



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

27 July 2017

#### **Middle East**

##### **Jordan's King Demands Israel Put Guard on Trial for Killing Jordanians**

*Author/Source: Suleiman Al-Khalidi, Reuters*

“Jordan's King Abdullah angrily demanded on Thursday that Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu put on trial an embassy security guard who shot dead two Jordanians, and said relations between the neighbouring states were at risk...”

##### **Thousands of Worshippers Surge into Jerusalem's Al-Aqsa Mosque, 113 Injured**

*Authors/Source: Luke Baker and Ali Sawafta, Reuters*

“Thousands of Muslim worshippers surged into Jerusalem's Al-Aqsa Mosque on Thursday and at least 113 were hurt in scuffles with police after Israel lifted security measures imposed at the sacred site in the face of days of violent protests...”

##### **Qatar: UN Should Play a Role in Resolving Gulf Crisis**

*Source: Al Jazeera*

“Qatar's foreign minister called on Thursday for the United Nations to help resolve the Gulf crisis and accused the four Arab countries that have imposed a blockade on Doha of violating international law...”

##### **UAE Asks Banks to Freeze Accounts of Those Named on Qatar-Linked Blacklist: WAM**

*Author/Source: Saeed Azhar, Reuters*

“The United Arab Emirates' central bank has asked all banks and financial institutions to stop dealing with 18 more individuals and entities with alleged links to Qatar, the state news agency WAM reported on Thursday...”

##### **U.S. Says Iran Rocket Test Breaches U.N. Resolution**

*Author/Source: Dan Williams, Reuters*

“Iran successfully tested a rocket that can deliver satellites into orbit, state television reported on Thursday, an action the United States said breaches a U.N. Security Council resolution because of its potential use in ballistic missile development...”

##### **Saudi-Led Coalition Stops Oil Tankers from Entering Yemen, U.N. Says**

*Source: Reuters*

“A Saudi-led military coalition and the government of Yemen denied four oil tankers access to a Yemeni port last week, a move that could hurt the flow of aid and exacerbate a cholera outbreak in the country, a United Nations agency said...”

##### **Syrian Army Advances East of Raqqa into Deir al-Zor Province: Monitors**

*Source: Reuters*

“Syrian government forces and their allies advanced against Islamic State militants in countryside east of Raqqa on Thursday, war monitors reported...”



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### **[U.S.-Trained Iraqi Army Unit ‘Linked to Mosul War Crimes’](#)**

*Source: Al Jazeera*

“A US-trained Iraqi army division allegedly executed dozens of men in the final phase of the battle against ISIL fighters in Mosul's Old City, Human Rights Watch has claimed...”

### **[Arsal: Hezbollah, Jabhat Fateh al-Sham Agree Ceasefire](#)**

*Source: Al Jazeera*

“Fighting between Lebanon's Hezbollah movement and a former al-Qaeda affiliate on the Syria-Lebanon border halted on Thursday after a ceasefire was reached, Lebanese media and Hezbollah outlets reported...”

### **Central Asia**

#### **[Azerbaijan, Without Explanation, Drops Out of NATO Exercises](#)**

*Author/Source: Joshua Kucera, Eurasia Net*

“When NATO military exercises kick off in Georgia next week, they will include troops from the United States, Germany, Turkey, Ukraine, and Armenia. But they won't include Azerbaijan, an unexpected, last-minute dropout...”

#### **[Pakistan Signs Agreement with Azerbaijan for Sale of Mushshak Aircraft](#)**

*Source: Samaa News*

“The contract was signed at Azerbaijan, where Air Marshal Arshad Malik, Chairman PAC Kamra represented Pakistan; whereas, Azerbaijan was represented by Lieutenant General Ramiz Tahirov, Air Force Commander Azerbaijan, a press release Thursday said...”

### **South Asia**

#### **[Kashmir Militant Leader Announced as Head of New Al-Qaida-Linked Cell](#)**

*Author/Source: Michael Safi, The Guardian*

“An al-Qaida-affiliated propaganda channel has announced one of Kashmir's most popular militant leaders as the head of a newly created cell in the disputed Himalayan territory...”

#### **[Afghan Forces Battle to Retake District from Taliban](#)**

*Authors/Source: Hamid Shalizi and James Mackenzie, Reuters*

“Afghan security forces backed by air strikes have been fighting to retake a district in the western province of Ghor since it fell to the Taliban earlier this week, officials said on Thursday...”

#### **[Seeking a Way Forward in Afghanistan, Tillerson Pushes for Diplomacy](#)**

*Author/Source: Nike Ching, Voice of America*

“While President Donald Trump's administration is seeking a reason to keep American troops in Afghanistan after 16 years of war, U.S. officials are also examining options to stabilize conflicts in the region, including a dialogue that would move forward a peace process...”

### **Southeast Asia**

#### **[Avoid Travelling to Southern Philippines: Western Governments](#)**

*Source: Straits Times*

“Western governments are warning their citizens against travelling to nearly all of the southern third of the Philippines, citing the rising threats of terror attacks and kidnappings by



Islamist militants...”

### **US Transfers Surveillance Planes to the Philippines**

*Source: Straits Times*

“The United States on Thursday (July 27) transferred to the Philippines two brand-new, single-engine surveillance planes, boosting the capability of its former colony to patrol sprawling maritime borders, including pirate-infested southern waters...”

### **Australia Urges China to do More on North Korea Threat**

*Source: Straits Times*

“Australian Foreign Minister Julie Bishop called on China on Thursday (July 27) to do more to contain the threat of North Korea's nuclear and missile programmes...”

## **East Asia**

### **U.S. General: North Korea ICBM Threat Advancing Faster than Expected**

*Authors/Source: Phil Stewart, Idrees Ali, David Brunnstrom, Reuters*

“U.S. General Mark Milley, the chief of staff of the Army, said on Thursday that North Korea's July 4 test of an intercontinental ballistic missile showed its capabilities were advancing significantly and faster than many had expected...”

### **North Korea Tries to Make Hacking a Profit Center**

*Author/Source: Choe Sang-Hun, The New York Times*

“North Korea's state-sponsored hackers are increasingly going after money rather than secrets, according to a report published on Thursday by a South Korean government-backed institute...”

### **Japan's Defense Minister Resigns, in Blow to Shinzo Abe**

*Author/Source: Jonathan Soble, The New York Times*

“Japan's defense minister and its army chief resigned on Friday over allegations that they misled Parliament and the public over dangers faced by Japanese soldiers on a United Nations peacekeeping mission in South Sudan, dealing another blow to the government of Prime Minister Shinzo Abe...”

## **Africa**

### **Libyan Forces Warn ISIL is Regrouping**

*Author/Source: Duncan Crawford, Al Jazeera*

“Libyan forces allied to the UN-backed government in Tripoli have warned that fighters from the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL, also known as ISIS) group are regrouping and could launch attacks on the port city of Misrata...”

### **Emmanuel Macron: Hot Spots for Asylum Seekers in Libya**

*Source: Al Jazeera*

“Emmanuel Macron says France will set up processing centres this summer in Libya for asylum seekers trying to reach Europe across the Mediterranean Sea...”



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### **Italy Plans Naval Missions Off Libya to Stop Migrants**

*Author/Source: Jason Horowitz, The New York Times*

“Italy’s prime minister convened top cabinet ministers on Thursday to discuss a plan to send Italian warships into Libyan territorial waters to combat smugglers who have sent thousands of migrants to Italian shores...”

### **DRC Warlord Accused of Crimes Against Humanity Surrenders**

*Source: News 24*

“Kinshasa -Congolese rebel warlord Ntabo Ntaberi Sheka, wanted for crimes against humanity including mass rape, surrendered to the UN peacekeepers in the Democratic Republic of Congo on Wednesday...”

### **Al-Azhar Takes up Anti-Terrorism Fight Through Kiosk on Cairo Metro Station**

*Source: Al Arabiya*

“Two elderly sheikhs have set up shop at a kiosk in one of Cairo’s busiest underground stations, ready to dole out religious advice to commuters queueing outside...”

### **Watch: Egypt Army Crushes Suicide Bombers’ Car Before it Explodes in ISIS-Hit Sinai Region**

*Author/Source: Conor Gaffey, Newsweek*

“When confronted by suicide bombers armed with machine guns at a crowded checkpoint, an Egyptian army tank crew took decisive action. The tank quickly moved toward the vehicle and rolled over it, crushing the car and immobilizing the suspected attackers. A minute later, the car exploded...”

## **Europe**

### **European Union’s Top Court Keeps Hamas on Terrorism List**

*Source: Al Arabiya*

“The European Union’s top court kept Palestinian Hamas on the EU terrorism blacklist on Wednesday and removed Sri Lankan separatist rebels, the Tamil Tigers...”

### **Putin Derides Sanctions and Trump Investigations as ‘Boorishness’**

*Author/Source: Andrew Higgins, The New York Times*

“President Vladimir V. Putin of Russia on Thursday denounced as ‘illegal’ American plans for new sanctions against his country and scorned investigations into the Trump campaign’s relations with Russia as political hysteria...”

### **Ukraine’s President Sidelines Opponent by Stripping his Citizenship**

*Author/Source: Andrew Kramer, The New York Times*

“Once they were prominent allies in opposing the Kremlin: President Petro O. Poroshenko of Ukraine and the former president of Georgia, Mikheil Saakashvili...”

### **Paris Tourism Bounces Back as Terror Fears Fade**

*Source: France 24*

“High-kicking dancers are enthralling full houses again at the Moulin Rouge and art lovers are swarming the Louvre as Paris enjoys a tourism revival after plummeting numbers brought on by terror attacks...”



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## **US & Canada**

### **[House Approves \\$1.6 Billion for U.S.-Mexico Border Wall](#)**

*Source: Latin American Herald Tribune*

“The House of Representatives approved on Thursday a budget bill for 2018, including \$1.6 billion requested by the White House to begin construction of a wall along the US-Mexico border...”

### **[Watchdog: Pentagon Almost Gave Cops \\$1M in Guns, Bombs](#)**

*Source: Fox News*

“The Pentagon nearly gave over \$1 million worth of rifles, pipe bombs and other military hardware to a fake police department -- set up as part of a government watchdog's sting operation, a new report reveals...”

### **[Trump Honors Alexandria Shooting First Responders with Medals of Valor](#)**

*Author/Source: Blair Guild, CBS News*

“President Trump honored five first responders to the Alexandria congressional baseball practice shooting Thursday afternoon at the White House with Medals of Valor, the highest decoration of bravery bestowed upon public safety officers...”

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

### **[Venezuela's Maduro Pursues Talks with Opposition](#)**

*Source: Latin American Herald Tribune*

“Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro appealed on Thursday to the opposition to join him for talks on peace and reconciliation ahead of upcoming elections to a constitutional convention that critics say is aimed at consolidating what they see as a dictatorship...”

### **[U.S. Orders Family Members of Caracas Embassy Staff to Leave Venezuela](#)**

*Source: Latin American Herald Tribune*

“The Government of the United States ordered on Thursday family members of the US embassy staff stationed in Caracas have to leave Venezuela due to the ongoing violence and the lack of food and medicine in the country...”

### **[Brazil's Temer Scrambles for Support to Block Corruption Trial](#)**

*Author/Source: Anthony Boadle, Reuters*

“With a spreadsheet listing undecided lawmakers, Brazilian President Michel Temer is working the phones to nail down support to block a corruption charge in a crucial congressional vote next week that will decide his political future, close aides said...”

### **[Brazilian Police Seize 4 Tons of Marijuana](#)**

*Source: Latin American Herald Tribune*

“Brazil's Federal Highway Police seized on Thursday 4.3 tons of marijuana and 23 handguns found in an abandoned truck in the southern state of Parana, authorities said...”