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Prof. Yonah Alexander, Director

Daily Terrorism Weather

22 August 2014

Middle East

[Sunnis Quit Iraq Government Talks After 73 Shot Dead at Mosque](#)

Author/Source: Zaid Sabah, Khalid Al-Ansary and Aziz Alwan, Bloomberg

“Sunni lawmakers quit talks on forming a new Iraqi government after gunmen killed scores of worshipers at a Sunni mosque in a province neighboring Baghdad, sending sectarian tensions soaring...”

[Iraq's top Shiite cleric urges politicians to resolve differences, swiftly form new government](#)

Author/Source: Fox News

“Iraq's most influential Shiite cleric has called on the country's leaders to settle their differences in a "realistic and doable" manner and swiftly form a new government, badly needed in the face of a growing Sunni insurgency...”

[Iran 'sent soldiers to fight in Iraq'](#)

Author/Source: Al Jazeera

“Hundreds of Iranian soldiers have taken part in a joint operation inside Iraq with Kurdish forces to retake a town held by the Islamic State group, security sources have told Al Jazeera...”

[Islamic State militants stone man to death in Iraq: witness](#)

Author/Source: Alexander Dziadosz, Reuters

“Islamic State militants in Iraq stoned a man to death in the northern city of Mosul after one of their courts sentenced him to die for the crime of adultery, a witness said on Friday...”

[Iraqi, Kurdish forces try to rout ISIS in two towns](#)

Author/Source: Al Arabiya

“Iraqi government forces and Kurdish peshmerga fighters attempted on Friday to recapture two towns in the north from Islamic State in Iraq and Syria (ISIS) militants, Reuters reported security sources as saying...”

[Syria reinforces air base under Islamic State attack: monitor](#)

Author/Source: Tom Perry, Reuters

“Syrian government forces have sent reinforcements to an air base being attacked by Islamic State militants in northeast Syria where no fewer than 30 of the radical group's fighters were killed on Thursday, a group monitoring the violence said...”

[Two Lebanese carry out suicide attack in Aleppo](#)

Author/Source: Antoine Amrieh, Daily Star

“Two Lebanese from the northern city of Tripoli carried out a suicide attack against a Syrian army checkpoint in Aleppo, Tripoli residents said Friday...”



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[At least 70 ISIS militants killed in Syria clashes](#)

Author/Source: Al Arabiya

“At least 70 Islamic State of Iraq and Syria militants have been killed in 48 hours of clashes with Syrian army troops in the northern province of Raqa, Agence France-Presse reported a monitoring group as saying Friday...”

[U.N. says Syria death toll tops 190,000, rights envoy raps world powers](#)

Author/Source: Stephanie Nebehay, Reuters

“More than 191,000 people were killed in the first three years of Syria's civil war, a U.N. report said on Friday, and the world body's human rights envoy rebuked leading powers for failing to halt what she branded a "wholly avoidable human catastrophe" ...”

[Israel: Hamas ‘will pay’ for deadly mortar attack](#)

Author/Source: Al Arabiya

“Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on Friday vowed harsh retribution against Hamas, after a mortar round fired from the Palestinian territory killed an Israeli child...”

[Hamas kills at least 17 people suspected of collaborating with Israel](#)

Author/Source: Al Jazeera

“Hamas gunmen have executed at least 17 suspected informants for Israel in Gaza City, Al Jazeera confirmed on Friday...”

[European powers float idea of Gaza monitoring mechanism](#)

Author/Source: Louis Charbonneau, Reuters

“Britain, France and Germany have floated the idea of creating a monitoring and verification mechanism for any future ceasefire between Israel and the Palestinians in the Gaza Strip to prevent future conflicts, a senior British diplomat said on Friday...”

[Gaza rocket strikes Israeli synagogue, wounding several people](#)

Author/Source: Allyn Fisher-Ilan, Reuters

“A rocket fired from Gaza hit a synagogue in the Israeli city of Ashdod on Friday, wounding three people, police said...”

[Arab states, Israel set to clash at U.N. nuclear meeting](#)

Author/Source: Fredrik Dahl, Reuters

“As war rages in Gaza, Arab states will likely try to heighten diplomatic pressure on Israel over its assumed nuclear arsenal at next month's annual meeting of the U.N. nuclear agency's 160 member states, diplomats said on Friday...”

[Backers of Yemen rebels gather in Sanaa amid crisis talks](#)

Author/Source: Al Arabiya

“Thousands of supporters of Shiite rebels pressing the government to step down gathered in the Yemeni capital Friday as a presidential team was in the northern Houthi stronghold for crisis talks...”



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[U.N. nuclear inquiry on Iran seen making slow headway: diplomats](#)

Author/Source: Fredrik Dahl, Reuters

“The U.N. nuclear watchdog appears to have made only limited progress so far in getting Iran to answer questions about its suspected atomic bomb research, diplomatic sources said on Friday, three days before a deadline for cooperation...”

Central Asia

[Biden Voices Support For Georgia's NATO Wishes](#)

Author/Source: Radio Free Europe

“U.S. Vice President Joe Biden has told Georgian Prime Minister Irakli Garibashvili that he supports his country's desire to join NATO. Georgia's aspirations to join the Western alliance are a sore point with Russia...”

[Azerbaijani Journalist, Rights Activist Severely Beaten](#)

Author/Source: Radio Free Europe

“An Azerbaijani journalist and rights activist has been badly beaten by unknown assailants in the country's Naxcivan exclave...”

South Asia

[Afghanistan Defends Expulsion of a Times Reporter](#)

Author/Source: Rod Nordland and Rick Gladstone, New York Times

“The Afghan government lashed out Thursday at criticism of its expulsion of an American journalist, the first such action since the ouster of the Taliban, denouncing him as a spy in an official statement...”

[Pakistan's Khan calls off talks to end protest impasse](#)

Author/Source: Bangkok Post

“Pakistani opposition politician Imran Khan Thursday called off talks with the government aimed at ending protests seeking the fall of the prime minister, which have unnerved the nuclear-armed nation...”

Southeast Asia

[Indonesia's Widodo clears last hurdle to presidency, reforms](#)

Author/Source: Channel News Asia

“With a legal challenge by his rival defeated, Indonesia's Joko Widodo has swept away the last barrier to the presidency and an ambitious reform agenda after an unlikely rise from his upbringing in a riverside slum...”

[Malaysia receives remains of MH17 passengers](#)

Author/Source: Al Jazeera

“The bodies and ashes of 20 Malaysians killed when Malaysia Airlines Flight 17 was shot down over Ukraine in July arrived home on Friday, the first day of national mourning in the country's history...”



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Online extortion gang busted

Author/Source: Bangkok Post

“Philippine police have arrested eight suspected members of a gang accused of blackmailing more than 1,000 Hong Kong and Singapore residents after luring them into exposing themselves in front of webcams...”

East Asia

Japan landslide: Death toll rises to 39 in Hiroshima

Author/Source: BBC

“Heavy rain has hampered rescue operations in Japan's Hiroshima prefecture where a landslide killed at least 39 people...”

Death toll could double to over 80 in Hiroshima landslide, more rain falls

Author/Source: Toru Hanai, Reuters

“Heavy rain delayed a search on Friday for more than 50 people believed buried under a deadly landslide on the edge of the Japanese city of Hiroshima, as opposition politicians rounded on Prime Minister Shinzo Abe for his handling of the disaster...”

Pentagon: China tried to block U.S. military jet in dangerous mid-air intercept

Author/Source: Craig Whitlock, Washington Post

“The Pentagon on Friday blamed China for instigating a dangerous midair encounter with a U.S. military aircraft off its coast, saying that a Chinese fighter jet made several threatening passes during an intercept in international airspace...”

China court frees man after six years on death row

Author/Source: Bangkok Post

“A Chinese court on Friday declared innocent a man sentenced to death six years ago for a double killing, in a case which highlighted flaws in the country's legal system. Nian Bin, a former food-stall owner, was convicted of poisoning two children...”

New N. Korean rocket launch site near completion: think-tank

Author/Source: Bangkok Post

“North Korea will be able to test longer-range rockets at its new launch site before the end of this year, a US think-tank has said...”

Africa

Egypt army bombs militant group's weapon storage facility

Author/Source: Al Arabiya

“The Egyptian army announced early Friday that it has bombed a weapon storage facility belonging to the Ansar Bait al-Maqdis militant group in Sinai, security sources and Al Arabiya News Channel reported...”



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[Egypt tour bus collision kills 33 near Sharm El-Sheikh](#)

Author/Source: BBC

“Two tour buses have collided near Sharm El-Sheikh in Egypt's Sinai peninsula, leaving 33 people dead and 41 injured, officials say...”

[Boko Haram overruns police academy](#)

Author/Source: James Bwala –Maiduguri, Nigerian Tribune

“Boko Haram insurgents have invaded the Nigeria Police training college in Gwoza, Borno State, leaving scores feared dead...”

[S Sudan rebels accept presence of Ugandan troops](#)

Author/Source: News 24

“South Sudan rebels have agreed to let Uganda maintain its forces on South Sudanese soil until a regional body deploys a peace keeping force, a spokesperson for the Ugandan government told Reuters on Friday...”

[Rebel-held mine collapses in Central African Republic, killing 25](#)

Author/Source: Crispin Dembassa-Kette, Reuters

“At least 25 people died when a gold mine collapsed near the Central African Republic town of Bambari, a spokesman for the mainly Muslim Seleka rebels which run the mine said on Friday...”

[Attacks against aid workers in CAR at record high](#)

Author/Source: News 24

“Crimes against aid workers have reached a record high in the Central African Republic over the past year, a UN official said Thursday after a Red Cross volunteer was killed...”

[No flying to Ebola zones](#)

Author/Source: Siphon Masombuka, Times Live

“South Africa has imposed stringent restrictions on travel to and from Ebola-stricken countries...”

[Ebola virus may not be contained in Nigeria as two more cases emerge](#)

Author/Source: Al Jazeera

“Two new cases of Ebola have emerged in Nigeria and, they are outside the group of caregivers who treated an airline passenger who arrived with Ebola and died, Health Minister Onyebuchi Chukwu said Friday...”

[Ebola: Zimbabwe warns citizens over Nigeria visits](#)

Author/Source: News 24

“Zimbabweans battered by economic problems have flocked to Nigeria to visit faith healers and collect lucky charms, but their government is urging them to stay away because of the Ebola outbreak in West Africa...”



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[Ebola crisis: Senegal defends Guinea border closure](#)

Author/Source: BBC

“Senegal has defended the closure of its border with Guinea because of the Ebola outbreak, despite warnings that such measures are counterproductive...”

[Haemorrhagic fever killed 13 in DRC in 10 days](#)

Author/Source: News 24

“A haemorrhagic fever of unknown origin has killed 13 people in the north-western Democratic Republic of Congo since August 11, a health ministry official said...”

Europe

[Russians Open Fire in Ukraine, NATO Reports](#)

Author/Source: Andrew Higgins and Michael Gordon, New York Times

“Russia on Friday escalated tensions with Ukraine to the highest level since its stealthy invasion of Crimea in the spring, sending more than 200 trucks from a long-stalled aid convoy into rebel-held eastern Ukraine over the objections of Kiev and, NATO said, conducting military operations on Ukrainian territory...”

[Ukraine crisis: Russia aid convoy 'invades Ukraine'](#)

Author/Source: BBC

“Ukraine's President Petro Poroshenko has accused Russia of a "flagrant violation of international law" after Russian humanitarian aid lorries entered Ukraine without permission...”

[Serbia Says It Won't Impose Sanctions On Russia](#)

Author/Source: Radio Free Europe

“Prime Minister Aleksandar Vucic says Serbia will not impose sanctions against Russia. But Vucic told a news conference in Belgrade on August 22 that Serbia was also not planning to subsidize exports to Moscow...”

[One dead in shooting at mosque in Switzerland: police](#)

Author/Source: Alice Baghdjian, Reuters

“A man was killed in a shooting at an Albanian mosque in St. Gallen, Switzerland, and another man was arrested, Swiss police said on Friday...”

[2 French Girls Probed as Would-Be Jihadis](#)

Author/Source: Elaine Ganley, ABC News

“Two French girls, aged 15 and 17, have been captured by a security net that authorities are using to ferret out citizens who are considering traveling to other countries to join jihads...”

[Dutch say fight against Islamic State insurgents must go to Syria](#)

Author/Source: Anthony Deutsch and Thomas Escritt, Reuters

“Dutch Foreign Minister Frans Timmermans said on Friday that the fight against Islamic State insurgents can only be successful if the jihadi militants are confronted in Syria as well as Iraq...”



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Britain rules out working with Syria to tackle Islamic State militants

Author/Source: Belinda Goldsmith, Reuters

“Britain on Friday ruled out negotiating with Syrian President Bashar al-Assad in the battle against the hardline Islamic State (IS) movement that has bases in northern Syria as well as in over one third of Iraq...”

MH370 surveys extended

Author/Source: David Goodfellow, Maritime Journal

“Fugro, the Dutch survey conglomerate, has been awarded a £27m contract by the Australian government for a second deep ocean search for the missing Malaysia Airlines Boeing Flight MH370 carrying 239 passengers and crew which is believed to have crashed somewhere in the southern Indian Ocean last March...”

Limassol bomb explosion

Author/Source: Cyprus Mail

“A bomb exploded at the front entrance of a home in Limassol causing damage but no injuries, police said on Friday...”

US & Canada

National Guard starts to pull out of embattled Missouri town

Author/Source: Nick Carey and Edward Mcallister, Reuters

“National Guard troops began leaving Ferguson, Missouri, on Friday in a sign authorities are increasingly confident they have quelled the worst of the violence that erupted after a white police officer fatally shot an unarmed black teenager...”

Aug. 22: U.S. Military Conducts Airstrikes Against ISIL near Mosul Dam

Author/Source: US Central Command

“U.S. military forces continued to attack ISIL terrorists in support of Iraqi Security Force operations, using fighter and attack aircraft to conduct three airstrikes in the vicinity of the Mosul Dam...”

U.S. considering taking fight against Islamic State into Syria

Author/Source: Steve Holland, Reuters

“The United States is considering taking the fight against Islamic State militants into Syria after days of airstrikes against the group in Iraq and the beheading of an American journalist, the White House signaled on Friday...”

Treasury Designates Additional Supporters of the Al-Nusrah Front and Al-Qaida

Author/Source: US Department of the Treasury

“On August 15, 2014, the United Nations Security Council adopted Resolution 2170, which targeted the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL, formerly known as al-Qaida in Iraq) and the Syria-based, al-Qaida-linked terrorist organization Al Nusrah Front (ANF), and sanctioned additional terrorists supporting those groups...”



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[U.S. says Russia must pull convoy from Ukraine or face more sanctions](#)

Author/Source: Natalia Zinets and Dmitry Madorsky, Reuters

“The United States demanded Moscow remove an aid convoy it sent into rebel-held eastern Ukraine without permission on Friday, accusing Russia of a flagrant violation of the sovereignty of its former Soviet neighbor and threatening more sanctions...”

Latin America and the Caribbean

[Colombian military officers meet Farc rebels in Havana](#)

Author/Source: BBC

“The Colombian military has held its first meeting with Farc rebel leaders at peace talks in Havana...”

[Three Colombian Police Killed in Rebel Ambush](#)

Author/Source: Latin American Herald Tribune

“Three highway patrol personnel were killed in an ambush by leftist FARC guerrillas in the southwestern province of Cauca, Colombian police said...”

[Mexico launches special police force to guard economic activity](#)

Author/Source: Anahi Rama, Reuters

“Mexico on Friday launched a scaled-back version of a new police force President Enrique Pena Nieto had vowed to create while on the campaign trail to safeguard businesses against rampant organized crime...”

[Four Slain Inside Honduran Prison](#)

Author/Source: Latin American Herald Tribune

“Four Miskito Indians serving pre-trial detention at Honduras’ National Penitentiary were fatally shot by a fellow inmate, the prisons service said Friday...”