



POTOMAC INSTITUTE FOR POLICY STUDIES
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Daily Terrorism Weather Online

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Middle East

NATO chief predicts another tough year ahead for Afghanistan

Author/Source: The Seattle Times

“The head of NATO on Wednesday predicted a difficult fight ahead for Afghanistan as the government continues to battle the Taliban and other militant factions trying to assert their presence in the war-ravaged country...”

ISIS Loses Almost 1/4 of Territory in Iraq and Syria in 15 Months, IHS Data Shows

Author/ Source: Alexander Smith, NBC News

“ISIS has lost nearly a quarter of its territory over the past 15 months, according to a new data from a leading research company the latest sign that the militants' once rapid advance has slowed...”

Iraq preparing to push Islamic State away from oil region: report

Author/Source: Maher Chmaytelli and Andrew Heavens, Reuters

“Kurdish Peshmerga forces, an Iran-backed Shi'ite militia and Iraq's army will launch an offensive soon to push Islamic State fighters away from the northern oil region of Kirkuk, a state newspaper reported on Wednesday...”

Palestinian teen held after trying to enter Jerusalem with knife

Author/Source: The Times of Israel

“Border Police officers arrested a 14-year-old Palestinian boy on Wednesday morning at the entrance to the Shuafat refugee camp in Jerusalem after finding a knife in his possession...”

Syrian Kurds 'preparing to declare self-administration'

Author/Source: Al Jazeera

“Kurdish-controlled areas of northern Syria are expected to declare a federal system imminently, a Kurdish official says, as peace negotiations continue to be held in Geneva about how to end the country's five-year war...”

Syria conflict: Government rejects direct peace talks

Author/Source: BBC

“Syrian government representatives have ruled out starting direct negotiations with the opposition, as UN-backed peace talks entered a third day in Geneva...”

Central Asia

Border Guards in Armenia Foil Two Attempts to Cross Border

Author/Source: Asbarez

“Officers of Russia's Federal Security Service in Armenia foiled an attempt of an intruder to cross the Armenia-Iran border, the press office of the service's border division, reported on Wednesday...”



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[Russia, Tajikistan Start Large-Scale Military Exercises On Afghan Border](#)

Author/Source: The Moscow Times

“Russia and Tajikistan have begun large-scale military exercises to practice defending against an invasion by Islamist extremists into Central Asia...”

South Asia

[Air India flight isolated after bomb threat](#)

Author/Source: Amornrat Mahitthirook, Bangkok Post

“An Air India jet was ordered to park at an isolated area of Suvarnabhumi airport on Wednesday night after a bomb threat, an airport official said...”

[Pakistan Supreme Court clears Musharraf to travel abroad](#)

Author/Source: BBC

“Pakistan's Supreme Court has lifted a travel ban on former President Pervez Musharraf who is awaiting trial for treason and other charges...”

[Pakistan: Bus bomb explosion kills 15 in Peshawar](#)

Author/Source: BBC

“At least 15 people travelling on a bus have been killed by a bomb in the north-western Pakistani city of Peshawar, officials say...”

[Mekong nations take on Golden Triangle narco-empire](#)

Author/Source: Bangkok Post

“The Lao People's Army patrol boat was custom-made in China with night-vision capability and two of the most powerful engines on this remote stretch of the Mekong River...”

[Indonesia security forces kill two Chinese Uighur militants in Sulawesi shootout](#)

Author/Source: Agustinus Beo Da Costa, Kanupriya Kapoor and Clarence Fernandez, Channel News Asia

“Indonesian security forces have killed two ethnic Uighur Chinese belonging to a militant network led by the country's most wanted man, police said on Wednesday...”

East Asia

[Japan ruling party considers international arbitration over China dispute](#)

Author/Source: Kiyoshi Takenaka and Paul Tait, Reuters

“Japan's ruling party urged Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's government on Wednesday to consider seeking international arbitration over Beijing's drilling activities in the disputed East China Sea, mirroring similar action by the Philippines...”

[S. Korea joins Asia-Pacific cybersecurity drill](#)

Author/Source: Yonhap News Agency

“South Korea has participated in an international exercise against cyber terror this week, the government said Thursday, amid growing threats from North Korea...”



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Africa

[Nigeria: Govt Officials Fingered in Oil Theft](#)

Author/Source: All Africa

“Illegal oil activities have cost Nigeria a whopping \$16 billion, the Auditor General's office has revealed...”

[Nigeria: Suicide Bomber Kills 14 Worshippers in Maiduguri Mosque](#)

Author/Source: Ola' Audu, All Africa

“At least 14 Muslim worshippers were killed when a suicide bomber detonated himself in a mosque in Umarari Village, outskirts of Maiduguri, during the early morning prayers on Wednesday, an official said...”

[Western Sahara: Morocco threat over UN peacekeepers](#)

Author/Source: BBC

“Morocco has threatened to pull its soldiers out of UN global peacekeeping missions in a row over the disputed territory of Western Sahara...”

[Al Qaeda attack will not derail Ivory Coast revival: president](#)

Author/Source: Loucoumane Coulibaly, Reuters

“President Alassane Ouattara vowed on Wednesday that an al Qaeda-claimed attack on an Ivory Coast beach resort that killed 19 people would not derail the nation's post-war revival...”

Europe

[Brussels shooting: ISIS flag, ammo found in raid tied to Paris attacks](#)

Author/Source: Greg Botelho, CNN

“The police raid of a Brussels apartment tied to last year's Paris terror attacks turned up an ISIS flag, a Kalashnikov rifle and ammunition, but two suspects managed to escape after an intense, prolonged firefight, a spokesman for the Belgian federal prosecutor office said Wednesday...”

[Turkey plans to make praise of violent acts a 'terror crime': ruling party official](#)

Author/Source: Ercan Gurses and Ece Toksabay, Reuters

“Turkish President Tayyip Erdogan on Wednesday called on parliament to act swiftly to broaden an anti-terrorism law, saying those who support killers of innocent people were no different from terrorists themselves...”

[Russia flies out almost half Syria strike force: Reuters analysis](#)

Author/Source: Andrew Osborn, Reuters

“Just under half of Russia's fixed-wing strike force based in Syria has flown out of the country in the past two days, according to a Reuters calculation which suggests the Kremlin is accelerating its partial withdrawal...”



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[EU regulators want more info on Apple's Irish tax deal](#)

Author/Source: Reuters

“European Union antitrust regulators have asked Ireland to provide further details on the country's tax deal with Apple before deciding whether this constitutes illegal state aid to the iPhone maker...”

[Al Qaeda Says It Carried Out Ivory Coast Beach Attack as Revenge Against France](#)

Author/Source: Vice News

“Al Qaeda's North African branch has said its attack on a beach resort in Ivory Coast on Sunday that killed 18 people was revenge for a French offensive against Islamist militants in the Sahel region and called for the country to withdraw its forces from the country...”

US & Canada

[US Navy admiral accuses Beijing of ‘might makes right’ attitude over South China Sea](#)

Author/Source: South China Morning Post

“China's “might makes right” attitude and its militarisation of contested areas of the South China Sea are provoking an unprecedented arms buildup in the region, the commander of the U.S. Pacific Fleet warned on Wednesday...”

[US student Otto Warmbier given hard labour in North Korea](#)

Author/Source: BBC

“Warmbier, 21, was arrested for trying to steal a propaganda sign from a hotel while visiting North Korea in January...”

[Obama nominates Merrick Garland to Supreme Court](#)

Author/Source: Al Jazeera

“US President Barack Obama has nominated Merrick Garland, an appellate court judge and former prosecutor, to the Supreme Court...”

[SIGAR: Millions of U.S. Dollars Wasted in Afghanistan](#)

Author/Source: U.S. News

“Millions of U.S. taxpayer dollars have been wasted in Afghanistan, according to a new watchdog inspection of 44 construction projects undertaken between 2009 and 2015, raising questions about the ability of the local government and its U.S. patrons to sustain rebuilding the war-torn country's infrastructure...”

South and Central America and the Caribbean

[Argentina sinks Chinese boat fishing in its waters; Beijing 'seriously concerned'](#)

Author/Source: Fox News Latino

“Argentina's navy announced Tuesday that it used gunfire to sink a Chinese-flagged boat that was fishing illegally in national waters...”

[Last direct flight carrying stranded Cubans en route to the U.S. arrives in Mexico](#)

Author/Source: Fox News Latino

“The last direct flight carrying stranded Cuban migrants from Costa Rica has arrived in



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Mexico, ending an effort that transported 6,003 Cubans, including some from Panama, Mexico's Interior Department said Tuesday...”

5 Killed in disturbance at Venezuelan prison

Author/Source: Fox News Latino

“At least five people died and almost 60 were injured in a western Venezuelan prison during an attempt by a group of prisoners to kidnap the warden, the Attorney General's Office said Wednesday...”

4 Die stealing electricity in Venezuela

Author/Source: Fox News Latino

“Four people have been killed in the past few days while trying to steal electricity from Venezuela's national power company, Electric Energy Minister Luis Motta Dominguez said...”