



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

Date 4 December 2013

#### **Middle East**

##### [U.S. says may seek dismantling part of Arak reactor in final Iran deal](#)

4 December 2013

Source: Reuters

“A top U.S. diplomat suggested on Wednesday the United States may press Iran to agree to dismantle part of its Arak nuclear reactor in a comprehensive agreement to rein in Tehran's atomic program...”

##### [17 killed, 30 wounded in rocket attack in Syria's Aleppo](#)

4 December 2013

Source: Xinhua

“At least 17 people were killed and 30 others wounded on Wednesday when rebels fired rockets at two districts of Syria's northern city of Aleppo, the state-run SANA news agency reported...”

##### [Jihadist Groups Gain in Turmoil Across Middle East](#)

4 December 2013

Source: The International New York Times

“Intensifying sectarian and clan violence has presented new opportunities for jihadist groups across the Middle East and raised concerns among American intelligence and counterterrorism officials that militants aligned with Al Qaeda could establish a base in Syria capable of threatening Israel and Europe...”

##### [U.S., Stepping up Role, Will Present West Bank Security Proposal to Israel](#)

4 December 2013

Source: The International New York Times

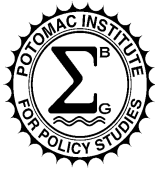
“American officials plan to present the Israeli prime minister, Benjamin Netanyahu, with detailed ideas about security arrangements on the West Bank under a possible peace agreement with the Palestinians, senior State Department officials said on Wednesday...”

##### [Saudi-linked group behind Iran embassy attack: Hezbollah](#)

4 December 2013

Source: The Daily Star

“Hezbollah chief Sayyed Hasan Nasrallah said Tuesday he was convinced a Lebanon-based Al-Qaeda group with direct links to Saudi intelligence was behind last month's deadly bombing outside the Iranian Embassy in Beirut...”



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[Senior Hezbollah leader killed in Beirut](#)

4 December 2013

Source: Al Jazeera

“A senior commander of Shia Lebanese armed group Hezbollah was killed outside his house in Beirut late Tuesday night...”

[EU warns about threat Syria foreign fighters](#)

4 December 2013

Source: The Daily Star

“The European Union's anti-terror chief will tell EU interior ministers on Thursday about the ‘major security threat’ that the increase of foreign fighters in Syria poses...”

[Egypt bails 23 secular protestors held over dispute](#)

4 December 2013

Source: The Daily Star

“A Cairo court on Wednesday freed on bail 23 Egyptian protesters from secular youth movements who were detained last week for holding an unauthorized demonstration, judicial sources said...”

[Rockets kill 18 in govt.-held areas of Syria's Aleppo: Activists](#)

4 December 2013

Source: The Daily Star

“Rockets killed at least 18 people on Wednesday in regime-held areas of Syria's main northern city of Aleppo, a focal point of the 33-month conflict pitting loyalists against rebels...”

[Thai pressure on protests eases unexpectedly ahead of king's birthday](#)

4 December 2013

Source: The Daily Star

“The political crisis that has shaken Thailand’s capital for more than a week suddenly eased Tuesday after the prime minister ordered police to stop battling anti-government protesters...”

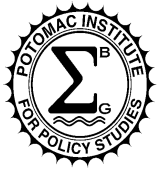
**East Asia**

[Japan launches U.S.-style National Security Council](#)

4 December 2013

Source: Xinhua

“Japan launched on Wednesday a U.S.- style National Security Council (NSC), which is designed to strengthen the leadership of the prime minister's office in steering foreign and defense policies, local media reported...”



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[Kin Jong Un sacked powerful uncle, executed two aides South Korea says](#)

4 December 2013

Source: Al Jazeera

“South Korean intelligence believes that North Korean leader Kim Jong Un's powerful uncle may have been dismissed from his posts last month and two of his aides executed, two Seoul lawmakers said Tuesday...”

**Africa**

[At least 12 killed, 5 others injured in militia clashes in northern Kenya](#)

4 December 2013

Source: Xinhua

“At least 12 people were killed and five others injured in Marsabit county of northern Kenya on Wednesday following clashes between two rival militia groups. Marsabit County Commissioner Isaiiah Nakoru confirmed that armed militia from Borana communities engaged their rivals from Burji and Gabra for more than four hours at Olale area Odha location in Marsabit...”

[300 displaced after deadly Boko Haram attack in Nigeria](#)

4 December 2013

Source: Xinhua

“At least 300 people were displaced in Nigeria's northeastern Borno State after a deadly attack at some military formations by suspected Boko Haram militants on Monday, the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) said Wednesday...”

[Remains of 21 people found near barracks in Mali](#)

4 December 2013

Source: The Daily Star

“A mass grave containing 21 skulls has been discovered near the Kati military barracks, formerly the fief of the country's military strongman, Mali's chief prosecutor announced Wednesday...”

**Europe**

[Ukraine PM calls for end to tension, but police brace for action](#)

4 December 2013

Source: The Daily Star

“Ukraine's embattled prime minister Mykola Azarov warned protesters on Wednesday they would be punished if they broke the law after he marshalled his ministers for a cabinet meeting despite an attempted blockade by demonstrators...”



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[British soldier murder suspect was 'soldier of Allah'](#)

4 December 2013

Source: The Daily Star

“A man accused of hacking a soldier to death on a London street told police he was a ‘soldier of Allah’ fighting a war against Britain but that the killing brought him little joy, a court heard Wednesday...”

**US & Canada**

[Guardian editor: Only 1 percent of Snowden leaks were published](#)

4 December 2013

Source: Buenos Aires Herald

“The editor of UK newspaper *The Guardian*, Alan Rusbridger, has asserted that only a tiny part of the material leaked by former NSA contractor Edward Snowden has entered into the public domain. Rusbridger today testified in front of the Home Affairs Select Committee investigating the secrets revealed by Snowden, currently claiming political asylum in Russia...”

[Accused Los Angeles airport gunman due in court, prosecutors seek to deny bail](#)

4 December 2013

Source: Reuters

“A California man charged with opening fire at Los Angeles International Airport last month, killing a federal security screener and wounding three other people, was due in court on Wednesday as prosecutors seek to deny him bail...”

[Driver in fatal New York train crash 'zoned out': union](#)

4 December 2013

Source: Reuters

“The driver of a New York commuter train that derailed on Sunday, killing four people, told federal investigators he "zoned out" shortly before the crash, the driver's labor union leader said...”

**South and Central America and the Caribbean**

['Extremely dangerous' radioactive material stolen in Mexico: IAEA](#)

4 December 2013

Source: Al Jazeera

“Thieves in Mexico have stolen a truck carrying ‘extremely dangerous’ radioactive material used in medical treatment, the UN atomic watchdog said Wednesday...”



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## **Maritime**

[Biden in China: U.S. accused of siding with Japan in island dispute](#)

4 December 2013

Source: CBC

“In a sharp rebuff to the United States, China accused Washington on Wednesday of taking Japan's side in a tense clash over disputed islands in the East China Sea, underscoring rising regional friction as visiting U.S. Vice-President Joe Biden met with Beijing's leaders...”