

Security forces fight back IS militants, attacks continue in Iraq



BAGHDAD, April 13 (RHC-Xinhua) -- The Iraqi security forces on Monday repelled attacked of the Islamic State (IS) militants in the country's provinces of Salahudin and Anbar, while clashes and bomb attacks continued across the country, an official and security sources said.

In Salahudin province, the security forces backed by U.S.-led coalition and Iraqi aircraft repelled an attack by the IS militants on Iraq's largest refinery near the town of Baiji. A total of 20 militants were killed and five of their vehicles were destroyed in the battles, while five security members were also killed by the clashes.

In *Anbar* province, the security forces and allied Sunni paramilitary tribesmen heavily clashed with the IS militants and repelled their attack on *al-Malaab* street in central the provincial capital city of *Ramadi* and *al-Tamim* district in western the city, a provincial security source told Xinhua.

The battle resulted in the killing of seven IS militants and two local policemen and the wounding of five security members, the source said.

The security situation in Iraq has been drastically deteriorated since June last year, when bloody clashes broke out between Iraqi security forces and the IS.

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