



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

23 January 2019

### **Middle East**

#### **Kurd-led forces overrun last Daesh-held village in Syria: monitor**

*Arab News*

“BEIRUT: Kurdish-led fighters overran the last village held by the Daesh group in Syria on Wednesday, confining its once vast cross-border “caliphate” to two small hamlets, a war monitor said. It is the culmination of...”

#### **Car bomb kills soldier near Iraq’s Kirkuk**

*Reuters*

“KIRKUK, Iraq (Reuters) - A car bomb killed one soldier and injured at least two in a northern Iraqi town near the oil-rich city of Kirkuk on Wednesday, the military and a security source said. The military said in a statement that

#### **Firm Proof that Most Palestinians Killed in Gaza Protests had Terrorist Ties**

*Steven Emerson/ The Algemeiner*

“The vast majority of Palestinians killed in response to weekly violent protests on the Israel-Gaza border were affiliated with Hamas and other terrorist groups, reports the Meir Amit Intelligence and Terrorism Information Center,,,”

#### **Netanyahu to Soleimani: We will not stop fighting as long as I lead**

*Tamar Beeri/ The Jerusalem Post*

“Iran’s Commander of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) Quds Force Maj.- Gen. Qassem Soleimani was less than an hour’s drive away from Israel’s border on Friday, according to a report by Kuwaiti paper Al-Jarida. This visit, the report claimed, is what triggered...”

#### **Netanyahu to Hamas: ‘If you escalate, the response will be destructive’**

*Herb Keinson/ The Jerusalem Post*

“Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu warned Hamas not to escalate violence in Gaza, warning on Wednesday of a strong response if it does so. “There may be someone in Gaza who thought they could raise their head...”

#### **Danon to UN Security Council: Iran Spends \$7 billion a year on terrorism**

*Breaking Israel News*

“Israeli Ambassador to the United Nations Danny Danon warned the U.N. Security Council on Tuesday about Iran’s terror network in the Middle East, spending \$7 billion annually to threaten Israel. “Iran is exploiting the regime to conduct...”

#### **UN Mideast Envoy says denied access to cross-border tunnels from Lebanese side**

*I24 News*

“The UN envoy to the Mideast told the Security Council on Tuesday that UNIFIL -- the peacekeeping force tasked with maintaining calm on the Israeli-Lebanese border...”



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**[Palestinians to reject U.S. aid over new U.S. anti-terrorism legislation](#)**

*The National*

“The Palestinian Authority will reject all aid from the US government from the end of January in a bid to avoid lawsuits under new American anti-terrorism legislation. The end to American funding means...”

**South Asia**

**[Maharashtra ATS arrests 9 men allegedly aligned with ISIS today](#)**

*APN News*

“Maharashtra Anti-Terrorism Squad (ATS) arrested nine men of a group allegedly aligned with the international terrorist organisation ISIS today. Police said all individuals arrested are...”

**[Afghan Spy agency says it kills Taliban mastermind of deadly attack](#)**

*Abdul Qadir Sediqi and Jibran Ahmad/ Reuters*

“KABUL/PESHAWAR, Pakistan (Reuters) - Afghanistan’s main spy agency said on Wednesday it had killed the Taliban commander behind a deadly attack on one of its bases this week, and vowed to...”

**Southeast Asia**

**[Indonesia cancels early release for Abu Bakar Bashir, radical cleric linked to Bali bombings](#)**

*Channel News Asia*

“JAKARTA: The Indonesian government has cancelled the early release of radical Muslim cleric and terror convict Abu Bakar Bashir as he has not met certain conditions for parole, the state palace announced on Tuesday (Jan 22). Among the conditions for early release mentioned...”

**[MHA reports terrorism threat to Singapore remains high; urges S’poreans not to be complacent](#)**

*The Independent*

“Terrorism threats to Singapore remain high, as Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) continues to proliferate in the region and beyond. This is according to the Singapore Terrorism Threat Assessment Report 2019 of Ministry of Home Affairs’ (MHA), which was released...”

**East Asia**

**[South Korea: Next U.S.- North Korea summit must ‘deliver concrete results on denuclearization’](#)**

*Tal Axelrod/ The Hill*

“South Korea’s top diplomat on Wednesday said that the next nuclear summit between the U.S. and North Korea must “deliver concrete results on denuclearization,” according to Reuters. Foreign Minister Kang Kyung-wha told the World Economic Forum in Davos that...”



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### **[China assures support to Kenya in fighting terrorism](#)**

*Jeremiah Wakaya/ Capital News*

“NAIROBI, Kenya, Jan 23 – China has assured of the county’s commitment to fully supporting Kenya in the war against terrorism, in the wake of a deadly attack in the capital Nairobi where 21 people were killed. In a translated message...”

### **[China’s First Aircraft Carrier is Back in Action](#)**

*David Axe/ The National Interest*

“After six years at sea, Liaoning -- now 30 years old -- sailed back to Dalian for her first refit. Carriers typically spend a third of their time undergoing maintenance, another third in training and the last third on operations. The Chinese navy's first aircraft carrier Liaoning...”

## **Africa**

### **[Morocco Busts another ISIS Cell; Captures Algerian Terror Fugitive](#)**

*North Africa Post*

“Moroccan authorities announced on Wednesday the arrest of 13 jihadists linked to the extremist ISIS group. Aged between 22 and 44, members of this terror cell were operating in various cities including Casablanca, Salé, Mohammedia and El Kelaa Sraghna. These ISIS operatives were planning...”

## **Europe**

### **[Gardai Raid ‘ISIS cash gang’ after tip off by bank in Dublin](#)**

*Niall O’Connor/ The Irish Mirror*

“A bank alerted Gardai to a suspected Islamist financier and his family over suspicions they were collecting tens of thousands of euro for ISIS. Anti-terrorism detectives, money laundering and Garda intelligence officers raided six addresses in Dublin. These were targeted over...”

### **[Europe Begins Souring on Iran over Terror War](#)**

*Benny Avni/ The New York Sun*

“On Monday, Berlin announced a complete ban against Mahan Air, a “civilian” airline that doubles as an adjunct to the Iranian regime’s nefarious activities across the Middle East. The decision came, reportedly, after months of US efforts to...”

## **US & Canada**

### **[Government shutdown ‘causing FBI to lose informants’ at center of terrorism investigations](#)**

*Samuel Osborne/ The Independent*

“A lack of funding due to the partial shutdown of the US government is hindering FBI investigations into drug and terrorism offences, the FBI Agents Association (FBIAA) has said. The bureau has lost several informants who have infiltrated groups under investigation, an anonymous FBI agent...”



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### **3 Michigan men arrested for Conspiracy to support ISIS**

*Morgan Winsor/ ABC News*

“Three Michigan residents were arrested Monday afternoon for conspiring to support ISIS, federal authorities said. Muse Abdikadir Muse, 20, was arrested by law enforcement officers during security screening at the Gerald R. Ford Airport...”

### **Drone sighting disrupts major U.S. Airport**

*Dave Lee/ BBC*

“Flights were grounded at Newark International Airport in the US state of New Jersey after two drones were spotted flying nearby. A pilot told air traffic control that one of the drones came within 30ft (9m) of his aircraft...”

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

### **Maduro foe claims Venezuela presidency amid protests**

*WTOP*

“CARACAS, Venezuela (AP) — Venezuela’s crisis quickly escalated Wednesday as an opposition leader backed by the Trump administration declared himself interim president in a direct challenge to embattled socialist Nicolas Maduro, who retaliated by breaking off relations with...”