



**POTOMAC INSTITUTE FOR POLICY STUDIES**  
**INTERNATIONAL CENTER FOR TERRORISM STUDIES**  
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### Daily Terrorism Weather Online

30 June 2014

#### **Middle East**

##### [Infighting among militants: ISIS vs. al Qaeda](#)

*Author/Source: CBS News*

“The al Qaeda breakaway group that has seized much of Syria and Iraq has formally declared the establishment of a new Islamic state, demanding allegiance from Muslims worldwide in a move that could further strain relations with other militant groups...”

##### [Sydney sheikh Zouheir Issa accused of funding Australian jihadist leading militia in Syria conflict](#)

*Author/Source: Dylan Welch and Sean Rubensztein-Dunlop, Australian Yahoo News*

“A Sydney sheikh has been accused of funding a central figure in the Syrian conflict, an Australian-Lebanese dual national with ties to Al Qaeda and who runs a well-armed militia in northern Lebanon...”

##### [As ISIL surges, could Lebanon be the next domino to fall?](#)

*Author/Source: Michael Pizzi, Al Jazeera*

“On Friday, Al-Qaeda-inspired armed group the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant, which aspirations in the region, claimed responsibility for a suicide bombing on the chic Duroy Hotel yesterday began calling itself the Islamic State in an apparent signal of its wide-reaching in the heart of Beirut’s Raouche neighborhood, which is popular with tourists...”

##### [As caliphate declared, Iraqi troops battle for Tikrit](#)

*Author/Source: Oliver Holmes and Isra’a al-Rubei’I, Reuters*

“Iraqi troops battled to dislodge an al Qaeda splinter group from the city of Tikrit on Monday after its leader was declared caliph of a new Islamic state in lands seized this month across a swath of Iraq and Syria...”

##### [Gaza rockets strike southern Israel](#)

*Author/Source: The Guardian*

“Militant groups in the Gaza Strip have struck southern Israel with a barrage of rockets in a significant escalation of tensions in recent days that has also included multiple Israeli air strikes...”

##### [Israel’s new weapon for dealing with Hamas threat: the lollipop](#)

*Author/Source: Robert Tait, The Telegraph*

“Mass arrests, night-time raids and often deadly firepower have been Israel’s traditional methods of choice for dealing with Hamas and other bodies deemed “terrorist” organizations...”



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### **Israeli forces find bodies of three kidnapped teens**

*Author/Source: Gill Cohen, Barak Ravid, and Jack Khoury, Haaretz*

“The bodies of three Israeli teenagers who were kidnapped 18 days ago in the West Bank have been found, it was announced Monday night...”

### **Israel cabinet in emergency meeting on missing teenagers**

*Author/Source: BBC*

“The Israeli cabinet is holding an emergency meeting to discuss the case of three teenagers who went missing earlier this month in the West Bank. Naftali Frenkel and Gilad Shaar, both aged 16, and 19-year-old Eyal Yifrach were last seen at a junction near Hebron as they hitchhiked home...”

### **In Syria, militants celebrate declaration of ‘Islamic State’**

*Author/Source: Sylvia Westall, Haaretz*

“Militant Islamist fighters held a parade in Syria's northern Raqqa province to celebrate their declaration of an Islamic "caliphate" after the group captured territory in neighboring Iraq, a monitoring service said...”

### **Iraq Army Says ISIL ‘Threat to All Countries’**

*Author/Source: Radio Free Europe*

“An Iraqi Army spokesman says Sunni-led jihadists who have declared a "caliphate" in territories seized across Iraq and Syria have grown into an international threat...”

### **Iraqi refugees fight over food donations for Ramadan**

*Author/Source: Daa Hadid, Haaretz*

“Shouting men scrambled Sunday to reach pots of rice, meat and chicken stew in this dusty, hot encampment some 60 miles (100 kilometers) from the northern city of Irbil, the capital of Iraq's self-ruled Kurdish region...”

### **Report: Despite clearing inspection process, Syria still has WMD**

*Author/Source: The World Tribune*

“Syria, despite a clean bill of health from the international community, still possesses weapons of mass destruction, a report said...”

## **South Asia**

### **Afghanistan sets seven conditions for cooperation in war against terrorism**

*Author/Source: The Daily Times*

“After recent telephonic contacts between Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif and Afghanistan’s President Hamid Karzai and visit of a delegation from Kabul to Islamabad, Hamid Karzai has in a letter laid down Afghanistan's conditions and offered suggestions to Pakistan relating to joint counter terrorism efforts...”

### **Afghan forces claim victory in major Taliban battle**

*Author/Source: Pakistan Tribune*

“Afghan security forces on Saturday claimed victory against a Taliban offensive in the country's volatile Helmand province after days of fighting seen as a test for the country's security forces as NATO-led troops pull out...”



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### **Drone strike in Kunar kills three Taliban: Afghan media**

*Author/Source: Dawn*

“At least three suspected Taliban militants were killed in a US drone strike conducted in Afghanistan's Kunar province near the Pak-Afghan border region early on Monday, according to Afghan media reports...”

### **Govt starts talks with northeast insurgents**

*Author/Source: Pradeep Thakur, The Times of India*

“The government has started informal talks with insurgent groups in the northeast to find a lasting solution to the militancy in the region...”

### **Pakistani army begins ground offensive against Taliban**

*Author/Source: Tim Craig, Washington Post*

“Pakistan’s military launched a major ground offensive in the northwestern part of the country on Monday, beginning what army commanders say will be a “house-to-house search” for terrorist leaders and other militants...”

### **Dozens feared trapped after deadly building collapse in India**

*Author/Source: France 24*

“At least 17 people have been killed and dozens are feared trapped after an 11-storey residential block crumbled in southern India, officials said, the latest deadly building collapse in a country plagued by poor construction...”

### **India launches five foreign satellites**

*Author/Source: BBC*

“India has put into orbit five foreign satellites, including one built by France, to observe the earth...”

### **New UN rights probe intensifies pressure on Sri Lanka**

*Author/Source: Matthew Pennington, Yahoo News*

“A new U.N. investigation into allegations of war crimes in Sri Lanka will intensify international pressure on its government and could probe the purported responsibility of senior Sri Lankan officials with U.S. ties...”

## **Central Asia**

### **Kazakh Magazine Editor Fined Over Hitler Issue**

*Author/Source: Radio Free Europe*

“The chief editor of a celebrity magazine in Kazakhstan has been fined for devoting the April issue to Adolf Hitler...”

### **Outspoken Uzbek Human Rights Defender Not Allowed to Enter Kyrgyzstan**

*Author/Source: Radio Free Europe*

“A well-known Uzbek human rights defender, Vasila Inoyatova, has been refused permission to enter Kyrgyzstan...”



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## **Southeast Asia**

### **[Thailand's military begins overhaul of electoral system](#)**

*Author/Source: Amy Swaitta Lefevre, Reuters*

“Thailand's military government said on Monday it had begun an overhaul of the electoral system following an announcement by junta leader General Prayuth Chan-ocha that polls could take place by late 2015...”

### **[Indonesia surpasses Brazil in deforestation rate](#)**

*Author/Source: BBC*

“A new study has shown that Indonesia lost about 60,000 sq km of virgin forest - an area close to the size of Ireland - over a period of 12 years...”

## **East Asia**

### **[North Korea says it will put 2 Americans on trial for 'hostile acts'](#)**

*Author/Source: Steven Borowiec, LA Times*

“North Korea will put two Americans on trial for “hostile acts,” the nation announced Monday through its official news agency...”

### **[North Korea demands cancellation of annual South Korea-US drills to 'promote reconciliation'](#)**

*Author/Source: The Guardian*

“North Korea has demanded that rival South Korea cancel annual military drills with the US hosting and North Korea has said it will enter...”

### **[China to reopen Somalia embassy, sees strong ties](#)**

*Author/Source: Sui-Lee Wee, Reuters*

“China will reopen its embassy in Somalia after signs the East African country was making progress in its efforts to restore peace decades after the end of its civil war, the foreign ministry said on Monday...”

### **[Thousands denounce Japanese PM Abe's security shift](#)**

*Author/Source: Minami Funakoshi, Reuters*

“Thousands of people marched in Tokyo on Monday to denounce a landmark shift in security the military from fighting abroad since World War Two...”

### **[China charges four in Kunming attack, sentences 113 on terror crimes](#)**

*Author/Source: Sui-Lee Wee, Reuters*

“China charged four people in connection with a deadly attack at a railway station in the southwestern city of Kunming in March, state media said on Monday, a case that helped spur a crackdown on what officials have called an upsurge in militant violence...”

### **[China slams Hong Kong democracy poll despite 800,000 votes](#)**

*Author/Source: France 24*

“Organizers Monday urged Hong Kong's government to take seriously an unofficial referendum on democratic reform after nearly 800,000 people voted in the Chinese city, but state media in Beijing dismissed the ballot as unpatriotic...”



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### **[Top China military official Gen Xu Caihou accused](#)**

*Author/Source: BBC*

“One of China's most senior military officials has been accused of accepting bribes and expelled from the Communist Party, state media report...”

### **Europe**

#### **[Russian journalist killed in Ukraine as gunmen fire on media bus](#)**

*Author/Source: The Guardian*

“A veteran cameraman working for Russia's Channel One was killed in eastern Ukraine when a bus carrying journalists and soldiers' mothers was hit by gunfire, the station said on Monday...”

#### **[Four men arrested in south Wales as part of slavery investigation](#)**

*Author/Source: Steven Morris, The Guardian*

“Four people have been arrested as part of a long-running investigation into slavery and forced labor in south Wales...”

#### **[Russian sailors arrive in France for amphibious assault ship training](#)**

*Author/Source: Guillaume Frouin and John Irish, Reuters*

“About four hundred Russian sailors arrived in western France on Monday for training on Mistral amphibious assault ships before the first of two is delivered to Moscow by the end of the year...”

#### **[Britain leaving the EU would be a ‘disaster’, says Angela Merkel ally](#)**

*Author/Source: Georgia Graham, The Telegraph*

“Britain's exit from the EU would be a “disaster” for Europe, a close ally of Angela Merkel has said as Germany attempts to woo David Cameron back into the European fold...”

#### **[Cameron denies being humiliated over EC Juncker vote](#)**

*Author/Source: BBC*

“David Cameron has suffered “utter humiliation” over the nomination of Jean-Claude Juncker as European Commission president, Ed Miliband has claimed...”

#### **[Ukraine and Russia agree to work on truce extension](#)**

*Author/Source: BBC*

“Ukraine and Russia have agreed to work together to establish a bilateral ceasefire in eastern Ukraine, the office of the French president says...”

#### **[Car Belonging to Ingush Mufti Attacked in Moscow](#)**

*Author/Source: Radio Free Europe*

“A mufti in Russia's volatile North Caucasus Republic of Ingushetia says unknown assailants blew up his car while he was on a visit to Moscow...”

#### **[BNP Paribas braced for \\$8.9bn fine](#)**

*Author/Source: Jennifer Rankin, The Guardian*

“France's biggest bank BNP Paribas is facing a record-breaking \$8.9bn (£5.2bn) fine from US authorities for allegedly transferring billions of dollars on behalf of Sudan...”



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### **European Commission steps in to help Bulgarian Banks**

*Author/Source: BBC*

“The European Commission has approved a request from Bulgaria to provide funding for some of the country's biggest banks...”

### **Africa**

#### **Two police officers killed in bomb blasts near Cairo palace**

*Author/Source: Maggie Fick, Yahoo News*

“Two Egyptian police officers were killed on Monday while trying to defuse makeshift bombs planted near Cairo's presidential palace by Islamist militants close to the anniversary of the army's overthrow of an elected Islamist president...”

#### **Boko Haram in Abuja to intimidate us – Presidency**

*Author/Source: Vanguard*

“The Presidency, yesterday, said that the activities of members of Boko Haram, resulting in massive killings and wanton destruction of property in some parts of the country was about the struggle for power, just as it vowed that as a government, it was too big to be disturbed by those it described as a handful of miscreants...”

#### **Kenyan governor, released on bail, says is innocent of mass killings**

*Author/Source: Joseph Akwiri, Reuters*

“A Kenyan politician arrested in connection with the murder of 65 people on the coast this month denied responsibility after a court freed him on bail on Monday...”

#### **More than 50 dead in Nigeria Islamist attack on churches**

*Author/Source: France 24*

“More than 50 people were killed in the latest attack blamed on Boko Haram Islamists which Monday...”

#### **Liberian president warns against hiding Ebola patients**

*Author/Source: BBC*

“Liberian President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf has warned that anyone caught hiding suspected Ebola virus disease (EVD) patients will be prosecuted...”

### **US/Canada**

#### **Court revives Iraqis' lawsuit over US defence contractor torture at Abu Ghraib**

*Author/Source: The Guardian*

“A US federal appeals court on Monday revived a lawsuit against CACI International Inc in which the defense contractor's employees were accused of directing the torture of detainees at the Abu Ghraib prison near Baghdad...”

#### **Hobby Lobby Case: Court curbs contraception mandate**

*Author/Source: BBC*

“The US Supreme Court has ruled a Christian-owned company can claim a religious exemption to a law requiring employers to pay for their workers' contraception...”



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### **[US could tighten airport security over fears of extremist attack](#)**

*Author/Source: Josie Ensor, The Telegraph*

“Security measures at airports in the US and abroad could be beefed up over deepening concerns of an extremist attack, it has been reported...”

### **[Blackwater ‘threatened to kill US State Department investigator’ in Iraq](#)**

*Author/Source: The Telegraph*

“The most senior manager in Iraq of the notorious private security firm Blackwater threatened to kill a US State Department investigator for examining the company's performance, the New York Times reported on Monday...”

### **[New Orleans police hunt gunmen in Bourbon Street shooting](#)**

*Author/Source: BBC*

“Authorities are searching for two suspects in a shooting on a famed New Orleans street which injured nine people, among them tourists...”

### **[EU slams US over Microsoft privacy case](#)**

*Author/Source: Richard Waters, The Financial Times*

“A US attempt to force Microsoft to hand over emails held on servers in Ireland has drawn a strong rebuke from Brussels in one of the first tests of cross-border privacy raised by cloud computing...”

### **South and Central America and the Caribbean**

#### **[Colombian rebels attack Arauca oil camp](#)**

*Author/Source: BBC*

“Thirteen oil workers and their relatives have been injured in a rebel attack on a camp in the north-eastern Colombian state of Arauca...”

#### **[Gunmen Kill Former Mayor in Southern Mexico](#)**

*Author/Source: Latin American Herald Tribune*

“The former mayor of Ahuacutzingo, a city in the southern Mexican state of Guerrero, was killed by gunmen, prosecutors said...”

#### **[Vehicles Torched During Protest in Brazil](#)**

*Author/Source: Latin American Herald Tribune*

“Three buses and a car were torched in suburban Rio de Janeiro Monday during a protest allegedly headed by drug traffickers, Brazilian police said...”

### **Maritime**

#### **[Thirty dead bodies found on Italy-bound migrant boat](#)**

*Author/Source: Lizzy Davies, The Guardian*

“A fishing boat containing the bodies of about 30 people is being towed by an Italian navy frigate to the Sicilian port of Pozzallo in the latest tragedy to hit the busy crossing route across the Mediterranean Sea...”