
MACRON SEES IRAQ'S TOTAL 'LIBERATION' FROM IS THIS MONTH

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France's President Emmanuel Macron said Thursday that Iraq would announce its total "liberation" from the grip of the Islamic State group. He made the prediction at a joint news conference with Qatar's Emir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al-Thani while on an official visit to the Gulf state. "There will be a liberation before the end of the year and we will, in the next months I hope, achieve a military victory in the Iraq theatre," he said. He made his comments after visiting the huge US air base of Al-Udeid in Qatar where he met a small French contingent and spoke with US officials. Al-Udeid, the largest US air base in the region, plays a key role in America's fight against the Islamic State group and it is from there that IS jihadists have suffered a series of major military defeats in Syria and Iraq this year. On Thursday, Russia's defence ministry said its air campaign to defeat IS in Syria had been "accomplished" and that the country was on the verge of being liberated.

Kaynak/Source: