



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

29 March 2016

#### **Middle East**

##### [U.S. Looks to Sidestep U.N. on New Iran Sanctions](#)

*Author/Source: U.S. News*

“With Russia blocking sanctions at the United Nations, the Obama administration is looking at other international avenues to rein in Iran's ballistic missile program...”

##### [The Syrian Revolution Against al Qaeda](#)

*Author/Source: Foreign Policy*

“The militia commander, a barrel-bodied man who hulks over his soldiers and playfully hurls epithets, was beaming...”

##### [Suicide bomber kills at least 7 civilians in Iraqi capital](#)

*Author/Source: Al-Arabiya*

“Iraqi officials say a suicide bombing in the capital has killed at least seven civilians and wounded 23...”

##### [41 IS militants killed in airstrikes, clashes with security forces in Iraq](#)

*Author/Source: Xinhua*

“A total of 41 Islamic State (IS) militants were killed on Tuesday in clashes with security forces and air strikes by Iraqi and U.S.-led coalition aircraft in Iraq, while 14 civilian were killed in suicide bombing and gunfire attack in the day...”

##### [Israeli Arabs set for general strike, protests on 40th annual Land Day](#)

*Author/Source: Ariel Ben Solomon, The Jerusalem Post*

“The Arab Higher Monitoring Committee said Israeli Arabs will protest and hold a general strike on the 40th annual Land Day on Wednesday...”

##### [Islamic State in Mosul seemingly shaken up by offensive, airstrikes](#)

*Author/Source: Andrew V. Pestano, UPI*

“As the Iraqi offensive prepares to launch a full-scale assault to retake the city of Mosul, the Islamic State has reacted by executing members and removing local leaders from power...”

##### [Syria's Assad says military gains will speed up political deal](#)

*Author/Source: Vladimir Soldatkin and Dominic Evans, Reuters*

“Syrian army successes will help accelerate a political settlement to the country's civil war, President Bashar al-Assad said, because they weaken the position of international opponents who he accused of hindering any agreement...”



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### **Middle East eyes Russian Su-34 bombers after Syria operation — arms exporter**

*Author/Source: TASS Russian News Agency*

“Foreign customers, in particular, some Middle East countries, are showing increased interest in Russian-made Sukhoi Su-34 fighter-bombers after Russia’s air task force successfully accomplished its anti-terror missions in Syria...”

### **US intensifies air campaign against al Qaeda in Yemen**

*Author/Source: Bill Roggio, The Long War Journal*

“The US military revved up aerial assaults against al Qaeda’s official branch in Yemen during the month of March. The US launched at least six airstrikes against al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula in areas in southern Yemen this month...”

### **Russian air force bombing Islamic State effectively, Pentagon concedes**

*Author/Source: Rowan Scarborough, The Washington Times*

“After months of condemning Russia’s military incursion into Syria as merely propping up a brutal regime, the Pentagon conceded on Tuesday that President Vladimir Putin’s air force...”

### **Saudi Arabia Looks to African Allies During Gulf Crises**

*Author/Source: Same Solomon, Voice of America*

“Saudi Arabia appears intent on reaching across the Red Sea to build alliances in the Horn of Africa, where piracy, drug and weapons smuggling, and terrorism threaten commerce in the world's busiest shipping lanes...”

## **Central Asia**

### **'Islamic State' a potential threat to Central Asia**

*Author/Source: Deutsche Welle*

“Most people immediately think about the Mideast or North Africa when they hear the name "Islamic State." But the terror militia also has an eye on the former Soviet republics in Central Asia...”

### **Kyrgyzstan: The Phantom Militants of Central Asia**

*Author/Source: Eurasianet*

“Security services in Kyrgyzstan say they have neutralized another international terrorist cell, although little to no firm information has been provided...”

## **South Asia**

### **US Looks at India as Key Player for Maritime Security**

*Author/Source: The New Indian Express*

“The US looks at India, a regional power that is committed to advancing the rules-based international order, as "a key player and an important partner in advancing maritime security in the Indo-Pacific...”



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### **Pakistan detained more than 5,000 after Easter bombing killed 72**

*Author/Source: Asad Hashim, Reuters*

“Pakistan has rounded up more than 5,000 militant suspects, then released most of them, in the two days since a suicide bomber killed at least 72 people in a park in Lahore at Easter, a provincial minister said on Tuesday...”

### **PH, Indonesia share intelligence to free Abu Sayyaf hostages**

*Author/Source: Inquirer*

“The Indonesian Military (TNI) has communicated with its Philippine counterpart to collect information on the militant group that is holding 10 Indonesian sailors hostage...”

## **East Asia**

### **Abe, IAEA chief pledge enhanced cooperation on nuclear security**

*Author/Source: The Japan Times*

“Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and the head of the International Atomic Energy Agency have agreed to enhance cooperation on various nuclear security issues including North Korea’s nuclear programs...”

### **North Korea fires short-range missile along its coast**

*Author/Source: Reuters*

“North Korea test-fired a short-range missile on its east coast on Tuesday, South Korea's military said, amid heightened tension...”

### **Japan's new security laws take effect**

*Author/Source: CNN*

“With rising tensions in the South China Sea, Japan implemented new laws allowing the country to provide military assistance or even fight alongside its allies...”

### **South China Sea Controversy Update: Obama And Xi Jinping To Meet After US Refuses To Recognize China’s Exclusion Zone**

*Author/Source: Lydia Tomkiw, International Business Times*

“President Barack Obama is scheduled to meet with Chinese President Xi Jinping on Thursday, and that conversation could prove to be awkward...”

## **Africa**

### **Explosion kills two servicemen, injuring others in Mali**

*Author/Source: All Africa*

“As Mali holds a peace and reconciliation forum, a new explosion hit North of the country on Monday killing two servicemen...”

### **'Somalia-bound' ship of weapons seized by French navy**

*Author/Source: BBC News*

“French naval forces patrolling the northern Indian Ocean have seized a ship full of weapons they say was heading towards Somalia...”



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### **Blasts and heavy gunfire heard in Tripoli**

*Author/Source: Reuters*

“Several loud explosions followed by heavy gunfire were heard over Tripoli in the early hours of Wednesday, a Reuters reporter said...”

### **UN Calls Threat From Violent Extremists in Mali 'Alarming'**

*Author/Source: The Washington Post*

“Security threats from violent extremists and criminal groups in Mali are still "alarming" and the government must deploy more troops to the volatile north and step up efforts to reform its military and police, according to a new U.N. report...”

## **Europe**

### **Italy rescues nearly 1,400 migrants in southern Mediterranean**

*Author/Source: Reuters*

“Italian coast guard and navy vessels rescued nearly 1,400 migrants from boats and rubber dinghies in the southern Mediterranean on Tuesday, officials said...”

### **How ISIS Built the Machinery of Terror Under Europe’s Gaze**

*Author/Source: Rukmini Callimach, The New York Times*

“The day he left Syria with instructions to carry out a terrorist attack in France, Reda Hame, a 29-year-old computer technician from Paris, had been a member of the Islamic State for just over a week...”

### **FBI warned Dutch police about Brussels terrorists before attacks**

*Author/Source: Yaron Steinbunch, New York Post*

“The FBI provided Dutch police with information about two jihadist brothers a week before they blew themselves up in the Brussels terror attacks, officials said Tuesday...”

### **After Brussels attacks, security is beefed up for European soccer championship**

*Author/Source: Cindy Boren, The Washington Post*

“Vowing to show that sports “will not yield” to terrorism, French President Francois Hollande said that 3,000 additional people have been hired by private security...”

## **US & Canada**

### **Qatar Wants to Buy Dozens of U.S. Warplanes. Why Won’t Washington Sell Them?**

*Author/Source: Dan de Luce, Foreign Policy*

“The Obama administration is paralyzed over whether to sell dozens of advanced U.S. fighter jets to the tiny kingdom of Qatar...”

### **US looks at India as key player for maritime security**

*Author/Source: Business Standard*

“The US looks at India, a regional power that is committed to advancing the rules-based international order...”



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

### **[Mexico says experts investigating 43 students will cease work in April](#)**

*Author/Source: Lizbeth Diaz, Reuters*

“An international panel of experts that picked apart the Mexican government's account of what happened to 43 students who disappeared in 2014...”

### **[Colombia will not sign FARC peace accord without a disarmament date, Santos says](#)**

*Author/Source: Fox News*

“Colombian President Juan Manuel Santos demanded that FARC guerrillas "set a final date, precise and clear, for completing the disarmament process...”