

PTSS DAILY

A COUNTERTERRORISM NEWS JOURNAL

"We are now concerned with the peace of the entire world. And the peace can only be maintained by the strong." – George Catlett Marshall



17 October 2013

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THE PTSS DAILY began as a means of keeping PTSS Marshall Center Alumni abreast of news related to terrorism. *THE PTSS DAILY* is neither an academic journal nor the effort of a research directorate or a large staff. Early each morning, articles that are cited in *THE PTSS DAILY* are culled from hundreds of sources with the intent of providing you with the most current news, discussions and commentary on terrorism and related issues such as piracy or narco-terrorism. These articles, curated from news media, academic and international sources or submitted by many of you, give our growing network a snapshot of this pernicious threat.

Every effort is made to ensure that credible articles are chosen, but the intent of *THE PTSS DAILY* is to deliver wide coverage. You – *the professional* – must be the final discriminator on the merit of a particular article and its value to your profession. To ensure that *THE PTSS DAILY* is both relevant and valuable to the reader, we welcome and highly encourage comments from you.

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Thought for the Day

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"Our defense is in the preservation of the spirit which prizes liberty as a heritage of all men, in all lands, everywhere. Destroy this spirit and you have planted the seeds of despotism around your own doors.

~Abraham Lincoln

Global Strategic Overview

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More bombs explode in Myanmar; police arrest four suspects

| Reuters | By Aung Hla Tun and Jared Ferrie | 17 October 2013 |

Several bombs exploded in northeastern Myanmar on Thursday, police said, the latest in a string of unexplained attacks, including a blast this week that injured an American tourist in a plush hotel in the country's commercial capital.

Investigations are proceeding into the motive behind the string of bombings that have killed at least two people and wounded four over five days in four different regions. Myanmar's two biggest cities, Yangon and Mandalay, have both been hit. The latest explosions struck Namkham, a town in Shan state bordering China, where ethnic rebels have been battling government forces. "I don't know if there's any connection between these latest blasts and the incidents in Yangon and Mandalay," ...

Read more at: <http://news.yahoo.com/more-bombs-explode-myanmar-police-arrest-four-suspects-102454839.html>

Suicide bomber kills 15 in village near Mosul

| AFP | 17 October 2013 |

A suicide bomber detonated near the northern city of Mosul Thursday, killing fifteen people according to AFP sources.

The fatal blast was reported in the Al-Muawaffaqiyah area, east of Mosul. The area is home to the small Shabak minority, known for their distinct dialogue and religious practices that blend Shiite Islam with local beliefs. According to AFP figures, more than 330 people have been killed so far this month, and over 5,000 this year. Fears are arising that this recent, unprecedented surge in violence...

Read more at: <http://www.albawaba.com/news/iraq-bomb-mosul-527254>

Al Qaeda's rise in northern Syria leaves Turkey with dilemma

| Reuters | By Nick Tattersall | 17 October 2013 |

The rise of al Qaeda in parts of Syria's north has left Turkey facing a new security threat on its already vulnerable border and raised questions about its wholesale support for rebels battling President Bashar al-Assad.

Turkey has long championed more robust backing for Syria's fractious armed opposition, arguing it would bring a quicker end to Assad's rule and give moderate forces the authority they needed to keep more radical Islamist elements in check. But with Islamist groups such as Jabhat al-Nusra and the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) taking <http://news.yahoo.com/al-qaedas-rise-northern-syria-leaves-turkey-dilemma-053409085.html>

Mali terrorist attacks a wake up call, UN envoy says



| Associated Press | 17 October 2013 |

Recent attacks by armed groups and terrorists are an important “wake up call” highlighting the challenge of stabilising the volatile north and restoring security to the west African nation, the top UN envoy to the country said on Wednesday.

Albert Koenders told the UN Security Council that the successful presidential election this summer and progress in recent months have opened up new prospects for Mali’s recovery and longer-term future, but the recent attacks demonstrate the need to address the root causes of the country’s near-collapse last year along with its serious humanitarian needs and shocking malnutrition levels. He pointed to a suicide attack by extremist elements...

Read more at: http://gulfnews.com/news/world/other-world/mali-terrorist-attacks-a-wake-up-call-un-envoy-says-1.1243976?utm_content=1.1243976&utm_medium=RSS&utm_source=Feeds&utm_campaign=Mali_terrorist_attacks_a_wake_up_call,UN_envoy_says&localLinksEnabled=false&utm_term=News_RSS_feed

Security a Concern for Weapons Inspectors in Syria

| Associated Press | 17 October 2013 |

Car bombs and mortars have exploded close to the hotel where chemical weapons inspectors are staying in the Syrian capital in recent days, but officials said Thursday there is no way of knowing if the team is being deliberately targeted.

Malik Ellahi, a senior official at the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, told a small group of reporters at the organization’s headquarters the latest “mortar incident” happened late Wednesday close to the team’s Damascus hotel. That followed car bombs and mortars detonating close to the hotel on Oct. 12. “In terms of the security situation there are always concerns but the team so far has, with the cooperation of the Syrian authorities, managed to conduct its work unimpeded.”...

Read more at: <http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/security-concern-weapons-inspectors-syria-20594821>

Libyan pleads not guilty to terrorism charges

| Associated Press | 17 October 2013 |

A Libyan charged in the deadly 1998 al-Qaida bombings of US embassies in Africa pleaded not guilty on Tuesday to terrorism charges in a brief courthouse proceeding.

A frail looking Abu Anas al-Libi entered the plea in a heavily guarded federal courtroom in Manhattan 10 days after he was captured during an October 5 military raid in Libya. The 49-year-old al-Libi was interrogated aboard a US navy warship for a week before being brought to New York on Saturday. Al-Libi, who has a thick gray beard, kept his hands folded on his lap as the judge read the charges. His court-appointed federal defender, David Patton, entered the plea on his behalf...

Read more at: http://articles.timesofindia.indiatimes.com/2013-10-16/us/43105559_1_al-libi-terrorism-charges-manhattan-court

Rocket attack fear for flights to Egypt

| AFP | 17 October 2013 |

A Dutch airline has cancelled flights to the popular Egyptian resort of Sharm el-Sheikh due to the threat of a militant rocket attack.

Part of the KLM group – has scrapped services to the city for at least two weeks, AFP reports. “We have postponed our flights to Sharm el-Sheikh for the coming two weeks because of a risk-based assessment done by the KLM group,” said Marine Sluiter, a spokeswoman for the airline. She added that Transavia would “look at the situation every day until then,” but declined to discuss the contents of KLM’s report. “There is a threat from the ground in the Sinai area,” Edmond Messchaert of the Dutch National Counterterrorism and Security Coordinator...

Read more at: <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/travel/travelnews/10385199/Rocket-attack-fear-for-flights-to-Egypt.html>



Fighting Eases at Prison in Syria's Aleppo

| AFP | 17 October 2013 |

Fighting between the Syrian army and rebels at a prison in the northern city of Aleppo eased on Thursday, a day after the insurgents assaulted the facility, activists said.

The mostly jihadist rebel forces launched an attack on the regime-controlled prison on Wednesday night, in the heaviest fighting for the jail in months, said the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights. The military responded to the assault by firing a barrage of shells in the area around the prison. After midnight, "the intensity of the fighting decreased between the army and members of the al-Qaida-linked Al-Nusra Front and another Islamist faction..."

Read more at: <http://www.naharnet.com/stories/en/102414-fighting-eases-at-prison-in-syria-s-aleppo>

Special: Qaradawi And The Struggle For Sunni Islam

Qaradawi And The Struggle For Sunni Islam

| The Washington Institute | by David Schenker | 16 October 2013 |

The leading Sunni cleric's shift toward militant views on Syria and Egypt may be a bellwether for future intra-Sunni sectarian strife in the Middle East.

With Sunni-Shiite conflict consuming Iraq, Bahrain, Syria, and Lebanon, headlines from the Middle East these days are dominated by news of sectarianism. But an equally important intra-Sunni conflict is also playing out between various Islamist and more secular-leaning constituencies across the region. Qatar-based Egyptian cleric Yusuf al-Qaradawi is emblematic of this struggle. Despite positioning himself for years as the vanguard of the moderate al-Wasatiyyah Islamic trend, Qaradawi has issued controversial religious edicts in recent months supporting Sunni-Shiite conflict in Syria and the restoration of deposed Islamist president Muhammad Morsi. These fatwas have placed the eighty-seven-year-old cleric at the heart of two of the region's most polarizing issues ...

Read more at: <http://www.washingtoninstitute.org/policy-analysis/view/qaradawi-and-the-struggle-for-sunni-islam>

Counterterrorism News by Nation & Region

AFGHANISTAN

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Afghanistan's Transition: Security Agreement And The Political Process

| The Soufan Group | 16 October 2013 |

As of mid-October 2013, the security and political process transitions in Afghanistan are taking major steps forward. On October 6, about 20 slates completed registration for the April 5, 2014 presidential elections. The Afghan constitution limits a president to serving two consecutive five year terms, and President Hamid Karzai has pledged to step down in accordance with constitutional requirements.

On October 11, US Secretary of State John Kerry made an unexpected visit to Kabul to jump start stalled talks between the US and Afghanistan on a Bilateral Security Agreement (BSA), pertaining to the US' maintaining forces in Afghanistan after the international security mission formally ends on December 31, 2014 ...

Read more at: <http://soufangroup.com/tsg-intelbriefs-afghanistans-transition-security-agreement-and-the-political-process/>

Jihadists Assassinate Governor In Key Afghan Province

| The Long Was Journal | by Bill Roggio | 15 October 2013 |

Arsala Jamal, the governor of Logar province, was assassinated today as he was speaking inside a mosque for Eid al Adha prayers.



Jamal was killed by a bomb that was "skillfully planted inside the microphone in the front part of the mosque," *Pajhwok Afghan News* reported. A member of the provincial High Peace Committee, which is tasked with negotiating with the Taliban, is also reported to have been killed. Eighteen people were wounded in the blast.

Read more at: http://www.longwarjournal.org/archives/2013/10/jihadists_assassinat.php

CANADA

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Canadian Pleads Guilty To Terrorism Charges In U.S.

| *CTV* | 16 October 2013 |

A Canadian man has pleaded guilty in the United States to two terrorism offences in connection with the Tamil Tigers.

Piratheepan Nadarajah, from Brampton, Ont., admitted to a conspiracy to acquire anti-aircraft missiles and attempting to provide material support to a foreign terrorist organization.

Online court records, updated Wednesday, show that Nadarajah pleaded guilty last week in New York to the two counts ...

Read more at: <http://www.ctvnews.ca/canada/canadian-pleads-guilty-to-terrorism-charges-in-u-s-1.1499890>

EGYPT

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Egypt Decries US Decision To Curtail Aid When Country Is 'Fighting Terrorism'

| *The Telegraph* | 10 October 2013 |

The army-backed government said Thursday the decision to cut aid was wrong, with the cabinet saying it found the decision strange at a time when the country was "facing a war against terrorism".

However, US Secretary of State John Kerry said Washington would consider resuming some of the aid "on a basis of performance" in following the interim government's "roadmap" that promises to lead to fair elections ...

Read more at: <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/africaandindianocean/egypt/10370168/Egypt-decries-US-decision-to-curtail-aid-when-country-is-fighting-terrorism.html>

Cracking Down On Egypt's 'Terrorist' Media

| *AlJazeera* | 16 October 2013 |

Mostapha had an idea. The young video journalist, employed by the Egyptian state-owned newspaper *Gomhoriya*, had recently traveled to Upper Egypt to film the harsh living conditions people face there, and wanted to put a short film online.

His editor - appointed to the newspaper by former president Mohamed Morsi's administration - said "no".

Instead, he "invited me to cover news about the Muslim Brotherhood's public services", Mostapha told Al Jazeera, and to film the streets of Cairo with two caveats: the roadways must be clean and devoid of traffic.

Mostapha - who asked that his real name not be used for security reasons - objected, accusing his editor of whitewashing the real situation in the country. The editor disagreed and the two argued, ending with Mostapha storming out of the office

Read more at: <http://www.aljazeera.com/indepth/features/2013/10/cracking-down-egypts-terrorist-media-2013101513433333440.html>



ITALY

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US Builds Up Bases In Italy For African Ops

| *Military* | 16 October 2013 |

The U.S. deployment of 200 Marines to a naval base in Sicily for possible operations in Libya, a short hop across the Mediterranean, underlines how the Americans have been building a network of bases in Italy as launch pads for military interventions in Africa and the Mideast.

The signs are that 20 years after the American military's first, and costly, encounter with Muslim militants in Mogadishu, Somalia, U.S. operations in Africa are growing as the Islamist threat expands.

Another key factor is President Barack Obama's switch in his counter-terror strategy from drone strikes against al-Qaida to pinpoint raids by small Special Forces teams, as seen in Somalia and Libya on Oct. 5 ...

Read more at: <http://www.military.com/daily-news/2013/10/16/us-builds-up-bases-in-italy-for-african-ops.html>

IRAN

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Terrorism, Violence Main Threat To Region: Iran President

| *Press TV* | 15 October 2013 |

Iran President Hassan Rouhani says extremism, sectarianism, violence and terrorism pose dangerous challenges to the region, calling on regional nations to counter these challenges through cooperation.

President Rouhani made the remarks on Tuesday in a telephone conversation with Qatari Emir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al-Thani. The Qatari monarch called Rouhani to congratulate him on the occasion of the Eid al-Adha and invite him to pay a state visit to Qatar ...

Read more at: <http://www.presstv.ir/detail/2013/10/15/329516/terrorism-main-threat-to-region-rouhani/>

Four Good Reasons Why Iran Doesn't Trust America

| *Time Swampland* | by Michael Crowley | 15 October 2013 |

One basic obstacle for the new round of talks over Iran's nuclear program that open today will be America's basic distrust of the Iranian regime. Before striking any deal with Tehran, the Obama Administration will have to gauge whether a country where hostility toward the U.S. has been a core political theme since 1979 is acting in good faith. That could be a hard notion to swallow, given that some Iranian leaders still call America the Great Satan, and that Iran still celebrates the 1979 takeover of the U.S. embassy in Tehran with a national holiday ...

Read more at: <http://swampland.time.com/2013/10/15/four-good-reasons-why-iran-doesnt-trust-america/>

ISRAEL

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Israel Urges World Not To Back Down On Iran

| *CBN News* | 17 October 2013 |

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is continuing to warn the international community not to back down from economic sanctions against Iran, but to keep up the pressure.

The Netanyahu government believes that talks with Iran are just the latest in Tehran's attempt to deceive the world and buy time to produce a nuclear bomb ...

Read more at: <http://www.cbn.com/cbnnews/world/2013/October/Israel-Urges-World-Not-to-Back-Down-on-Iran/>



LEBANON

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Lebanon Charges 7 People With "Acts Of Terrorism" In Mosque Bombing That Killed Dozens

| *The Province* | 14 October 2013 |

Lebanese state media says military prosecutor Saqr Saqr has charged seven people with "acts of terrorism" over deadly mosque bombings in the northern city of Tripoli.

The National News Agency says Monday that three of those charged are in detention while the rest are at large ...

Read more at:

<http://www.theprovince.com/news/Lebanon+charges+people+with+acts+terrorism+mosque+bombing+that/9034015/story.html>

MALI

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Mali Terrorist Attacks Show Insecurity - UN

| *News 24* | 17 October 2013 |

Recent attacks by armed groups and terrorists are an important "wake up call" highlighting the challenge of stabilising the volatile north and restoring security to the west African nation, the top UN envoy to the country said on Wednesday.

Albert Koenders told the UN Security Council that the successful presidential election this summer and progress in recent months have opened up new prospects for Mali's recovery and longer-term future, but the recent attacks demonstrate the need to address the root causes of the country's near-collapse last year along with its serious humanitarian needs and shocking malnutrition levels ...

Read more at: <http://www.news24.com/Africa/News/Mali-terrorist-attacks-show-insecurity-UN-20131017>

MOROCCO

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Assessing Morocco's New Cabinet

| *The Washington Institute* | by Vish Sakhivel | 16 October 2013 |

Islamists look weaker in the country's new leadership, while the king continues to show his influence.

Last Thursday, October 10, King Muhammad VI of Morocco signed off on the country's new cabinet after months of protracted negotiations. In the new cabinet, known as "Benkirane II," the secretary-general of the governing Islamist Justice and Development Party (PJD), Abdelilah Benkirane, for whom the coalition is named, retains the post of prime minister. The head of the centrist, pro-palace National Rally of Independents (RNI), Salah Eddine Mezouar, has secured the coveted foreign ministry portfolio from the PJD's own Saad Eddine al-Othmani. The RNI ruled in several coalitions before the PJD joined in the wake of February 20 Movement (M20F) protests (a pro-democracy effort that burgeoned following the 2011 Arab uprisings). A former RNI member turned independent, Mohamed Boussaid, has assumed the finance minister post, which was originally intended for Mezouar until public protests over his ongoing corruption case threatened his candidacy. Other unaffiliated technocrats have assumed the Interior and Education Ministry portfolios ...

Read more at: <https://www.washingtoninstitute.org/policy-analysis/view/25472>



NIGERIA

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A Glimpse At Nigeria's Ongoing Islamic Terrorist Challenges

| *American Diplomacy* | by Brenda Brown Schoonover | 17 October 2013 |

Nigeria's current population is more than 170 million. Not only does that make it the most populous nation in Africa, but it has the potential of being the largest domestic market in sub-Saharan Africa. It is the largest oil-producing nation in Africa and the twelfth largest in the world.

The country's strategic location, sheer numbers, and vibrant population make Nigeria a dominant actor on the continent and an important player in the world's economic and political arena.

It has more than 250 ethnic groups. Although English is Nigeria's official language, there are as many as 500 indigenous languages. The religious composition of the population is a little more than fifty percent Muslim, mostly concentrated in the north; slightly more than forty percent Christian mostly located in the south. The rest are members of indigenous beliefs ...

Read more at: http://www.unc.edu/depts/diplomat/item/2013/0912/ca/schoonover_glimpse.html

PAKISTAN

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Pakistan Prime Minister: We Will End Terrorism

| *Gulf News* | 16 October 2013 |

Pakistan Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif on Wednesday expressed his firm resolve to overcome the challenges of terrorism, extremism and energy crisis during the term of the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) government with the support of the people.

Addressing PML-N parliamentarians, party workers and people from various walks of life after offering Eid Al Adha prayers in Lahore on Wednesday, the prime minister said that his party took charge of the government at a very difficult time, the Associated Press of Pakistan (APP) reported ...

Read more at: <http://gulfnews.com/news/world/pakistan/pakistan-prime-minister-we-will-end-terrorism-1.1243898>

Pakistan

| *Night Watch* | 16 October 2013 |

At least eight people including a provincial law minister were killed following a suicide bomb blast in north-west Pakistan on Wednesday during their celebration of Eid al Adha.

According to local police officials, at least 30 others also were injured following the suicide attack which took place near the town of Dera Ismail Khan. Senior police officer Mohammad Jan said the minister of law for Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Province, Israullah Gandapur, was meeting with people at his house to celebrate the Muslim Eid holiday when the attack took place.

Comment: Minister Gandapur was a local tribal chief, a member of the provincial parliament representing Dera Ismail Khan and the law minister for in the cabinet of Khyber Pakutunkhwa Province in northwestern Pakistan. Mr. Gandapur was a member of the PTI party which governs Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and which backs talks with the Pakistani Taliban

No group has claimed responsibility for the attack. The last sensational attack in Dera Ismail Khan occurred on 29 July when a force of 125 anti-government fighters from three different militant groups executed a complex operation to break into the central prison at Dera Ismail Khan. With inside help plus mortars and rocket-propelled grenades, they succeeded and freed more than 250 prisoners. The escapees included



about 50 militant leaders who were described as "hard-core." ...

Read more at: <http://us1.campaign-archive2.com/?u=817f179ff76c12de2a4e5ba20&id=0040d0ec23&e=c5c856bbf8>

RUSSIA

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Russia Mulls New Counter-Terrorism Bill

| *UPI* | 15 October 2013 |

A Russian counter-terrorism bill under review Tuesday says anyone convicted of terrorism charges could face 15 years in prison.

Russian President Vladimir Putin submitted the bill to the State Duma, the lower house of the Russian Parliament, last month. Lawmakers reviewed the draft proposal Tuesday, state news agency RIA Novosti reported ...

Read more at: http://www.upi.com/Top_News/Special/2013/10/15/Russia-mulls-new-counter-terrorism-bill/UPI-77161381849961/?spt=rln&or=1

SYRIA

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Syria

| *Night Watch* | 16 October 2013 |

The US State Department Tuesday called on the Syrian National Council to "drop its refusal to join planned peace talks for the Syrian conflict, saying its participation is essential." The State spokesperson said, "There have been many ups and downs in this process. And that's not unexpected given how challenging the situation is on the ground. But we continue to press for the opposition to have a representative body at the Geneva conference."

Comment: The National Coalition includes the National Council and other opposition political groups. Opposition politicians outside Syria are disconnected from the actual fighting. This is the second group of rebel fighting groups operating inside Syria to break from the National Coalition in the past two weeks, according to press reports. It is unclear what the FSA's comment signifies.

There is no single opposition in Syria, but many oppositions that are not cooperating, much less unified. The most vicious rebel-initiated actions this week have been between Free Syrian Army groups and Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) groups and between ISIS and Kurdish militias for control of towns on the Turkish border. ISIS usually defeats the Free Syrian Army, but has been unable to defeat the Kurds ...

Comment: At this rate they should be able to verify the 20 sites they intend to visit by the 1 November deadline for verification under the US-Russian agreement, security conditions permitting. They need to include ballistic missile complexes in their itineraries.

Read more at: <http://us1.campaign-archive2.com/?u=817f179ff76c12de2a4e5ba20&id=0040d0ec23&e=c5c856bbf8>

TURKEY

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After Backing Syria's Islamist Rebels, Turkey Now Fears Al-Qaeda 'Boomerang'

| *World Crunch* | 17 October 2013 |

Earlier in the Syrian war, Turkish officials backed the Islamist rebel group [al-Nusra](#), seeing it as one of the most



effective forces fighting against the regime in Damascus.

But that's over.

Indeed much has changed in Turkey vis-a-vis the Syria issue, with it being mentioned less and less by both the government in Ankara and various national media outlets. We do not hear a statement about Syria every morning and evening like we once did ...

Read more at: <http://www.worldcrunch.com/world-affairs/after-backing-syria-039-s-islamist-rebels-turkey-now-fears-al-qaeda-039-boomerang-039-/terrorism-al-nusra-istanbul-civil-war-aleppo-/c1s13685/#.UI-qPINVKPw>

UNITED KINGDOM

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Who Are The British Jihadists In Syria?

| *BBC* | by *Jenny Cuffe* | 15 October 2013 |

The home secretary and MI5 have warned about the terrorist threat from British residents fighting in Syria. But who are these young men who have gone to fight in another country's war - how did they get there, what are their long term goals and do they pose a threat to UK security?

MI5 says there could be as many as 200 British fighters in Syria. With other Europeans, they make up around 10% of the foreign opposition forces, with most coming from Saudi Arabia, Tunisia and Libya.

The BBC has learned there are a group of 20 young men from the UK who are fighting against forces allied to President Bashar al-Assad near Atma, on the Turkish border ...

Read more at: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-24520762>

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

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US Spy Agency Targets Terror Suspects Through Private Email Accounts

| *The Australian* | 17 October 2013 |

AMERICA'S National Security Agency has been sifting through millions of contact lists from personal email and instant messaging accounts around the world -- including those of Americans -- in its effort to find possible links to terrorism or other criminal activity.

The Washington Post reported this week that the spy agency intercepts hundreds of thousands of email address books every day from private accounts on Yahoo, Gmail, Facebook and Hotmail that move through global data links. It also collects about 500,000 buddy lists from live chat services and email accounts.

The Post said it learned about the collection tactics from secret documents provided by NSA leaker Edward Snowden and confirmed by senior intelligence officials ...

Read more at: <http://www.theaustralian.com.au/news/features/us-spy-agency-targets-terror-suspects-through-private-email-accounts/story-e6frg6z6-1226741212686>

General CounterTerrorism News

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IDF Blames Hamas For 'Terror Tunnel' From Gaza To Israel

| *The Times of Israel* | by *Gavriel Fiske and Mitch Ginsburg* | 13 October 2013 |

An extensive subterranean passageway leading from Gaza into Israeli territory was the work of Hamas, which used some 500 tons of cement earmarked for civilian building in the Strip in the tunnel's construction, the IDF said Sunday.

Defense Minister Moshe Ya'alon responded immediately with a halt on the transfer of construction materials into



the Strip ...

Read more at: <http://www.timesofisrael.com/hamas-terror-tunnel-found-running-from-gaza-to-israel/>

Al Qa'ida & Affiliates

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Al Qaeda's Rise In Northern Syria Leaves Turkey With Dilemma

| Reuters | by Nick Tattersall | 17 October 2013 |

The rise of al Qaeda in parts of Syria's north has left Turkey facing a new security threat on its already vulnerable border and raised questions about its wholesale support for rebels battling President Bashar al-Assad.

Turkey has long championed more robust backing for Syria's fractious armed opposition, arguing it would bring a quicker end to Assad's rule and give moderate forces the authority they needed to keep more radical Islamist elements in check ...

Read more at: <http://www.reuters.com/article/2013/10/17/us-syria-crisis-turkey-qaeda-idUSBRE99G06C20131017>

Commentary & Opinion

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Turkey Blows Israel's Cover For Iranian Spy Ring

| Washington Post | by David Ignatius | 17 October 2013 |

The Turkish-Israeli relationship became so poisonous early last year that the Turkish government of Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan is said to have disclosed to Iranian intelligence the identities of up to 10 Iranians who had been meeting inside Turkey with their Mossad case officers.

Knowledgeable sources describe the Turkish action as a "significant" loss of intelligence and "an effort to slap the Israelis." The incident, disclosed here for the first time, illustrates the bitter, multi-dimensional spy wars that lie behind the current negotiations between Iran and Western nations over a deal to limit the Iranian nuclear program. A Turkish Embassy spokesman had no comment. ...

Read more at: http://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/david-ignatius-turkey-blows-israels-cover-for-iranian-spy-ring/2013/10/16/7d9c1eb2-3686-11e3-be86-6aeaa439845b_story.html

Convergence

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Hit Men For Hot Zones

| EnviroReporter | by Michael Collins | 16 October 2013 |

An assault on the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station (SONGS) spent fuel pools (SFPs) buildings depends on the availability of rocket launchers and the people who would use them. Such a dangerous scheme, however remote but a possibility, would also present at San Onofre. Rocket launchers are available on both sides of the border, terrorist attackers are for hire in American and Mexico, and range of motives includes jihad and anger at the U.S. government. ...

Read more at: <http://www.enviroreporter.com/2013/10/hit-men-for-hot-zones/>



Cyber Warfare

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Hackers Planted Remote Devices To Smuggle Drugs Through Antwerp Port, Europol Reveals

| *Tech World* | by John E Dunn | 16 October 2013 |

Drug smugglers planted an extraordinary array of ingeniously-disguised remote access devices as part of a major hacking attack on the Belgian port of Antwerp's logistics systems, Europol has revealed.

Announced by police in May this year, it is only now that the remarkable scale of the attacks and their unusual methods – which bear an uncanny resemblance to the recent KVM attacks on UK banks - are becoming clear. ...

Read more at: <http://news.techworld.com/security/3474018/hackers-planted-remote-devices-smuggle-drugs-through-antwerp-port-europol-reveals/>

Legal Aspects & Lawfare

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Egypt Planning Anti-Terror Law That Includes Death Penalty

| *The Jerusalem Post* | by Ariel Ben Solomon | 17 October 2013 |

Egypt's Justice Ministry is planning an anti-terrorism law that would include harsh sentences for violence or sabotage against state institutions, as well as the death penalty if people are killed as a result.

As reported by the Egyptian newspaper *Al-Ahram* on Wednesday, once the law is written it will be transferred to the cabinet for approval ...

Read more at: <http://www.jpost.com/Middle-East/Egypt-planning-anti-terror-law-that-includes-death-penalty-328924>

Network Notes

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Coptic Leaders Condemn Obama Adviser's Anti-Coptic Tweets

| *The Investigative Project on Terrorism* | by John Rossomando | 11 October 2013 |

Major Coptic leaders are condemning Mohamed Elibiary, [an Obama administration Homeland Security adviser](#), for suggesting that Copts who raise awareness of anti-Christian violence in Egypt promote "Islamophobic" bigotry.

Elibiary sent out a series of tweets that Coptic leaders found offensive last month. The tweets appeared to chastise the Coptic community for lobbying on behalf of their relatives in Egypt. He targeted them because they had aligned themselves with conservative groups that he called "Islamophobic." ...

Read more at: <http://www.investigativeproject.org/4184/coptic-leaders-condemn-obama-adviser-anti-coptic>

NSA Practices Cannot Be Excused As 'Fighting Terrorism'

| *RT* | 16 October 2013 |

The NSA has attacked key European institutions such as the EU parliament and banking system, using malware to find out all there is to know about other countries in a power game, Andy Mueller-Moguhn, founder of Buggedplannet.info, tells RT.

He says that in a world where so many communications go over the web we all have something to protect rather than something to hide, as proponents of mass surveillance often argue ...

Read more at: <http://rt.com/op-edge/nsa-moral-excuse-fighting-terrorism-262/>



Science & Technology

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DOD Funding Contributes To U.S. Biodefense Infrastructure

| *Source* | *by Author* | 28 August 2013 |

The Defense Department has contributed core capabilities to a national center funded as a public-private partnership by the Department of Health and Human Services to enhance the U.S. response to infectious diseases and biological, chemical, radiological and nuclear threats.

The HHS Texas A&M Center for Innovation in Advanced Development and Manufacturing is a response in part to pandemics such as the 2009-2010 H1N1 flu -- for which traditional biomanufacturing methods took 26 weeks to produce initial vaccine doses -- and the future threat of biological attacks and other public health emergencies. ...

Read more at: <http://www.defense.gov/news/newsarticle.aspx?id=120959>

Terrorist Financing

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Pakistani National And U.S. Naturalized Citizen Charged With Soliciting Aid For Terrorist Groups In Afghanistan

| *District Attorney Queens County* | *by Richard A. Brown* | 10 October 2013 |

Queens District Attorney Richard A. Brown, joined by New York City Police Commissioner Raymond W. Kelly, today announced that two New York City residents have been charged with conspiring to solicit aid in support of terrorist organizations -- including the Taliban and Al-Qaeda-- fighting American troops in Afghanistan ...

Read more at: http://www.queensda.org/newspresreleases/2013/october/nabi_10_10_2013_cmp.pdf

Transportation Security

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Internal Pilot-Union Memo Claims Terrorism 'Dry-Runs' Happening On US Flights

| *RT* | 14 October 2013 |

An internal memo from the union that represents pilots for US Airways claims there have been "several cases recently" throughout the airline industry of what the union believes are "dry-runs" for potential attacks with or on an aircraft.

The memo - released sometime just before September 11, 2013 - from the US Airline Pilots Association states "*there have been several cases recently throughout the (airline) industry of what appear to be probes, or dry-runs, to test our procedures and reaction to an in-flight threat.*"

The union memo, titled "*9/11 Security Update,*" went on to detail one "*typical example*" that happened on a US Airways flight to Orlando International Airport (MCO) originating at Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport (DCA) in Washington, DC. (All italics and capitalization reflect the original memo.) ...

Read more at: <http://rt.com/usa/dry-run-terrorism-planes-memo-090/>

WMD Terrorism

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Iran, World Powers Report Progress In Nuclear Talks, Agree To Further Meetings

| *The Washington Post* | *by Joby Warrick* | 16 October 2013 |

Iranian and U.S. officials cited significant progress Wednesday in international talks on Iran's nuclear program,



agreeing to hold further meetings in rapid succession with the aim of producing a deal inhibiting Tehran's ability to acquire atomic weapons.

The two days of talks in a palace just above Lake Geneva yielded no specific agreements on curbing Iran's nuclear activities. But they produced a rare direct meeting between U.S. and Iranian officials and pledges from both sides to work quickly to end what a top Iranian official called "an unnecessary crisis."....

Read more at: http://www.washingtonpost.com/world/national-security/iran-nuclear-talks-enter-second-day-western-officials-call-tehrans-proposal-very-useful/2013/10/16/615815f4-364e-11e3-be86-6aeaa439845b_story.html

Books, Papers and Reviews

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'I Am Malala' Review Reveals The Dark Truth About Malala Yousafzai's Rise To Stardom

| Policy Mic | by Christina Maza | 16 October 2013 |

With the release of her biography, *I Am Malala*, the spotlight has once again been shone on Malala Yousafzai, the 16-year-old girl who was shot in the head by the Taliban for speaking in favor of educating young girls in Pakistan. To many, Malala is a hero. She has spoken on Western television in numerous interviews, leaving John Stewart at a loss for words as he gushed over her inspirational courage. She was even recently nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize.

But while Malala's story is incredibly inspirational, there is also a darker side to her stardom. By heaping praise on Malala, Western audiences deny their governments' role in Pakistan's struggle with the Taliban and promote a simplistic view of international conflicts. ...

Read more at: <http://www.policymic.com/articles/67847/i-am-malala-review-reveals-the-dark-truth-about-malala-yousafzai-s-rise-to-stardom>

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