



POTOMAC INSTITUTE FOR POLICY STUDIES
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Daily Terrorism Weather Online

5 September 2013

Middle East

[Al-Qaeda-linked Syrian rebels fight army near Christian village](#)

Author/Source: Fox News

“Syrian government troops battled Al Qaeda-linked rebels over a regime-held Christian village in western Syria for the second day Thursday, as world leaders gathered in Russia for an economic summit expected to be overshadowed by the prospect of U.S.-led strikes against the Damascus regime...”

[Al-Qaeda set up anti-drone cells!](#)

Author/Source: The Daily Star

“Al-Qaeda’s leaders have set up cells of engineers to try to shoot down, disable or hijack US drones, The Washington Post reported late Tuesday citing top-secret US intelligence documents...”

[Indian diarist Sushmita Banerjee shot dead in Afghanistan](#)

Author/Source: BBC

“An Indian woman, who wrote a popular memoir about her escape from the Taliban, has been shot dead in Afghanistan by suspected militants, police say...”

[Shia mosque attacked in Kabul](#)

Author/Source: BBC

“At least two worshippers have been hurt after two men armed with AK-47 assault rifles, knives and explosives attacked a Shia mosque in Kabul, officials say...”

[3 injured in gunmen attack in Kabul](#)

Author/Source: Xinhua

“Three civilians were injured early Thursday morning when two militants launched an attack on a mosque in western Kabul, said sources...”

[4 police, 6 militants killed in Afghanistan](#)

Author/Source: Xinhua

“Four policemen and at least six militants were killed and eight civilians were wounded in separate security incidents in the war-hit Afghanistan overnight, official sources said on Thursday...”

[30 killed as Taliban launches new wave of attacks](#)

Author/Source: Xinhua

“Nearly 30 people had been killed and many wounded in Afghanistan since weekend as the Taliban intensified offensive across the war-torn country...”



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[British soldiers were killed by 'trusted' Afghan policeman, inquest hears](#)

Author/Source: The Guardian

“Two British soldiers were gunned down by a "trusted" Afghan policeman moments after he was seen laughing and joking with troops at a checkpoint, an inquest has heard...”

[Palestinian official: Israeli proposal for provisional borders unacceptable](#)

Author/Source: Barak Ravid, Haaretz

“The Prime Minister’s Office has remained silent in the face of a deluge of Palestinian leaks that reportedly outline Israel’s positions in the six rounds of talks held over the last month...”

[Middle East peace talks so far ‘futile’](#)

Author/Source: Arab News

“Middle East peace talks have so far proved “futile,” a senior Palestinian official said on Wednesday, calling for greater US participation in talks...”

[Egypt's interior minister survives bomb attack](#)

Author/Source: Yasmine Saleh, Reuters

“The Egyptian interior minister survived an assassination attempt unhurt on Thursday when a remote-controlled bomb blew up as his convoy drove through Cairo's Nasr City district, security officials said...”

[Two Egyptian troops killed in attack in Sinai](#)

Author/Source: United Press International

“At least two Egyptian troops were killed and eight people were injured in an attack by unknown assailants in Egypt's Sinai peninsula, Ahram Online reported...”

[Iran vows to support Syria 'to the end,' but rules out sending arms, troops to Damascus](#)

Author/Source: Jerusalem Post

“Iran will support Syria "to the end" in the face of a possible US-led military strike against the regime of Syrian President Bashar Assad as punishment for his alleged use of chemical weapons against civilians, the commander of the Islamic Republic's Quds Force vowed on Wednesday, Iranian news agency Fars reported on Thursday...”

[Report: Hezbollah preparing to defend Damascus, strike Israel if Syria situation worsens](#)

Author/Source: Yasser Okbi, Jerusalem Post

“Hezbollah will only attack Israel if Iran approves strike; source says 10,000 fighters have been recruited by the Shi'ite group...”

[Al-Ahram: Car bomb used in Cairo attack, driver killed](#)

Author/Source: Jerusalem Post

“The driver of a car used in an attempt to blow up Egypt's interior minister died during the attack on Thursday, a senior security official told the state-run Al-Ahram newspaper...”



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Iran's Khamenei warns of U.S. loss over intervention in Syria

Author/Source: Haaretz

“Iran's most powerful authority, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, said on Thursday the United States was using a chemical attack in Syria's civil war as a pretext to interfere in the country and warned it would suffer loss from any intervention...”

Report: Hamas fighter killed in 'Jihadist mission' in Gaza

Author/Source: Jerusalem Post

“A member of the military wing of Hamas was killed in a "Jihadist mission" east of Gaza city on Thursday morning, Palestinian news agency Ma'an reported...”

Report: Egyptian army kills 20 terrorists in Sinai, destroys 95% of Gaza tunnels

Author/Source: Jerusalem Post

“The Egyptian army killed 20 al-Qaida-led Islamist terrorists and wounded 50 others in a military operation in Sinai in the past 48 hours, Egyptian newspaper Al Gomhuria reported on Thursday...”

Car bomb goes off near research center in Damascus, 4 killed

Author/Source: Xinhua

“A booby-trapped car went off Thursday in front of a governmental research center in the Syrian capital of Damascus, leaving at least four people dead and many others wounded, the state-media reported...”

Iran's foreign ministry to lead nuclear talks with world powers

Author/Source: Reuters

“Iranian President Hassan Rouhani said on Thursday the foreign ministry would take over future talks with world powers over Tehran's contested nuclear program, according to the state news agency IRNA...”

Lab tests show Syria insurgents used chemical weapons in March: Russia

Author/Source: Shaun Waterman, Washington Times

“Insurgents fighting Syria's government likely used chemical weapons in March, according to the summary of an investigation that Russia has made public for the first time this week...”

Sarin gas was used in Syrian chemical weapons attack, says David Cameron

Author/Source: Patrick Wintour, The Guardian

“David Cameron has said British laboratory tests have confirmed that the lethal sarin nerve gas was used in the notorious chemical attack in Syria in August...”

South Asia

Indonesia jails eight soldiers over Yogyakarta prison killings

Author/Source: BBC

“Eight members of Indonesia's special forces have been jailed for storming a prison and shooting dead four inmates in a revenge killing earlier this year...”



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Cambodia criticized for failure to fund Khmer Rouge tribunal

Author/Source: Aljazeera

“The U.N. and a leading human rights group criticized Cambodia on Thursday for failing to fund its share of the costs for the U.N.-backed Khmer Rouge tribunal, which has been hit by strikes by Cambodian staff who have been unpaid for months...”

East Asia

Japan's plan to deploy Global Hawk drone contravenes aeronautics law

Author/Source: Xinhua

“The Japanese government's plans to add the Global Hawk unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) for reconnaissance duties in and around Japan in 2015 may have hit a hurdle as the deployment of an unmanned surveillance aircraft is in contravention of Japan's Civil Aeronautics Law, local media reported Thursday...”

Africa

Blast rattles Madagascar over election row, no injuries

Author/Source: Reuters

“A makeshift bomb exploded at the entrance of a hotel in Madagascar's capital on Thursday causing no casualties, police said, and a previously unknown group claimed responsibility telling foreigners to keep out of the nation's elections...”

OIC warns against Islamophobia

Author/Source: Arab News

“Ekmeleddin Ihsanoglu, secretary-general of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), has warned against the rise of Islamophobia, which seeks to defame Islam and Muslims...”

Europe

Russia: U.S. strike on Syria's nuclear installations could be 'catastrophic'

Author/Source: Haaretz

“Russia is warning that a U.S. strike on Syria's atomic facilities might result in a nuclear catastrophe and is urging the United Nations to present a risk analysis of such a scenario...”

Russia: Strike on Syria could mean nuke disaster

Author/Source: Arab News

“Russia is warning that a US strike on Syria’s atomic facilities might result in a nuclear catastrophe and is urging the UN to present a risk analysis of such a scenario...”

Russia realigns naval powers

Author/Source: The Daily Star

“Russian naval vessels in the Mediterranean are capable of reacting to an escalation in the Syria conflict, a military source said yesterday, as Moscow fine tunes its maritime presence ahead of possible US military action...”



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Assange files spying charges against US

Author/Source: The Daily Star

“WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange has filed charges in Germany claiming a US Marines intelligence officer spied on him during a Berlin computer conference four years ago, prosecutors said yesterday, confirming media reports...”

EU urges diplomatic efforts on Syria, 'no military solution'

Author/Source: Luke Baker, Reuters

“Europe's top officials warned against a military response in Syria on Thursday, aligning themselves more closely with Russian President Vladimir Putin than President Barack Obama in how best to respond to the chemical attack in the Syrian civil war...”

Top EU official urges UN for speedy report on Syria chemical weapons attack

Author/Source: Fox News

“The European Union is urging U.N. investigators to release information as soon as possible about a chemical weapons attack in Syria so that the international community can decide how to respond...”

Syrian Crisis to Dominate G20 Summit

Author/Source: VOA

“U.S. President Barack Obama has arrived in Russia for a meeting of world leaders that is expected to be overshadowed by debate over possible U.S. military strikes in Syria...”

EU condemns violence in Iraq

Author/source: Xinhua

“The foreign policy chief of the European Union (EU) Catherine Ashton on Thursday condemned "in the strongest terms" the series violence attacks in Iraq...”

US & Canada

U.S. resolution on Syria strike passes first hurdle in Senate

Author/Source: Patricia Zengerle and Khaled Yacoub Oweis, Reuters

“U.S. President Barack Obama's effort to win legislative backing for military strikes against Syria passed its first hurdle on Wednesday when a Senate committee voted in favor, but the narrow margin of victory showed the depth of U.S. caution...”

Obama: 'I didn't set a red line; the world set a red line'

Author/Source: United Press International

“Striking Syria over nerve gas is a world issue, President Obama said before going to Russia Thursday for a summit led by President Vladimir Putin...”

U.S. expected to launch cyber attacks against Syria as part of military action: report

Author/Source: Xinhua

“The United States is certain to launch cyber attacks on Syria if it goes ahead with its military action to punish Damascus for the alleged chemical weapons use, a report said Wednesday...”



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South and Central America and the Caribbean

[U.S. spying reports spark Brazilian fury](#)

Author/Source: Dave Boyer, Washington Times

“While President Obama has his hands full with Russian President Vladimir Putin at the G-20 summit, he’d better not turn his back on Brazilian President Dilma Rousseff, either...”

[Colombian police kill six members of drug trafficking gang](#)

Author/Source: Xinhua

“Colombia's National Police said Wednesday that they killed six members of a drug trafficking gang on the outskirts of the northeastern city of Cucuta, along the border with Venezuela...”