



**POTOMAC INSTITUTE FOR POLICY STUDIES
INTERNATIONAL CENTER FOR TERRORISM STUDIES**

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Prof. Yonah Alexander, Director

Daily Terrorism Weather

18 June 2014

Middle East

Activists: Syrian Strikes Target Refugees, Kill 7

Author/Source: AP

“Syrian helicopter gunships targeted refugees near the Jordanian border early on Wednesday, killing at least seven people, two activist groups said...”

Iraq Formally Asks US to Launch Air Strikes against Rebels

Author/Source: BBC News

“Iraq has formally called on the US to launch air strikes against jihadist militants who have seized several key cities over the past week...”

Syria Conflict: Toxic Chemicals 'Used Systematically' in Attacks

Author/Source: BBC News

“A team from the world's chemical weapons watchdog believes toxic chemicals such as chlorine are being used in a ‘systematic manner’ in Syria...”

Sunni Militants Invade Iraq's Biggest Oil Refinery

Author/Source: Emily Buchanan, BBC News

“Iraq's biggest oil refinery has been invaded by Sunni-led Islamist militants...”

Israel Holds Ex-Palestinian Prisoners in Teenagers Hunt

Author/Source: BBC News

“Israeli troops have arrested another 65 Palestinians, including 51 freed in a 2011 prisoner swap, as they search for three missing teenagers...”

Iran Says Will Not Hesitate To Defend Iraq Holy Sites

Author/Source: Michelle Moghtader, Reuters

“Iran will not hesitate to defend Shi'ite Muslim holy sites in neighbouring Iraq against ‘killers and terrorists’, Iranian President Hassan Rouhani said on Wednesday, following rapid advances by Sunni militants there over the past week...”

Saudis Give Apparent Warning to Iran: Don't Meddle In Iraq

Author/Source: Noah Browning and Rania El Gamal, Reuters

“Saudi Arabia gave an apparent warning to arch enemy Iran on Wednesday by saying outside powers should not intervene in the conflict in neighboring Iraq...”

Exclusive: Iran Digs In Heels on Nuclear Centrifuges at Vienna Talks – Envoys

Author/Source: Louis Charbonneau and Parisa Hafezi, Reuters

“Iran is refusing to significantly cut the number of centrifuges it intends to keep to produce nuclear fuel, making it hard to imagine a compromise at this week's talks with six powers, Western and Iranian officials said on Wednesday...”



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Forty Indian Construction Workers Kidnapped In Iraq

Author/Source: Frank Jack Daniel, Reuters

“Forty Indian construction workers have been kidnapped in Iraq's second largest city of Mosul, which fell to Sunni insurgents last week, India's foreign ministry said on Wednesday...”

Asia

Kyrgyzstan Happy To Drop Hot Political Potato

Author/Source: Abdujalil Abdurasulov, BBC News

“Next month the US lease on an air base in Kyrgyzstan will come to an end. Russia has pledged to give millions of dollars in credit and loans to the former Soviet republic, which may not be a coincidence...”

Afghan President Hopeful Abdullah Abdullah Cries Foul

Author/Source: BBC News

“Afghan presidential election candidate Abdullah Abdullah has demanded an immediate halt to vote-counting over allegations of widespread fraud...”

Pope to Pray For Reconciliation on Korean Trip

Author/Source: Nicole Winfield, AP

“Pope Francis will beatify 124 Korean martyrs and celebrate a Mass of peace and reconciliation on the war-divided peninsula during his upcoming visit to South Korea, the first papal trip to the Far East in nearly 20 years...”

China Media: Vietnam Talks amid Territorial Tensions

Author/Source: BBC News

“Media discuss Beijing-Hanoi ties as top diplomat Yang Jiechi arrives in Vietnam for talks aimed to ease tension over territorial disputes...”

China Scolds Vietnam for 'Hyping' South China Sea Oil Rig Row

Author/Source: Ho Binh Minh and Ben Blanchard, Reuters

“China's top diplomat scolded Vietnamese officials during talks in Hanoi on Wednesday for ‘hyping up’ a row over a Chinese oil rig drilling in disputed waters in the South China Sea, in tough comments that suggest relations will remain rocky...”

No Sweet Surrender - N. Korea Cuts Choco Pie Supply

Author/Source: Kim Eunjee and Jee Abbey Lee, Voice of America

“North Korea has asked South Korean employers at the inter-Korean Kaesong Industrial Park to omit two popular snacks from its employee menu, namely Choco Pie and instant noodle...”

Official: 150 Australians Fighting In Syria, Iraq

Author/Source: Rod McGuirk, AP

“Around 150 Australians have fought with radical militants in Syria and Iraq, raising fears of a terrorist threat to Australia if the fighters return home, the foreign minister said on



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Thursday...”

[Australia Reassures Muslim Countries on Palestine](#)

Author/Source: Rod McGuirk, AP

“Australia's foreign minister assured ambassadors from Arab and Islamic countries Thursday that her government's position on the Palestinian territories had not changed, despite the government changing its description of East Jerusalem from ‘occupied’ to ‘disputed’...”

Africa

[West Africa's Ebola Death Toll Rises To 337](#)

Author/Source: Sarah DiLorenzo, AP

“An Ebola outbreak continues to spread in three West African countries, with more than 330 deaths reported, the World Health Organization said Wednesday...”

[South African Bill Targets Foreign Security Firms](#)

Author/Source: Christopher Torchia, AP

“A proposed law in South Africa that would require foreign-owned private security firms to sell at least 51 percent of their businesses to South Africans will deter foreign investors and violate international trade deals, a business group said Wednesday...”

[400 Migrants Repelled From Spanish Enclave Border](#)

Author/Source: AP

“Officials say some 400 sub-Saharan migrants stormed Spain's multiple-barbed-wire border fences separating its North African enclave of Melilla from Morocco, but failed in their bid to enter Europe...”

[14 Dead In Bombing of World Cup View Site in Nigeria](#)

Author/Source: Adamu Adamu and Michelle Faul, AP

“Survivors of a bomb blast at an illegal World Cup viewing site in northeast Nigeria that killed at least 14 people said Wednesday the force of the explosion blew off limbs and knocked people senseless...”

[Benghazi Attack: Libya Condemns US Raid to Seize Man](#)

Author/Source: BBC News

“Libya has condemned a US military operation to capture the suspected leader of the deadly raid on a US diplomatic post in Benghazi in 2012...”

[Libya Demands Us to Handover Benghazi Suspect](#)

Author/Source: AP

“The Libyan government on Wednesday denied it had prior knowledge of the US capture of a top suspect in the deadly 2012 assault on Americans in Benghazi and demanded his return...”

[African Firm Is Selling Pepper-Spray Bullet Firing Drones](#)

Author/Source: Leo Kelion, BBC News

“South Africa-based Desert Wolf told the BBC it had secured the sale of 25 units to a mining



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company after showing off the tech at a trade show...”

Kenya Arrests Over Mpeketoni Coast Attacks

Author/Source: BBC News

“Several people have been arrested over this week's deadly attacks on Kenya's coast including suspected ringleaders, the local police chief has said...”

Kenya Attacks: Al-Shabab Not Involved – Kenyatta

Author/Source: BBC News

“Somali Islamist group al-Shabab was not behind deadly attacks on Kenya's coast, the president has said, contradicting the militant group's claims...”

Nigeria Alerts Citizens over Explosion Threats

Author/Source: Peter Clottey, Voice of America

“A spokesman for Nigeria's government says the government has issued a nationwide terror alert after intelligence showed that some groups want to set petroleum tankers on fire in parts of the country in a bid to create chaos and destabilize the country...”

Europe

Germany's Merkel: No Need to Loosen Euro Rules

Author/Source: AP

“German Chancellor Angela Merkel is making clear she won't back changes to the 18-nation eurozone's budget deficit rules after her deputy signaled greater flexibility...”

Gazprom Says Flow of Gas to Europe Uninterrupted

Author/Source: Nataliya Vasilyeva, AP

“An explosion at a key pipeline in Ukraine has not disrupted the flow of gas to Europe, Russian gas monopoly Gazprom said on Wednesday...”

EU Alarmed Author/Source: Anti-Muslim Violence in Sri Lanka

Author/Source: Bharatha Mallawarachi, AP

“The European Union expressed alarm Wednesday at recent violence against Muslims in Sri Lanka in which three people died and more than 50 were injured, and urged the government to ensure that the rule of law is upheld...”

UK Extremists 'Skip Bail to Fight in Syria'

Author/Source: Matt Prodger, BBC News

“Two known extremists who were under criminal investigation have fled the UK for Syria, the BBC can reveal...”

Islamist Insurgents in Iraq Plan UK Attack: PM Cameron

Author/Source: Andrew Osborn and William James, Reuters

“British Prime Minister David Cameron said on Wednesday that Sunni Islamist insurgents fighting in Iraq were planning to attack Britain and that "ungoverned spaces" where militants thrived had to be shut down...”



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[Ukraine's Poroshenko Sets Out Ceasefire Plan after Call with Putin](#)

Author/Source: Pavel Polityuk, Reuters

“After a late-night telephone call with Russian President Vladimir Putin, Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko on Wednesday set out proposals for a peace plan for eastern Ukraine involving a unilateral ceasefire by government forces...”

Latin America and the Caribbean

[Cuba: 6 Cases of Chikungunya Virus in Travelers](#)

Author/Source: Peter Orsi, AP

“Cuban health authorities on Wednesday said they detected six cases of chikungunya fever, a debilitating, mosquito-borne virus that is suspected of afflicting tens of thousands across the Caribbean since its arrival in the region last year...”

[US Court Lifts Stay on Order Requiring Argentina to Pay Bond Holdouts](#)

Author/Source: Latin American Herald Tribune

“A US appeals court on Wednesday lifted its stay of a lower-court judge’s order requiring Argentina to pay bondholders who refused to accept a steep haircut on its defaulted debt...”

[Lawyer: Argentina to Negotiate With US Hedge Funds](#)

Author/Source: Larry Neumeister, AP

“A lawyer says Argentina will negotiate with US hedge funds that are owed \$1.5 billion for defaulted bonds...”

[Mexico Drugs War: Mass Grave Found in Veracruz](#)

Author/Source: BBC News

“The authorities in Mexico have found more than 30 bodies in a mass grave in the eastern state of Veracruz...”

[Governor in Mexico's Troubled Michoacan State Steps Down](#)

Author/Source: Tracy Wilkinson, LA Times

“Days after photos appeared purportedly showing his son meeting with a top drug trafficker, the governor of the beleaguered Mexican state of Michoacan resigned Wednesday, citing poor health...”

[Missing Radioactive Material Recovered in Mexico](#)

Author/Source: Latin American Herald Tribune

“The radioactive substances stolen from a government research facility last week in Tultitlan, a city in the central state of Mexico, were recovered early Wednesday, officials said...”

[Police Arrest 9 Drug Dealers, Murderer in Central Mexico](#)

Author/Source: Latin American Herald Tribune

“Police arrested nine suspects on drug charges and another in connection with several murders in Mexico state, which surrounds the Federal District and forms part of the Mexico City metropolitan area, officials said...”



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US & Canada

[GOP Leader: Obama May Act In Iraq without Signoff](#)

Author/Source: Julie Pace and Donna Cassata, AP

“President Barack Obama and congressional leaders believe he does not need authorization from Congress for some steps he might take to quell the al-Qaida-inspired insurgency sweeping through Iraq, the Senate's top Republican and Capitol Hill aides said after the president briefed senior lawmakers Wednesday...”

[Boehner Opposes Working with Iran to Aid Iraq](#)

Author/Source: AP

“The United States should not talk to Iran about jointly helping the Iraqi government fend off insurgents who have been overrunning large swaths of that country, House Speaker John Boehner said Wednesday...”

[US Says Captured Libyan Planned New Attacks](#)

Author/Source: AP

“The United States has informed the U.N. Security Council that a top suspect in the deadly 2012 assault in Libya was captured because US investigators determined that he planned further attacks against Americans...”

[Biden Praises Iraqi Leaders for Unity against ISIL](#)

Author/Source: AP

“Vice President Joe Biden is praising Iraq's Shiite, Sunni and Kurdish leaders for showing solidarity against al-Qaida-inspired insurgents who have plunged Iraq into violence...”

[In Washington, Growing Chorus Calls for Iraq's Maliki to Go](#)

Author/Source: Patricia Zengerle and Matt Spetalnick, Reuters

“President Barack Obama came under pressure from US lawmakers on Wednesday to persuade Iraqi Prime Minister Nuri al-Maliki to step down over what they see as failed leadership in the face of an insurgency threatening his country...”