

Iraq Prime Minister Sacks Senior Military Officers over Failure to Fight ISIS Rebels

By [Xinhua](#)

Global Research, June 18, 2014

Xinhua News Agency

Region: [Middle East & North Africa](#)

Theme: [US NATO War Agenda](#)

In-depth Report: [IRAQ REPORT](#)

Iraqi Prime Minister Nuri al- Maliki on Tuesday sacked some senior security officers for their failing to halt the advance of Sunni insurgent groups, a statement issued by his office said.

“We have decided to punish a number of officers who failed in the performance of their professional and national duties,” Maliki said in the statement.

Maliki fired Lieutenant General **Mehdi Sabih al-Gharawi**, commander of Nineveh Operations Command, his deputy **Major General Abdul Rahman Handhal**, as well as Chief of Staff and Brigadier General Hassan Abdul Razak, and will take legal actions against them, according to the statement.

The prime minister also fired Brigadier **General Hidayat Abdul Rahim**, commander of the army’s 3rd infantry division. Rahim has been “referred to the military court for his trial in absentia for his escape from the battlefield to an unknown destination.”

The statement said that further instructions would be issued later to sack more military leaders and bring them to justice.

Maliki’s move came after thousands of Iraqi soldiers and officers fled their posts in Iraq’s northern province of Nineveh last Tuesday, which paved the way for Sunni militants, including those who are linked to the Islamic State in Iraq and Levant, an [al-Qaida](#) offshoot, to seize the provincial city of Mosul and then large parts of provinces of Salahudin and Diyala.

The original source of this article is Xinhua News Agency

Copyright © [Xinhua](#), Xinhua News Agency, 2014

[Comment on Global Research Articles on our Facebook page](#)

[Become a Member of Global Research](#)

Articles by: [Xinhua](#)

not be responsible for any inaccurate or incorrect statement in this article. The Centre of Research on Globalization grants permission to cross-post Global Research articles on community internet sites as long the source and copyright are acknowledged together with a hyperlink to the original Global Research article. For publication of Global Research articles in print or other forms including commercial internet sites, contact: publications@globalresearch.ca

www.globalresearch.ca contains copyrighted material the use of which has not always been specifically authorized by the copyright owner. We are making such material available to our readers under the provisions of "fair use" in an effort to advance a better understanding of political, economic and social issues. The material on this site is distributed without profit to those who have expressed a prior interest in receiving it for research and educational purposes. If you wish to use copyrighted material for purposes other than "fair use" you must request permission from the copyright owner.

For media inquiries: publications@globalresearch.ca