



**POTOMAC INSTITUTE FOR POLICY STUDIES**  
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### Daily Terrorism Weather Online

25 April 2013

#### **Middle East**

##### [Gunmen seize Iraq town as violence kills 128](#)

Author/Source: W.G. Dunlop/AFP

BAGHDAD — Gunmen took control of the Iraqi town of Sulaiman Bek on Wednesday after fighting with security forces, part of a bloody two days of violence that killed 128 people and wounded 269, officials said.

##### [Iraq PM warns of attempts to start sectarian war](#)

Source: The Daily Star

BAGHDAD: Iraqi Prime Minister Nuri al-Maliki warned on Thursday of attempts to return the country to "sectarian civil war," as a wave of violence killed more than 140 people over three days.

##### [At least 19 Iraqis killed in police clashes with militants](#)

Source: Reuters

(Reuters) - At least 10 Iraqi policemen and nine Sunni Islamist militants were killed in clashes on Thursday in the northern city of Mosul, the third day of the fiercest fighting since U.S. troops left Iraq in December 2011, military sources said.

##### [No charges in jail death of Australian Mossad spy](#)

Author/Source: Maayan Lubell/Reuters

(Reuters) - Israel will not press charges over the prison suicide of a disgraced Mossad spy from Australia, despite a series of missteps by jail officials on the day of his death in 2010, the Justice Ministry said on Thursday.

##### [Israel shoots down drone from Lebanon: Israeli military](#)

Source: Reuters

(Reuters) - An Israeli fighter plane shot down a drone from Lebanon over the Mediterranean sea on Thursday as it was approaching the Israeli coast, the military said.

##### [Car driven by American shot at after crash in Saudi Arabia: SPA](#)

Source: Reuters

(Reuters) - A driver opened fire on a car driven by a U.S. citizen in northern Saudi Arabia after crashing into his vehicle, but there were no casualties, Saudi state news agency SPA reported late on Wednesday.

##### [Syria rebels launch attack in central Hama after months of calm](#)

Author/Source: Erika Solomon and Alistair Lyon/Reuters

(Reuters) - Heavy clashes erupted for the first time in months in Syria's central city of Hama on Thursday as rebels tried to relieve pressure on comrades under attack from President Bashar al-Assad's forces elsewhere, activists said.



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### **[U.N. expert says Bahrain canceled visit on torture investigation](#)**

Source: Reuters

(Reuters) - The U.N. torture investigator said Bahrain had effectively canceled a trip he had planned to the Gulf Arab state, where unrest led by majority Shi'ites against the Sunni ruling family has simmered for over two years.

## **South Asia**

### **TTP distributes threatening pamphlets against elections**

Author/Source: Zahir Shah Sherazi/Dawn News

KARACHI: The outlawed Tehrik-i-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) militants organisation distributed pamphlets in Buner, Peshawar and different areas of Karachi warning citizens not to participate in upcoming elections, DawnNews reported.

### **[Grenade attack at PPP office in Balochistan injures two](#)**

Author/Source: Syed Ali Shah/Dawn News

QUETTA: Two persons were injured on Thursday when militants hurled a hand grenade at the election office of Pakistan Peoples Party in Noshki area of Balochistan, police said.

## **East Asia**

### **[US Military Chief: Avoid War by Preparing for It](#)**

Source: Associated Press

The top U.S. military officer told American troops based in Japan on Thursday that "the best way to avoid war is to prepare for it."

### **[Southeast Asia to reach out to China on sea disputes](#)**

Author/Source: Manuel Mogato and Stuart Grudgings/Reuters

(Reuters) - Southeast Asian nations stepped up efforts on Thursday to engage China in talks to resolve maritime tensions, agreeing to meet to try to reach common ground on disputed areas of the South China Sea ahead of planned discussions in Beijing later this year.

### **[Seoul protests Abe for defending shrine visits](#)**

Source: The Japan Times

SEOUL – South Korea's Foreign Ministry on Thursday summoned the Japanese ambassador to lodge an official protest against Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's remarks defending his Cabinet members' visits to Yasukuni Shrine.

### **[China calls on Japan to face history](#)**

Editor/Source: Chen Zhi/Xinhuanet

BEIJING, April 25 (Xinhua) -- There will be no future for Japan's relations with its Asian neighbors if Japanese leaders regard aggression, expansion and colonial rule by the country's former militarists as "proud history and tradition," a Foreign Ministry spokeswoman said Thursday.

### **[China urges U.S., after Boston bombings, to condemn Xinjiang "terrorism"](#)**

Source: Reuters



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(Reuters) - China urged the United States on Thursday, 10 days after the Boston Marathon bombings, to condemn what Beijing has called terrorist attacks in its western Xinjiang region instead of lecturing the country on human rights.

#### **South Korea seeks talks with North to reopen industrial zone**

Author/Source: Jack Kim/Reuters

(Reuters) - South Korea proposed formal talks on Thursday with North Korea to discuss restarting a joint factory zone located just north of the rivals' heavily armed border that was suspended in early April, sharply deepening security tensions on the peninsula.

#### **Africa**

#### **Ethiopia Denies Planning Immediate Pullout From Somalia**

Author/Source: Maalik Eng/Shabelle Media Network (Mogadishu)

NAIROBI, KENYA -- Ethiopia's foreign ministry has denied there are plans to immediately withdraw all troops from Somalia, despite remarks by the Ethiopian prime minister expressing frustration with the pace of military progress in the country.

#### **Nigeria: FG Blames Power Problem On Military Rule**

Author/Source: Henry Umoru/Vanguard

Abuja — THE Federal Government, yesterday, shifted blames for the problem of power in the country on the 30 years of military rule, just as it said that planning was relegated to the background during the period.

#### **Nigeria: Jonathan to Amnesty Committee - Help End Excesses of Boko Haram**

Author/Source: Emmanuel Aziken and Ben Agande/Vanguard

President Goodluck Jonathan, yesterday, expressed the determination of his government to put an end to the excesses of the Boko Haram sect.

#### **UK opens makeshift Somalia embassy in Western vote of confidence**

Author/Source: Richard Lough/Reuters

(Reuters) - In a sign of growing optimism that Somalia is winning a struggle against pirates and al Qaeda-linked insurgents, Britain opened an embassy on Thursday in a set of four metal cabins at Mogadishu airport.

#### **Egypt's Nour Salafi party will not join new cabinet**

Source: Reuters

(Reuters) - Egypt's biggest hardline Islamist Salafi party will not take up posts in a cabinet reshuffle expected next week, saying on Thursday that the proposed changes did not go far enough to fix the country's political crisis.

#### **U.N. Security Council to take up resolution for peacekeepers in Mali**

Source: United Press International

UNITED NATIONS, April 25 (UPI) -- U.N. peacekeepers could be in Mali by midsummer, taking over peace-keeping duties from the 6,000-member African-led force, terms of a U.N. resolution indicate.



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## **Europe**

### **[Newspaper industry rejects Government plans for press regulation](#)**

Author/Source: Peter Dominiczak/The Telegraph

Publishers representing the national and local newspaper and magazine industry warned that the Government's Royal Charter published last month has "no support within the press".

### **[White Muslim convert faces prison after terrorism charge](#)**

Source: Al-Arabiya

A white British male who converted to Islam was sentenced to jail early Thursday after he pleaded guilty to taking part in planning terror attacks on the heads of MI5 and MI6.

### **[Putin Urges Cooperation with US Against Terrorism](#)**

Source: Voice of America

Russia's president has called for greater cooperation with the United States in fighting terrorism.

### **[Putin denies he is returning Russia to Stalinism](#)**

Source: Reuters

(Reuters) - President Vladimir Putin said on Thursday he was not returning Russia to the era of Soviet dictator Josef Stalin and denied any political motive in the prosecution and jailing of opponents.

### **[Kurdish militants to begin withdrawal from Turkey in May](#)**

Author/Source: Murad Jambaz/Reuters

(Reuters) - Kurdish militants who have fought for autonomy in Turkey for decades will begin withdrawing to Iraq within two weeks, their commander Murat Karayilan said on Thursday.

## **US and Canada**

### **[Boston Bombing Suspect's Name Was in US Terrorism Databases](#)**

Author/Source: Luis Martinez/ABC News

Alleged Boston Marathon bombing suspect Tamerlan Tsarnaev's name was included on two U.S. terror-watch databases in 2011 after Russia separately requested assistance from the FBI and the CIA to investigate his possible ties to Islamic extremism.

### **[Toy Remote Used To Detonate Boston Bombs](#)**

Source: Times of India

The two bombs that went off at the Boston Marathon, killing three people and wounding 264, were detonated with the kind of remote device used to control a toy car, US investigators told a House of Representatives panel

### **[Lake Oswego joins FBI terrorism task force](#)**

Author/Source: Kara Hansen Murphey/Portland Tribune

The Lake Oswego City Council has agreed to share one of the city's police officers with the Portland FBI's Joint Terrorism Task Force.



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

#### **[Pope Expresses Support for Argentine Rights Group](#)**

Source: Latin American Herald Tribune

VATICAN CITY – Pope Francis on Wednesday told the Grandmothers of the Plaza de Mayo that they can “count on him” in seeking the whereabouts of the children of people disappeared during Argentina’s 1976-1983 military dictatorship and who were illegally placed with other families to raise.

#### **[Colombian Drug Gang’s No. 2 Killed in Police Operation](#)**

Source: Latin American Herald Tribune

BOGOTA – The second-in-command of Colombia’s Los Urabeños drug gang was killed in a shootout with police, authorities said Wednesday.

#### **[Venezuela Threatens Opposition’s Capriles with Prison Cell](#)**

Authors/Source: Charlie Devereux and Nathan Crooks/Latin American Herald Tribune

CARACAS – Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro’s government is threatening to imprison the opposition’s candidate for violence that left nine dead following the April 14 election.