



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

22 May 2015

#### **Middle East**

##### [UN chief to convene conference on nuke-free Mideast by March 2016](#)

*Author/Source: Barak Ravid, Haartez*

“Despite Israeli concerns, the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty Review Conference that closes Friday night in New York is expected to adopt a balanced concluding statement regarding Israel's nuclear program...”

##### [Islamic State fighters press advance east of Iraqi town](#)

*Author/Source: Isabel Coles, Reuters*

“Islamic state fighters pressed an advance east of Ramadi on Friday after breaching Iraqi defenses outside the city the insurgents overran last weekend in a major defeat for the Baghdad government...”

##### [Suicide bomber kills 21 at Saudi Shi'ite mosque, Islamic State claims attack](#)

*Author/Source: Sami Aboudi, Reuters*

“A suicide bomber killed 21 worshippers during Friday prayers in a packed Shi'ite mosque in eastern Saudi Arabia, residents and the health minister said, in an attack claimed by the Islamic State militant group...”

##### [Saudi-led coalition steps up air strikes on Houthis in Yemen's Sanaa: residents](#)

*Author/Source: Mohamed Ghobari, Reuters*

“Saudi-led warplanes extended air strikes on Iranian-backed Houthi militia in the Yemeni capital Sanaa on Friday, residents in the area said...”

##### [Islamic State says it has full control of Syria's Palmyra](#)

*Author/Source: Samia Nakhoul, Reuters*

“Almost a year after Islamic State's shock capture of Mosul, Iraq's second city, the black flags of the jihadis have been raised over Ramadi, the capital of Anbar province to the west of Baghdad, seat of Iraq's increasingly theoretical central government...”

##### [Islamic State 'seizes key Syria-Iraq border crossing'](#)

*Author/Source: BBC*

“Islamic State militants have seized the last Syrian government-controlled border crossing between Syria and Iraq, a Syria monitoring group says. Government forces withdrew from al-Tanf - known as al-Waleed in Iraq - crossing as IS advanced, the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights (SOHR) said...”

#### **Central Asia**

##### [Kazakh President Proposes New High-Speed Link From Asia to Europe](#)

*Author/Source: Delphine d'Amora, The Moscow Times*

“Entering into a budding debate over the future face of the Eurasian landmass, Kazakh



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President Nursultan Nazarbayev on Friday proposed creating a transport corridor that would run from Asia to Europe across Kazakhstan...”

## **South Asia**

### **Police raid Zulfiqar Mirza's Karachi residence, arrest supporters**

*Author/Source: Dawn*

“A heavy contingent of police on Friday entered the residence of disgruntled leader of the Pakistan Peoples Party and Sindh's former home minister Dr Zulfiqar Ali Mirza in Phase V of Karachi's Defence Housing Authority and arrested several supporters...”

### **Blast near FC vehicle kills one, wounds four in Quetta**

*Author/Source: Syed Ali Shah, Dawn*

“At least one person was killed and four others wounded in a blast near a Frontier Corps (FC) vehicle on Quetta's Qambrani road on Friday...”

### **Terror cells working on separate targets**

*Author, Source: Hafiz Tunio, The Express Tribune*

“Terrorists have formed separate cells to target police officers on one hand and scholars and vulnerable groups on the other hand, according to Director General (DG) Rangers Major General Bilal Akbar...”

### **Armed Insurgents Take Control of 10 Army Posts in Uruzgan**

*Author/Source: Farid Hussainkhail, Tolo News*

“At least ten Afghan Army posts have been overrun by armed insurgents in southern Uruzgan province, local officials said Friday...”

### **Grenade attack on wedding party in Faryab leaves 15 injured**

*Author/Source: Mirwais Adeel, The Khaama Press*

“At least fifteen people were injured following a grenade attack on a wedding party in northern Faryab province of Afghanistan...”

## **Southeast Asia**

### **Myanmar rescues two migrant boats at Bangladesh border**

*Author/Source: BBC*

“Myanmar has rescued two migrant boats holding more than 200 people in its waters near the border with Bangladesh. It was Myanmar's first such rescue...”

### **Thai junta detains opposition activists on coup anniversary**

*Author/Source: Kaweewit Kaewjinda, Panarat Thepgumpanat, Damir Sagolj and Orathai Sriring; Reuters*

“Thai authorities detained dozens of student activists protesting against military rule on Friday, a year after the army seized power from an elected government...”

## **East Asia**



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### **China says U.S. actions in South China Sea 'irresponsible, dangerous'**

*Author/Source: Sui-Lee Wee, Reuters*

“China said on Friday it was "strongly dissatisfied" after a U.S. military plane flew over part of the South China Sea near where China is building artificial islands, and called on the United States to stop such action or risk causing an accident...”

### **Chinese University Denies Its Professor Stole U.S. Trade Secrets**

*Author/Source: Dan Levin, the New York Times*

“Two days after six Chinese scientists were charged with economic espionage and theft of trade secrets in the United States, a Chinese university denied that three of its professors who are among those indicted had stolen technology, the Chinese state news media reported on Thursday...”

## **Africa**

### **South Sudanese shot and drown in the bush as they flee fighting**

*Author/Source: Katy Migiro, Reuters*

“An upsurge in fighting has forced tens of thousands of South Sudanese into the bush where they have been shot, drowned and abducted, the medical charity Medecins Sans Frontieres (MSF) said on Friday...”

### **Accused arms smuggler left Tunisia for Italy before museum attack: official**

*Author/Source: Tarek Amara and Emilio Parodi, Reuters*

“A Moroccan man supplied arms for a March attack on Tunisia's Bardo Museum and then boarded a migrant boat for Italy, where he is now held, a Tunisian government official said on Friday...”

### **Soldier kidnapped by suspected Islamist militants in Egypt's Sinai**

*Author/Source: Shadi Bushra, Reuters*

“Suspected Islamist militants kidnapped an Egyptian soldier in the restive North Sinai province on Friday, security sources said...”

### **South Sudan alleges Khartoum role in new rebel offensive**

*Author/Source: News 24*

“South Sudan's military is accusing the government of Sudan of aiding a new rebel offensive against South Sudanese government forces in the state of Upper Nile, where oil fields are now threatened by fresh fighting...”

### **Burundi protesters defy police crackdown**

*Author/Source: News 24*

“Anti-government protesters in Burundi marched on the streets of the capital Bujumbura on Friday, defying one of the heaviest pushes by police to end weeks of demonstrations...”

### **7 sacked, 13 suspended in Zim ruling party purge**

*Author/Source: News 24*

“Zimbabwe's ruling party has expelled seven former top officials and suspended 13 others, an official announced on Friday, in an on-going purge targeting allies of ex-deputy president



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Joice Mujuru...”

### **Al-Shabaab attacks village in Kenya's Garissa**

*Author/Source: News 24*

“Al-Shabaab militants attacked a village in the north-eastern Kenyan county of Garissa, the ministry of interior said on Friday...”

## **Europe**

### **U.N. panel adopts new rules on treatment of prisoners**

*Author/Source: Michael Shields, Reuters*

“A United Nations commission on Friday adopted revised rules on the treatment of prisoners in what human rights organizations hailed as a landmark deal to update 60-year-old international standards...”

### **Russians seized in Ukraine: We were following Moscow's orders**

*Author/Source: Christian Lowe and Gabriela Baczynska, Reuters*

“Two Russian men captured by Ukrainian forces fighting pro-Russian rebels have told a newspaper they were in Ukraine on a mission for the Russian military, contradicting Moscow's official line...”

### **British bomber jailed for life for murder of U.S. sergeant in Iraq**

*Author/Source: Michael Holden, Reuters*

“A London taxi driver, convicted of making bombs which were used against U.S. forces in Iraq, one of which killed a U.S. sergeant, was jailed for life on Friday and told he would spend at least 38 years behind bars...”

### **Netherlands plans to ban full-face veil in public places**

*Author/Source: Anthony Deutche, Reuters*

“The Dutch government on Friday agreed to introduce a partial ban on the wearing of the full-face veil in public places, the Home Affairs Ministry said in a statement...”

### **Irish vote on gay marriage in landmark referendum**

*Author/Source: Padraic Halpin and Conor Humphries, Reuters*

“The Irish voted on Friday on whether to allow gay marriage, just two decades after decriminalizing homosexuality, with a strong early turnout likely to favor the 'Yes' side...”

### **EU, ex-Soviet neighbors patch over rifts with eye on Russia**

*Author/Source: Alastair Macdonald and Gederts Gelzins, Reuters*

“Looking over their shoulders at Russia, the European Union and six former Soviet neighbors patched up their differences to renew vows of cooperation in the interests of peace and security at a summit on Friday...”

### **EU agrees 1.8bn-euro loan to cash-strapped Ukraine**

*Author/Source: BBC*

“The EU has agreed a €1.8bn (£1.3bn; \$2bn) loan to Ukraine - described as a landmark deal for a non-EU member...”



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**[Student receives death threats after publishing school paper supporting Charlie Hebdo](#)**

*Author/Source: The Telegraph*

“A French student received death threats for publishing an edition of the school newspaper in support of satirical magazine Charlie Hebdo...”

**US & Canada**

**[NATO says sets date for 2016 summit in Warsaw](#)**

*Author/Source: Adrian Croft and Wiktor Szary, Reuters*

“The NATO summit in Warsaw scheduled for 2016 will take place on July 8-9, the U.S.-led alliance said on Friday...”

**[First set of Hillary Clinton emails published online](#)**

*Author/Source: BBC*

“The US State Department has released hundreds of emails - many relating to the 2012 attack on the US consulate in Benghazi, Libya - from former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton's private email account...”

**South and Central America and the Caribbean**

**[Farc suspends truce after Colombia army attack](#)**

*Author/Source: BBC*

“Colombia's leftist rebel group Farc has suspended a unilateral ceasefire after 26 of its fighters were killed in a government air and ground offensive...”

**[Protesters, Cops Clash after Chilean Leader's Address to Congress](#)**

*Author/Source: The Latin American Herald Tribune*

“Several thousand people gathered near the Chilean Congress in Valparaiso as President Michelle Bachelet delivered her state of the union speech, a demonstration that ended with clashes between protesters and police...”