



POTOMAC INSTITUTE FOR POLICY STUDIES
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Daily Terrorism Weather

7 April 2014

Middle East

Israeli websites attacked by pro-Palestinian 'hacktivist' collective

Author/Source: Haaretz

"Exactly one year after its last major cyber attack, AnonymousOpIsrael hacked Israeli websites on Monday..."

Israel threatens unilateral moves

Author/Source: Jonah Mandel, Arab News

"Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu threatened the Palestinians on Sunday with unilateral reprisals as the two sides prepared for last-ditch talks with a US envoy on salvaging teetering peace talks..."

Israel, Palestinians seek another meeting Monday: U.S. official

Author/Source: Arshad Mohammed, Reuters

"Israeli and Palestinian negotiators held "serious and constructive" talks Sunday and asked the United States to convene another meeting on Monday, a U.S. State Department official said..."

Iran's Revolutionary Guard says it dismantled West-linked spy ring

Author/Source: Haaretz

"Iran's powerful Revolutionary Guard says its agents have dismantled an alleged espionage network with links to foreign intelligence agencies seeking to sabotage key industrial and military sites in the country..."

Fighting Syria spillover, Lebanese troops deploy in Bekaa Valley

Author/Source: Nicholas Blanford, The Christian Science Monitor

"The Lebanese army deployed into lawless areas of the northern Bekaa Valley over the weekend, shutting down unofficial checkpoints and pursuing car thieves and kidnappers as part of a broader national security plan to mitigate the damage being done by spillover from the civil war in neighboring Syria..."

Assad tells Russian ex-PM 'active phase' of Syria war over this year

Author/Source: Steve Gutterman, Reuters

"A former Russian prime minister who recently met Bashar al-Assad said the Syrian president told him that much of the fighting in the country's civil war would be over by the end of the year, Itar-Tass news agency reported on Monday..."

Israel backs Syrian opposition accusations of poison attack

Author/Source: Jeffrey Heller, Reuters

"Israel Radio said on Monday that Israel has evidence backing Syrian opposition accusations that forces loyal to President Bashar al-Assad had used non-lethal chemical weapons in Damascus last month..."



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[Iran hopes nuclear deal drafting can start by mid-May](#)

Author/Source: Parisa Hafezi and Fredrik Dahl, Reuters

“Iran said it hopes enough progress will be made with major powers this week to enable negotiators to start drafting by mid-May a final accord to settle a long-running dispute over its nuclear program...”

[Seven dead after clashes at Palestinian Refugee Camp in Lebanon](#)

Author/Source: Al Jazeera

“Clashes broke out in a Palestinian refugee camp near the southern Lebanese port of Sidon on Monday, killing seven people, including the commander of an armed group, and wounding at least 10 others, Lebanese and Palestinian security officials said...”

[Syria: Dutch priest Fr van der Lugt shot dead in Homs](#)

Author/Source: BBC

“A Dutch priest well known for refusing to leave the besieged Syrian city of Homs has been shot dead by a gunman...”

[Asia](#)

[Pakistani forces kill 30 separatists in Baluchistan: official](#)

Author/Source: Gul Yousufzai, Reuters

“Pakistani security forces killed 30 separatist militants on Monday in an offensive in Baluchistan, a senior official said, in one of the biggest clashes in months in the gas-rich province...”

[At least 13 dead in Afghanistan in roadside bomb](#)

Author/Source: Sarwar Amani, Mirwais Harooni, and Hamid Shalizi, Reuters

“At least 13 civilians were killed in a roadside bomb in southern Afghanistan on Monday two days after a presidential election, a local official said...”

[Smooth Afghan election raises questions about Taliban's strength](#)

Author/Source: John Chalmers and Maria Golovnina, Reuters

“A bigger-than-expected turnout in Afghanistan's presidential election and the Taliban's failure to significantly disrupt the vote have raised questions about the capacity of the insurgents to tip the country back into chaos as foreign troops head home...”

[Possible signals heard from MH370's black boxes](#)

Author/Source: Al Jazeera

“U.S. Navy equipment has picked up signals consistent with the pings from aircraft black boxes, an Australian search official said Monday, describing the discovery as "a most promising lead" in the monthlong hunt for the missing Malaysia Airlines plane...”



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[U.S. defense chief, in first, visits China's aircraft carrier](#)

Author/Source: Phil Stewart, Reuters

“U.S. Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel took a two-hour tour around China's sole aircraft carrier on Monday, in an unprecedented opening by Beijing to a potent symbol of its military power...”

[Africa](#)

[Ten Arrested Following Failed Bomb Making Attempt in Sfax](#)

Author/Source: Tunisia Live

“Two suspects were arrested Saturday following a failed attempt to construct homemade bombs in El Ain, a suburb of Sfax, the Ministry of Interior said...”

[France says Southern Libya now a 'viper's nest' for Islamist militants](#)

Author/Source: John Irish, Reuters

“Southern Libya has become a "viper's nest" for Islamist militants and the only way to tackle it is with a strong collective response from neighbouring countries, France's defence minister said in remarks published on Monday...”

[Egypt court upholds jailing of leading pro-democracy activists](#)

Author/Source: Yasmine Saleh, Reuters

“An Egyptian appeals court on Monday upheld the jailing of three leading figures of the 2011 pro-democracy uprising, tightening a crackdown on secular activists opposed to the army-backed government...”

[Briton one of two UN workers shot dead in Somalia](#)

Author/Source: BBC

“A British man is one of two United Nations workers who have been shot dead in Somalia, the Foreign Office has said...”

[UNHCR 'concerned' over mass Kenya arrests](#)

Author/Source: BBC

“The UN refugee agency has expressed concern over the mass arrest of Somalis and other nationals in Kenya as part of a security force operation to end attacks by militant Islamists...”

[Europé](#)

[Putin tells security service to be on alert, warns on NGOs](#)

Author/Sources: Timothy Heritage, Reuters

”President Vladimir Putin told the FSB security service on Monday to be on the alert against militant attacks and said Russia must not let non-governmental organizations be used for "destructive" purposes "as in Ukraine"...”

[Russian marine kills Ukraine navy officer in Crimea, says ministry](#)

Author/Source: Thomas Grove, Reuters

“A Russian soldier shot dead a Ukrainian naval officer in eastern Crimea, Ukraine's Defence



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Ministry said on Monday, the second Ukrainian death reported since Russia took control of the Black Sea peninsula...”

Tens of thousands of Russian troops near Ukraine border: U.S. envoy

Author/Source: Michael Shields, Reuters

“The U.S. ambassador to the OSCE said Russia had amassed tens of thousands of troops near the border with Ukraine and called on Moscow to take steps to de-escalate the situation...”

Russia tells Kiev not to use force in southeast Ukraine

Author/Source: Alexei Anishchuk, Reuters

“Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov told Ukraine's acting foreign minister, Andrei Deshchytsa, in a phone conversation on Monday that Kiev must not use force against pro-Russian protesters in southeastern Ukraine, Lavrov's ministry said...”

Pro-Russian separatists proclaim independent republic in eastern Ukraine

Author/Source:

“Police detained 70 people occupying a regional administration building in eastern Ukraine overnight, but pro-Moscow protesters held out in a standoff in two other cities...”

NATO limits access by Russian diplomats in Crimea fallout

Author/Source: Adrian Croft, Reuters

“NATO said on Monday it would limit Russian diplomats' access to alliance headquarters in Brussels as a consequence of its decision to suspend cooperation with Moscow over Russia's annexation of Ukraine's Crimea region...”

Spain busts group accused of plans to send arms machinery to Iran

Author/Source: Inmaculada Sanz, Reuters

“Spain said on Monday it had dismantled a group it accused of plotting to send industrial equipment to Iran that could be used for weapon manufacture in violation of international sanctions...”

Germany summons North Korean envoy to protest against nuclear test

Author/Source: Erik Kirschbaum, Reuters

“Germany summoned the North Korean ambassador on Monday to protest against an announcement that the country is planning a new nuclear test, after it test-fired medium-range missiles...”

US & Canada

U.S. to send F-16 jets to Romania for exercises

Author/Source: Luiza Ilie, Reuters

“The United States will deploy F-16 fighter jets to Romania this month as part of planned joint exercises, the NATO member's defense minister was quoted as saying, amid rising tensions in neighboring Ukraine after Russia's annexation of Crimea...”



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[U.S. senators press for hard line over reported Iran-Russia deal](#)

Author/Source: Patricia Zengerle, Reuters

“Two U.S. senators who led a push for more sanctions on Iran during negotiations over its nuclear program called on President Barack Obama on Monday to impose more restrictions if Tehran pursues an energy barter agreement with Russia...”

[U.S. presses on with Middle East talks rescue attempt](#)

Author/Source: Jeffrey Heller, Reuters

“U.S. efforts to save Middle East peace talks from collapse showed little sign of progress on Monday amid threats from Israel to retaliate for what it saw as unilateral Palestinian moves towards statehood...”

[Kerry warns Lavrov Russia faces 'costs' if it further destabilizes Ukraine](#)

Author/Source: David Story, Reuters

“U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry told Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov on Monday that Washington was watching events in eastern Ukraine with great concern and any moves by Moscow to destabilize Ukraine would “incur further costs for Russia.”...”

[Latin America and the Caribbean](#)

[Mexican vigilantes protest against plans to disarm them](#)

Author/Source: BBC

“Vigilante groups in Mexico have protested against moves by the security forces to disarm them...”

[136 gang members captured in Buenaventura: Colombia President](#)

Author/Source: Columbia Reports

“Colombia President Juan Manuel Santos told onlookers in Buenaventura that 136 members of dangerous criminal gangs had been captured by security forces over the last month and a half, contributing to a recent drop in violence, during a speech Friday...”