



**POTOMAC INSTITUTE FOR POLICY STUDIES**  
**INTERNATIONAL CENTER FOR TERRORISM STUDIES**  
901 North Stuart Street Suite 200 Arlington, VA 22203  
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### Daily Terrorism Weather Online

19 April 2013

#### **Middle East**

##### [Syria's Assad warns Jordan as southern border seethes](#)

*Reuters, 19 April 2013*

“Bashar al-Assad's first public warning to Jordan over its role in channeling Islamist Sunni Muslim rebels to southern Syria, close to Damascus, points to a president increasingly rattled by the threat of a push against his stronghold in the capital...”

##### [Gaza rockets hit southern Israel: police](#)

*Daily Star, 19 April 2013*

”Two rockets fired from the Gaza Strip hit southern Israel overnight without causing casualties or damage, a police spokeswoman told AFP on Friday...”

##### [Mosque blasts, clashes before Iraq local vote](#)

*Reuters, 19 April 2013*

“Mortar rounds hit an Iraqi Sunni Muslim mosque and a bomb exploded in a Shi'ite mosque on Friday in attacks that killed eight and fuelled tensions a day before provincial elections...”

##### [Baghdad suicide bomb blast at Internet cafe kills 27](#)

*Reuters, 18 April 2013*

“A suicide bomber blew himself inside a Baghdad cafe popular with young people using the Internet, killing a least 27 and wounding dozens more in one of the worst single attacks in the Iraqi capital this year...”

##### [Syria Faces New Claim on Chemical Arms](#)

*New York Times, 19 April 2013*

“Britain and France have written separately to Secretary General Ban Ki-moon of the United Nations that there is credible information suggesting Syria's government has used chemical weapons in the civil war on multiple occasions since last December, diplomats said Thursday...”

#### **Central Asia**

##### [Georgia's Saakashvili holds out olive branch to prime minister](#)

*Reuters, 19 April 2013*

“Georgian President Mikheil Saakashvili held out an olive branch to Prime Minister Bidzina Ivanishvili on Friday, proposing an end to months of friction that threatens stability in the former Soviet republic...”

##### [Tajik opposition leader beaten as election looms](#)

*Reuters, 19 April 2013*

“A leader of Tajikistan's largest opposition party, the Islamic Revival Party (IRP), was severely beaten on Friday evening in Dushanbe, a colleague said, in a sign of rising tensions ahead of presidential elections due in November...”



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### **[Afghanistan says Taliban held over suicide bomb plot](#)**

*Dawn, 19 April 2013*

“Afghan authorities said on Friday they have arrested five Taliban insurgents who were planning suicide attacks on civilians in the capital Kabul and another city later this month...”

### **[Marine general: Lethal aid entering Helmand is top concern](#)**

*Military Times, 19 April 2013*

“Weapons and other forms of “lethal aid” continue to make their way into Afghanistan's Helmand province, and are the top concern of the recently departed commander of U.S. forces in southwestern Afghanistan...”

### **South Asia**

#### **[Rape of five-year-old sparks protest in India's capital](#)**

*Reuters, 19 April 2013*

“The alleged rape of 5-year-old girl by a male neighbor in the Indian capital New Delhi triggered a protest march on Friday to a city hospital by her relatives and political activists, reawakening concerns about safety for women and girls...”

#### **[Top Lashkar-e-Taiba commander arrested in Sopore](#)**

*India Express, 19 April 2013*

“A top commander of Pakistan-based Lashkar-e-Taiba was today arrested and his close aide was killed in an encounter with security forces in Sopore township of north Kashmir, police said...”

### **East Asia**

#### **[Strong quake hits China, 100 may be dead, injured](#)**

*Reuters, 19 April 2013*

“About 100 people could have died or been injured in a 6.6 magnitude earthquake which struck near Ya'an city in China's southwestern province of Sichuan on Saturday, close to where a massive temblor struck in 2008, killing almost 70,000...”

#### **[N. Korea slams Seoul's response to its ultimatum](#)**

*Yonhap, 19 April 2013*

“North Korea on Friday blasted Seoul's recent anti-North Korean protests in response to its “retaliation ultimatum,” calling the rallies an effort to justify unpardonable criminal acts against its leadership...”

#### **[U.S. assures Japan of defense against North Korean threat](#)**

*Reuters, 19 April 2013*

“Vice President Joe Biden assured Japan's deputy prime minister on Friday that the United States is committed to the defense of Japan against the threat posed by North Korea...”

#### **[China to send first aircraft carrier on high seas voyage: Xinhua](#)**

*Reuters, 19 April 2013*

“China will send its first aircraft carrier, the Liaoning, on a voyage on the high seas for the first time within a year, the state-run news agency Xinhua said on Friday...”



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### **[China to send North Korea envoy to Washington](#)**

*Reuters, 19 April 2013*

“China will send its special envoy on North Korea to the United States next week for talks on maintaining peace and stability on the Korean Peninsula, the foreign ministry said on Friday...”

### **Africa**

#### **[Mugabe warns against foreign interference](#)**

*Al Jazeera, 19 April 2013*

“Zimbabwe's President Robert Mugabe has said he will not accept foreign interference during elections later this year...”

#### **[Man charged over Nigeria Christmas church bomb that killed 37](#)**

*Reuters, 19 April 2013*

“Nigerian authorities charged a man on Friday with masterminding a 2011 Christmas Day bomb attack on a Catholic church in the capital that killed 37 people...”

#### **[Peacekeeper shot dead in Darfur](#)**

*News24, 19 April 2013*

“A peacekeeper was shot dead on Friday in an attack on an African Union-UN base in Darfur, the mission said, two days after the government announced it regained control of the area from rebels...”

#### **[Kidnapped French family of seven released in Cameroon](#)**

*Reuters, 19 April 2013*

“A French family of seven, including four children, have been released in Cameroon following secret talks, France said on Friday, ending two months of captivity in the hands of Nigerian Islamist militants...”

#### **[Central African Republic neighbours to send 2,000 troops](#)**

*BBC, 19 April 2013*

“The Central African Republic's neighbours have agreed to send an extra 2,000 troops to help restore security following last month's rebel takeover...”

#### **[South Sudan clashes: Army 'attacked Lorema hospital'](#)**

*BBC, 19 April 2013*

“Five health workers have been killed when South Sudan soldiers attacked a hospital in revenge for the deaths of eight members of the security forces, the local MP has told the BBC...”

#### **[Clashes break out in central Cairo](#)**

*Al Jazeera, 19 April 2013*

“Thousands of supporters and opponents of Egypt's President Mohammed Morsi have clashed near Cairo's Tahrir Square amid a rally calling on the president to "cleanse the judiciary."...”

#### **[SPLM alleges air strikes ahead of talks](#)**

*News24, 19 April 2013*



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“Sudan's air force carried out air strikes that wounded civilians in South Kordofan on Thursday, rebels said ahead of peace talks next week...”

## **Europe**

### **Investigations over Sarkozy corruption begins**

*Al Jazeera, 19 April 2013*

“Paris prosecutors have begun investigating whether the winning presidential campaign of former President Nicolas Sarkozy in 2007 may have received illegal funding from Libyan leader Muammar Gaddafi's regime...”

### **EU brokers historic Kosovo deal, door opens to Serbia accession**

*Reuters, 19 April 2013*

“Serbia agreed to cede its last remaining foothold in the country's former province of Kosovo on Friday, striking an historic accord to settle relations in exchange for talks on joining the European Union...”

### **Russia says U.S. talks produced no progress on missiles**

*Reuters, 19 April 2013*

“Russia and the United States remain at odds over U.S. plans for an anti-missile shield in Europe following talks in Moscow this week with President Barack Obama's national security adviser, a senior aide to President Vladimir Putin said on Friday...”

### **No explosives found in package sent to German president**

*Reuters, 19 April 2013*

“A suspicious package sent to German President Joachim Gauck's office on Friday and destroyed by police did not contain explosives, federal investigators said...”

### **Russian prosecutors suspend leftist opposition group**

*Reuters, 19 April 2013*

“Russian prosecutors suspended a leftist opposition group for three months on Friday in what critics of President Vladimir Putin say is an intensifying crackdown on dissent sponsored by the Kremlin...”

### **St. Petersburg airport reopened after bomb search**

*RIA Novosti, 19 April 2013*

“St. Petersburg airport has resumed operations on Friday morning after the police carried out a search following a bomb threat...”

### **EU plans further economic help to Syrian rebels**

*Reuters, 19 April 2013*

“The European Union's plan to ease an oil embargo to help Syrian rebels is a "pragmatic experiment" that could lead to further lifting of sanctions to tilt the balance of the conflict against President Bashar al-Assad, a senior EU official said on Friday...”

### **Ukrainian government survives no-confidence vote**

*Reuters, 19 April 2013*

“The Ukrainian government survived a no-confidence vote in parliament on Friday, an



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outcome that reaffirmed President Viktor Yanukovich's grip on power in the former Soviet republic..."

#### **US & Canada**

##### **[Searchers find 12 bodies from Texas blast as hunt continues; 60 missing](#)**

*Washington Post, 19 April 2013*

"Search crews recovered the bodies of 12 people killed in a Texas fertilizer-mill explosion that injured 200 and devastated the small town of West in the worst U.S. industrial disaster in at least three years..."

##### **[Boston Marathon bombing: relentlessly unnerving](#)**

*Washington Post, 19 April 2013*

"At first only the suburbs went on lockdown, but then everyone in the region was told to shelter in place..."

##### **[Boston's terror ends as second marathon bombing suspect Dzhokhar Tsarnaev is captured alive](#)**

*Telegraph, 19 April 2013*

"Four days after twin bombs killed three and wounded more than a hundred at the finish line of the Boston Marathon, police announced they had arrested the 19-year-old Chechen and that "justice has won"..."

##### **[In Boston and its suburbs, nearly unprecedented shutdown is surreal](#)**

*Washington Post, 19 April 2013*

"At a news conference shortly after 6 p.m., Gov. Deval L. Patrick (D) lifted the lockdown but urged people to "remain vigilant." Three hours later the suspect, Dzhokhar Tsarnaev, was taken into custody after he was discovered hiding in a boat stored in the driveway of a house in the suburb of Watertown..."

##### **[U.S. readies new non-lethal military aid for Syria opposition](#)**

*Reuters, 19 April 2013*

"The United States plans to provide about \$100 million in new non-lethal aid to the Syrian opposition that could include for the first time battlefield support equipment such as body armor and night-vision goggles, a U.S. official said..."

##### **[U.S. cites human rights problems in Russia, China, Egypt](#)**

*Reuters, 19 April 2013*

"The U.S. government on Friday expressed concern about increasing crackdowns on civil liberties around the world, from Russia to Egypt and China, saying these and other countries were shrinking the space in which independent political and other activists can operate..."

##### **[U.S. near \\$10 billion arms deal with Israel, Saudi Arabia, UAE](#)**

*Reuters, 19 April 2013*

"The United States is finalizing a complex \$10 billion arms deal that would strengthen two key Arab allies while maintaining Israel's military edge, defense officials said on Friday ahead of a trip to the Middle East by Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel..."



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

#### **[Rios Montt genocide trial up in air as Guatemalan judges squabble](#)**

*Reuters, 19 April 2013*

“The genocide trial of former Guatemalan dictator Efraín Ríos Montt was mired in uncertainty on Friday as judges squabbled over who should hear the case following an order to annul nearly 18 months of proceedings...”

#### **[Maduro sworn in, Venezuela to review disputed vote](#)**

*Reuters, 19 April 2013*

“Nicolas Maduro was sworn in as Venezuela's president on Friday at a ceremony attended by leaders from Iran to Brazil after a decision to widen an electronic audit of the vote took some of the heat out of a dispute over his election...”

#### **[Argentines hold mass rallies against government](#)**

*BBC, 18 April 2013*

“Tens of thousands of people in Argentina are taking part in protests against the government of President Cristina Fernández de Kirchner...”