



POTOMAC INSTITUTE FOR POLICY STUDIES
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Daily Terrorism Weather Online

9 September 2013

Middle East

[Al Qaeda may rise from ashes of Syria: report](#)

Author/Source: Shaun Waterman, Washington Times

“The current turmoil in the Arab world and in particular Syria’s 2½-year old civil war could revive the fortunes of a battered al Qaeda, according to a report from the former co-chairmen of the 9/11 Commission...”

[7 security members killed in Iraq's violence](#)

Author/Source: Xinhua

“Seven security members were killed and three wounded in two attacks in Iraq's Salahudin province north of the capital of Baghdad on Monday, a provincial police source said...”

[Assad warns of 'repercussions' as Congress set to debate Syria action](#)

Author/Source: Aljazeera

“Syrian President Bashar al-Assad has warned the United States against striking his country and denied using chemical weapons against his own people, as President Barack Obama prepares to embark on a media campaign Monday to push for air strikes on Syria and Congress reconvenes from its summer recess...”

[Egypt tightens Sinai security, assesses militant threat](#)

Author/Source: Shadia Nasralla, Reuters

“Egypt has tightened control of crossings from the Sinai after an Islamist militant group based in the peninsula said it tried to kill the interior minister in Cairo last week, the state news agency reported on Monday...”

[Clashes renewed near Syrian capital over historic Christian town](#)

Author/Source: Stephen Kalin, Reuters

“Syrian government forces launched an offensive to wrest back control of an historic Christian town north of Damascus on Monday, activists said...”

[Assad: United States strike on Syria will embolden U.S. enemies](#)

Author/Source: United Press International

“Syrian President Bashar Assad says a U.S. missile strike against his country would embolden America's enemies...”

[Iran denies reported plan to retaliate if U.S. strikes Syria](#)

Author/Source: Tara Kangarlou, CNN

“Iran's foreign minister denied reports Sunday that his country could be planning a retaliatory strike against the U.S. Embassy in Baghdad if the United States launches a military strike against Syria...”



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[Egypt military seizes Gaza-linked weapons in Sinai](#)

Author/Source: Fox News

“Egypt's military says it has seized caches of weapons in a Sinai operation including a mortar apparently belonging to the Palestinian Islamic Jihad group in neighbouring Gaza...”

[Hamas struggles to stay afloat, beset by challenges from Egypt, Syria and Iran](#)

Author/Source: Zvi Bar'el, Haaretz

“Regional developments, particularly the enmity of the military-backed government in Cairo, are threatening the movement's continued rule in Gaza; decision to cut itself off from Syria has also led to a breach with Iran, which stopped most of its financial assistance...”

[Ansar Jerusalem claims credit for assassination attempt on Egypt's interior minister](#)

Author/Source: David Barnett, Long War Journal

“In a statement posted to jihadist forums on Sept. 8, Ansar Jerusalem (Ansar Bayt al Maqdis) took credit for the recent assassination attempt on Egypt's interior minister, Mohammed Ibrahim...”

[Damascus residents fear a U.S. strike will bring rebel onslaught](#)

Author/Source: LA Times

“Edgy residents of the Syrian capital are grappling with a difficult question: What if a U.S. airstrike helps rebels poised on the city's outskirts to storm into the heart of Damascus?...”

[Extremist element among Syrian rebels a growing worry](#)

Author/Source: Richard Engel, Jim Miklaszewski, Ghazi Balkiz and Robert Windrem, MSNBC

“Debate is intensifying in Washington over the group that stands to reap the most immediate benefits from a U.S. military intervention in Syria -- the Free Syrian Army, the leading alliance of rebel factions fighting to topple Bashar Assad...”

[Coalition of the willing on Syria includes such superpowers as Albania, Estonia, Honduras](#)

Author/Source: David Boyer, Washington Times

“It's not likely to ease Americans' concerns about going to war, but the White House announced Monday that Albania is on board with the Obama administration's plans to punish Syria...”

[Syria's Assad says allies to respond in case of foreign aggression](#)

Author/Source: Xinhua

“Syrian President Bashar al-Assad said that his allies would respond if his country were subject to foreign military attack, pro-government Sham FM radio reported Sunday...”

[Yemen's sectarian clashes kill 42 in 10 days](#)

Author/Source: Arab News

“At least 42 people have been killed in 10 days of clashes in Yemen between Sunni Islamists and Shiite rebels, tribal sources and an official said on Monday...”



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[U.N. Rights Chief Urges Negotiations to Halt Syria Violence](#)

Author/Source: Nick Cumming-Bruce, New York Times/International Edition

“As Secretary of State John Kerry pursued efforts to mobilize international support for military action against the Syrian government, the United Nations’ top human rights official spoke out firmly against it on Monday and urged global powers to find ways to bring warring parties to negotiations to end the conflict...”

[U.N. floats plan to destroy Syrian chemical weapons stocks](#)

Author/Source: Louis Charbonneau, Reuters

“In a bid to help the U.N. Security Council overcome its "embarrassing paralysis" on Syria, the U.N. chief said on Monday he may ask the council to demand that Damascus move its chemical arms stocks to sites where they can be safely stored and destroyed...”

[Yemen on alert over fear of suicide attacks](#)

Author/Source: Ahmed Al-Haj, The Miami Herald

“Yemeni officials are warning of imminent attacks, distributing a photo of a suspected al-Qaida militant believed to be plotting suicide bombings with others...”

[Suicide bombing rocks Afghan town, 2 attackers killed](#)

Author/Source: Xinhua

“A suicide bomber blew himself up on Monday in the Taliban birthplace of the Panjwai district in the southern Kandahar province, 450 km south of Kabul, in an incident that led to the death of the two attackers, district governor Fazal Mohammad said...”

[Syria says it welcomes Russia's pitch on turning over chemical weapons](#)

Author/Source: United Press International

“A Syrian official welcomed a Russian proposal Monday to surrender the country's chemical weapons to international control to avert a U.S. military strike...”

South Asia

[Army deployed in India's Muzaffarnagar after clashes](#)

Author/Source: BBC

“Indian army soldiers have been deployed in Muzaffarnagar in northern Uttar Pradesh state after 28 people were killed in religious clashes...”

[4 killed, 7 injured in police headquarters attack in NW Pakistan](#)

Author/Source: Xinhua

“At least four people including two suicide bombers were killed and seven others injured on Monday when militants stormed a police headquarters in Pakistan's northwestern district of Kohat, local media reported...”

[Rebels take hundreds hostage in Philippines](#)

Author/Source: Aljazeera



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“Suspected Muslim rebels have attacked several villages on the outskirts of the southern Philippine city of Zamboanga and taken hundreds of people hostage, according to the city's mayor Maria Isabelle Climaco...”

East Asia

[China school blast leaves two dead and 17 injured](#)

Author/Source: BBC

“An explosion outside a school in southern China has killed at least two people and injured several others, state media say...”

[Drone war heats up between China and Japan](#)

Author/Source: Shaun Waterman, Washington Times

“Japan scrambled fighter jets Monday after an unidentified drone flew near a small island chain controlled by Tokyo that is at the center of a bitter territorial dispute with China...”

[IAEA head calls on Iran, N. Korea to cooperate better on nuke matters](#)

Author/Source: United Press International

“Iran and North Korea must cooperate in resolving issues concerning their nuclear activities, the head of the United Nations' nuclear watchdog said Monday...”

[S Korea, US map out plan to deter N Korea nuclear: report](#)

Author/Source: The Daily Star

“South Korea and the United States have mapped out a joint operational plan which outlines concrete measures to deter and respond to North Korea's nuclear threats, a report said yesterday...”

Africa

[Central African Republic says scores killed in new clashes](#)

Author/Source: BBC

“At least 60 people have been killed in Central African Republic in fighting between former rebels and forces loyal to the president they ousted in March, officials say...”

[Tunisia arrests suspected Ansar al-Sharia militants](#)

Author/Source: BBC

“Two suspected members of Tunisia's Ansar al-Sharia militant group have been killed and two more - including the group's deputy leader - have been arrested, officials say...”

[DR Congo rebels in Uganda for peace talks](#)

Author/Source: Fox News

“Democratic Republic of Congo's M23 rebels said Monday they were waiting for a government delegation to arrive to resume peace talks, in line with an ultimatum set by regional leaders...”

[2 Islamic militants killed, 2 arrested in anti-terror operation in Tunis](#)

Author/Source: Xinhua

“Two Islamic militants allegedly affiliated to al-Qaida were killed on Monday morning in an anti-terror operation in Tunisia's capital Tunis, said a statement of the Interior Ministry...”



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Europe

[Syria crisis: UK 'closely aligned' with US says Hague](#)

Author/Source: BBC

“William Hague says the UK and US remain "closely aligned" on Syria, after talks with his US counterpart John Kerry...”

[Kurdish PKK rebels 'halt Turkey pull-out'](#)

Author/Source: BBC

“The rebel Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK) says it has halted its withdrawal from Turkey, a website linked to the armed militant group reports...”

[German intel shows Assad did not order Syria gas attack: report](#)

Author/Source: Tim Devaney, Washington Times

“German intelligence findings indicate that Syrian President Bashar Assad might not have ordered an Aug. 21 chemical weapons attack but instead tried to block his military commanders from launching it, a German newspaper has reported...”

[Putin says foreign groups using N. Caucasus to launch anti-Russian acts](#)

Author/Source: Xinhua

“Some foreign countries and organizations saw Russia's North Caucasus as a springboard for anti-Russian activities, President Vladimir Putin said Monday...”

[Give up weapons, Russia urges Syria](#)

Author/Source: BBC

“Russia has asked Syria to put its chemical weapons stockpiles under international control and then have them destroyed, in an attempt to avoid US military strikes...”

US & Canada

[U.S. to look at Russia's idea, but says must keep pressure on Syria](#)

Author/Source: Reuters

“The United States will take "a hard look" at Russia's proposal to put Syria's chemical weapons under international control, but Congress should still approve a military action to keep pressure on Damascus, a top White House aide said on Monday...”

[US's Rice: N. Korea, Iran must know US will respond to gas attack](#)

Author/Source: Jerusalem Post

“US National Security Adviser Susan Rice said on Monday that the United States cannot allow countries like North Korea or Iran think that Washington would not react to a chemical weapons attack in Syria...”

[Congress scheduled to cast first Syria vote on Wednesday](#)

Author/Source: Michael O'Brien, MSNBC

“Congress is scheduled to cast its first vote on Wednesday on the question of whether to authorize military intervention in Syria...”

[White House makes case to punish Assad Obama launching PR blitz to convince](#)



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[Americans to back Syria strike](#)

Author/Source: Haaretz

“U.S. President Barack Obama is going all out to convince war-weary Americans that limited strikes against Syria are needed for the United States' long-term safety, while his national security team is attempting to reassure skeptical lawmakers that the United States is not heading toward another Iraq or Afghanistan...”

[Syria crisis: Arabs, US on same page](#)

Author/Source: Arab News

“US Secretary of State John Kerry said Sunday that Arab League ministers had agreed at talks in Paris that Syria crossed a “global red line” in its alleged chemical weapons attack...”

[Syria crisis: Obama welcomes Russia's chemical weapons proposal](#)

Author/Source: Dan Roberts and Julian Borger, The Guardian

“Barack Obama welcomed a Russian proposal on Monday for Syria to place its chemical weapons under international control, opening up the first real chance of a political settlement to the crisis since hundreds of civilians died in an attack on a Damascus suburb last month...”

[Senate may vote to give Syria time to join chemical weapons pact](#)

Author/Source: Michael A. Memoli, LA Times

“A proposal that would delay a possible U.S. military strike and give Syria’s government 45 days to come into compliance with an international chemical weapons treaty could get a vote in the Senate as it considers the president’s request to authorize force...”

[South and Central America and the Caribbean](#)

[Colombian Government Set for Peace Talks with 2nd Rebel Group](#)

Author/Source: Latin America Herald Tribune

“The Colombian government expects to begin peace talks with the smaller of the country’s two main rebel groups “in the coming days” as negotiations continue with the largest guerrilla army, Vice President Angelino Garzon said Monday...”