



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

3 March 2016

#### Middle East

##### [Israel says Syria used chemical weapons during ceasefire](#)

*Author/Source: Dan Williams, The Jerusalem Post*

“Syrian government forces have used chemical weapons against civilians since the start of a ceasefire aimed at preparing the way for an end to the five-year civil war...”

##### [Two Arab Israelis charged with plotting ISIS-inspired attack](#)

*Author/Source: The Jerusalem Post*

“The Shin Bet (Israel Security Agency) and the Israel Police in a joint operation recently arrested two Arab-Israeli men who allegedly supported the Islamic State and who are suspected in connection with the execution of a terrorist attack...”

##### [Exclusive: Hamas operatives fear entering tunnels, believe Israel behind collapses](#)

*Author/Source: Noam Rotenburg, The Jerusalem Post*

“Hama operatives are afraid to enter underground tunnels in the Gaza Strip, fearing that they will collapse, *The Jerusalem Post* has learned from Palestinian sources...”

##### [Syria Hit By ‘Country Wide Electricity Blackout’](#)

*Author/Source: Jack Moore, Newsweek*

“Syria experienced a countrywide blackout on Thursday for unknown reasons, Syrian state television reported...”

##### [Iran: GCC's terrorist label for Hezbollah is a mistake](#)

*Author/Source: Al Jazeera*

“Iran's deputy foreign minister has said that a decision by a Saudi-led bloc of Gulf Arab states to label the Lebanese group Hezbollah a terrorist organization was a "mistake"...”

##### [Syria rebel leader killed in Golan bombing](#)

*Author/Source: Al Jazeera*

“A car bombing targeting an influential Syrian rebel group has killed at least 18 people in Quneitra province of the country's south, as opposition groups elsewhere in Syria accused the government of breaching a truce...”

##### [Jordan foils 'criminal plot linked to ISIS' in deadly raid](#)

*Author/Source: Jomana Karadsheh and Greg Botelho, CNN*

“ISIS militants planned to strike civilian and military targets inside Jordan but were foiled by authorities, a government agency said...”



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## Central Asia

### [After Ukraine, Kazakhstan wary of ethnic Russians broaching autonomy](#)

*Author/Source: Olzhas Auyezov, Reuters*

“In the city of Kostanay in northern Kazakhstan, the ribbon of St George, a black-and-orange symbol of resurgent Russian patriotism that was adopted by separatists in Ukraine, hangs from every second car's rear-view mirror...”

### [Azerbaijan Unable, Or Unwilling, To Pay For Russian Weapons: Reports](#)

*Author/Source: Joshua Kucera, Eurasia Net*

“Russia's senior defense industry official has made an unexpected visit to Baku, as a Russian newspaper reports that Azerbaijan is refusing to pay for a shipment of Russian arms...”

## South Asia

### [Why did Pakistan admit to hosting the Afghan Taliban?](#)

*Author/Source: BBC*

“The Pakistani prime minister's adviser on foreign affairs has indicated in a talk at Washington's Council on Foreign Relations (CFR) that the leadership of Afghan Taliban is living in Pakistan...”

### [India JNU student leader Kanhaiya Kumar freed on bail](#)

*Author/Source: BBC*

“A student leader charged with sedition in India has been freed from prison a day after a court granted him bail...”

### [Pheu Thai files human rights complaint with UN](#)

*Author/Source: Aekarach Sattaburuth, Bangkok Post*

“The Pheu Thai Party wrote to the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on Thursday to complain about the detention of one of its key figures, Watana Muangsook, and accused the government of serious rights violations...”

### [Four shot dead in 24 hours of violence in Thai south](#)

*Author/Source: The Daily Star*

“Four people have been gunned down in Thailand's Muslim-majority southernmost provinces, police said Thursday, in 24-hours of violence that included the murder of a Buddhist rubber tapper whose corpse was then set alight...”

### [Cambodia arrests 38 Chinese citizens sought by Beijing](#)

*Author/Source: Yahoo News*

“Thirty-eight Chinese wanted by authorities in their home country are facing deportation after being arrested at a casino in Cambodia's western border town of Poipet, police said Thursday...”



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### **Rescuers check remote Indonesian islands after quake**

*Author/Source: Bangkok Post*

"A ship carrying military personnel and search and rescue officials was dispatched Thursday to check on remote island communities in western Indonesia a day after a powerful earthquake, as strong aftershocks rattled the region..."

## **East Asia**

### **North Korea 'fires missiles' into sea hours after UN vote**

*Author/Source: BBC*

"North Korea has fired six short-range projectiles into the sea, South Korea's defence ministry has said, hours after the UN imposed tough new sanctions..."

### **China makes domestic abuse a crime**

*Author/Source: Al Jazeera*

"A new law that makes domestic abuse a crime has come into effect in China. It is hoped the legislation will encourage more victims to take their abusers to court in a country where violence at home is still widely regarded as a private matter..."

### **Why China is fighting with its own ally North Korea**

*Author/Source: Max Fisher, Vox*

"North Korea conducted its fourth nuclear test way back in January 6, and the very next day the US and China began negotiating over what to do about it..."

### **U.S., India, Japan Plan Joint Naval Exercises Near South China Sea**

*Author/Source: The Wall Street Journal*

"The U.S., India and Japan will conduct joint naval exercises in the northern waters of the Philippine Sea, an area close to the East and South China Seas where Beijing is locked in an increasingly tense standoff with Washington..."

## **Africa**

### **Somalia's al-Shabab journalist Hassan Hanafi sentenced to death**

*Author/Source: BBC*

"A Somali military court has sentenced to death a former journalist who helped al-Shabab kill five fellow reporters..."

### **LRA rebels 'seize children' in Central African Republic**

*Author/Source: BBC*

"The Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) rebel force has abducted 217 people since January in the Central African Republic (CAR), a campaign group says..."

### **Italian hostages probably killed in raid in Libyan city, says Italy**

*Author/Source: The Guardian*

"Two Italian civilians held as hostages in Libya were probably killed during fighting in Sabratha, the Italian foreign ministry has said..."



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### **[MH370 search: What's next after debris found off coast of Mozambique?](#)**

*Author/Source: Tiffany Ap, CNN*

“A piece of plane debris found off the coast of Mozambique has renewed hope of solving the mystery of the missing Malaysia Airlines Flight 370...”

### **[Spanish Al-Qaeda Commander Killed in Mali: Reports](#)**

*Author/Source: Conner Gaffey, Newsweek*

“French forces have reportedly killed a Spanish Al-Qaeda commander operating in northern Mali, who had previously called on other Spaniards to join the militant group...”

## **Europe**

### **[France, Britain agree to invest 2 billion euros in drone prototype project](#)**

*Author/Source: John Irish, Elizabeth Pineau and Andrew Callus, Reuters*

“France and Britain have agreed to invest 2 billion euros in a project to build a next-generation multi-role drone with a view to making it operational after 2030, the two countries said in a statement on Thursday...”

### **[EU's Tusk warns illegal economic migrants: Do not come here](#)**

*Author/Source: BBC*

“European Council President Donald Tusk has warned illegal economic migrants against coming to Europe, during a new push to solve the EU migrant crisis...”

## **US & Canada**

### **[US military chief back in Israel amid aid talks](#)**

*Author/Source: The Times of Israel*

”The chairman of the US Joint Chiefs of Staff, Gen. Joseph Dunford, landed in Israel on Thursday for talks with senior Israeli officials to discuss ongoing military cooperation between the two allies...”

### **[First on CNN: U.S. Special Ops team captures first ISIS operative](#)**

*Author/Source: Barbara Starr, CNN*

“U.S. Special Operations forces have captured their first suspected ISIS operative in Northern Iraq as part of a highly secretive targeting team led by the Army's elite Delta Force, CNN has learned...”

### **[Facebook, Google, Twitter, AT&T to back Apple in court filings](#)**

*Author/Source: USA Today*

“A wave of tech companies that include the industry's biggest names is breaking in Apple's favor in its battle with the federal government over access to a killer's iPhone...”

### **[Biden to arrive in Israel with US election in the backdrop](#)**

*Author/Source: Herb Keinon, The Jerusalem Post*

“U.S. Vice President Joe Biden will arrive on Tuesday for a two-day visit, the Government Press Office announced on Wednesday...”



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## South and Central America and the Caribbean

### [Mexico sees spike in H1N1 swine flu cases, 68 people dead](#)

*Author/Source: Tomas Bravo, Reuters*

“Mexico has seen a sharp jump in cases of the virus H1N1, popularly known as swine flu, killing 68 people so far this flu season, according to health ministry data...”

### [Oil prices and steady loss of allies weakens once powerful, defiant Venezuela](#)

*Author/Source: Franz von Bergen, Fox News Latino*

“Not that long ago, no Latin American country messed with Venezuela. At one point most if not all Central and South America looked up to it and followed its rogue lead against the so-called U.S. Yankee Empire...”

### [El Salvador's murder rate, already highest in the world, continues to rise](#)

*Author/Source: Fox News Latino*

“Salvadoran officials say homicides are continuing to rise in El Salvador, which last year had what is believed to be the world's highest rate of violent deaths for any country not in open war...”