



POTOMAC INSTITUTE FOR POLICY STUDIES
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Daily Terrorism Weather Online

3 April 2014

Middle East

[Saudi court sentences al-Qaeda ideologue to death: paper](#)

Source: Reuters

“A Saudi Arabian court on Wednesday sentenced a top al-Qaeda strategist to death and jailed 15 others for their role in a series of attacks in the kingdom last decade, Saudi newspapers reported on Thursday...”

[Iraq forces kill dozens of militants near Baghdad: ministry](#)

Source: Al Jazeera

“Israel has announced that it will not release the fourth batch of Palestinian prisoners because of renewed Palestinian efforts to join international organisations...”

[Israel-Palestine peace talks at ‘critical’ stage: Kerry](#)

Source: New York Post

“Talks between Israeli and Palestinian negotiators are at a critical moment although progress was made in overnight discussions, US Secretary of State John Kerry said on Thursday...”

[Saudi Arabia declares all atheists are terrorists in new law to crack down on political dissidents](#)

Source: The Times of India

“Saudi Arabia has introduced a series of new laws which define atheists as terrorists, according to a report from Human Rights Watch. In a string of royal decrees and an overarching new piece of legislation to deal with terrorism generally, the Saudi King Abdullah has clamped down on all forms of political dissent and protests that could ‘harm public order’...”

[Iran, six powers start expert-level nuclear talks in Vienna](#)

Source: Reuters

“Iran and six world powers began an expert-level meeting about Tehran's nuclear program on Thursday, part of efforts to reach an agreement by late July on how to resolve a decade-old dispute that has stirred fears of a Middle East war...”

[State Dept. says Iran's pick for UN ambassador 'troubling' amid outrage over hostage crisis link](#)

Source: Fox News

“The State Department is raising “serious concerns” over Iran’s new nominee for ambassador to the U.N., who was involved with the group that took over the U.S. embassy in Tehran for 444 days and held American diplomats hostage in 1979...”



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Security forces targeted in Yemen attack

Source: Al Jazeera

“Suspected fighters have attacked the southern command headquarters of the Yemeni army in the city of Aden using a car bomb and rocket propelled grenades, security officials and witnesses have said...”

About half Syria's chemicals packed for removal, violence halts convoys: U.N.

Reuters

Source: Reuters

“Syria has packed 40 percent of its chemical weapons arsenal into containers to be taken outside the country and destroyed, and convoy security has been deployed to deal with violence around the port city of Latakia, the head of the mission overseeing the operation said on Thursday...”

South Asia

Afghanistan: Taliban blamed for fresh violence ahead of elections

Author/Source: Qadir and Laura Smith-Spark, CNN

“A provincial council candidate and nine of his supporters were killed by the Taliban in Afghanistan two days after they were kidnapped, said Sakhidad Haidari, deputy police chief of northern Sar-e-Pul province...”

Musharraf convoy hit by bomb attack in Pakistan

Source: The Guardian

“A bomb exploded near a convoy carrying the former president, Pervez Musharraf, in the capital of Islamabad but the former ruler was not harmed, say police...”

Southeast Asia

MH370 search: 'Black box' ship due in search zone

Source: The Star

“Australian navy vessel Ocean Shield, which is fitted with a US-supplied "black box" detector, was Friday expected in the area being scoured for wreckage of Flight MH370 as 14 planes continued the arduous search...”

East Asia

Temple in China sets up first anti-terror squad

Source: People's Daily

“The Lingyin Temple in east China's Hangzhou has set up an anti-terror contingent, the first of its kind among Chinese temples, to ward off possible terror attacks...”

North Korea to reportedly execute 200 officials believed loyal to Kim Jong-un uncle

Source: Fox News

“A South Korean newspaper has reported that the North Korean regime of Kim Jong-un will execute 200 high-ranking government officials believed to be loyal to Jang Song-thaek, Kim's once-powerful uncle who was shockingly deposed and executed last December...”



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Africa

[Kerry says US wants to boost Algeria in al Qaeda fight](#)

Source: Reuters

“U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry said on Thursday Washington was looking to increase its security assistance to Algeria to help it tackle militancy in the vast Sahel region to its south, home to one of the world's most active branches of al Qaeda...”

[Somalia: Kenyan Forces Will Not Pull Out of Somalia, Says Defence Cabinet Secretary Raychelle Omamo](#)

Source: All Africa

“The Government has no immediate plans of pulling out the Kenya Defence Forces from Somalia, Defence Cabinet Secretary Raychelle Omamo has announced...”

[Central African Republic: Massacres in Remote Villages - Attacks Show Urgent Need to Protect Civilians](#)

Source: All Africa

“Anti-balaka fighters killed at least 72 Muslim men and boys, some as young as nine, in two recent attacks in southwestern Central African Republic...”

[Nigeria: 50 Killed As Soldiers Battle Fulani Insurgent in Nasarawa](#)

Source: All Africa

“Barely 24 hours after the military deployed to contain the recent attacks that has claimed over 200 lives and displaced thousands of the Tiv people of Nasarawa and Benue states, success was Thursday recorded as troops killed over 50 Fulani insurgents in Keana local government area of Nasarawa state in a gun duel...”

Europe

[Ukraine Implicates Ex-President and Russia in Protesters' Deaths](#)

Author/Source: Andrew Roth, The New York Times

“The Ukrainian authorities said Thursday that former President Viktor F. Yanukovych and Russian security agents were involved in plans for elite police units to open fire on antigovernment protesters in February, killing more than 100 people in the days immediately before the downfall of his government...”

[Russia could invade Ukraine 12 hours after order, says NATO commander](#)

Author/Source: Mick Krever, CNN

“Russian troops could invade Ukraine within 12 hours of getting an order, General Philip Breedlove, NATO's Supreme Allied Commander Europe, told CNN's Christiane Amanpour on Wednesday...”



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[German officials confirm 18 million emails and passwords stolen](#)

Source: DW

“Another mass hacking of private data was confirmed by German officials on Thursday, this time involving 18 million email addresses and passwords. Authorities in the northwestern city of Verden discovered the trove of information, according to the city's public prosecutor Lutz Gaebel...”

US & Canada

[Obama's NSA overhaul may require phone carriers to store more data](#)

Author/Source: Mark Hosenball and Alina Selyuky

“President Barack Obama's plan for overhauling the National Security Agency's phone surveillance program could force carriers to collect and store customer data that they are not now legally obliged to keep, according to U.S. officials...”

[Fort Hood shooter was Iraq vet being treated for mental health issues](#)

Sanchez and Ben Brumfield, CNN

Author/Source: Ray Sanchez and Ben Brumfield, CNN

“The Iraq war veteran was being evaluated for post-traumatic stress disorder before he opened fire at the Fort Hood Army post in Texas on Wednesday...”

[Lodi-area terror suspect pleads not guilty in federal court](#)

Source: Sacramento Bee

“Lodi-area terror suspect Nicholas Michael Teasant was returned to California this week, more than two weeks after his arrest, and pleaded not guilty Thursday to a charge that he tried to aid a foreign terror group...”

South and Central America and the Caribbean

[Colombia Busts Gang for Turning Aspiring Athletes into Killers](#)

Herald Tribune

Source: Latin American Herald Tribune

“Colombian police captured 14 members of a band that recruited young men with false promises of sports stardom and then made them work as assassins, authorities said Thursday. The La Libertad band operated in Comuna 14, a desperately poor area of the southwestern city of Cali...”

[Brazilian Troops to Patrol Gang-Dominated Rio Slum](#)

Tribune

Source: Latin American Herald Tribune

“Some 2,700 soldiers will replace the police officers who last week occupied the complex of shantytowns that had been considered the last great bastion of drug trafficking in Rio de Janeiro, the Brazilian military said Thursday...”



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Newspaper Editor Beaten in Western Mexico

Source: Latin American Herald Tribune

“The editor of Noroeste newspaper was beaten and robbed in this western Mexican city, an employee of the daily told Efe on Thursday...”

1.5 Tons of Cocaine Seized in Puerto Rico

Source: Latin American Herald Tribune

“A Dominican citizen was arrested on Thursday after 1,400 kilos (3,083 lbs.) of cocaine he was transporting in a 40-foot boat was seized from him, the Puerto Rico Police Department said...”

Arms Theft from Peru Army Supplies Points to Official Complicity

Author/Source: Mimi Yagoub, Insight Crime

“Authorities in Peru say the majority of arms used by criminal groups are stolen from private owners and security forces, highlighting a common regional phenomenon that is often facilitated by corrupt officials...”

Maritime

Canadian warship seizes shipment of heroin during anti-terrorism patrol duty

Source: The Providence

“A Canadian naval ship deployed to watch for terrorism activities in the Indian Ocean has seized a large shipment of heroin...”