



**POTOMAC INSTITUTE FOR POLICY STUDIES**  
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### Daily Terrorism Weather Online

28 April 2014

#### **Middle East**

##### [Yemen begins southern offensive against AQAP](#)

*Author/Source: Oren Adaki, The Long War Journal*

“Yemeni media reported yesterday that the country's military is preparing for a new offensive against al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula on the heels of the three successful US drone strikes last week that killed over 60 militants from the terrorist organization. . .”

##### [Iraq attacks kill at least 21 as police, army vote](#)

*Source: Washington Post*

“Militants unleashed attacks against polling stations in Iraq as soldiers and security forces cast ballots two days ahead of parliamentary elections, killing at least 21 people on Monday, officials said. . .”

##### [Iraq to vote amid spiraling violence](#)

*Source: Reuters*

“With violence targeting civilians on the rise and the government battling rebels just 65kms from the capital, Iraqis will vote in parliamentary elections on Wednesday and, lacking any obvious challenger, Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki is expected to stay in power. . .”

##### ['Kerry warns if peace talks fail, Israel may become apartheid state'](#)

*Source: JPOST*

“US Secretary of State John Kerry has warned that in the absence of a two-state solution, Israel risks becoming an apartheid state, The Daily Beast news site reported early Monday morning. . .”

##### [Syria Misses New Deadline as It Works to Purge Arms](#)

*Source: NY Times*

“Syria missed a revised deadline on Sunday for completing the export or destruction of chemicals in its weapons arsenal, but the government of the war-ravaged country may be only days away from finishing the job, according to international experts overseeing the process. . .”

##### [Syrian relief work hampered by U.N. failings, aid groups say](#)

*Author/Source: Oliver Holmes, Reuters*

“Aid organizations working in Syria say they are growing frustrated at how the United Nations is handling the world's biggest humanitarian crisis, accusing it of excluding them and withholding information vital to assist millions in need. . .”



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### **Syria's Assad to run for president in June 3 vote**

*Source: Washington Post*

“President Bashar Assad announced his candidacy for the June 3 presidential elections on Monday, a race he is likely to win amid a raging civil war that initially began as an uprising against his rule. . .”

### **US and Gulf states plan missile defence system to counter Iran**

*Source: The Guardian*

“A senior US official on Sunday signalled optimism about a possible resolution of the Iranian nuclear dispute, but said Washington remained concerned that Iran's ballistic missiles threatened Gulf Arab states. . .”

## **South Asia**

### **Afghanistan helicopter crash 'a tragic accident'**

*Source: BBC*

“A fatal helicopter crash in southern Afghanistan which killed all five UK personnel on board appears to have been a "tragic accident", the MoD has said. . .”

### **Pakistan blast: Three Karachi pupils killed at seminary**

*Source: BBC*

“At least three children have been killed and several others wounded in a blast at a religious school in the southern Pakistani city of Karachi. . .”

### **Thai opposition leader meets military head as crisis deepens**

*Source: Amy Sawitta Lefevre, Reuters*

“Thai opposition leader Abhisit Vejjajiva met the head of the armed forces on Monday to discuss ways to avert a showdown between rival political factions next month that threatens more bloodshed and economic damage. . .”

### **U.S., Philippines sign 10-year defense agreement amid rising tensions**

*Author/Source: Juliet Eilperin*

“The United States and the Philippines signed a 10-year defense agreement Monday, one of the clearest signs yet of renewed American engagement in the region at a time when tensions between China and its neighbors have been rising. . .”

## **East Asia**

### **Taiwan uses water cannon to disperse anti-nuclear protesters**

*Source: Chanel News Asia*

“Taiwan police on Monday used water cannon to dislodge hundreds of demonstrators blocking a main road in the capital to demand the scrapping of a controversial nuclear power plant. . .”



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### **[New technology of towed side-sonar search to be deployed in four weeks](#)**

*Source: Xinhua*

“The new technology of towed side-sonar device will be deployed in four weeks, Angus Houston, chief coordinator of the Joint Agency Coordination Center (JACC) for the search of Malaysian Airline flight MH370, said here Monday. . .”

### **[Chinese cyber-attack on Australia 'wider than previously thought'](#)**

*Source: The Guardian*

“A cyber-attack on the Australian parliamentary computer network in 2011 may have given Chinese intelligence agencies access to politicians' private emails for a year, according to a report in the Australian Financial Review. . .”

## **Africa**

### **[Libyan PM attacks central bank governor as political turmoil rages](#)**

*Source: Reuters*

“Libyan Prime Minister Abdullah al-Thinni accused the central bank governor on Monday of obstructing the government and exceeding his powers, in comments that may damage one of the last respected state institutions in the North African country. . .”

### **[Egypt: Brotherhood's Badie among mass death sentences](#)**

*Source: BBC*

“A judge at a mass trial in Egypt has recommended the death penalty for 683 people - including Muslim Brotherhood leader Mohammed Badie. . .”

### **[Attack in Central African Republic kills 22, including chiefs, MSF staff](#)**

*Author/Source: Crispin Dembassa-Kette, Reuters*

“At least 22 people, including 15 local chiefs and three members of staff of the medical charity Medecins Sans Frontieres, were killed in an attack on a town in the Central African Republic, officials said on Sunday. . .”

### **[Election violence flares in South Africa's platinum belt](#)**

*Author/Source: Ed Stoddard, Reuters*

“Police used water cannon and stun grenades to disperse rioters in South Africa's strike-hit platinum belt on Sunday after a government minister was attacked by rock-throwing protesters while campaigning for the May 7 election. . .”

### **[Nigeria: Military Surrounds Location, Intensifies Negotiations to Free Abducted Girls](#)**

*Author/Source: Senator Iroegbu, Michael Olugbode, All Africa*

“The military has tracked down and surrounded the location, where over 200 schoolgirls who were abducted two weeks ago from Government Secondary School, Chibok, are being held captive, while exploring various options, including intense negotiations by locals and the Borno State Government to secure their release. . .”



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### **Libya Raids Benghazi Arms Bazaar**

*Author/Source: Asma Elourfi, All Africa*

“Benghazi police this week raided the infamous Jenehein market and arrested a large number of drug and weapons dealers. . .”

### **Nigeria can handle Boko Haram, part of 'raw democracy', says minister**

*Author/Source: Pascal Fletcher, Reuters*

“Nigeria is preparing a special development plan for its poor, violence-hit northeast and increasing spending to counter an Islamist revolt there that could dent growth in Africa's No. 1 oil producer if it worsens, the country's finance minister said. . .”

### **Ethiopia charges nine bloggers, journalists with inciting violence**

*Author/Source: Aaron Maasho, Reuters*

“Ethiopia has charged six bloggers and three journalists with attempting to incite violence, their supporters said on Monday, prompting accusations from rights groups that the government is cracking down on its critics. . .”

### **U.S. Envoy, Opposition Leader in Addis Ababa to Encourage Stalled Peace Talks**

*Source: All Africa*

“Special envoy for the two Sudans, and the leader of the opposition Reform Now Party (RNP) were Saturday at the venue of the stalled peace talks between the government and the rebels of Blue Nile and South Kordofan states. . .”

### **Central African Republic Removes Muslims From Bangui District**

*Source: All Africa*

“Peacekeepers have escorted 1,300 Muslims out of the Central African Republic's capital. Some leaders fear that the exodus will make permanent divisions that have led to talk of partition after 18 months of conflict. . .”

### **Ethnic clash in South Sudan kills at least 5**

*Source: News24*

”South Sudan's military spokesperson says a "misunderstanding" between military troops and a local community sparked clashes that killed five troops. . .”

## **Europe**

### **Slovakia signs deal to send some gas to Ukraine**

*Author/Source: Jan Lopatka, Reuters*

“Slovakia and Ukraine signed a deal on Monday that allows the European Union to send a limited amount of gas to Ukraine, but provides Kiev with less than it hoped for to cushion the blow should Russia turn off supplies. . .”



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### **[Ukraine town falls to Russian takeover](#)**

*Source: Telegraph*

“Heavily armed pro-Russian gunmen on Monday seized another town in east Ukraine, storming the town hall in Kostyantynivka and setting up barricades. . .”

### **[EU Leaders to Decide on Further Sanctions Against Russia](#)**

*Source: Noinvite*

“The Council of the European Union is to discuss on Monday new sanctions against Russia over the deepening crisis in eastern and southern Ukraine. . .”

### **[Ukraine crisis: Kharkiv mayor Hennadiy Kernes shot](#)**

*Source: BBC*

“The mayor of Kharkiv in eastern Ukraine has been shot and critically wounded amid continuing unrest in the region. . .”

## **US & Canada**

### **[U.S. Hits Putin's 'Inner Circle' In Fresh Russia Sanctions](#)**

*Source: Radio Free Europe*

“The United States has slapped sanctions on seven Russian officials and 17 companies it says are linked to Russian President Vladimir Putin's closest associates, the latest punitive measures in response to what the Obama administration calls Moscow’s “indisputable” role in recent violence in Ukraine. . .”