinity of Hamam al Alil and there is reportedly very little displacement coming directly south from west Mosul/Albu Saif to Hamam al Alil. Now that ISF control most of the eastern bank of the Tigris and have at least some presence in the most southern districts of Mosul city, it makes more sense for escapees from west Mosul to cross the river rather than risk travelling directly south through ISIS territory as far as the frontline in Arij. It is not known for certain how populated the villages are between Arij and Albu Saif but from previous experience it's likely that ISIS has taken most people to Mosul or concentrated them in Albu Saif.

The Federal Police are likely to launch operations north of Arij within a short period. In preparation for this there is reportedly a heavy ISIS presence between Arij and Albu Saif and for now it would be extremely dangerous for families to attempt to flee Mosul through this area.

When Albu Saif is retaken from ISIS and ground operations begin in west Mosul, there is likely to be large displacement from the city coming south into Albu Saif and onwards to Hamam al Alil and Qayyarah. At this point a screening site/reception centre is likely to be established in the vicinity of Albu Saif, although the exact location will not be decided on until the town is retaken.



*PMF (Asaib Ahl al-Haq, Kataib Hezbollah, Badr Organization) were in Hamam al Alil distributing oranges to children out of a truck. For more information on the Hashd al Shabbi in this area please contact Rise.*

### Hamam al Alil camp

A new camp (N36°09.756' E043°14.873') is under construction in Hamam al Alil in anticipation of significant displacement coming from the west side of Mosul when military operations start there on the ground. It is reportedly about a week short of completion, including wash facilities. The initial capacity will be 4,000 MOMD tents. Expansion of the camp will reportedly depend on need, but expansion is expected. The camp is built on an open area on the outskirts of the town near the location of one of Hamam al Alil's mass graves. There was heavy fighting in the area and many of the houses beside the site have been destroyed by airstrikes or artillery fire. The site is currently about 3km from the frontline (at Arij). The Federal Police are the authority in the area.



*The new camp under construction with the Arij cement plant in the distance.*

