



POTOMAC INSTITUTE FOR POLICY STUDIES
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Daily Terrorism Weather Online

17 May 2013

Middle East

[U.S. adds sanctions on Syria, labels rebel chief a terrorist](#)

Source: Reuters

“The U.S. government on Thursday blacklisted four Syrian government ministers, an airline and a television station it said helped the Assad government in its two-year crackdown on opposition forces...”

[Israel to authorize four West Bank settler outposts](#)

Author / Source: Maayan Lubell / Reuters

“Israel plans to declare legal four unauthorized West Bank settler outposts, a court document showed on Thursday, days before U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry returns to the region to try to restart peace talks...”

[Killer of Fusilier David Lee Collins in Cyprus jailed](#)

Source: BBC News

“A man who admitted stabbing a British soldier outside a Cyprus nightclub has been jailed for eight years...”

[Golan peacekeepers briefly held by Syria armed group: U.N](#)

Source: Reuters

“Several U.N. military observers were briefly taken hostage by an unknown armed group in the Israeli-occupied Golan Heights just three days after Syrian rebels released four U.N. peacekeepers, a U.N. official said on Thursday...”

[Angry Egyptian policemen close crossing with Gaza](#)

Source: Reuters

“Egyptian policemen blocked the crossing into the Gaza Strip on Friday to protest against the kidnapping of Egyptian security forces in the Sinai, witnesses and sources said...”

[Bahrain forces raid top cleric's house: opposition](#)

Source: Reuters

“Bahraini security forces raided the house of top Shi'ite cleric Ayatollah Sheikh Isa Qassim on Friday, the opposition said, an act likely to enrage the island's majority Shi'ite population which is at loggerheads with its Sunni rulers...”

[Insight: Syria's Nusra Front eclipsed by Iraq-based al Qaeda](#)

Author / Source: Mariam Karouny / Reuters

“The most feared and effective rebel group battling President Bashar al-Assad, the Islamist Nusra Front, is being eclipsed by a more radical jihadi force whose aims go far beyond overthrowing the Syrian leader...”

[Scores killed in Iraq mosque bombing](#)

Source: Al Jazeera



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“Two bombs near a Sunni mosque north of Baghdad have killed 48 people and wounded 89, police and a doctor say, after two days of attacks targeting Iraqi Shia Muslims in which dozens died...”

Turkey detains prime suspect in car bombings

Source: Reuters

“Turkish police have detained a man they believe to be one of the main perpetrators of car bombings that killed more than 50 people near the Syrian border, officials said on Friday...”

Number of Syrian refugees tops 1.5 million: UNHCR

Source: Reuters

“More than 1.5 million people have fled Syria as conditions there deteriorate rapidly, the United Nations refugee agency (UNHCR) said on Friday...”

South Asia

Deadly blasts hit mosques in Pakistan

Source: Al Jazeera

“Police say bombings in two separate mosques in northwest Pakistan have killed at least 12 people...”

Taliban leader arrested in Afghanistan

United Press International

“A top Taliban leader was seized during a military operation in Afghanistan's northern Baghlan province Friday, officials said...”

East Asia

Myanmar frees group of dissidents

Source: Al Jazeera

“Myanmar has released more than 20 political prisoners, a government official has said, just hours before President Thein Sein leaves for a landmark state visit to the US...”

Report: North Korea may have 200 missile launchers

Source: United Press International

“North Korea may have up to 200 missile launchers, twice as many as previously estimated, the Korea Institute for Defense Analyses in South Korea said...”

N. Korea replaces vice minister of defense

Source: Yonhap News Agency

“North Korea has appointed a new vice defense minister, a report showed Friday, in what appeared to be an ongoing reshuffle of the communist country's military personnel...”

Africa

Nigeria: Two Days After Emergency Rule - Multiple Explosions Rock Daura

Author / Source: Muazu Elazeh / allAfrica

“Barely two days after the declaration of emergency rule in Borno, Yobe, Adamawa states by President Goodluck Jonathan, suspected terrorists yesterday launched bomb attacks on targets in Daura municipal area of Katsina State...”



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[Nigeria kidnap victim Chris McManus was 'unlawfully killed'](#)

Source: BBC News

“An engineer from Greater Manchester was unlawfully killed by his kidnappers in Nigeria minutes after a UK-led rescue operation stormed in, an inquest found...”

[Morocco police tortured 6 Sahrawi protesters: Amnesty](#)

Source: AFP

“Six Sahrawi activists arrested this month after pro-independence protests in Western Sahara said they were tortured by Moroccan police and made to sign confessions, Amnesty International charged on Thursday...”

[6,000 Algerian soldiers stationed on Tunisian border](#)

Source: Middle East Monitor

“The Algerian army has deployed over 6,000 soldiers on its borders with Tunisia in order to deal with the ‘potential infiltration of armed Salafi groups’...”

[MSF hospital ruined in South Sudan](#)

Source: News24

“The medical aid group Doctors Without Borders says one of its medical facilities located in a rural but violent region of South Sudan has been ransacked and destroyed...”

[Gunmen attack police station beyond Nigeria emergency zone](#)

Author / Source: Augustine Madu

“Gunmen stormed a police station and a bank in a town in Nigeria's northwest, beyond a region covered by a military crackdown on an Islamist insurgency, a sign the offensive could provoke violence by smaller militant cells across the north...”

[Nigerian forces 'shell fighters' camps'](#)

Source: Al Jazeera

“A security official in northeast Nigeria says soldiers have shelled suspected camps of armed groups in the region, killing at least 21 people...”

Europe

[Russia Sends More Advanced Missiles to Aid Assad in Syria](#)

Source: The New York Times

“Russia has sent advanced antiship cruise missiles to Syria, a move that illustrates the depth of its support for the Syrian government led by President Bashar al-Assad, American officials said Thursday...”

[Fearing Afghan instability, Russia mulls border troops](#)

Source: Reuters

“Russia, predicting instability once NATO-led troops withdraw from Afghanistan by the end of next year, is considering deploying border guards on the Tajik-Afghan border, Moscow's envoy to Kabul told Reuters in an interview...”

US & Canada



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[2 Minnesota women sentenced for funding Somali militants](#)

Author / Source: Faith Karimi / CNN

“A federal court has sentenced two Minnesota women to lengthy prison sentences for soliciting donations in the name of charity, then funneling the funds to Somali militants...”

[U.S. options to 'capture or kill' Benghazi suspects](#)

Author / Source: Barbara Starr / CNN

“The U.S. military has updated plans to "capture or kill" alleged perpetrators of the deadly terror attack on the American diplomatic compound in Benghazi, Libya, CNN has learned...”

[New Orleans Mother's Day attack: Brothers arrested](#)

Source: BBC News

“Police in the US city of New Orleans have arrested two brothers over the shooting at a Mother's Day parade that injured 20, including two children...”

[NY cigarette-smuggling ring may have terror link](#)

Author / Source: Brittany Brady / CNN

“A cigarette smuggling scheme that cost New York state millions of dollars in sales tax revenue may have raised funds for militant groups, authorities said...”

[Soldier Gets Life Without Parole in Iraq Killings](#)

Source: The New York Times

“An Army sergeant was sentenced Thursday to life in prison without parole for the 2009 killings of five fellow service members at a combat stress clinic in Iraq...”

[US no-fly error 'allowed terrorists on planes'](#)

Source: BBC News

“Terrorists on witness protection were able to board flights because their new identities were not updated on the US no-fly list, a watchdog has found...”

[Uzbek citizen arrested in Idaho, accused of supporting militants](#)

Source: Reuters

“U.S. officials charged an Uzbek citizen in Idaho with providing bomb-making knowledge and other support to an Islamist militant group, knowing that it would be used in an attack, authorities said on Thursday...”

[Debating the Legal Basis for the War on Terror](#)

Author / Source: Charlie Savage / The New York Times

“A top Pentagon official said Thursday that the evolving war against Al Qaeda was likely to continue ‘at least 10 to 20 years’ and urged Congress not to modify the statute that provides its legal basis...”

[Concerns Arise on U.S. Effort to Allow Internet ‘Wiretaps’](#)

Author / Source: Somini Sengupta / The New York Times

“Surveillance can be a tricky affair in the Internet age. A federal law called the Communications Assistance for Law Enforcement Act allows law enforcement officials to tap a traditional phone, as long as they get approval from a judge...”



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[Boston bombings suspect Dzhokhar Tsarnaev left note in boat he hid in, sources say](#)

Source: CBS News

“Boston bombing suspect Dzhokhar Tsarnaev left a note claiming responsibility for the April 15 attack on the Boston Marathon, reports CBS News senior correspondent John Miller...”

South and Central America and the Caribbean

[Mexican general sent to quell drug violence in new strategy](#)

Source: Reuters

“A Mexican general took over all police and military operations in a chaotic western state on Thursday in a test run of President Enrique Peña Nieto’s new security strategy to tame raging drug violence...”

[Vigilantes Launch Attack on Town in West Mexico](#)

Author / Source: James Bargent / InSightCrime

“Vigilantes in Mexico launched an audacious assault on a Michoacan town and were apparently on the point of executing the local police when they were beaten back by a military counterattack...”