



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

29 January 2019

### **Middle East**

#### **Iran says its ballistic missile program non-negotiable, will continue to build**

*Lukas Mikelionis/ Fox News*

“The Iranian regime said on Tuesday that it’s not interested in having talks with the U.S. and Europe concerning their ballistic missile program, but said that it won’t work increasing the missiles’ range – only the precision...”

#### **U.S. close to retaking ‘100%’ of ISIS land in Syria, Shanahan says**

*Travis Tritten, Anthony Cappacio/ Bloomberg*

“U.S.-backed forces are weeks away from liberating all the remaining land held by Islamic State in Syria, Acting Defense Secretary Patrick Shanahan said, though its territorial defeat doesn’t spell the end of the militant group’s ability to...”

#### **Iraq security kill terrorist, arrest 8 in Diyala Province**

*Mohamed Mostafa/ Iraqi News*

“Diyala (IraqiNews.com) Iraqi security forces killed a terrorist element and arrested eight others during raids at different areas of Diyala province, security media reported. According to the Security Media Center, troops carried out...”

#### **Israeli Cyber Chief says Israel to partner with ‘friends in region’ for security**

*The Jerusalem Post*

“Israel's cyber chief, Yigal Unna, said the country will partner with its "friends all around the Mediterranean" to secure regional maritime cyber space at a conference on Tuesday, promising a fortification of election networks...”

#### **Iran attacks Israel in Cybersphere ‘daily’ Netanyahu says**

*Shoshanna Solomon/ The Times of Israel*

“Iranian hackers target Israel every day, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu charged at a cybersecurity conference in Tel Aviv on Tuesday. “Iran attacks Israel on a daily basis,” he told a gathering of...”

### **Central Asia**

#### **India Kyrgyzstan vow to combat terror, cooperate on deradicalization**

*The Week*

“India and Kyrgyzstan on Tuesday vowed to jointly combat the scourge of terrorism and collaborate on deradicalisation, while also stepping up ties in key fields such as defence, development partnership and trade. The two countries also reviewed their...”



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## South Asia

### [‘Trump-style wall’: Pakistan building wall on Afghan border](#)

*Hashem Ahelbarra/Al-Jazeera*

“Pakistan is building a security barrier along its north-western border with Afghanistan. A third of the 2,600-kilometre fence has already been completed. Pakistan says it has also installed surveillance technology aimed at...”

### [Attack on Loralai police office claims nine lives](#)

*Pakistan Today*

“LORALAI: At least nine people, including eight police staff and a civilian, were killed and over 20 injured when gunmen stormed the office of the deputy inspector general (DIG) of police in Loralai on Tuesday. The militants targeted...”

### [Acting Pentagon Chief: Talks with Taliban ‘encouraging,’ no troop withdrawal plan yet](#)

*Ellen Mitchell/The Hill*

“Acting Secretary of Defense Patrick Shanahan said on Monday that there’s been “encouraging” progress in talks with the Taliban, though there is no concrete plan yet for the withdrawal of U.S. troops in Afghanistan...”

### [China may try to ‘push forward’ Afghanistan peace process to protect interests](#)

*Kristen Huang/South China Morning Post*

“China is expected to step up diplomatic efforts to drive the Afghanistan peace process in order to safeguard its interests in the region after the US withdraws its troops from the war-ravaged country, analysts said. US chief negotiator Zalmay Khalilzad on Monday...”

## Southeast Asia

### [Philippine Cathedral Attack Blamed on Suicide-Bomber Couple](#)

*Jake Maxwell Watts/Wall Street Journal*

“President Rodrigo Duterte said on Tuesday that husband-and-wife suicide bombers likely carried out the attack against a Roman Catholic cathedral in the southern Philippines that killed 20 people, an escalation of terrorism by supporters of...”

### [‘ISIS supporter’ accused of attempting murder over brutal hair salon stabbing pleads not guilty and claims he’s insane](#)

*Mark Brook/Daily Mail Australia*

“A former alleged ISIS supporter who stabbed his neighbour with a hunting knife near his Sydney home has pleaded not guilty on the grounds of mental illness. Ihsas Khan, 24, appeared in the NSW Supreme Court on Tuesday, where he was charged with...”



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## East Asia

### [China slams U.S. over ‘unreasonable crackdown’ on Huawei](#)

*Steven Jiang, Ben Wescott/ CNN*

“Beijing (CNN Business)China has lashed out against the United States, accusing it of trying to "kill" Chinese businesses after US prosecutors indicted telecom giant Huawei on a slew of charges. "For some time now, the United States has deployed its state power to..."

### [Ballistic missile can hit moving ships, China says, but experts remain skeptical](#)

*Brad Lendon/ CNN*

“Hong Kong (CNN) Chinese state-run media has offered a pointed defense of the capabilities of its so-called "Guam killer" missile. A slickly produced short video touting the missiles' advanced technology was first televised in China on Thursday. This was followed Monday by..."

### [China says EU tour of restive region gave ‘objective insight’](#)

*Channel News Asia*

“China said on Tuesday a recent EU delegation visit to the far-west region of Xinjiang could enhance "objective understanding" of its controversial anti-terrorism campaign as it faces global criticism over mass detentions there..."

## Africa

### [Police allowed to hold for 7 days suspected Al-Shabaab recruits](#)

*Fadhili Fredrick*

“A Kwale court on Tuesday allowed police to detain 17 suspects arrested over suspected links with Somalia-based terror group Al-Shabaab. The suspects were arrested on Sunday at Samburu in Kwale County in a two-bedroom house where police said they..."

### [Home-grown terror a worsening threat for Kenya](#)

*Daily Maverick*

“The six attackers and 12 suspects in court for the 15 January terror attack on Nairobi’s Dusit hotel complex are mostly Kenyans. This was also the case in the 2015 attack on the Garissa University campus. By contrast, those who attacked the Westgate Mall in 2013 were largely foreigners..."

## Europe

### [130 ISIS Fighters to be brought back to France](#)

*Seth J. Frantzman/ The Jerusalem Post*

“Paris will repatriate around 130 men detained in Syria who are suspected of ISIS ties, according to a report published by BFM TV in France. The men are currently being held by the Syrian Democratic Forces, the partner of the US-led anti-ISIS Coalition..."



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### **Turkey confirms continuing operations against 'PKK' in Iraq**

*Said Abdel Razek/ Asharq Al-Awsat*

“Turkish Defense Minister Hulusi Akar confirmed on Sunday that his country would continue its military operations against Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK) north Iraq. He said Turkey has informed Baghdad’s government about this decision.

### **Minister Pledges Millions in Aid to help Rebuild Iraq**

*Forces Network*

“Britain will give more than £30 million to help the Iraqi government rebuild hospitals, schools and other vital infrastructure to allow those displaced by conflict to return home. It will be the first donation to...”

## **US & Canada**

### **U.S. Intel chief Dan Coats: North Korea 'unlikely to completely give up' its nukes**

*William Cummings/ USA Today*

“WASHINGTON – Although the Trump administration often touts the "progress" being made in denuclearization talks with North Korea, the head of American intelligence told senators Tuesday that Kim Jong Un's regime is "unlikely to completely give up its nuclear weapons." Director of National Intelligence Dan Coats said that on the positive side...”

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

### **U.S. Sanctions Venezuela state oil firm, escalating pressure on Maduro**

*By Matt Spetalnick and Brian Ellsworth*

“WASHINGTON/CARACAS (Reuters) - The Trump administration on Monday imposed sweeping sanctions on Venezuelan state-owned oil firm PDVSA, aimed at severely curbing the OPEC member’s crude exports to the United States and at pressuring socialist President Nicolas Maduro to step down. Russia, a close ally of Venezuela...”