



**POTOMAC INSTITUTE FOR POLICY STUDIES
INTERNATIONAL CENTER FOR TERRORISM STUDIES**

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Prof. Yonah Alexander, Director

Daily Terrorism Weather

12 September 2013

Policy in Washington

Kerry arrives in Geneva for talks with Russia on Syria

Author/Source: Henry Chu, LA Times

“Secretary of State John F. Kerry has arrived in Geneva for hastily arranged talks with his Russian counterpart on a possible deal to impound Syria’s chemical weapons and avert a U.S. military strike on Damascus...”

Al-Qa'ida

Syrian rebels face another foe: Al Qaeda-linked militants

Author/Source: Raja Abdulrahim, LA Times

“A group of Free Syrian Army rebels, run out of their hometown in northwestern Syria, hunkered down in an office with blacked-out windows...”

Israeli-Arab Conflict

Two Mortar shells from Syria land in Israeli Golan Heights

Author/Source: Jerusalem Post

“Two mortar shells fired from Syria landed in the southern Golan Heights adjacent to the Israeli-Syrian border on Thursday...”

Israel says will act if WMDs transferred to Hezbollah

Author/Source: Atilla Shmolfavi, Daily Alert

“As the international community tries to reach an understanding regarding Syrian chemical disarmament, Israel closely monitors the actions of President Bashar Assad...”

Middle East

Whether or not US strikes, Syria’s regime looks set to survive

Author/Source: Andrew Lee Butters, Al Jazeera

“President Barack Obama has insisted all along that the military strikes on Syria for which he now seeks congressional approval are not designed to pick a winner in that country's civil war...”

Syria crisis: Russia chemicals plan doable, says US

Author/Source: BBC

“Russia's plan to dismantle Syria's chemical arsenal is "doable but difficult", according to US officials...”

Putin takes case for caution in Syria to American public

Author/Source: United Press International

“Russian President Vladimir Putin took his plea against a military strike in Syria over chemical weapons use to the U.S. public, arguing for caution...”



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Southeast Asia

New Attack Raises Fears of Broader Threat in Philippines

Author/Source: Floyd Whaley, New York Times

“Two small, ultraviolent rebel groups joined forces to fight government troops Thursday morning in the southern Philippines, a clash that occurred on an island adjacent to the city where several hundred rebels are in a standoff with the Philippine military...”

Thailand to lay down own conditions at BRN peace talks

Author/Source: Bangkok Post

“Security agencies are refusing to commit to demands made by the Barisan Revolusi Nasional (BRN) for peace talks and are preparing their own list of conditions, to be presented to the separatist movement representatives at their next meeting, tentatively set for late October...”

Philippine rebels attack second town

Author/Source: Al Jazeera

“Muslim rebels have attacked a second town in the Philippines while they continue to hold scores of hostages in a standoff with government forces in a nearby city...”

Pakistan to raise issue of U.S. drone attacks at UN

Author/Source: Xinhua

“Pakistan plans to raise the issue of American drone attacks in its tribal regions at the United Nations, the Foreign Ministry said on Thursday...”

East Asia

North Korea Appears to Restart Plutonium Reactor

Author/Source: Daniel Schearf, VOA

“A U.S. institute says North Korea appears to be restarting its Yongbyon nuclear plant, citing satellite imagery last month showing white steam being vented from the newly reconstructed reactor...”

Africa

Statoil: Algeria terror attack was ‘unprecedented’

Author/Source: Jan M. Olsen, Miami Herald

“Norwegian oil company Statoil said Thursday it may have relied too heavily on Algerian military protection at its Ain Amenas gas facility, which was attacked by armed terrorist in January...”

Nigerian army kills 10 Boko Haram Islamists

Author/Source: Overseas Security Advisory Council

“Nigerian soldiers have killed 10 members of Islamist sect Boko Haram in the volatile northeast, the military said on Thursday, as President Goodluck Jonathan pursues a four-month-old offensive against resilient insurgents...”



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Somali Islamic scholars denounce al-Shabab in fatwa

Author/Source: BBC

“Some 160 Somali religious scholars have issued a fatwa denouncing al-Shabab, saying the group had no place in Islam...”

Europé

Turkish government mulls Kurdish plan amid PKK calls

Author/Source: Overseas Security Advisory Council

“Turkish officials held an emergency meeting yesterday to finalize a long-expected democracy package that would meet some of the demands of Kurdish political groups amid a new promise by outlawed Kurdish militants to support “democratic protests” to force the government to take action on the issue...”

More than 56,000 detained under counter-terrorism powers in year

Author/Source: Alan Travis, The Guardian

“More than 50,000 people were stopped and questioned at Britain's ports and airports as potential terrorists last year under the same counter-terrorism powers used to detain David Miranda, partner of the Guardian journalist Glenn Greenwald, in August...”

Bulgaria Requests Extradition of 2 Burgas Bus Bombers

Author/Source: Overseas Security Advisory Council

“The Bulgarian prosecution has requested the extradition of two suspects for the 2012 Burgas bus bombing, revealed Bulgaria's Chief Prosecutor Sotir Tsatsarov Thursday...”

Reaction to Omagh bomb inquiry decision

Author/Source: BBC

“Politicians have been reacting to the decision by the government not to hold a public inquiry into the 1998 Omagh bomb atrocity...”

US & Canada

Al-Amriki and al-Britani: Militants ‘killed’ in Somalia

Author/Source: BBC

“Two top Islamist militants, from the US and UK, have been killed in Somalia after falling out with al-Shabab, witnesses have told the BBC...”

Latin America and the Caribbean

Today marks 15 years since the ‘Cuban Five’ arrest, another US injustice

Author/Source: Rene Gonzalez, The Guardian

“In August 1962, I was an ordinary Cuban child who had just turned eight years old. I can still remember the commotion all over Havana after someone sailed a boat to within a mile of the city's coastline and fired a cannon at a hotel...”



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Propaganda and Incitement

Pastor Terry Jones arrested ahead of planned Quran burning

Author/Source: Al Jazeera

“A Florida pastor was arrested Wednesday as he drove a pickup truck towing a large barbecue-style grill filled with kerosene-soaked Qurans to a park, where the pastor had said he was planning to burn 2,998 of the Muslim holy books— one for every victim of the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks...”

International Organizations

Iran Says to Work ‘closely’ with UN Nuclear Watchdog

Author/Source: VOA

“Iran says to work "closely" with U.N. nuclear Iran’s new envoy to the U.N. nuclear agency said on Thursday he would cooperate with it to find a way to “overcome existing issues once and for all”, potentially signaling a more flexible approach from Tehran's new administration...”

Legal Issues

Terror-arrest charges reach highest level

Author/Source: BBC

“The number of people arrested in Britain for terrorism and subsequently charged with a criminal offence has reached its highest level...”