



POTOMAC INSTITUTE FOR POLICY STUDIES
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Daily Terrorism Weather Online

21 May 2018

Middle East

[Palestinian Publicly Sets Himself on Fire in Gaza](#)

Author/Source: Al-Arabiya

“A 20-year-old Palestinian is in critical condition on Sunday after publicly setting himself on fire but his motives remain unclear with family believing he was despairing over Gaza’s dire living conditions and Hamas, the militant group that rules the territory, alleging personal problems...”

[Pompeo Threatens Iran with ‘Strongest Sanctions in History’](#)

Author/Source: Louis Nelson, Politico

“Secretary of State Mike Pompeo on Monday threatened to impose “the strongest sanctions in history” on Iran unless it takes dramatic steps, including permanently abandoning its nuclear program, halting missile tests and withdrawing military forces from Syria...”

[Turkish Presidential Candidate Vows to Leave NATO in Case of Election Victory](#)

Author/Source: Sputnik News

“Dogu Perincek, a Turkish presidential candidate from the left-wing Patriotic Party (VATAN), told Sputnik about the tense relations with NATO, Turkish interior policy and possible cooperation with Russia...”

[Iraq Declares Capture of 13 Islamic State Militants in Mosul](#)

Author/Source: Mohammed Ebraheem, Iraqi News

“Up to 13 Islamic State (IS) militants were arrested Monday in their former stronghold of Mosul, a police chief was quoted as saying...”

[Pompeo Calls Out Iran for Continuing to Harbor al-Qaeda Leaders](#)

Author/Source: Jenna Liphits, The Weekly Standard

“Secretary of State Mike Pompeo said Monday in his first major foreign policy address that Iran is still sheltering senior al-Qaeda operatives, and demanded that the country stop doing so as part of any detente with the U.S...”

[Iraqi Court Slaps 2 Convicted Al-Qaeda Members to Death](#)

Author/Source: Amir al-Saadi, Anadolu Agency



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“An Iraqi court on Monday sentenced two convicted Al-Qaeda members to death for involvement in terrorist attacks...”

Central Asia

[Russian, Chinese Intelligence: IS Starting Invasion to Central Asia, Covered by US](#)

Author/Source: Andrey Afanasyev, Geopolitica

“Sources in Russian military and intelligence agencies, say that the preparation of a full-scale offensive operation against Russia through Tajikistan and Uzbekistan is in the final phase...”

[Several Dozens of People Reportedly Demonstrate near Iran’s Embassy in Dushanbe](#)

Author/Source: Asia Plus

“Faraj.tj website [reports](#) that several dozens of people gathered near the Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Dushanbe today carrying the following posters: ‘Down with Kabiri’...”

[Kyrgyzstan: Former Top Atambayev Official Faces Corruption Charges](#)

Author/Source: Nurjamal Djanibekova, EurasiaNet

“Security services in Kyrgyzstan on May 21 charged a recently fired head of the customs service with corruption, broadening an ongoing campaign of pressure against top officials serving under the former president...”

South Asia

[Five Working to Clear Way for Gas Pipeline Killed in Afghanistan](#)

Author/Source: Reuters

“Unidentified gunmen killed five mine-clearance workers in Afghanistan on Monday who were preparing for construction of an international gas pipeline, while one worker was kidnapped, officials said...”

[Suicide Attack Kills at Least One Person in Pakistan’s Khyber Pukhtoonkhwa](#)

Author/Source: HIS Jane’s Terrorism Watch Report

“AT LEAST one person was killed and 14 others were wounded when a suicide bomber detonated their explosives targeting a security forces' vehicle near Mall Road in Nowshera area in Pakistan's Khyber Pukhtoonkhwa on 17 May, Khaama Press reported...”

Southeast Asia



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[Philippines Takes ‘Appropriate Action’ over Chinese Bombers in Disputed South China Sea](#)

Author/Source: Manuel Mogato, Reuters

“The Philippines expressed “serious concerns” over the presence of China’s strategic bombers in the disputed South China Sea and its foreign ministry has taken “appropriate diplomatic action”, the spokesman of President Rodrigo Duterte said on Monday...”

[ASEAN, Australia Agree on More Cooperation Projects](#)

Author/Source: ASEAN

“The 12th Joint Planning and Review Committee Meeting agreed on the inclusion of several new projects under the Rolling Prioritization Plan of the ASEAN-Australia Development Cooperation Program Phase II (AADCP II) held at the ASEAN Secretariat on 18 May...”

[Chickenpox Outbreak Reported in Hanoi, Vietnam](#)

Author/Source: Don Ward Hackett, Precision Vaccinations

“May 21st, 2018 – According to the Vietnam National Institute of Hygiene and Epidemiology (NIHE), a Hanoi hospital has reported a [chickenpox outbreak](#) in adults...”

East Asia

[Japan Extends Dispatch of Troops to UN Mission in S. Sudan](#)

Author/Source: Sudan Tribute

“The Japanese government on Friday announced it had extended the dispatch of four Self-Defense Forces members to the headquarters of the United Nations peacekeeping mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) until May 31 2019...”

[Trump Aides Growing Skeptical of Kim Summit as South Korea’s President Visits](#)

Author/Source: Kevin & Liptak & Jeremy Diamond, CNN

”Administration aides have grown increasingly skeptical the summit between President Donald Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un will come to fruition amid harsh rhetoric from Pyongyang and concerns over the meeting's agenda, officials and other people familiar with the matter said...”

[N. Korea to Attend Nuclear Security Conference](#)

Author/Source: NHK Newsline

”Two North Korean diplomats are expected to attend a conference on nuclear



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security for Northeast Asia that will be held in Moscow next week, sponsored by Japan's Nagasaki University...”

Africa

[Outbreak of Rift Valley Fever Feared as Flooding Persists](#)

Author/Source: Agatha Ngotho, The Star

“The government has alerted the public of a possible outbreak of Rift Valley Fever.

RVF is a viral disease commonly observed among domestic animals such as cows, sheep and goats. It can infect humans who come into contact with blood or tissues of affected animals...”

[West Africa: Over 200 Suspects Arrested in Security Operations](#)

Author/Source: GardaWorld

“According to a Burkinabe military spokesperson, 202 people were arrested during a joint security operation from May 15 to 18 in [Burkina Faso](#), [Ghana](#), [Benin](#), and [Togo](#)...”

Europe

[Thessaloniki Mayor Yiannis Boutaris Beaten Up](#)

Author/Source: BBC

“The mayor of Greece's second-largest city Thessaloniki has been treated in hospital after being beaten up by about a dozen people, officials say...”

[France is Due for a Jam-Packed Week of Labour Turmoil, with Striking Railworkers and Public Servants Leading the Charge](#)

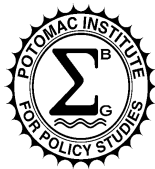
Author/Source: Tracy/McNicoll

“Nine public-sector [unions](#) representing 5.7 million public service agents have called for strike action and demonstrations to protest reforms and voice salary and staffing concerns in the face of a government that has pledged to cut 120,000 public-sector positions by the time President [Emmanuel Macron's](#) term ends in 2022...”

[RAF to Launch NASA-Style Space Agency after EU Freezes Britain out of Galileo Project](#)

Author/Source: Sean Martin, Express

“A ‘UK NASA’ is to be run as a wing of the RAF and work on an entirely British satellite navigation system after EU nations froze Britain out of the European Galileo system in response to Brexit...”



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[Germany and EU Partners Scramble to Save Iran Deal](#)

Author/Source: The Local

“Germany is leading the charge to rescue the Iran deal and the economic inroads German and European companies have made into the restricted economy since 2016...”

US & Canada

[Key White Supremacist Found Living in Montreal Exposes Reach of Hate Groups](#)

Author/Source: Ashifa Kassam, The Guardian

”Police in [Canada](#) have launched an investigation after it emerged that one of North America’s most influential white supremacists lives in Montreal and has been organising a small network of neo-Nazis in the city since 2016...”

[Berkshire County Man Charged in Terrorist Bomb Plot has Pleaded Guilty](#)

Author/Source: Monica Ricci, WWLP

“There was a change of plea Monday in the case of 25-year-old Alexander Ciccolo, the Berkshire County man accused of plotting a terrorist attack inspired by and in the name of ISIS...”

South and Central America and the Caribbean

[Attack on University in Nicaragua Breaks Truce and Darkens Dialogue](#)

Author/Source: Gabriela Selser, Havana Times

“An armed attack on a university in the capital of Nicaragua on Saturday night, left at least four students injured and broke the truce promised by the government in the now uncertain national dialogue, coincided student and religious sources...”

[Left-Wing Candidate’s Denunciation of Fraud Marks end of Campaign in Colombia](#)

Author/Source: Latin American Herald Times

“The left-wing presidential candidate of Colombia, Gustavo Petro, concluded his presidential campaign on Sunday with massive events in Bogota and Barranquilla and claimed that electoral fraud is being prepared for the upcoming elections on May 27.”

[Paraguay President Inaugurates Israel Embassy in Jerusalem](#)

Author/Source: Al-Jazeera



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“[Paraguay](#) has opened its Israel embassy in [Jerusalem](#), the second country to follow the [United States](#) in making the politically sensitive move from Tel Aviv.”