



POTOMAC INSTITUTE FOR POLICY STUDIES
INTERNATIONAL CENTER FOR TERRORISM STUDIES
901 North Stuart Street Suite 200 Arlington, VA 22203
Tel. 703-562-4513, 703-525-0770 ext. 237 Fax 703-562-1000
icts@potomac institute.org www.potomac institute.org

Daily Terrorism Weather Online

3 June 2014

Middle East

Iraq: Attacks Kill at Least 15 People

Author/Source: New York Times

“Attacks across Iraq on Monday hit commercial areas and Iraqi security forces, killing at least 15 people and wounding dozens, officials said...”

Israeli troops kill Palestinian at West Bank checkpoint

Author/Source: Allyn Fisher-Ilan, Reuters

“Israeli troops on Tuesday shot dead a Palestinian who the military said had opened fire and wounded a soldier at a checkpoint in the occupied West Bank...”

EU Open to working with Palestinian unity government

By Justyna Pawlak, Reuters

“The European Union will work with the new Palestinian unity government, on condition it sticks to the principle of peace with Israel based on a two-state solution, it said on Tuesday...”

Israel “Troubled” by U.S. Plan to Work With Palestinian Unity Government

By Jodi Rudoren, New York Times

“Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu of Israel said on Tuesday that he is “deeply troubled” by the Obama administration’s decision to work with the new Palestinian government, signaling new strains in the often rocky relationship between Israel and the United States, two close and critical allies...”

Jordan, UAE test ability to respond to chemical attack

By Elisa Oddone, Jordan Times

“Jordan and United Arab Emirates special forces tested on Monday their abilities to respond to chemical attacks on a fictitious dried-out tent city in the Kingdom’s desert plain amid a 15-day military exercise involving combined land, air and sea maneuvers across the country...”

Syrians vote in wartime election set to extend Assad’s rule

Author/Source: Marwan Makdesi, Reuters

“Syrians voted on Tuesday in an election expected to deliver an overwhelming victory for President Bashar al-Assad but which his opponents have dismissed as a charade in the midst of Syria's devastating civil war...”

At Least 120 Dead in Clashes in Yemen

Author/Source: VOA News

“At least 120 people were killed in northern Yemen on Monday in fighting between Shi’ite Muslim Houthi rebels and government forces before a ceasefire was agreed, a Yemeni official said on Tuesday...”



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Central Asia

[South Ossetian Leader Wants to Join Russia](#)

Author/Source: Radio Free Europe

“The de facto president of Georgia's breakaway region of South Ossetia says he does not exclude the accession of the separatist territory into the Russian Federation. Leonid Tibilov...”

[U.S. vacates base in Central Asia as Russia's clout rises](#)

Author/Source: Olga Dzyubenko, Reuters

“The United States on Tuesday handed back its only Central Asian airbase to the government of Russia's close ally Kyrgyzstan, as President Barack Obama winds down U.S. involvement in Afghanistan and Moscow makes a comeback in its old imperial backyard...”

South Asia

[Taliban Warns Afghans Not To Vote in Presidential Runoff](#)

Author/Source: Radio Free Europe

“The Taliban has threatened to target the second round of voting in Afghanistan's presidential Election, warning people to "remain far away" from polling stations...”

[Pakistan fires 120 rockets in the latest wave of cross-border shelling in Kunar](#)

Author/Source: Khaama Press

“According to local authorities in eastern Kunar province, at least 120 more rockets were fired in eastern Kunar province of Afghanistan in the latest wave of cross-border shelling...”

[Indian aid worker kidnapped in Afghanistan](#)

Author/Source: BBC

“An Indian aid worker has been kidnapped in the Afghan city of Herat, Indian and Afghan officials say...”

[Pakistan MQM leader Altaf Hussain arrested in London](#)

Author/Source: BBC

“Police in London have arrested the leader of Pakistan's powerful MQM party, Altaf Hussain, on suspicion of money-laundering...”

Southeast Asia

[Thai Protests Flash “Hunger Games” Salute to Register Quiet Dissent](#)

Author/Source: New York Times

“Having banned public protests, Thailand's military faces a new challenge: how to treat citizens who make a three-fingered salute, a sign of resistance borrowed by opponents of last month's coup from “The Hunger Games,” The Bangkok Post reported...”

East Asia

[China defends Tiananmen Crackdown on eve of 25th anniversary](#)

Author/Source: Ben Blanchard, Yahoo News

“China defended the bloody 1989 crackdown on pro-democracy demonstrators around Beijing's Tiananmen Square on Tuesday, the eve of the 25th anniversary, saying it had chosen the correct path for the sake of the people...”



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China fires water cannon in clash with Vietnam ship: State Media

Author/Source: Channel News Asia

“China fired water cannon at a Vietnamese vessel and damaged another of Hanoi's ships, state media said on Tuesday, in the latest confrontation over disputed waters in the South China Sea...”

Europe

Obama's Day: Meetings in Warsaw

Author/Source: David Jackson, USA Today

“President Obama arrived in Poland early Tuesday morning, starting a trip designed in part to re-assure Eastern Europe nations that the United States will back them up in cases of Russian aggression...”

Fearing Converts to Terrorism, France Intercepts Citizens Bound for Syria

Author/Source: Alissa J. Rubin, New York Times

“The three young Frenchmen were arrested as they tried to make their way to Syria to wage jihad...”

EU Tells Bulgaria to suspend gas project

Author/Source: Yahoo News

“The European Union on Tuesday told Bulgaria to suspend preparatory work on the Russian gas pipeline South Stream, which will bypass Ukraine to bring supplies into the heart of Europe...”

Ukrainian forces in fierce clash with pro-Russian separatists in rebel-held city

Author/Source: Griff Witte, Carol Morello and Daniela Deane, Washington Post

“Ukrainian security forces clashed fiercely with pro-Russian separatists Tuesday near a rebel-held eastern city as the government sought to take the offensive a day after fending off a massive rebel assault on a border command center...”

UK employees leave Sierra Leone over Ebola threat

Author/Source: BBC

“A number of "non-essential" staff at a British firm in Sierra Leone have left the country following an outbreak of the deadly Ebola virus...”

Turkish police use water cannons and tear gas on protestors

Author/Source: Aileen Graef, United Press International

“Turkish police used tear gas and water cannons on the 25,000 protestors who gathered in Taksim Square to mark the one year anniversary of violent anti-government protests...”

EU anti-terrorism czar warns of fresh attacks

Author/Source: Colin Clapson, Flander News

“Gilles de Kerchove, the EU's Belgian anti-terrorism co-ordinator, has warned that other European countries could be the victim of attacks similar to the one perpetrated at the Jewish Museum in Brussels last month...”



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OSCE: ‘No Demands So Far’ from abductors of OSCE monitors in Ukraine

Author/Source: JC Finley, United Press International

“Two groups of OSCE monitors have not yet been released by their captors in eastern Ukraine and no demands have been made, an OSCE official said Monday...”

King Carlos Abdication: Thousands join anti-monarchy protest

Author/Source: Mariko Oi, BBC

“Thousands of protesters in Spain have taken to the streets to call for a referendum on the future of the monarchy, following King Juan Carlos's decision to abdicate...”

Northern mayor against participation in elections

Author/Source: B92

“Priština is attempting, via all its institutions, to make the life meaningless for Serbs in Kosovo and Metohija, and it is my position, which does not mean it will be our final position - that under these conditions we will not participate in the election,” Vulović told Beta...”

Ukraine Crisis: ‘Heavy Fighting’ around Sloviansk

Author/Source: BBC

“Heavy fighting is taking place in and around the rebel-held city of Sloviansk in eastern Ukraine, Ukrainian and Russian media report...”

G7 Leaders Set To Discuss Further Russia Sanctions

Author/Source: Radio Free Europe

“The leaders of the Group of Seven (G7) leading industrial countries are expected to reconfirm their willingness to intensify sanctions against Russia over its actions in Ukraine when they meet this week in Brussels...”

Europe Worries About Homegrown Radical Islamists Returning from Syria

Author/Source: Inti Landauro, Margaret Coker and Matthew Dalton, Wall Street Journal

“Police investigators piecing together a profile of the French man suspected of killing three people in Belgium last month—from a convict radicalized in prison to suspected fighter alongside Islamist rebels in Syria—are confronting a disturbing reality: Hundreds of Europeans have similar backgrounds...”

Albania increases anti-drug trafficking measures

Author/Source: South East Times

“Large slabs of concrete that block the runways at three military airports are the latest tool to slow the flow of illegal drugs in Albania...”

Africa

Egyptian Satirist Bassem Youssef Cancels His Show

By Tamer El-Ghobashy and Amina Ismail, Wall Street Journal

“Bassem Youssef, a heart surgeon who became a wildly popular political satirist following the 2011 revolt that felled the durable autocratic regime of Hosni Mubarak, announced on Monday that his show would not be returning to the airwaves following months of uncertainty...”



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[Nigeria U-turn on kidnapped schoolgirl rallies](#)

Author/Source: BBC

“Nigerian police say peaceful rallies to demand the release of more than 200 schoolgirls seized by Islamist militants will be allowed, after earlier banning them...”

[African Union peacekeepers accused of abuses in Central African Republic: HRW](#)

Author/Source: Emma Farge, Reuters

“African Union peacekeepers from the Republic of Congo operating in the Central African Republic have been accused of abuses, including torture, killings and detentions, Human Rights Watch (HRW) said on Monday...”

[Somalia: At Least 74 Dead in Somali/Ethiopian Clash With Al-Shebab](#)

Author/Source: Mohamed Sheikh Nor, All Africa

“At least 74 people were killed in fighting near Somalia's border with Ethiopia on Sunday, according to officials and witnesses...”

[South Africa: Petrol Bombs Fly in Cape Town Evictions](#)

Author/Source: All Africa

“Petrol bombs were thrown during evictions in Lwandle, outside Cape Town, on Tuesday, Western Cape police said...”

[Libya: Islamist militias seize PM's office](#)

Author/Source: Al Arabiya

“Libyan militias loyal to new Prime Minister Ahmed Maiteeq, who is backed by the Muslim Brotherhood, stormed the prime minister's office on Monday ahead of a planned Supreme Court session to adjudicate the dispute between him and interim Prime Minister Abdullah al-Thinni...”

[Sisi won 96.91 percent in Egypt's presidential election: commission](#)

Author/Source: Michael Georgy, Reuters

“Former Egyptian army chief Abdel Fattah al-Sisi secured a landslide victory in the country's presidential vote last week, the election commission confirmed on Tuesday, with 96.91 percent of the vote...”

US/Canada

[Obama Said to Unveil \\$1 Billion European Fund in Poland](#)

Author/Source: Tony Capaccio, Bloomberg

“U.S. President Barack Obama plans to announce a \$1 billion fund to help boost defensive capabilities of European allies shaken by Russia's annexation of the Crimean peninsula from Ukraine, according to a U.S. official...”

[Navy to Cut Midwest Regional Command](#)

Author/Source: Richard R. Burgess, Sea Power Magazine

“The Navy will disestablish its regional command in the Midwest and align its bases with its Mid-Atlantic region as part of a reduction in flag officers. Commander, Navy Region...”



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[U.S. House Demands Data on Any Hidden Syrian Chemical Arms](#)

Author/Source: Diane Barnes, Global Security Newswire

“The U.S. House of Representatives is demanding a rundown of any chemical-warfare materials that Syria's government may be trying to hide...”

[US army chief Dempsey: Bowe Bergdahl could be prosecuted](#)

Author/Source: BBC

“The top-ranking US military officer has raised the possibility Sgt Bowe Bergdahl could be prosecuted if he abandoned his post before his capture...”

[U.S. disrupts major hacking, extortion ring; Russian charged](#)

Author/Source: Joseph Menn, Jim Finkle and Aruna Viswanatha, Reuters

“A U.S.-led international operation disrupted a crime ring that infected hundreds of thousands of PCs around the globe with malicious software used for stealing banking credentials and extorting computer owners, the Justice Department said on Monday...”

South and Central America and the Caribbean

[Colombia peace talks to resume though future in doubt](#)

Author/Source: Yahoo News

“Colombia's government and the FARC rebel group will resume peace talks on Tuesday, officials said, even though the country's presidential election has placed the process in doubt...”

[Jailed Venezuelan Activist Awaits Judge's Ruling](#)

Author/Source: New York Times

“A Venezuelan court is holding a hearing to determine whether opposition hard-liner Leopoldo Lopez will be freed or must wait in jail while facing charges of inciting violence and arson during anti-government protests...”

Maritime

[Poland says France should pull back from Russian navy deal](#)

Author/Source: John Irish, Reuters

“Poland's foreign minister urged France on Tuesday to cancel a 1.2 billion euro (\$1.66 billion) contract to sell Mistral helicopter carriers to Russia, saying these would be used to threaten east European nations...”