



**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@potomacinstitute.org www.potomacinstitute.org

Prof. Yonah Alexander, Director

**Daily Terrorism Weather**

15 August 2014

**Middle East**

**Maliki steps aside, easing Iraq's political crisis**

*Author/Source: Loveday Morris and Karen DeYoung, Washington Post*

“Embattled Iraqi leader Nouri al-Maliki stepped aside Thursday, clearing the way for a new prime minister and an expansion of U.S. military assistance at a moment when a raging insurgency threatens to tear the country apart...”

**Extended Israel-Hamas Truce Holding After Rocky Start**

*Author/Source: Scott Bobb, Voice of America*

“A new, five-day cease-fire between Israel and Hamas was holding Thursday despite a brief overnight exchange of rockets and airstrikes...”

**Hamas accuses Israel of border shooting in violation of truce**

*Author/Source: Allyn Fisher-Ilan, Reuters*

“The Palestinian Interior Ministry in Gaza accused Israel on Friday of a cross-border shooting in violation of a truce...”

**Iraqi Sunnis lay out conditional offer to join unity government**

*Author/Source: Raheem Salman and Michael Georgy, Reuters*

“Tribal leaders and clerics from Iraq's Sunni heartland said on Friday they would be willing under certain conditions to join a new government that hopes to contain sectarian bloodshed and an offensive by Islamic State militants that threatens Baghdad...”

**Al Qaeda tells family to press U.S. to negotiate hostage release**

*Author/Source: Mostafa Hashem, Reuters*

“Al Qaeda told the family of a U.S. hostage kidnapped three years ago in Pakistan to press their government to exchange him for prisoners held by the United States, in a message posted on the Internet on Friday...”

**Israel bans national service with rights group B'Tselem in Gaza row**

*Author/Source: Orlando Crowcroft, The Guardian*

“Israel has banned young people from serving with one of its most prominent human rights groups because of its opposition to the war in Gaza. B'Tselem, which campaigns against Israeli settlements in the West Bank, was informed on Wednesday night that it has been blacklisted as a civilian alternative to military service...”

**Iraq crisis: Obama says US 'broke Mt Sinjar siege'**

*Author/Source: BBC News*

“President Barack Obama has paid tribute to US forces for an operation in northern Iraq that helped “break a siege” and rescue tens of thousands of displaced people...”



**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

Prof. Yonah Alexander, Director

**[IAEA Chief To Visit Iran For Nuclear Talks](#)**

*Author/Source: Radio Free Europe*

“Yukiya Amano, the director-general of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), will visit Tehran on August 17 in a bid to advance cooperation between the UN agency and Iran...”

**[Top Saudi cleric calls for code of conduct to curb violence](#)**

*Author/Source: Sami Aboudi, Reuters*

“A top Saudi Muslim cleric called on Friday for a global code of conduct for leaders, scholars and young people to halt a further slide into violence and "terror" in the Middle East...”

**Asia**

**[Azerbaijan detains prominent human rights activists in fresh crackdown](#)**

*Author/Source: MJ del Valle, The Guardian*

“Azerbaijan has detained at least four of the country’s most prominent human rights activists, prompting fears that authorities are intensifying efforts to silence campaigners ahead of the world’s first European Games in Baku next summer...”

**[Georgia Puts Saakashvili On Wanted List](#)**

“Georgian authorities have put former President Mikheil Saakashvili on a wanted list and will detain him if he returns to the country he led for nearly a decade...”

**[Afghan government negotiating with the Taliban in Sangin](#)**

*Author/Source: Bill Roggio, Long War Journal*

“According to this report in Khaama Press, the Afghan government is openly negotiating a ‘peace deal’ with the Taliban in Sangin, which was overrun by the jihadist group in June...”

**[Fedayeen-i-Islam claims suicide assaults on Pakistani airbases](#)**

*Author/Source: Bill Roggio, The Long War Journal*

“The Fedayeen-i-Islam claimed credit for yesterday's failed suicide assaults on two Pakistani airbases in Quetta, the provincial capital of Baluchistan...”

**[India Independence Day: PM Modi says nation shamed by rape](#)**

*Author/Source: BBC News*

“Narendra Modi said India had been shamed by a recent spate of rapes, as he made his first Independence Day speech as prime minister...”

**[Pakistan clashes after 'shots fired' at Imran Khan](#)**

*Author/Source: BBC News*

“Clashes have erupted in Pakistan after an attack on a convoy of protesters heading to the capital Islamabad, led by opposition politician Imran Khan...”

**[Pakistan's Quetta Airport Hit by Deadly Attack](#)**

*Author/Source: Reuters via Voice of America*

“A man was killed and two policemen were wounded in an attack on Quetta airport in western



Pakistan on Thursday night, officials said, but the attackers did not breach the perimeter...”

### **China Expands Anti-Corruption Drive**

*Author/Source: Rebecca Valli, Voice of America*

“As China presses forward with its anti-graft effort, authorities are targeting officials who have family members and assets overseas...”

### **More Than 800 Arrested in China's Widening Xinjiang Crackdown**

*Author/Source: William Ide, Voice of America*

“China is well on the way to one of its biggest crackdowns in the restive and remote northwestern region of Xinjiang since ethnic riots racked the capital of Urumqi in 2009...”

### **Pope Delivers Mass for South Korean Youth**

*Author/Source: Voice of America*

“Pope Francis delivered a mass to tens of thousands of South Korean youths, urging them to renounce the materialism that afflicts much of Asia and reject what he called ‘inhuman’ economic systems that disenfranchise the poor...”

### **Apple begins storing users' personal data on servers in China**

*Author/Source: Gerry Shih and Paul Carsten, Reuters*

“Apple Inc (AAPL.O) has begun keeping the personal data of some Chinese users on servers in mainland China, marking the first time the tech giant is storing user data on Chinese soil...”

### **Japanese PM Shinzo Abe's offering to war dead angers China and South Korea**

*Author/Source: Reuters via the Guardian*

“The Japanese prime minister, Shinzo Abe, has sent a ritual offering to a Tokyo shrine to war dead, triggering angry criticism from China and South Korea where bitter memories linger of the country's actions before and during the war...”

### **North Korea test-fires missiles as pope visits South**

*Author/Source: AP via the Guardian*

“North Korea test-fired five missiles as Pope Francis began a visit to its southern neighbour with a call for renewed efforts to forge peace...”

### **Rights group says Chinese police open fire on Tibetan protesters**

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

“Chinese police have opened fire on Tibetan demonstrators in southwestern China, wounding 10 people, after the Tibetans protested against the detention of a respected village leader, a Tibetan rights group said...”

### **Kerry says constructive relations with China needed for regional stability**

*Author/Source: Lesley Wroughton, Reuters*

“A constructive relationship between Washington and Beijing is necessary to maintaining regional stability despite China's behavior in the South China Sea, U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry said on Wednesday at the end of an eight-day trip to Asia...”



**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@potomacinstitute.org www.potomacinstitute.org

Prof. Yonah Alexander, Director

**[Investors Return to Vietnam after Anti-China Protests](#)**

*Author/Source: Ralph Jennings, Voice of America*

“Anti-China rioting in Vietnam earlier this year damaged more than 400 foreign-owned factories, sending thousands of foreign investors fleeing in fear of more violence...”

**[3 arrested over arms, bomb cache](#)**

*Author/Source: Bangkok Post*

“Three suspects have been caught with firearms and bomb-making equipment at a house in tambon Sabing in Sai Buri district early yesterday...”

**Africa**

**[Exclusive: Emergency food drops eyed for quarantined Ebola region of West Africa](#)**

*Author/Source: Stella Dawson, Reuters*

“International agencies are looking into emergency food drops and truck convoys to reach extremely hungry people in Liberia and Sierra Leone, who are cordoned off from the outside world to halt the spread of the Ebola virus, a top World Bank official said on Thursday...”

**[Two Islamist Protesters Killed in Cairo](#)**

*Author/Source: Reuters via Voice of America*

“Two Islamist protesters were killed on Friday during clashes between police and demonstrators in Cairo, Egyptian security sources said...”

**[U.S. Embassy dependents to leave Sierra Leone due to Ebola](#)**

*Author/Source: Arshad Mohammed, Reuters*

“The United States said on Thursday it had ordered family members at the U.S. Embassy in Freetown, Sierra Leone to depart because of limitations on regular medical care as a result of the Ebola outbreak...”

**[Evidence suggests Ebola toll vastly underestimated: WHO](#)**

*Author/Source: Matthew Mpoke Bigg, Reuters*

“Staff with the World Health Organization battling an Ebola outbreak in West Africa see evidence that the numbers of reported cases and deaths ‘vastly underestimate the magnitude of the outbreak,’ the U.N. agency said on its website on Thursday...”

**[Ebola crisis 'to take six months to control'](#)**

*Author/Source: BBC News*

“The outbreak of Ebola in West Africa will take at least six months to bring under control, the medical charity Medecins Sans Frontieres (MSF) says...”

**[Somali warlord Ahmed Dai 'on the run' after disarmament raid](#)**

*Author/Source: BBC News*

“A Somali militia commander in the capital, Mogadishu, has told the BBC he is on the run after the government launched an operation to disarm him...”

**[UN Chief Names New Head of Libyan Mission](#)**



**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@potomacinstitute.org www.potomacinstitute.org

Prof. Yonah Alexander, Director

*Author/Source: Voice of America*

“United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon has named Spanish diplomat Bernardino Leon as the special U.N. envoy to Libya, which is experiencing some of its bloodiest fighting since the 2011 fall of long-time dictator Moammar Gadhafi...”

**Suspected Boko Haram Kidnap 100 in Northern Nigeria**

*Author/Source: Voice of America*

“Witnesses say the gunmen attacked the village of Dorno Baga in Borno state on Sunday and killed several people before loading the men onto trucks and taking them away...”

**WHO: Ebola Unlikely to Spread on Airplanes**

*Author/Source: Lisa Schlein, Voice of America*

“The World Health Organization says it does not recommend a ban on air travel to and from Ebola affected countries in West Africa. The U.N. health agency says the risk of spread of the deadly disease in an airplane is extremely low...”

**Relief Group: Ebola 'Moving Faster' Than It Can Handle**

*Author/Source: Voice of America*

“The head of an international medical aid group says the Ebola outbreak in West Africa is moving faster that relief workers can respond to it...”

**Europe**

**Iraq crisis: Arming Kurds on EU agenda in Brussels**

*Author/Source: BBC News*

“EU foreign ministers are holding an emergency meeting in Brussels to discuss plans to arm Iraq's Kurds against an extremist insurgency...”

**EU Ministers Give Nod To Arming Iraqi Kurds**

*Author/Source: Radio Free Europe*

“European Union ministers meeting in Brussels have given their approval to EU states that wish to send weapons to beleaguered Kurdish forces in northern Iraq...”

**Iraq crisis: Philip Hammond says UK would consider arming Kurds**

*Author/Source: BBC News*

“The UK would "consider favourably" any request for arms from the Kurds in their battle with extremists in Iraq, the foreign secretary has confirmed...”

**Ukraine border guards to inspect Russian aid convoy**

*Author/Source: BBC News*

“Ukraine says its border guards are to inspect a controversial Russian aid convoy parked at the frontier...”

**Aid convoy stops short of border as Russian military vehicles enter Ukraine**

*Author/Source: Shaun Walker, The Guardian*

“The white trucks of humanitarian aid rumbled through Russia in a convoy stretching for



**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@potomacinstitute.org www.potomacinstitute.org  
Prof. Yonah Alexander, Director

miles, moving slowly southwards on the M4 highway, amid a landscape of fertile fields and Ladas stopped at the roadside – their boots overflowing with watermelons for sale...”

### **Russia denies military vehicles entered Ukraine**

*Author/Source: The Guardian*

“Russia has denied that its troops entered Ukrainian territory, saying that a column of armoured vehicles spotted on the border was a unit of border guards patrolling the frontier...”

### **Shelling in Eastern Ukraine Impacts Civilians**

*Author/Source: Jamie Dettmer, Voice of America*

“Lena, 62, clutches one of the pigeons that survived Wednesday's attack on her inner-city district – a late-night barrage of rockets that killed 10 of her birds – as she condemns the damage to her one-story home...”

### **Mercenaries, Extremists Become Major Balkans Export**

*Author/Source: Dzenana Halimoci and Teodorovic Milos, Radio Free Europe*

“During the Cold War, Yugoslavia sent thousands of teachers, doctors, engineers, and other professionals to work in all corners of the globe...”

### **Separatist Shuffle: Who's In, Who's Out Among The Donbas Rebels**

*Author/Source: Glenn Kates, Radio Free Europe*

“Some are in Moscow. Others have mysteriously disappeared.

As Ukraine's forces surround the last pro-Russian separatist strongholds in Donetsk and Luhansk, many of the more prominent faces of the Russia-backed separatists appear to be dropping out of the fight...”

### **Russia, Finland Pledge To Seek End To Ukraine Conflict**

*Author/Source: Radio Free Europe*

“Russian President Vladimir Putin says he has agreed with Finnish President Sauli Niinisto they will "do everything within our power" to end the conflict in Ukraine...”

## **Latin America and the Caribbean**

### **Brazil Candidate's Death Makes Runoff More Likely**

*Author/Source: Reuters via Voice of America*

“The death of presidential candidate Eduardo Campos makes it even more likely Brazil's October election goes to a second round, and could put President Dilma Rousseff under more pressure as she seeks a second term...”

### **Soldier and Two Civilians Wounded in Ambush in Peru**

*Author/Source: Latin American Herald Tribune*

“A soldier and two civilians were wounded in an attack by an armed group in the southern Peruvian region of Ayacucho, the ministries of Defense and Interior reported in a joint statement...”



**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  
Prof. Yonah Alexander, Director

## US & Canada

### [Judge rejects acquittal bids in corruption trial of Virginia governor, wife](#)

*Author/Source: Gary Robertson, Reuters*

“A federal judge on Friday rejected defense motions that former Virginia Governor Robert McDonnell and his wife be acquitted in their corruption and bribery trial...”

### [In New York counterterrorism sting, a setback for federal law enforcement](#)

*Author/Source: Adam Goldman, Washington Post*

“When Ahmed Abassi arrived in the United States for the first time in March 2013, the Tunisian student settled into a historic, neo-Gothic apartment building in Manhattan’s Financial District...”

### [As Ferguson calms, vigils around the country show support for Michael Brown](#)

*Author/Source: Nick Kirkpatrick and Soraya Nadia McDonald, Washington Post*

“Thousands poured into parks and squares around the nation Thursday night to mourn the loss of Michael Brown, the unarmed teenager in Ferguson, Mo., who was killed by a police officer Saturday, just days before he was set to begin college...”

### [Federal, state officials take sweeping steps in response to Ferguson, Mo., unrest](#)

*Author/Source: Wesley Lowery, Jerry Markon and Mark Berman, Washington Post*

“Federal and state officials unveiled a sweeping response Thursday to violent clashes between police and protesters over the shooting death of an unarmed black teenager, with Missouri taking over security operations from local police and authorities agreeing to accept Justice Department help in handling protests...”

### [Michael Brown was a robbery suspect before he was shot to death, police say](#)

*Author/Source: Michael Pearson and Ana Cabrera, CNN*

“Police named the officer involved in the shooting of Ferguson teenager Michael Brown on Friday, then released documents containing a bombshell: The 18-year-old was the ‘primary suspect’ in the robbery of a convenience store moments before he was killed...”

### [Obama Expected to Take Executive Action on Undocumented Immigrants](#)

*Author/Source: Michael Bowman, Voice of America*

“In coming weeks, President Barack Obama is expected to take executive action to address the plight of millions of undocumented immigrants in the United States — provoking cheers from immigrant rights groups and condemnation from those who see it as amnesty for law-breakers. Congress has not passed comprehensive immigration reform or approved funds to deal with a surge of child migrants at America’s southern border...”

### [In CDC bird flu mix-up, U.S. agency cites sloppy science, failed reporting](#)

*Author/Source: Sharon Begley, Reuters*

“A U.S. government scientist working with bird flu rushed through a procedure designed to ensure safety, allotting only about half the time necessary, in order to get to a staff meeting, health officials said on Friday...”