



**POTOMAC INSTITUTE FOR POLICY STUDIES**  
**INTERNATIONAL CENTER FOR TERRORISM STUDIES**  
901 North Stuart Street Suite 200 Arlington, VA 22203  
Tel. 703-562-4513, 703-525-0770 ext. 237 Fax 703-562-1000  
icts@potomacinstitute.org www.potomacinstitute.org

### Daily Terrorism Weather Online

15 January 2016

#### **Middle East**

##### [Iraqi Force Enters South Oil City to Disarm Tribal Fighters](#)

*Author/ Source: Aref Mohammed, Reuters*

“Iraq has sent an armored army division and a police strike force into the southern oil city of Basra to disarm residents amid intensified feuding among rival Shi’ite Muslim tribes...”

##### [Israeli Troops Kill Palestinas in Gaza Stone-Throwing Clash](#)

*Author/ Source: Nidal al-Mughrabi & Maayan Lubell, NY Times*

“Israeli soldiers shot and killed a young Palestinian man in a stone-throwing clash near the Gaza border on Friday...”

##### [Evictions in Walled Old City Stir Up a ‘Hornet’s Nest’](#)

*Author/ Source: Diaa Hadid, NY Times*

“The Palestinian residents of the Khaldiyya Ascent, a narrow cobblestone alley in Jerusalem’s walled Old City, have for decades lived in tiny, crammed apartments with high, moldy ceilings and peeling paint...”

##### [Israel’s Netanyahu: Swedish FM’s Remarks ‘Outrageous’](#)

*Author/ Source: BBC*

“Benjamin Netanyahu said Margot Wallstrom's remarks were "outrageous... immoral and... stupid." Ms Wallstrom had called for "thorough and credible investigations" into the deaths...”

##### [Explosion rips through oil pipeline in Yemen’s Aden](#)

*Author/ Source: Xinhua News*

“An explosion ripped through an oil pipeline connecting a main refinery in the port city of Aden early on Friday and a plume of smoke was seen rising from the site...”

##### [United Anti-Terror Front Urged](#)

*Author/ Source: Arab News*

“Minister of Foreign Affairs Adel Al-Jubeir and United States Secretary of State John Kerry have called for a united front against terrorism...”

#### **Central Asia**

##### [Azerbaijan forced to cut bread taxes after widespread protests](#)

*Author/ Source: The Guardian*

“Azerbaijan has been forced to cut taxes on essential foods after widespread protests over deteriorating economic conditions that have seen the prices of essentials such as flour and bread rise steeply in recent months...”



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### **Negotiations Were Held Between Turkmenistan and Afghanistan**

*Author/Source: Turkmen Ministry of Foreign Affairs*

“On January 15, 2016 negotiations between Turkmenistan and the Republic of Afghanistan were held at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Turkmenistan...”

### **New gas fields discovered in Turkmenistan**

*Author/Source: Huseyn Hasanov, The Trend*

“Two new fields were discovered near the Galkynysh largest field in Turkmenistan in 2015, the Turkmen Geology state corporation said...”

### **Turkmenistan, NATO to cooperate in handling emergencies**

*Author/ Source: Huseyn Hasanov, The Trend*

“Development of bilateral cooperation, undertaken in the framework of the "Science for Peace and Security" (SPS) program, was discussed at a meeting at the Foreign Ministry of Turkmenistan with Rosaria Pulizi, NATO’s employee for cooperation and collaboration with the countries of Central Asia...”

## **South Asia**

### **U.S. Lists Afghan Branch of ISIS as Terrorist Group**

*Author/ Source: Douglass Schorzman, NY Times*

“The State Department on Thursday designated the Afghan affiliate of the Islamic State, a splinter group mostly made up of former Afghan and Pakistani Taliban members, as a foreign terrorist organization...”

### **Protests in Kashmir After Young Man’s Body Found**

*Author/Source: Arab News*

“Police fired warning shots and tear gas Thursday to disperse hundreds of protesters shouting anti-India slogans after the body of a college student with his throat slit was found in the Indian-controlled portion of Kashmir...”

### **Iran-Indian \$2.5 Billion Steel Deal Totters as End of Sanctions Looms**

*Author/ Source: Nidhi Verma, Reuters*

“India’s largest-ever steel export deal, struck with Iran in 2014 to allow it to buy the metal without violating Western sanctions that are now set to end, has become mired in a dispute that has seen no payments made or shipments delivered since last fall...”

### **Pakistan Shuts Down Seminars Run by Group Accused of Indian Air Base Attack**

*Author/Source: Mubasher Bukhari, Reuters*

“Pakistani authorities have shut down several religious schools run by the Jaish-e-Mohammad militant group accused of masterminding an attack this month on an air base in India, the provincial law minister said on Friday...”

### **PIA Office in New Delhi Vandalized**

*Author/ Source: Arab News*

“The office of the Pakistan International Airlines (PIA) in New Delhi was attacked by members of a Hindu extremist organization on Thursday, Indian media reported...”



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### **Scores of Pakistani Militants Surrender Amid Dip in Attacks**

*Author/ Source: Katharine Houreld, NY Times*

“Nearly 80 militants from Pakistan's North Waziristan region surrendered to government forces on Friday in a rare move that follows a dip in Taliban violence in Pakistan...”

### **Jakarta bloodshed spotlights rise of Islamic State in South-East Asia**

*Author/ Source: The Star Malaysia*

“The deadly Paris-style attack here has thrown a spotlight on a shadowy South-East Asian faction of the Islamic State group and offers new evidence of the spread of IS franchises...”

### **Offshore Support Vessel Attack off Indonesian Coast**

*Author/ Source: International Chamber of Commerce Commercial Crime Services*

“Four robbers boarded an anchored offshore support vessel. Oiler noticed the robbers via the security camera and informed the OOW...”

## **East Asia**

### **China Seeks Investment for Disputed Islands, to Launch Flights**

*Author/ Source: Michael Martina & David Brunnstrom, Reuters*

“China will invite private investment to build infrastructure on islands it controls in the disputed South China Sea and will this year start regular flights to one of them, state media said on Friday, moves likely to anger other claimants...”

### **Chinese Officials Expresses Concern Over Missing Hong Kong Bookseller**

*Author/ Source: Clare Baldwin, Reuters*

“A Hong Kong-based Chinese official expressed concern on Friday at the disappearance of one of five missing people linked to a local publisher of books critical of Beijing's leadership but warned investigations were "complicated"...”

### **China Agrees to Support U.N. Sanctions Against North Korea**

*Author/ Source: Elizabeth Shim, UPI*

“South Korea and China agreed on the need for close consultation with the United Nations Security Council regarding sanctions against North Korea, but differing views prevailed over China's role in the matter...”

### **North Korea says peace treaty, halt to exercises, would end nuclear tests**

*Author/Source: Tony Munroe & David Brunnstrom, Reuters*

“North Korea on Saturday called for the conclusion of a peace treaty with the United States and a halt to U.S. military exercises with South Korea to end the North's nuclear tests...”

## **Africa**

### **Al-Shabab seizes African Union base in Somalia**

*Author/Source: BBC*

“Al-Shabab militants have overrun an African Union military base outside the southern Somali town of el-Ade. The Islamist group says it has taken "complete control" of the AU camp and killed more than 60 Kenyan soldiers...”



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### **[Egypt extends participation in Yemen conflict](#)**

*Author/ Source: Reuters*

“Egypt's national defense council on Thursday extended its military's participation in a Saudi-led operation in Yemen for up to one year, the presidency said in a statement. Egypt is part of a Saudi-led coalition...”

### **[Burundi's Forces Are Engaging in Gang Rape, U.N. Official Says](#)**

*Author/ Source: Nick Cumming-Bruce, NY Times*

“Burundi's security forces are engaging in gang rape during a crackdown on political opponents that has included a sharp rise in torture, killings and disappearances in the past month, the top United Nations human rights official said on Friday, sounding an alarm over the increasingly ethnic character of the violence...”

### **[New Ebola case confirmed in Sierra Leone](#)**

*Author/ Source: Fleur Launspach, Al Jazeera*

“A body has been tested positive for Ebola in northern Sierra Leone, just hours after the World Health Organization (WHO) declared West Africa Ebola-free, a local health ministry official told Al Jazeera...”

### **[Egypt arrests activists ahead of revolution anniversary](#)**

*Author/ Source: Al Jazeera*

“Egyptian authorities have arrested activists two weeks before the fifth anniversary of the January 25 uprising, which led to the deposing of President Hosni Mubarak...”

### **[Six Killed as Gunmen Attack Food Convoy in Northern Mali](#)**

*Author/ Source: Tiemoko Diallo & Makini Brice, NY Times*

“Armed men attacked a food convoy in northern Mali on Friday and four attackers and two soldiers were killed, as Islamist militants step up a violent campaign...”

### **[Burundi Ex-Minister, Generals Jailed for Life Over Coup: Radio](#)**

*Author/ Source: Edmund Blair, NY Times*

“A former Burundi defense minister and three other generals were sentenced to life in jail on Friday for their role in a coup that was foiled in May, state radio reported...”

### **[Burkina Faso Issues Warrant Against Ivory Coast Lawmaker](#)**

*Author/ Source: Brahim Ouedraogo, The Associated Press*

“Burkina Faso's military tribunal has issued an arrest warrant for Ivory Coast's parliamentary speaker for his alleged role in a short-lived coup in September, an official said Friday...”

### **[Thousands of Mozambicans Flee to Malawi as Troops, Rebels Clash-UNHCR](#)**

*Author/ Source: Stephanie Ulmer-Nebhay & Ed Cropley, Reuters*

“More than 2,000 Mozambicans have fled to Malawi to escape fighting between government forces and rebels in the coal mining province of Tete in the last three weeks, the United Nations refugee agency (UNHCR) said on Friday...”



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### **[Al Qaeda Group Claims Responsibility for Burkina Hotel Siege](#)**

*Author/ Source: Makini Brice, Reuters*

“Al Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM) said on Friday it was responsible for an ongoing attack on a hotel in Burkina Faso's capital, SITE Intelligence Group reported...”

**Europe**

### **[Turkey Academics held for Criticism of Army Offensive](#)**

*Author/ Source: BBC*

“Turkish police have detained at least 18 academics who signed a petition criticising military operations in the largely Kurdish south-east...”

### **[Macedonian Prime Minister Steps Down, but Tensions Over Vote Linger](#)**

*Author/ Source: Alexander Dimishkovski, NY Times*

“Prime Minister Nikola Gruevski of Macedonia submitted his resignation to Parliament on Friday, clearing the way for elections as the country tries to recover from a wiretapping scandal that paralyzed the Balkan nation...”

### **[Denmark Jails 2nd Person in Purported Extremism Case](#)**

*Author/ Source: The Associated Press*

“A day after a court hearing that was shrouded in secrecy, a Danish court has jailed another person until Feb. 9 in a case believed to be linked to the first suspect, reportedly a 15-year-old girl with Muslim extremist sympathies...”

### **[Saudi-Born Istanbul Bomber Planned New Year's Eve Attack: Sources](#)**

*Author/ Source: Nick Tattersall, NY Times*

“Nabil Fadli, a Saudi-born Syrian who killed 10 German tourists in a suicide bombing in Istanbul, was planning a major attack on New Year's Eve celebrations in Ankara but changed targets after the plot was foiled...”

### **[Opposition to Merkel's Refugee Policies Builds After Cologne Attacks](#)**

*Author/ Source: Noah Barkon & Tina Bellon, NY Times*

“German Chancellor Angela Merkel's popularity has dropped after sexual assaults in Cologne on New Year's Eve that have been blamed on migrants, and a majority of Germans now believe she is doing a poor job managing the refugee crisis, a poll showed on Friday...”

### **[Kosovo war crimes court to try KLA suspects in The Hague](#)**

*Author/ Source: BBC*

“A special court is being set up in The Hague to try war crimes committed during the 1999-2000 war in Kosovo, the Dutch government says...”

### **[Former Dutch Soldier Arrested for Fighting Islamic State](#)**

*Author/ Source: The Associated Press*

“A former Dutch soldier has been arrested on suspicion of involvement in the killing of combatants from the Islamic State group in Syria while fighting with a Kurdish militia...”



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### **[Ex-CIA Agent Ordered to Face Rendition Conviction in Italy: Court Papers](#)**

*Author/ Source: Shrikesh Laxmidas & Axel Bugge, NY Times*

“A Portuguese court has decided to extradite an ex-CIA agent to Italy, where she has been convicted of involvement in the kidnapping of an Egyptian cleric under the U.S. "extraordinary rendition" program, legal papers showed on Friday...”

### **US & Canada**

### **[Investigation of SEAL Conduct in Afghanistan Is Reopened](#)**

*Author/ Source: Christopher Drew, NY Times*

“The Naval Criminal Investigative Service has reopened its investigation into allegations that Navy SEALs and Afghan police militiamen beat several detainees, including one who died...”

### **[White House Reviewing Pentagon Plan to Close Guantanamo Prison](#)**

*Author/ Source: Jeff Mason, Reuters*

“The White House has received an updated proposal from the Pentagon to close the Guantanamo prison for foreign terrorism suspects, and is in the "final stages" of reviewing it before releasing it to Congress, an administration official said on Friday...”

### **[McCain blasts White House cyber policy](#)**

*Author/ Source: Katie Bo Williams, The Hill*

“Senate Armed Services Committee Chairman John McCain (R-Ariz.) this week blasted the Obama administration’s recently published cyber deterrence policy...”

### **[Two US military helicopters collide near Hawaii](#)**

*Author/ Source: BBC*

“Two US Marine helicopters have collided near the Hawaiian island of Oahu, each with six people on board...”

### **[Sacramento man indicted for lying about assisting militant group](#)**

*Author/ Source: Sharon Bernstein, Reuters*

“One of two Iraqi-born men arrested last week on federal terrorism-related charges was indicted by a federal grand jury in Sacramento on Thursday for lying about traveling to Syria and assisting a militant group...”

### **[US Repatriates 169 Cubans Intercepted at Sea](#)**

*Author/ Source: Latin American Herald Tribune*

“The United States Thursday repatriated 169 Cubans who tried to enter the country by the sea route in makeshift vessels but were intercepted by the U.S. Coast Guard in the Atlantic Ocean...”

### **[Oregon armed militia to announce how and when it plans to end protest](#)**

*Author/ Source: The Guardian*

“The armed militia occupying a wildlife refuge in eastern Oregon plans to tell the local town of Burns on Friday how and when it plans to end its protest – it just needs to find a space to hold a community meeting...”





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### **[U.S. sees jump in cyber attacks on critical manufacturers](#)**

*Author/ Source: Jim Finkle, Reuters*

“U.S. Department of Homeland Security investigations of cyber attacks on the nation's critical manufacturing sector nearly doubled in the year ended Sept. 30, according to the agency...”

### **South and Central America and the Caribbean**

#### **[Venezuela Decrees 60-day Economic Emergency](#)**

*Author/ Source: BBC*

“The Venezuelan government has announced a 60-day economic emergency to deal with the country's worsening crisis...”

#### **[Jimmy Morales Inaugurated as New Guatemala President](#)**

*Author/ Source: BBC*

“Guatemalan former TV comedian Jimmy Morales has been inaugurated as the country's new president...”

#### **[Crowds attack Mexico pipelines, steal diesel with buckets](#)**

*Author/ Source: Mark Stevenson, The Associated Press*

“Rebellious crowds of townspeople in a rural area in central Mexico are defying police and soldiers to steal diesel from illegally tapped pipelines, creating what officials call an imminent threat of tragedies like fires that have burned dozens of people at other sites in Mexico...”

#### **[21 People Return After Kidnapped by Mexican Armed Group](#)**

*Author/ Source: Anahi Rama & Anna Yukhananov, Reuters*

“Twenty-one Mexicans who were kidnapped a few days ago by an armed group in the violent state of Guerrero reappeared on Friday, officials said, a rare occurrence in a country where most kidnappings end in mystery or death...”

#### **[Protesters demand police be punished for ‘repression’](#)**

*Author/ Source: Buenos Aires Herald*

“Organizers of a protest against bus fare hikes in São Paulo on Tuesday said they would not be put off by police repression and planned to carry out further rallies in the near future...”

#### **[New Army chief named by gov’t](#)**

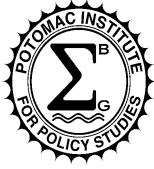
*Author/ Source: Buenos Aires Herald*

“President Mauricio Macri has appointed a new Army chief to replace Ricardo Luis Cúdom. Diego Luis Suñer, the current general director of Administration and Finance of the force, has been picked by Macri to become Army Chief once he is sworn-in next week...”

#### **[AFI to cooperate with Nisman probe](#)**

*Author/ Source: Buenos Aires Herald*

“President Mauricio Macri yesterday gave the green light for the Federal Intelligence Agency (AFI) to fully cooperate with the criminal investigation into the mysterious death of former AMIA special prosecutor Alberto Nisman...”



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### **Firefighters Working to Control Gas Leak at Brazil's Container Terminal**

*Author/ Source: Latin American Herald Tribune*

“Firefighters continued their fight Friday to control the gas leak at a container terminal in the coastal city of Guaruja in the Brazilian state of Sao Paulo that left at least 66 people hospitalized owing to poisoning caused by the toxic fumes, although none are critical...”

### **American Energy Partners, Argentina's YPF Sign Vaca Muerta JV**

*Author/ Source: Latin American Herald Tribune*

“Argentine state-controlled energy company YPF has signed a preliminary agreement with U.S.-based American Energy Partners LP to explore and develop two areas of the massive Vaca Muerta shale formation, a project that will require an investment outlay of \$500 million over the next three years...”

### **Jamaica to Host Annual Conference on Caribbean Regional Security**

*Author/ Source: Latin American Herald Tribune*

“Dozens of top military and security officials from 16 countries are expected to gather in Kingston for the 14th Caribbean Nations Security Conference Kingston, Jamaica Defense Force spokesman Basil Jarrett told EFE in a phone interview...”

### **City Councilman Murdered in Guatemala**

*Author/ Source: Latin American Herald Tribune*

“The outgoing city council head in the southeastern town of Moyuta was fatally shot on Friday hours before the end of his term, Guatemalan authorities said...”

### **Belize investigates killing of American tourist**

*Author/ Source: CBS News*

“Belizean authorities are investigating the suspicious death of an American tourist who was vacationing in the town of Benque Viejo del Carmen on the Belize-Guatemala border...”

### **Obama Congratulates Mexican President on Arrest of Drug Boss Guzman: White House**

*Author/ Source: Eric Beech, NY Times*

“U.S. President Barack Obama spoke by phone on Friday with Mexican President Enrique Pena Nieto and congratulated him on the arrest last week of drug kingpin Joaquin "El Chapo" Guzman, the White House said...”