



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

24 April 2013

Middle East

Two kidnapped Syrian bishops freed

Al Jazeera, 23 April 2013

“Two Syrian bishops who were reportedly kidnapped carrying out humanitarian work in the northern province of Aleppo have been released, according to a Christian association...”

Syria opposition names interim leader

Al Jazeera, 24 April 2013

“The Syrian National Coalition has named veteran dissident George Sabra as caretaker leader of the main opposition grouping, following the resignation of Moaz al-Khatib...”

Hundreds of Europeans fighting in Syria, says EU expert

BBC, 23 April 2013

“The EU's anti-terror chief has told the BBC that hundreds of Europeans are now fighting with rebel forces in Syria against Bashar al-Assad's regime...”

Syria crisis: 'Heavy clashes' at Aleppo Minnigh airbase

BBC, 24 April 2013

“Syrian rebels and government forces have reportedly clashed near the northern city of Aleppo as they fight for the control of a military airbase. Opposition fighters battled troops inside the Minnigh airport on Wednesday, activists said...”

Anti-government clashes continue across Iraq

Al Jazeera, 24 April 2013

“Fresh violence in Iraq has killed at least 15 people, including 12 security force personnel and gunmen who died in attacks apparently launched in revenge for deadly clashes at a protest, officials have said...”

Minaret of famed 12th century Sunni mosque in Syrian city of Aleppo destroyed

Washington Post, 24 April 2013

“The minaret of a famed 12th century Sunni mosque in the northern Syrian city of Aleppo was destroyed Wednesday, leaving the once-soaring stone tower a pile of rubble and twisted metal scattered in the tiled courtyard. President Bashar Assad's regime and anti-government activists traded blame for the attack...”

Mortar attack hits government-held suburb of Damascus

Reuters, 24 April 2013

“Two mortar bombs hit a government-held suburb of the Syrian capital Damascus on Wednesday, killing seven people and wounding more than 25, activists and state media said...”



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Syria expects more financial aid from Russia, Iran

Reuters, 24 April 2013

“Syria hopes to clinch more financial aid from its allies Russia and Iran soon, but still has enough foreign reserves to pursue its war on rebels trying to oust President Bashar al-Assad, the central bank governor said...”

Iran offers to be West's 'partner' in Mideast in exchange for nuclear leniency

Haaretz, 23 April 2013

“Iran said on Tuesday that it would be a "reliable partner" in the Middle East if Western countries would take a more cooperative approach in talks on its nuclear program...”

Explosion in north Lebanon camp wounds 10

Daily Star, 24 April 2013

“Ten people including schoolchildren were wounded Wednesday in an explosion in the Palestinian Camp of Nahr al-Bared in north Lebanon, security sources told The Daily Star...”

Beirut rally marks Armenian genocide

Daily Star, 24 April 2013

“Thousands of Armenians marched through Beirut Wednesday, calling on Turkey to recognize the genocide that resulted in 1.5 million of their ancestors being systematically killed nearly 100 years ago...”

Israel to allow UNESCO inspections in Jerusalem after Palestinians agree to pull damning resolutions

Haaretz, 24 April 2013

“Israel will allow UNESCO inspectors to tour Jerusalem’s Old City next month to inspect rehabilitation work being performed there, in return for which the UN body removed five anti-Israel resolutions from the agenda of its executive board...”

MKs decry US demand to release terrorists as gesture to PA

Jerusalem Post, 24 April 2013

“After the Knesset discussed America's demand that Israel release terrorists as a good will gesture to the Palestinian Authority on Wednesday, Deputy Minister Ofir Akunis promised that there is no government decision to release the terrorists and that the government is against any such release...”

Palestinian hunger striker reaches deal for release

Jerusalem Post, 23 April 2013

“A Palestinian prisoner whose hunger strike had stoked weeks of protests in the West Bank ended his eight-month on-off fast on Tuesday in exchange for early release by Israel, Palestinian officials said...”

Central Asia

UN warns of ‘troubling rise’ in violence in Afghanistan; 13 insurgents killed in east

Washington Post, 24 April 2013

“The U.N. envoy to Afghanistan said civilian casualties rose nearly 30 percent in the first three months of the year, calling it a “troubling rise” in violence...”



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[MiG-31 crashes in Kazakhstan, killing pilot](#)

UPI, 24 April 2013

“Kazakhstan's Defense Ministry said Wednesday a technical failure caused the crash of a Kazakhstan Air Force Mikoyan MiG-31 interceptor on a training mission...”

[ISAF kills senior IMU leader in Afghan north](#)

Long War Journal, 23 April 2013

“Coalition and Afghan special operations teams killed a senior Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan leader who coordinated operations with the Taliban and directed suicide operations in Balkh province...”

South Asia

[Scores dead in Bangladesh building collapse](#)

Al Jazeera, 24 April 2013

“At least 87 people have been killed and many more are feared dead after an eight-storey building collapsed in the outskirts of Dhaka, Bangladesh...”

[Aid tough to come by in Myanmar](#)

UPI, 24 April 2013

“Aid deliveries to parts of Myanmar controlled by the separatist Kachin movement are severely restricted, relief officials said...”

[Pakistan's MQM party shuts Karachi offices after attack](#)

BBC, 24 April 2013

“The main political party in the Pakistani city of Karachi, the MQM, has closed its offices in protest over a fatal bomb explosion on Tuesday night...”

[Eight blasts rattle three provinces in less than 24 hours](#)

Dawn, 24 April 2013

“At least eight separate blasts rocked three different provinces of Pakistan in the last 24 hours, raising fears for deteriorating law and order as the historic May 11 polls draw nearer...”

East Asia

[China's Xinjiang hit by deadly clashes](#)

BBC, 24 April 2013

“Clashes in China's restive Xinjiang region have left 21 people dead, including 15 police officers and officials, authorities say...”

[Top US military commander urges China to broaden collaboration on tackling cyber intrusions](#)

Washington Post, 24 April 2013

“The top U.S. military officer said Wednesday that he has called on China to be more transparent about cyberattacks and boost collaboration with the U.S. to tackle a common threat to their economies...”

[China calls Japan-U.S. island drill "provocative"](#)



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Reuters, 24 April 2013

"China said on Wednesday that "provocative actions" would not sway it from defending its territory, after Japan confirmed it would conduct military drills with the United States amid tension between Beijing and Tokyo over disputed islands..."

NATO tells North Korea to disarm

UPI, 23 April 2013

"North Korea is called on to abandon its nuclear weapons program in a complete and verifiable manner, NATO foreign ministers said from Brussels..."

Africa

France vows to punish Libya embassy attackers

Al Jazeera, 24 April 2013

"France's foreign minister has condemned what he called a heinous attack on his country's embassy in the Libyan capital and said everything would be done to find the perpetrators..."

Darfur war crimes suspect rebel Jerbo 'killed in Sudan'

BBC, 24 April 2013

"A Sudanese rebel charged with war crimes in Darfur by the International Criminal Court (ICC) has been killed, his defence team has said. Saleh Mohammed Jerbo Jamus died on Friday afternoon during fighting in North Darfur, the statement said..."

Baga clashes: Nigeria army seizes heavy weapons

BBC, 24 April 2013

"Nigeria's army has said it seized rocket-propelled grenades during last week's fighting in Baga - believed to have been one of the first times Boko Haram has used heavy weapons..."

Europe

Trial of Russian activist Alexei Navalny resumes

BBC, 24 April 2013

"The trial on embezzlement charges of one of Russia's leading opposition figures, Alexei Navalny, has resumed..."

Russia to Spend \$300 Mln on Special Forces Training

RIA Novosti, 24 April 2013

"The Russian Defense Ministry will allocate 10 billion rubles (about \$300 million) to training programs for special forces, Col. Gen. Vladimir Shamanov, commander of the Airborne Assault Forces (VDV), said on Wednesday..."

Russia to Get New Short-Range Air Defense System in 2015

RIA Novosti, 24 April 2013

"The Russian military will start receiving the new Morfey short-range air defense system in 2015, Deputy Defense Minister Col. Gen. Oleg Ostapenko said on Wednesday..."

US & Canada

Canada train plot suspects appear in court

Al Jazeera, 24 April 2013



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”Two men charged in Canada with plotting an attack on a passenger train have appeared in separate courts while Iran reacted angrily to police accusations that the plotters were backed by al-Qaeda elements in Iran...”

[US urges NATO to consider role in Syria](#)

Al Jazeera, 23 April 2013

”The US secretary of state has said that NATO needs to consider its role in the Syrian crisis, including how prepared it is to respond to a potential chemical weapons threat...”

[Boston Marathon bombing: US officials in Dagestan](#)

BBC, 24 April 2013

”US officials have travelled to the Russian republic of Dagestan to speak to the parents of the Boston Marathon bombing suspects...”

[Joint Chiefs chair says he’s satisfied China shares U.S. concerns about North Korea](#)

Washington Post, 24 April 2013

”Gen. Martin Dempsey, chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, said Wednesday that he’s leaving China with assurances that Chinese leaders are as concerned as the United States about threats by North Korea and are working diligently at heading off further provocations...”

[Kerry launches Pakistan-Afghanistan meetings](#)

Washington Post, 24 April 2013

”Secretary of State John F. Kerry began talks here Wednesday with top leaders from Afghanistan and Pakistan, trying to revive lagging efforts to persuade them to work together on peace negotiations with the Taliban...”

[Boston bomb suspect's name was on classified government watch lists](#)

Reuters, 24 April 2013

”The name of one of the Boston Marathon bombing suspects, Tamerlan Tsarnaev, was listed on the U.S. government's highly classified central database of people it views as potential terrorists...”

[Boston Marathon bombing: Boylston St. Reopens](#)

UPI, 24 April 2013

”For the first time since two bombs exploded at the finish line of the Boston Marathon, traffic began moving Wednesday on Boylston Street...”

South and Central America and the Caribbean

[Bolivia to take Chile sea dispute to international court](#)

BBC, 24 April 2013

“Bolivia has said it will file a law suit against Chile at the International Court of Justice on Wednesday to reclaim access to the Pacific Ocean...”