



**POTOMAC INSTITUTE FOR POLICY STUDIES**  
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Prof. Yonah Alexander, Director

### **Daily Terrorism Weather**

2 December 2014

#### **Middle East**

##### **[New Syrian opposition grouping fails to entice major rebel factions](#)**

*Author/ Source: Dasha Afanasieva/ Reuters*

“The latest effort to unify the fractured Syrian military opposition has done little to create a cohesive vehicle for foreign military aid that could fight insurgents in Syria, after at least two major rebel groups dropped out of the initiative...”

##### **[Netanyahu seeks early election, fires top ministers](#)**

*Author/ Source: Ari Rabinovitch/ Reuters*

“Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu sacked his finance and justice ministers on Tuesday, signaling the break up of his bickering coalition and opening the way for early national elections in Israel...”

##### **[Egyptian court sentences 185 to death for attack on police](#)**

*Author/ Source: Lin Noueihed/ Reuters*

“An Egyptian judge sentenced 185 Muslim Brotherhood supporters to death on Tuesday over an attack on a police station near Cairo last year in which 12 policemen were killed...”

##### **[Iran says documents on alleged atom bomb research are full of mistakes](#)**

*Author/ Source: Fredrik Dahl/ Reuters*

“Iran said it has provided evidence to the United Nations atomic agency showing that documents on suspected nuclear bomb research by the country were forged and riddled with errors...”

##### **[U.N.'s Kane calls for greater Syrian disclosure on chemical weapons](#)**

*Author/ Source: Anthony Deutsch/ Reuters*

“Syria must disclose documents about its chemical weapons program and grant full access to inspectors if it wants to convince world powers it has destroyed its entire toxic stockpile, U.N. disarmament chief Angela Kane said on Tuesday...”

##### **[Iraqi government reaches deal with Kurds on oil, budget](#)**

*Author/ Source: Isabel Coles and Dominic Evans/ Reuters*

“Iraq's government reached a temporary agreement with Kurdish regional authorities on Tuesday to end a dispute over oil exports and budget payments to the semi-autonomous Kurdish region...”

##### **[Gunmen kill six Lebanese soldiers on border with Syria: security source](#)**

*Author/ Source: Mariam Karouny/ Reuters*

Gunmen killed at least six Lebanese soldiers when they attacked an army patrol near the border with Syria on Tuesday, a Lebanese security source said...”



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### **Islamic State followers say they were behind Riyadh shooting**

*Author/ Source: Angus McDowall/ Reuters*

“A group of supporters of Islamic State has released a video that it says shows its members carrying out a shooting in Saudi Arabia last week of a Danish national who survived the attack, SITE Monitoring reported...”

### **Palestinians 'imprisoned' by Rafah closure**

*Author/ Source: Walaa Ghussein/ Al Jazeera*

“Razan al-Halaqawi was too ill to spend weeks waiting for Egypt to open the Gaza Strip's main crossing in Rafah...”

### **Egypt prosecutor to appeal Mubarak acquittal**

*Author/ Source: Al Jazeera*

“Egypt's public prosecutor general's office has said it will appeal a court ruling that dropped a murder charge against ex-president Hosni Mubarak over the deaths of protesters during the country's 2011 uprising...”

### **Tahrir Square closed ahead of Egypt protests**

*Author/ Source: Al Jazeera*

“Cairo's Tahrir Square has been closed for the second time after the announcement of a court verdict dropping charges against former President Hosni Mubarak for killing protesters, state media has reported...”

### **Libya warehouse and factory hit in airstrikes**

*Author/ Source: Al Jazeera*

“Army airstrikes hit a warehouse and a factory in a western Libyan city, killing eight people and wounding 24 as the country's warring sides gave different accounts of the attack...”

### **U.S. couple stuck in Qatar in child death case can leave: ambassador**

*Author/ Source: Alex Dobuzinski/ Reuters*

“Qatar will soon lift a travel ban that has kept a U.S. couple from leaving the Gulf Arab state even after their convictions were overturned in the death of their African-born adopted daughter, the U.S. ambassador to Qatar said on Tuesday...”

## **Central Asia**

### **Uzbekistan Bans Drone Aircraft**

*Author/ Source: Radio Free Europe*

“Uzbekistan has banned the import, sale and use of pilotless drone aircraft, citing air safety and security concerns. Media reports in the tightly controlled Central Asian nation say that Prime Minister Shavkat Mirziyaev signed an order on December 1 and that the ban comes into force on January 1, 2015...”

## **South Asia**

### **NATO backs U.S.-led training force for Afghanistan**



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*Author/ Source: Robin Emmott/ Reuters*

“NATO foreign ministers agreed on Tuesday to launch a new training mission for Afghanistan next year, replacing combat troops who pull out by the end of the year after 13 years of war...”

### **Clash in Badghis Kills 6 ANA**

*Author/ Source: Tolo News*

“Six Afghan National Army (ANA) soldiers and a Taliban insurgent were killed in a clash in western Badghis province on Monday night, local officials said on Tuesday...”

### **Lady health workers boycott anti-polio campaign in Quetta**

*Author/ Source: Syed Ali Shah/ Dawn News*

“The LHWs announced the boycott after staging a protest demonstration outside Quetta Press Club. They chanted slogans against the provincial government and law enforcement agencies for their failure to provide security to polio workers...”

## **Southeast Asia**

### **Sri Lanka monks warn of poll violence**

*Author/ Source: Bangkok Post*

“An influential party of Buddhist monks warned Tuesday of violence during Sri Lanka's upcoming presidential election, two weeks after it defected from the coalition government...”

### **Two soldiers kidnapped by leftist rebels in S. Philippines**

*Author/ Source: Mengjie/ Xinhua*

“Leftist rebels on Tuesday kidnapped two soldiers guarding a Japanese banana farm in southern Philippines, the authorities said...”

## **East Asia**

### **Hong Kong Occupy founders tell students to retreat amid fears of violence**

*Author/ Source: Michelle Chen and James Pomfret/ Reuters*

“The founders of Hong Kong's Occupy Central civil disobedience movement on Tuesday called on pro-democracy activists to retreat from the city center over fears of violence, just hours after a student leader had called on supporters to regroup...”

### **Taiwan President Ma to resign as KMT chairman**

*Author/ Source: Channel News Asia*

“Taiwan's President Ma Ying-jeou on Tuesday (Dec 2) announced his resignation as the chairman of the ruling Kuomintang party...”

## **Africa**

### **Kenya al-Shabab massacre: Kenyatta replaces security chiefs**

*Author/ Source: BBC*

“Kenyan President Uhuru Kenyatta has replaced his interior minister and police chief



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following a massacre by Islamist group al-Shabab...”

### **One dead in attack on Kenya night club**

*Author/ Source: Al Jazeera*

“One person has been killed as gunmen hurled grenades and sprayed bullets at a night club in the northeastern Kenyan town of Wajir, the latest in a series of attacks in the region, the government said...”

### **Cameroon troops desperate for help against Boko Haram**

*Author/ Source: News 24*

“Boko Haram is increasingly a regional threat and the battle against the Nigerian Islamist sect is meant to be a regional campaign, but that's not the way it feels for Cameroon's soldiers on a desperate frontline...”

### **Nigeria cancels US military training to fight Boko Haram**

*Author/ Source: AFP*

“Nigeria has halted US training of its soldiers to fight Boko Haram, Washington's mission said on Monday, in the latest sign of strained ties between the two countries...”

### **Algerian army says captures foreign smugglers on Niger border**

*Author/ Source: Lamine Chikhi/ Reuters*

“The Algerian army has arrested more than 50 foreign smugglers not far from the borders with Niger as the North African state tightens controls on its frontiers to halt Islamist militant attacks, a defense ministry statement said on Tuesday...”

### **Obama to urge Congress to loosen purse strings for Ebola fight**

*Author/ Source: Roberta Rampton/ Reuters*

“President Barack Obama on Tuesday will press Congress to approve \$6.18 billion in emergency funding to help fight the Ebola outbreak in West Africa and prepare U.S. hospitals to handle future cases...”

### **Somali Islamist group says behind Kenya attack**

*Author/ Source: Feisal Omar/ Reuters*

“Somalia's al Shabaab Islamist group said on Tuesday it was responsible for an attack on a northeastern Kenyan quarry where it said it had executed dozens of "Kenyan crusaders...”

### **Rifts in Zambia ruling party widen as rival leaders chosen**

*Author/ Source: Chris Mfula/ Reuters*

“A power struggle in Zambia's ruling party has intensified, with a faction loyal to interim president Guy Scott electing economist Miles Sampa as its new leader barely a day after a rival group voted for the defense minister to take over...”

## **Europe**

### **French parliament votes for recognition of Palestinian state**

*Author/ Source: John Irish/ Reuters*



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“French lawmakers on Tuesday urged their government to recognize Palestine, a symbolic move that will not immediately affect France's diplomatic stance but demonstrates growing European impatience with a stalled peace process...”

#### **Thousands protest asylum policy in Dresden**

*Author/ Source: The Local*

“Five hundred police officers halted a counter-demonstration by around 1,000 people, closing off key streets to keep the groups separate and avoid potentially violent clashes...”

#### **Armenians Protest Move To Join Eurasian Economic Union**

*Author/ Source: Radio Free Europe*

“Dozens of opposition activists and their supporters rallied in front of the Armenian parliament in Yerevan to urge lawmakers to reject the treaty on joining the Russia-led Eurasian Economic Union...”

#### **Ukraine president stands by foreign and defense chiefs**

*Author/ Source: Natalia Zinets and Alessandra Prentice/ Reuters*

“Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko nominated his foreign and defense ministers for new terms on Tuesday, signaling a major change in policy is unlikely in the conflict with pro-Russian separatists in the east...”

#### **Rouble suffers biggest one-day fall since 1998 as oil slides**

*Author/ Source: BBC*

“The rouble suffered its biggest one-day decline since 1998 as oil prices continued to fall on Monday, escalating fears about the Russian economy...”

#### **European court condemns Turkey for discriminating against Alevis**

*Author/ Source: Nicholas Vinocur/ Reuters*

“The European Court of Human Rights condemned Turkey on Tuesday for discriminating against members of the Alevi religious minority by failing to grant their places of worship the same status and advantages as those of other faiths...”

### **US & Canada**

#### **Obama to nominate Ashton Carter as new US defense chief**

*Author/ Source: BBC*

“US President Barack Obama is expected to nominate former Pentagon official Ashton Carter as new defence secretary...”

#### **U.N. experts urge Texas to halt execution of mentally ill inmate**

*Author/ Source: Stephanie Nebehay/ Reuters*

“United Nations human rights investigators called on the state of Texas and U.S. federal authorities to halt the execution of a man with a history of mental illness, scheduled for Wednesday...”

### **Latin America and the Caribbean**



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**[U.S. Considers Imposing Non-Sectorial Sanctions on Venezuela](#)**

*Author/ Source: Latin American Herald Tribune*

“U.S. President Barack Obama’s administration and Congress are to work together on the possible extension of sanctions on Venezuela provided that they are individual, not sectorial and do not harm the average citizens of that country, a senior U.S. official has said...”

**[Colombian Government Takes Action to Salvage Negotiations with FARC](#)**

*Author/ Source: Latin American Herald Tribune*

“Colombia has taken two steps to salvage the peace negotiations with the leftist rebel group, Colombian Revolutionary Armed Forces, FARC, by sending negotiators to Havana where the talks are taking place, and by explaining the abduction of a general that prompted the suspension of the peace process and who has asked for a discharge from military service...”