

ASIA-PACIFIC & GLOBAL SITUATIONAL AWARENESS UPDATE

9 FEBRUARY 2016

A WEEKLY OPEN-SOURCE NEWS UPDATE ACROSS THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION AND THE GLOBE

ASIA-PACIFIC

Powerful Earthquake Hits Southern Taiwan: At Least 37 Deaths, More Than 520 Injured, Over 300 Rescued From Collapsed Buildings, Over 100 People Missing



<http://www.aljazeera.com/indepth/inpictures/2016/02/pictures-powerful-quake-hits-southern-taiwan-160206062421624.html>

Taiwan Quake: Survivors Still Being Pulled Out Alive



<http://www.cbc.ca/news/world/girl-rescued-2-days-after-taiwan-quake-1.3438169>

<http://www.aljazeera.com/news/2016/02/rescued-taiwan-quake-rubble-time-runs-160208035025592.html>

<http://news.yahoo.com/mother-sons-freed-debris-dark-confusion-quake-toppled-112725754.html>

Taiwan Earthquake: Tin Cans Found In The Construction Of Toppled High-Rise



<http://www.cnn.com/2016/02/08/asia/taiwan-earthquake/>

<http://www.choudoufudaily.com/you-wont-believe-what-they-found-in-the-pillars-of-levelled-building/>

North Korea Changes Announced Launch Window From Feb 8-25 To Feb 7-14, And Launches Long-Range Rocket 7 Feb Despite Warnings



On Tuesday last week, North Korea informed the International Maritime Organization and other related organizations that it would attempt a satellite launch between February 8 and 25. No reason was given Saturday for the change of dates, AP says.

<http://www.panarmenian.net/eng/news/205492/>

<http://www.aljazeera.com/news/2016/02/north-korea-launches-long-range-rocket-160207004824786.html>

North Korea Celebrates Satellite Launch with Fireworks Display



<http://www.cnn.com/2016/02/08/asia/north-korea-rocket-launch/>

UN Security Council Condemns N Korea Rocket Launch, Pledges New Resolution With ‘Significant’ New Sanctions, But No Draft Resolution Yet

<http://www.aljazeera.com/news/2016/02/hold-emergency-summit-korea-rocket-launch-160207144308489.html>

<https://www.nknews.org/2016/02/unsc-condemns-north-koreas-launch-but-no-draft-resolution-yet/>

North Korea Undeterred by International Condemnation



<http://www.voanews.com/content/north-korea-undeterred-by-international-condemnation/3181288.html>

North Korea Praises Launch That Others See As Covert Missile Test



<http://www.cbc.ca/news/world/north-korea-rocket-launch-window-1.3437423>

North Korea Begins Fuel Injection At Launch Pad



http://www.upi.com/Top_News/World-News/2016/02/05/North-Korea-begins-fuel-injection-at-launch-pad/5631454683208/?spt=sec&or=tn

North Korea Rocket Launch: Why Did Kim Fire a Missile Now?



<http://www.rand.org/blog/2016/02/north-korea-rocket-launch-why-did-kim-fire-a-missile.html>

North Korea's Satellite Achieves Orbit: South Korea Defense Ministry



<http://english.yonhapnews.co.kr/news/2016/02/09/0200000000AEN20160209002151315.html?input=rss>
http://www.arirang.com/News/News_View.asp?nseq=188044

North Korean Satellite 'Tumbling In Orbit': U.S. Reports



<http://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20160209000046>
http://www.arirang.com/News/News_View.asp?nseq=188045

South Korea Fires Warning Shot After North Korean Boat Crosses Border

[http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2016/feb/7/south-korea-fires-warning-shot-after-north-korean-/
<https://www.nknews.org/2016/02/n-korean-patrol-boat-violates-northern-limit-line/>](http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2016/feb/7/south-korea-fires-warning-shot-after-north-korean-/)

U.S., Allies Defy China, Push Missile Shield After North Korea Launches Rocket

<http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2016/feb/7/north-korea-launches-rocket-us-and-south-korea-for/>

China Struggles for Balance in Response to North Korea's Boldness



http://www.nytimes.com/2016/02/08/world/asia/china-struggles-for-balance-in-response-to-north-koreas-boldness.html?_r=0

Launched Rocket Believed To Be Long-Range Missile Test

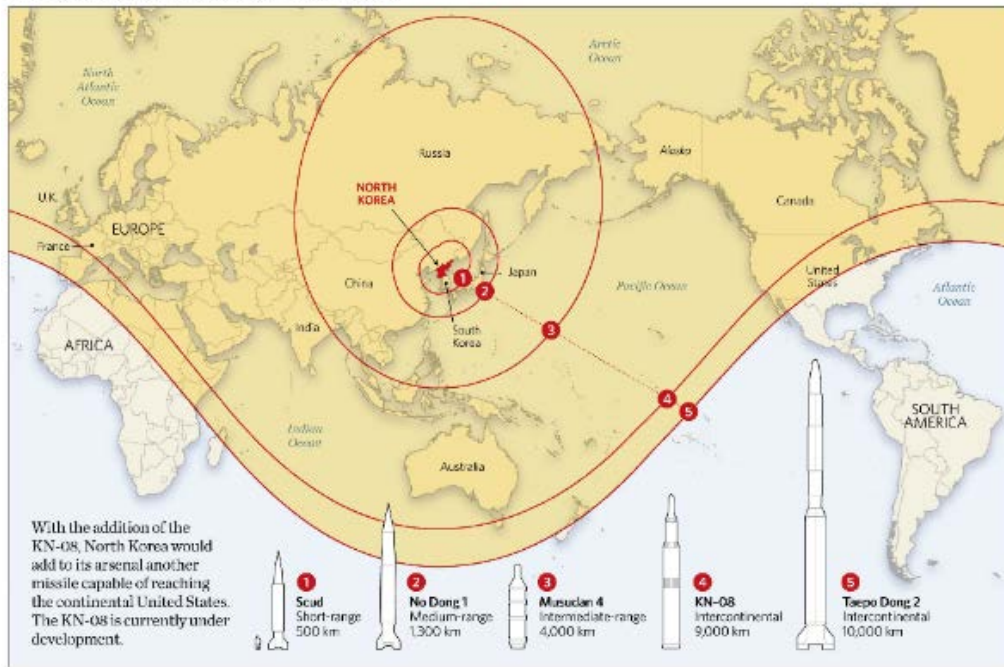
<http://www.npr.org/2016/02/08/465974248/north-korea-launches-rocket-believed-to-be-long-range-missile-test>

Pyongyang's Space Launch in Pictures

http://38north.org/2016/02/sohae020816/fig8_sohae-16-0208/

Reach of North Korea's Missiles: Map

The Reach of North Korea's Ballistic Missiles



<http://www.businessinsider.com/graphic-shows-why-north-korea-is-a-real-threat-to-the-us-2016-2>

North Korea's Missile Launch Shows It Could Target U.S. Homeland



<http://dailysignal.com/2016/02/08/north-koreas-missile-launch-shows-it-could-target-us-homeland/>

What Do We Know About North Korea's Missile Capability?

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/worldviews/wp/2016/02/08/qa-what-do-we-know-about-north-koreas-missile-capability/>

North Korea Nuclear Timeline Fast Facts

<http://www.kitv.com/story/31161710/north-korea-nuclear-timeline-fast-facts>

Leaking U.S. Nuclear Umbrella?

http://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/news/nation/2016/02/667_197041.html

President Obama: North Korea Rocket Launch Concerning But Not A Surprise

<http://www.reuters.com/article/us-northkorea-satellite-usa-idUSKCN0VH152>

North Korea's Satellite Launch May Spur Placement of US Missile System



<http://www.military.com/daily-news/2016/02/08/north-koreas-satellite-launch-may-spur-placement-of-us-missile.html>

North Korea Will Now Reportedly Have America's Most Advanced Missile System In Its Backyard

<http://news.yahoo.com/north-korea-now-reportedly-americas-173724466.html>

China Protests South Korea's Decision On U.S. Missile Shield

<http://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20160208000037>

<http://www.rokdrop.net/2016/02/china-complains-to-rok-ambassador-about-thaad-deployment-discussions/>

China Running Out Of Time To Stop THAAD Deployment? Continued Calls For 'Calm' Reactions To North Korean Tests May No Longer Find An Audience In Seoul

<https://www.nknews.org/2016/02/china-running-out-of-time-to-stop-thaad-deployment/>

Pentagon to China on Missile Shield: Don't Worry About It

<http://www.usnews.com/news/articles/2016-02-08/pentagon-dismisses-chinese-concerns-about-missile-shield-against-north-korea>

North Korea Rocket Launch May Spur U.S. Missile Defense Buildup In Asia

<http://af.reuters.com/article/worldNews/idAFKCN0VH02X>

Obama's Weakness And Xi Jinping's Bullying Are About To Start A Nuclear Arms Race In Asia

<http://freekorea.us/2016/02/05/obamas-weakness-and-xi-jinpings-bullying-are-about-to-start-a-nuclear-arms-race-in-asia/>

North Korea Ignites a Predictable Chain Reaction



<http://warontherocks.com/2016/02/north-korea-ignites-a-predictable-chain-reaction/>

China's Xi Says Dedicated To Maintaining Peace On Korean Peninsula

<http://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/asiapacific/china-s-xi-says-dedicated/2492344.html>

China Conducts Final Tests on Most Powerful Homegrown Rocket

http://www.spacedaily.com/reports/China_Conducts_Final_Tests_on_Most_Powerful_Homegrown_Rocket_999.html

Why China's Xi Jinping Didn't Answer South Korea Park's Call?

http://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/news/opinion/2016/02/197_197434.html

Why China Won't Push NK

http://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/news/opinion/2016/02/351_195714.html

U.S., China Still Differ On North Korea Sanctions: Official

http://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/news/nation/2016/02/485_197451.html

Why Does China Continue To Protect North Korea? It Has A Lot Less To Do With Communism Than You'd Think

<http://www.independent.co.uk/voices/why-does-china-continue-to-protect-north-korea-it-has-a-lot-less-to-do-with-communism-than-you-d-a6860881.html>

Changing China's North Korea Calculus

<http://nationalinterest.org/feature/changing-chinas-north-korea-calculus-15148>

What Russia, China And North Korea Still Agree On

<http://www.strategypage.com/qnd/korea/articles/20160203.aspx>

North Korea Rocket Launch Draws Renewed Focus On Military Alliance With Iran

<http://www.thetower.org/2926-north-korea-rocket-launch-draws-renewed-focus-on-military-alliance-with-iran/>

Park, Obama, Abe To Cooperate For Strong Sanctions On N. Korea

<http://english.yonhapnews.co.kr/news/2016/02/09/0200000000AEN20160209003451315.html?input=rss>

U.S. Readied Defense Assets Before North Korea Launch

<http://www.aljazeera.com/news/2016/02/readies-defence-assets-north-korea-launch-160205053734420.html>

U.S. Troops In Korea Focusing On Deterring North Korean Threats: New Commander

http://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/news/nation/2016/02/205_197086.html

Engage with Russia, and with North Korea



<http://www.theguardian.com/news/defence-and-security-blog/2016/feb/08/engage-with-russia-and-with-north-korea>

North Korean Government Proves To Be Less Simple-Minded And Crazy Than Many Want To Believe, We Should Not Be Surprised

http://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/news/opinion/2016/02/304_196772.html

A New Engagement Strategy: Judging From Past Experience, It Will Not Be Long Before The DPRK Responds To South Korea's Renewed Loudspeaker Broadcasts

http://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/news/nation/2016/02/637_195607.html

North Korea Sending Balloons Filled With Cigarette Butts Into South Korea

<http://www.foxnews.com/world/2016/02/05/north-korea-sending-balloons-filled-with-cigarette-butts-into-south-korea.html>

What the United States Owes to Taiwan and its Interests in Asia

<http://www.heritage.org/research/commentary/2016/2/what-the-us-owes-to-taiwan-and-its-interests-in-asia>

America and China: It's Complicated



<http://warontherocks.com/2016/02/america-and-china-its-complicated/>

Top Five Political-Security Priorities for the Asia-Pacific in 2016

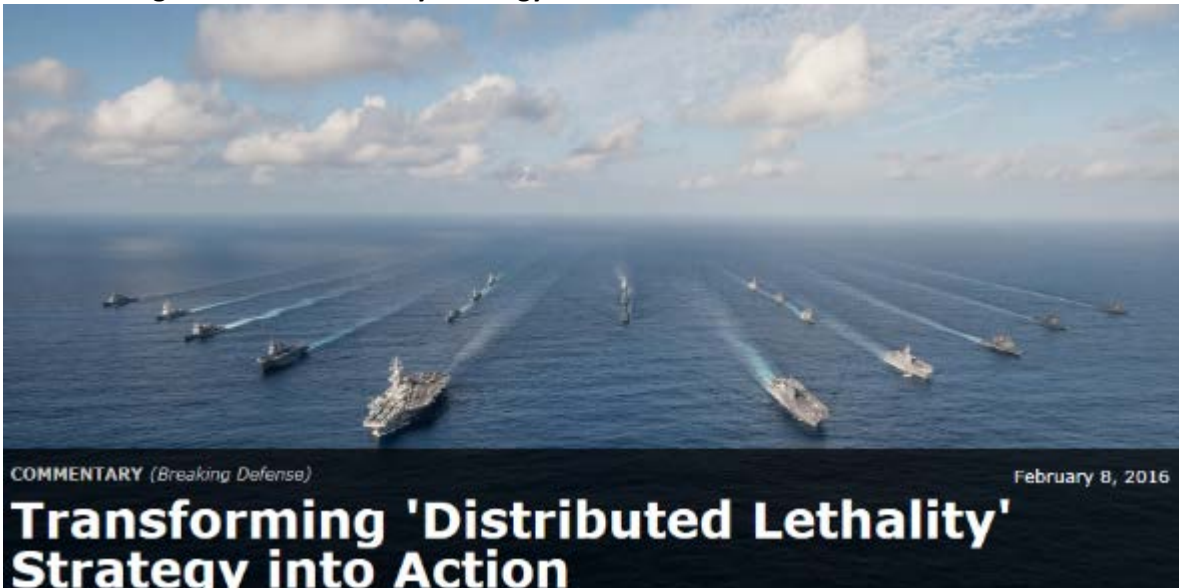
<http://www.heritage.org/research/reports/2016/02/top-five-political-security-priorities-for-the-asiapacific-in-2016>

U.S. Ambiguity Strengthens Beijing in the South China Sea



<http://nationalinterest.org/feature/us-ambiguity-strengthens-beijing-the-south-china-sea-15131>

Transforming 'Distributed Lethality' Strategy into Action



<http://www.rand.org/blog/2016/02/transforming-distributed-lethality-strategy-into-action.html>

U.S. Navy Builds International Relationships in India Fleet Review

<http://www.pacom.mil/Media/News/tabid/5693/Article/650352/us-navy-builds-international-relationships-in-india-fleet-review.aspx>

India Gathers Navies In Show Of Maritime Might

http://www.spacewar.com/reports/India_gathers_navies_in_show_of_maritime_might_999.html

17-Nation Indian Ocean Exercise Focuses On Anti-Trafficking, Maritime Law Enforcement



<http://news.usni.org/2016/02/03/17-nation-indian-ocean-exercise-focuses-on-anti-trafficking-maritime-law-enforcement>

Secretive TPP Controversy Explained: What Supporters and Opponents Think Of It

TRADE

SUPPORTERS	OPPONENTS
TPP will eliminate more than 18,000 taxes and trade barriers across TPP countries	TPP will allow corporations to sue governments for laws that affect their profits, under the investor-state dispute settlement.

COMMUNICATIONS

SUPPORTERS	OPPONENTS
TPP will ensure the free flow of global digital information ; increase government cooperation on cyber security.	TPP will increase in monitoring and censorship by internet providers.

LABOUR

SUPPORTERS
 TPP will **prohibit exploitative child labour** and forced labour and support well-paying jobs.

OPPONENTS
 TPP will allow the practice of offshoring jobs to continue, and become a **corporate power grab**.

GMO

SUPPORTERS
 TPP will **ensure food safety measures** are developed and implemented in a science-based manner.

OPPONENTS
 TPP will enable companies to challenge inspection on their food products, and **undercut genetically modified organism or GMO labelling laws**.

ENVIRONMENT

SUPPORTERS
 TPP will **protect the marine environment**, conserve iconic species, and promote sustainable fisheries management.

OPPONENTS
 TPP will **increase fossil fuel exports** and allow corporations to legally challenge domestic environmental regulation if it interferes with profit.

<http://www.aljazeera.com/indepth/interactive/2016/02/tpp-controversy-explained-160204095936498.html>

Panama Canal Expansion To Be Complete By End Of June -Operator

<http://www.reuters.com/article/us-panama-canal-idUSKCN0VD07T>

China's Faltering But Nicaragua Isn't Giving Up On Canal Plans

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2016-02-08/china-s-faltering-but-nicaragua-isn-t-giving-up-on-canal-plans>

A Thai Canal to Be Part of China's Silk Road

<http://www.wallstreetdaily.com/2016/01/27/thailand-kra-canal-china-silk-road/>

PHILIPPINES

Top Philippine Diplomat And China Critic Resigns Over Health

<http://news.yahoo.com/top-philippine-diplomat-china-critic-resigns-over-health-111346507.html>

Philippine Autonomy Delay Stalls Disarming Of Muslim Rebels

<http://news.yahoo.com/philippine-autonomy-delay-stalls-disarming-muslim-rebels-142546312.html>

THAILAND

Thailand: People Are Fed Up With Coups

<http://www.strategypage.com/qnd/thai/articles/20160206.aspx>

MALAYSIA

Training Police To Talk About Islamic State Threat

<http://www.freemalaysiatoday.com/category/nation/2016/02/09/training-cops-to-talk-about-islamic-state-threat/>

How Serious is the Islamic State Threat in Malaysia?

<http://thediplomat.com/2016/01/how-serious-is-the-islamic-state-threat-in-malaysia/>

INDONESIA

'Battle of Ideas' to Defeat the Islamic State Begins in Indonesia

<http://www.foreignpolicyjournal.com/2016/02/05/battle-ideas-defeat-islamic-state-begins-indonesia/>

AUSTRALIA

Massive Downpours Hit Northeastern Australia

<http://www.aljazeera.com/news/2016/02/massive-downpours-hit-northeastern-australia-160208095500181.html>

Australia Taking Long View in Defense Spending in Emerging Sub, Frigate Programs



<http://news.usni.org/2016/02/03/australia-taking-long-view-in-defense-spending-in-emerging-sub-frigate-programs>

Australia's Migrant Tide

<http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2016/feb/7/editorial-australias-migrant-tide/>

Australians Rally Against Removal Of Asylum Seekers

<http://www.aljazeera.com/news/2016/02/australians-rally-removal-asylum-seekers-160208083833688.html>

Some Australian Asylum Seekers To Be Deported Have Cancer, Terminal Illnesses

<http://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/asiapacific/some-australian-asylum-se/2498004.html>

JAPAN

Japan's Parliament Condemns North Korea Rocket Launch

<http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/japans-parliament-condemns-north-korea-rocket-launch-36800215>

Japan's Sakurajima Volcano Erupts On Southern Island Of Kyushu



http://www.upi.com/Top_News/World-News/2016/02/05/Japans-Sakurajima-volcano-erupts-on-southern-island-of-Kyushu/6691454688709/?spt=sec&or=tn

NORTH KOREA

How A Quiet Boy From North Korea Became One Of The World's Scariest Dictators



<http://www.businessinsider.com/kim-jong-un-life-2016-2>

Understanding Kim Jong Un, The World's Most Enigmatic and Unpredictable Dictator

<http://www.vanityfair.com/news/2015/02/kim-jong-un-north-korea-understanding>

Kim Jong-Un Goes For Nuclear Option In Familiar Brinkmanship



<http://www.theguardian.com/world/2016/feb/07/kim-jong-un-nuclear-option-familiar-brinkmanship>

38 North: Satellites, Warheads and Rockets: Is North Korea's Space Program Really about Missile Development?



<http://38north.org/2016/02/schilling092815/>

North Korea Goes Two Years Without Official Crude Oil From China

<https://www.nknews.org/2016/02/north-korea-goes-two-years-without-official-crude-oil-from-china/>

UN Releases Emergency Funds To North Korea: Releases \$8 Million To Assist Most Vulnerable Women And Children In DPRK

http://www.nkeconwatch.com/2016/02/02/un-releases-emergency-funds-to-north-korea/?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+NorthKoreanEconomy+Watch+%28North+Korean+Economy+Watch%29

SOUTH KOREA

Korea-U.S. Combined Forces, Military Academy Sign MOU For Training Cooperation

http://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/news/nation/2016/02/205_197489.html

South Korea Weighs Closing Kaesong Complex Over Rocket Launch

<http://www.voanews.com/content/south-korea-weighs-closing-kaesong-complex-north-korea-rocket-launch/3182786.html>

Asia's Largest Drone Show In Busan



The Newest Koreans: Migrant Workers

http://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/news/nation/2016/02/625_197099.html

TAIWAN

Taiwanese President-Elect Tsai Ing-Wen Is Promising Extensive Safety Checks Of Old Buildings



<http://www.npr.org/sections/thetwo-way/2016/02/08/465984002/photos-of-cans-inside-taiwan-building-s-pillars-help-spur-call-for-safety-review>

CHINA

Report: China Bolsters State Hacking Powers

<http://www.csmonitor.com/World/Passcode/2016/0204/Report-China-bolsters-state-hacking-powers>

China Calls For More Than 120 To Be Punished Over Chemical Blast

<http://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/asiapacific/china-calls-for-more-than/2492532.html>

China Detains Another Top Protestant In Cultural Revolution-Style Crackdown

<http://www.csmonitor.com/World/Asia-Pacific/2016/0205/China-detains-another-top-Protestant-in-Cultural-Revolution-style-crackdown>

NEPAL

Death Of Former Leader Poses Potential Problems For Nepal



<http://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/asiapacific/death-of-former-leader-po/2500192.html>

In Nepal, Earthquake Survivors See Progress, But Can't Yet Taste It

<http://www.csmonitor.com/World/Asia-South-Central/2016/0204/In-Nepal-earthquake-survivors-see-progress-but-can-t-yet-taste-it>

Nepal Blockade: Indian Trucks Cross Freely Into Nepal For First Time In Four Months



<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-35506679>

<http://www.reuters.com/article/us-nepal-blockade-idUSKCN0VE1A1>

Supplies To Nepal Have Normalized To Large Extent: MEA

<http://www.ibnlive.com/news/india/supplies-to-nepal-have-normalised-to-large-extent-mea-1199613.html>

Only A Fraction Of Humanitarian Aid Goes Through Local Organisations. Why?



<http://www.theguardian.com/global-development/2016/feb/05/aid-directly-to-local-organisations-more-effective-more-timely>

Nepal Quake Survivors Fight Freezing Temperatures

<http://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/asiapacific/nepal-quake-survivors/2490972.html>

INDIA

Modi Declares South Asian Games Open

<http://www.thehindu.com/sport/narendra-modi-declares-south-asian-games-open/article8198707.ece>

The Missing Officers Of India

<http://www.strategypage.com/htmw/htatrit/articles/20160205.aspx>

RUSSIA-UKRAINE

Russian Troops Put On High Alert As Part Of Massive Drills



President Vladimir Putin has scrambled thousands of troops and hundreds of warplanes across southwestern Russia for large-scale military drills intended to test the troops' readiness amid continuing tensions with the West. Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu said that military units were put on combat alert early Monday, marking the launch of the exercise that involves troops of the Southern Military District.

<http://www.cbsnews.com/news/putin-southwest-russia-massive-military-drills/>

<http://news.yahoo.com/russian-troops-put-high-alert-part-massive-drills-143101073.html>

Why on Earth Would Russia Attack the Baltics?

<http://www.nationalinterest.org/blog/the-buzz/why-earth-would-russia-attack-the-baltics-15139>

Russia Recently Announced It Was Moving Ten More Brigades To Its Western Borders

<http://www.strategypage.com/htmw/htlead/articles/20160203.aspx>

Russia Detains 7 Linked To Bomb Lab, String Of Terror Plots

<http://www.foxnews.com/world/2016/02/08/russian-authorities-detain-7-on-suspicion-terrorist-plot.html>

The Tide Is Going Out on Putin



<http://www.rand.org/blog/2016/01/the-tide-is-going-out-on-putin.html>

Georgia to Build New Silk Road Seaport

<http://www.maritime-executive.com/article/georgia-to-build-new-silk-road-port>

EUROPE

Armed With New U.S. Money, NATO To Strengthen Russia Deterrence

<http://www.reuters.com/article/us-nato-russia-idUSKCN0VE1QA>

UK: 12 Asian Men Jailed For 140 Years For Gang-Raping A 13-Year-Old British Girl, Muslim Councilor Admits Some In Community Still Think The Girl Was Partly To Blame



"They showed her no shred of decency or humanity when, as a vulnerable child, she so needed care and understanding." Many of the men smiled, laughed, chatted and waved to family members in the public gallery as they were led away from the dock following sentencing. Judge Thomas criticized them for their "appalling" attitude and behavior throughout the trial, which he said was "contemptuous,

disrespectful and arrogant on a scale that I have hardly seen before in many years of practice in the criminal law".

<http://www.mirror.co.uk/news/uk-news/vile-gang-who-raped-abused-7332755>

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3437252/Twelve-men-repeatedly-gang-raped-abused-vulnerable-teenage-schoolgirl-saw-utterly-worthless-jailed-total-140-YEARS.html>

High Security As Stade De France Hosts First Match Since Attacks



http://www.sportstarlive.com/trending/high-security-as-stade-de-france-hosts-first-match-since-attacks/article8199246.ece?utm_source=thwidget&utm_medium=link&utm_campaign=seeding

German Spy Agency Says ISIS Sending Fighters Disguised As Refugees

<http://www.reuters.com/article/us-germany-security-idUSKCN0VE0XL>

EU Parliament Recognizes ISIS' Genocide of Christians, Calls on World Leaders to Take Action



<http://www.christianpost.com/news/isis-genocide-christians-eu-parliament-world-leaders-take-action-156897/>

Report On Child Refugees Highlights 'Unacceptable' Risk: Trafficking, Exploitation, Illness, Death



<http://www.aljazeera.com/indepth/features/2016/01/report-child-refugees-highlights-unacceptable-risk-160126074459037.html>

Greece Reacts To EU's Hard Line On Refugees



<http://www.aljazeera.com/indepth/features/2016/01/greece-reacts-eu-hard-line-refugees-160127072111370.html>

European Media Face New Scrutiny Of Reporting On Immigration And Crime

<http://www.csmonitor.com/World/Europe/2016/0205/European-media-face-new-scrutiny-of-reporting-on-immigration-and-crime>

40-Percent Of Germans Want Merkel To Quit Over Refugees

<http://www.aljazeera.com/news/2016/01/40-percent-germans-merkel-quit-refugees-160129090835192.html>

Merkel Says Germany Will Reduce Refugee Arrivals

<http://www.aljazeera.com/news/2015/12/merkel-germany-reduce-refugee-arrivals-151214160215823.html>

Germany To Expedite Deportations Of Refugees

<http://www.aljazeera.com/news/2015/11/germany-expedite-deportations-refugees-151106130649865.html>

Turkey, West in Standoff Over Syrian Refugees

<http://www.voanews.com/content/turkey-syria-refugees/3181623.html>

How the Refugee Crisis Will Reshape the EU



<http://carnegieeurope.eu/2016/02/04/how-refugee-crisis-will-reshape-eu/itj7>

MIDDLE EAST

You Thought Syria Couldn't Get Much Worse. Think Again

<http://www.cnn.com/2016/02/05/middleeast/syria-aleppo-civil-war/>

Syria Rebels Squeezed On Multiple Fronts

<http://news.yahoo.com/syria-rebels-lose-ground-kurds-regime-monitor-102705346.html>

Moderate Syrian Rebel Factions Face Wipe-Out

<http://smallwarsjournal.com/blog/moderate-syrian-rebel-factions-face-wipe-out>

President Obama's Disastrous Betrayal Of The Syrian Rebels

<http://foreignpolicy.com/2016/02/05/obamas-disastrous-betrayal-of-the-syrian-rebels/>

Citing Betrayal, Some Syrian Rebels Withdraw From Front



<http://www.voanews.com/content/citing-betrayal-some-syrian-rebels-withdraw-from-front/3181300.html>

Jihadists Reinforce Other Rebels During Key Battle In Aleppo Province

<http://www.longwarjournal.org/archives/2016/02/jihadists-reinforce-other-rebels-during-key-battle-in-aleppo-province.php>

UN Probe Accuses Syria Govt Of 'Exterminating' Detainees, Mass Deaths In Syrian Jails, Horrifying Systematized Violence

<http://news.yahoo.com/un-probe-accuses-damascus-extermination-detainees-131405484.html>

<http://news.yahoo.com/mass-deaths-syrian-jails-amount-crime-extermination-u-130753471.html>

<http://www.businessinsider.com/massive-and-systemetized-violence-the-un-just-released-a-horrifying-report-on-assads-human-rights-abuses-2016-2>

Syrian Foreign Minister Warns Against Foreign Troop Intervention

<http://www.military.com/daily-news/2016/02/06/syrian-foreign-minister-warns-against-foreign-troop-intervention.html>

Turkish Border Remains Closed As Thousands Of Syrian Refugees Flee Aleppo Fighting

<http://www.cbc.ca/news/world/syria-aleppo-1.3437048>

At Least 33 Refugees Drown Off Turkish Coast



<http://www.aljazeera.com/news/2016/02/33-refugees-drown-turkish-coast-160208130920304.html>

<http://af.reuters.com/article/worldNews/idAFKCN0VH0X9>

30,000 Syrian Refugees Mass At Turkish Border: Turkey PM As Russian-Backed Offensive Threatens To Besiege Aleppo



<http://news.yahoo.com/30-000-syrians-massing-turkey-border-davutoglu-005040381.html>

<http://www.aljazeera.com/news/2016/02/turkey-open-border-syrian-refugees-160207113555928.html>

<http://www.reuters.com/article/us-mideast-crisis-syria-aleppo-idUSKCN0VE0ZA>

Russian Firepower Helps Syrian Forces Edge Toward Turkey Border



<http://www.reuters.com/article/us-mideast-crisis-syria-turkey-idUSKCN0VH0SH>

More Than 1 Million Are Besieged In Syria, New Report Says

<http://www.stripes.com/news/middle-east/more-than-1-million-are-besieged-in-syria-new-report-says-1.393037>

Thousands More Syrian Refugees Could Advance Toward Turkey Amid Heavy Fighting

http://www.arirang.com/News/News_View.asp?nseq=188052

Germany's Merkel: 'Appalled And Horrified' By Suffering Caused By Russian Bombing In Syria

<http://news.yahoo.com/germanys-merkel-appalled-horrified-suffering-caused-russian-bombing-125527294.html>

Turkey Sends In Aid For Stranded Syrian Refugees

<http://news.yahoo.com/turkey-open-border-syrian-refugees-necessary-erdogan-090006356.html>

Turkey And Germany Agree On Plan To Ease Refugee Crisis, End Onslaught In Aleppo



<http://news.yahoo.com/turkish-pm-turkey-germany-start-joint-diplomatic-involvement-124608001.html>

<http://www.aljazeera.com/news/2016/02/merkel-visits-turkey-fleeing-syrians-wait-border-160208045039438.html>

Turkey, Germany To Seek NATO Help Monitoring Migrant Flow From Syria To Europe Across The Aegean Sea

<http://www.reuters.com/article/us-mideast-crisis-syria-migrants-nato-idUSKCN0VH1L>

Can Turkey Stem The Refugee Tide?



<http://www.aljazeera.com/indepth/opinion/2015/11/turkey-stem-refugee-tide-151130080009739.html>

Analysis: How Russia Keeps Piling Pressure On Turkey

<http://www.aljazeera.com/news/2016/02/analysis-russia-piling-pressure-turkey-160207065649214.html>

Russia's SU-35 Capabilities



<http://www.westernjournalism.com/watch-russia-introduces-a-new-deadly-toy-in-the-syrian-war/>

Syria: Russia Lives The Lie

<http://www.strategypage.com/qnd/syria/articles/20160204.aspx>

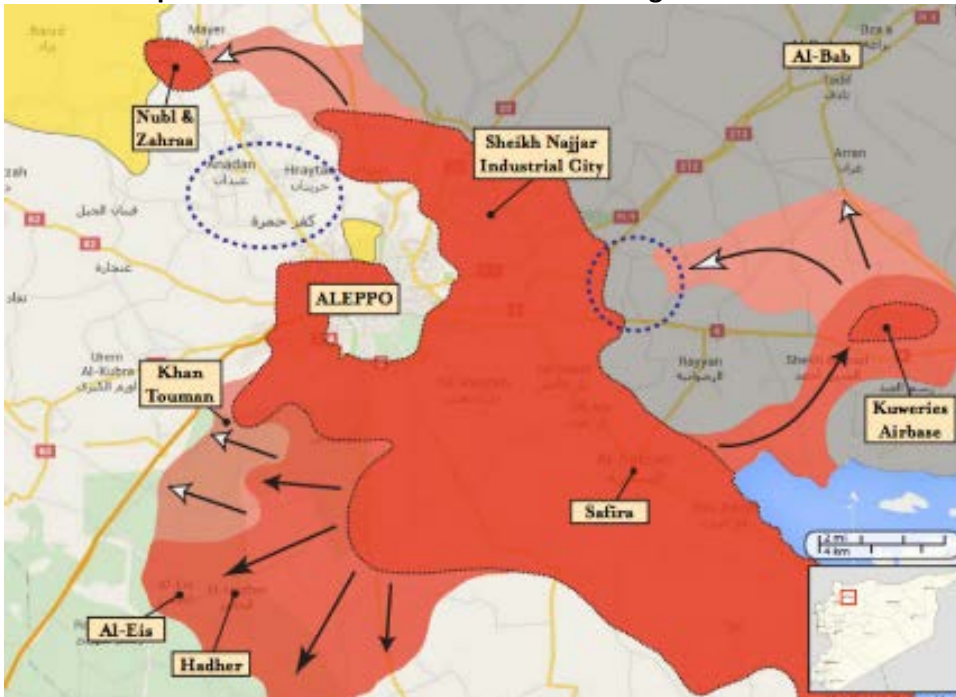
Russia's Syria Strategy Is Paying Off: Anticipated Fall Of Syria's Largest City Will Be Turning Point In The War

<http://www.westernjournalism.com/russias-syria-strategy-is-paying-off-anticipated-fall-of-syrias-largest-city-will-be-turning-point-in-the-war/>

Russian-Backed Offensive in Syria Pushes War to Tipping Point

<http://www.voanews.com/content/russian-backed-offensive-syria-war-tipping-point/3182191.html>

This One Map Shows How Russia And Iran Have Brought Assad Within Five Miles Of Encircling Aleppo



<http://www.businessinsider.com/this-one-map-shows-how-russia-and-iran-have-brought-assad-within-five-miles-of-encircling-aleppo-2016-2>

What Happens Next In Aleppo Will Shape Europe's Future



<http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2016/feb/05/aleppo-europe-vladimir-putin-russian-military>

Syria 2015: Spain 1938 or Sarajevo June 1914?

http://www.upi.com/Top_News/Analysis/de-Borchgrave/2015/10/19/Syria-2015-Spain-1938-or-Sarajevo-June-1914/8941444843241/

Desert Storm Through The Eyes Of An Iraqi Reporter



<http://www.aljazeera.com/indepth/features/2016/01/desert-storm-eyes-iraqi-reporter-160117134108390.html>

Ahmed Chalabi: The Real Victor Of The Iraq War



Ahmed Chalabi, a prominent yet controversial figure in the Iraqi opposition to Saddam Hussein in the lead-up to the 2003 Iraq War, died of a heart attack in Baghdad on November 3. His legacy has been

divisive, yet even his detractors have to admit that he remained tenacious - Machiavellian if you will - in his goal of seeing Iraq freed of Saddam.

<http://www.aljazeera.com/indepth/opinion/2015/11/ahmed-chalabi-real-victor-iraq-war-151104065757581.html>

Iraq Deploying Thousands Of Troops To Retake Mosul

<http://news.yahoo.com/iraq-deploying-thousands-troops-retake-mosul-114704876.html>

The Long Road to Mosul

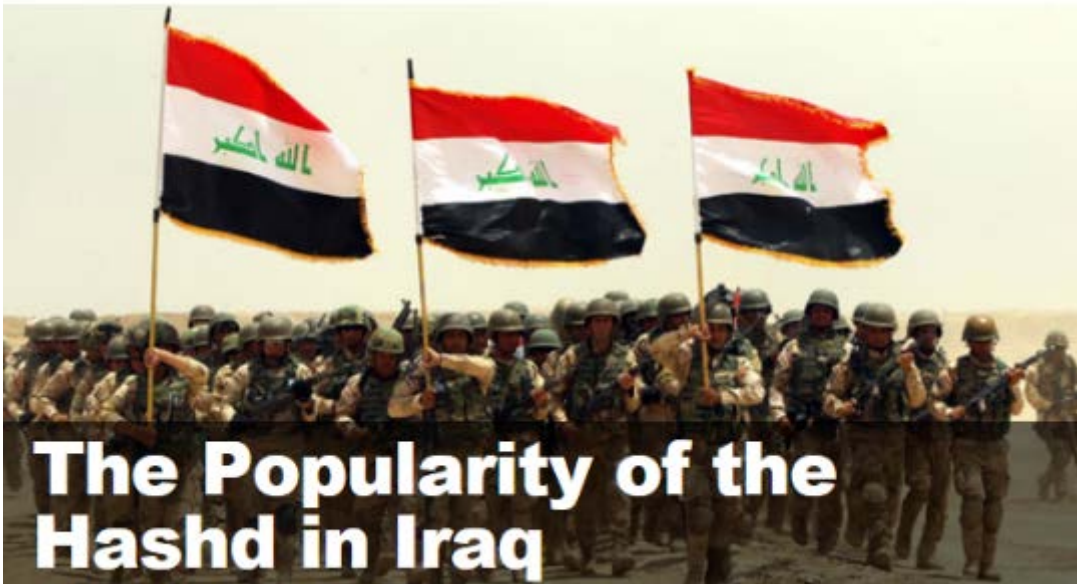
<http://warontherocks.com/2016/02/the-long-road-to-mosul/>

Iranian-Backed Militia Seen With U.S. Tank In Iraq



<http://www.longwarjournal.org/archives/2016/02/iranian-backed-militia-seen-with-us-tank-in-iraq.php>

Iraqi Shias Opting To Join Para-Military Groups Under The Popular Mobilization Forces (Rather Than The Iraqi Military), The Single Largest Ground Force Combating Islamic State Fighters In Iraq



The Popularity of the Hashd in Iraq

<http://carnegieendowment.org/syriaincrisis/?fa=62638>

34 Militant Groups Allegedly Pledge Allegiance To ISIS, UN Chief Says



<http://www.marinecorpstimes.com/story/military/2016/02/08/34-militant-groups-allegedly-pledge-allegiance-isis-un-chief-says/79996832/>

ISIS 'Is Not Sustainable' — Here's The Latest Sign The Group Is Losing

<http://www.businessinsider.com/the-latest-sign-that-isis-is-losing-2016-2>

ISIS Video Shows English-Speaking Child Beheading Prisoner, Talks Apocalyptic Showdown Against the West



<http://www.christianpost.com/news/isis-video-shows-english-speaking-child-beheading-prisoner-apocalyptic-showdown-against-west-156918/>

ISIS Sex Slaves Reveal Traumatic 'Virginity Tests' After Escape



<http://www.christianpost.com/news/isis-sex-slaves-yazidi-women-traumatic-virginity-tests-iraqi-authorities-156449/>

Former ISIS Sex Slaves Now Army Of 'Sun Ladies' Ready To Defeat Terror Group



<http://www.westernjournalism.com/isis-took-these-women-as-sex-slaves-that-just-backfired-big-time/>

<http://www.foxnews.com/world/2016/02/08/former-isis-sex-slaves-now-army-sun-ladies-ready-to-defeat-terror-group.html?intcmp=trending>

ISIS Widow Blasts Terror Group In Daring Open Letter

<http://www.foxnews.com/world/2016/02/08/isis-widow-blasts-terror-group-in-daring-open-letter.html?intcmp=trending>

<http://www.voanews.com/content/islamic-state-widow-shames-is-leaders/3175035.html>

Three Afghan Soldiers Killed At Least 18 Wounded As Deadly Suicide Blast Hits Afghan Army Bus Near Camp



<http://www.aljazeera.com/news/2016/02/afghan-soldiers-killed-blast-army-camp-160208053056849.html>

<http://www.voanews.com/content/taliban-attack-targets-afghan-soldiers-at-least-3-dead/3181277.html>

Suicide Bomber Strikes Afghan Market, Killing 5

<http://news.yahoo.com/suicide-bombing-north-afghanistan-kills-3-afghan-soldiers-052433813.html>

Kabul Peace Talks with Taliban Expected This Month

<http://www.military.com/daily-news/2016/02/07/kabul-peace-talks-with-taliban-expected-this-month.html?comp=7000023435700&rank=4>

<http://www.stripes.com/news/middle-east/afghanistan-hopes-for-talks-with-taliban-this-month-1.392796>

As The U.S. And China Continue To Push For Afghan Peace Negotiations, Taliban Does Not Want 'A Share Of The Power' With Afghan Government

<http://www.longwarjournal.org/archives/2016/01/taliban-does-not-want-a-share-of-the-power.php>

To Protect Chinese Investment, Pakistan Military Leaves Little To Chance

<http://gulfnews.com/news/asia/pakistan/to-protect-chinese-investment-pakistan-military-leaves-little-to-chance-1.1668562>

Murder of Christian Father in Pakistan Being Investigated as 'Terror Attack'

<http://www.christianpost.com/news/pakistan-christian-father-of-five-murdered-police-investigate-small-scale-terror-attack-155477/>

Pakistani Police Tortured Naked, Hanging Christian Man to Death by Beating Him With Logs, Son Recounts

<http://www.christianpost.com/news/pakistani-police-tortured-naked-hanging-christian-man-to-death-by-beating-him-with-logs-son-recounts-156569/>

U.S. Strikes Pakistani Taliban Faction In Eastern Afghanistan

<http://www.longwarjournal.org/archives/2016/02/us-strikes-pakistani-taliban-faction-in-eastern-afghanistan.php>

There is Still Hope for the U.S. Relationship with Pakistan

<http://www.heritage.org/research/commentary/2016/2/there-is-still-hope-for-the-us-relationship-with-pakistan>

Iran Awards Medals Of Honor To Its Nuclear Team



<http://news.yahoo.com/iran-awards-medals-honor-nuclear-team-080559171.html>

Dealing With Iran's Ballistic Missile Program

<http://nationalinterest.org/feature/dealing-irans-ballistic-missile-program-15140>

Iranian Arrogance: Failure To Respond To Acts Of War Emboldens Evildoers

<http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2016/feb/4/james-lyons-iranian-arrogance/>

Groups Urge Kerry To Work For Release Of U.S. Businessman Held In Iran

<http://news.yahoo.com/groups-urge-kerry-release-u-businessman-held-iran-152103563.html>

Obama To Meet With Jordan's King Abdullah: White House



<http://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-obama-jordan-idUSKCN0VH1G6>

Islamic State Claims Car Bomb Blast In Saudi Capital

<http://af.reuters.com/article/worldNews/idAFKCN0VH1B5>

Saudi Arabia Ready To Commit Ground Troops To Islamic State Fight In Syria

http://www.upi.com/Top_News/World-News/2016/02/05/Saudi-Arabia-ready-to-commit-ground-troops-to-Islamic-State-fight-in-Syria/7741454675964/?spt=sec&or=tn

UAE Says It's Prepared to Send Ground Forces to Syria

<http://www.military.com/daily-news/2016/02/08/uae-says-its-prepared-to-send-ground-forces-to-syria.html?comp=700001075741&rank=4>

Egyptian Police Shoot Four Suspected Militants In Raid Near Cairo

<http://af.reuters.com/article/topNews/idAFKCN0VH0EW>

Egypt Again Denies Police Involvement in Torture Killing of Italian Student

<http://www.voanews.com/content/egypt-denies-police-involvement-torture-killing-italian-student/3182234.html>

Egypt Central Bank Receives \$900m From China Under January Deal

<http://gulfnews.com/business/economy/egypt-central-bank-receives-900m-from-china-under-january-deal-1.1668574>

Yemen: The Sideshow Stalemate

<http://www.strategypage.com/qnd/yemen/articles/20160201.aspx>

Yemen Revolution: 'Our Dream Was Sold'



<http://www.aljazeera.com/news/2016/01/yemen-revolution-dream-sold-160107100424963.html>

Half Of Yemen 'One Step Away' From Famine: UN

<http://www.aljazeera.com/news/2015/12/yemen-step-famine-151204210940979.html>

Why Movements like the Arab Spring Fail

<http://sofrep.com/47104/patron-and-client-relationship-in-the-middle-east/>

AFRICA

Somalia: Flight Lands Safely After Suspected Bomber In WheelChair Blew Hole In Plane



<http://talkingpointsmemo.com/world-news/daallo-airlines-explosion-plane-lands-safely>

<http://www.nydailynews.com/news/world/terror-group-al-shabaab-suspected-somalian-plane-blast-article-1.2520019>

Somalia: Terror Hand-Off Caught On Camera



<http://video.foxnews.com/v/4744020999001/somalia-terror-hand-off-caught-on-camera/?#sp=show-clips>

Somalia Plane Bomber Was Meant To Be On Turkish Flight: Airline Executive

<http://af.reuters.com/article/topNews/idAFKCN0VHORN>

Ansar Al Sharia Claims To Have Downed Jet Flying Over Derna, Libya



<http://www.longwarjournal.org/archives/2016/02/ansar-al-sharia-claims-to-have-downed-jet-flying-over-derna-libya.php>

ISIS Presence In Libya May Have Increased Up To 5,000 Fighters

<http://www.csmonitor.com/World/Global-News/2016/0205/ISIS-presence-in-Libya-may-have-increased-up-to-5-000-fighters>

Libya's Litmus Test With ISIL



<http://www.aljazeera.com/indepth/opinion/2016/02/libya-litmus-test-isil-160202121022514.html>

ISIS Threat: Is Libya The Next Syria?



<http://www.csmonitor.com/USA/Foreign-Policy/2016/0203/ISIS-threat-Is-Libya-the-next-Syria>

There Is Now A Unified Government, In Theory At Least

<http://www.strategypage.com/qnd/libya/articles/20160208.aspx>

The Three Challenges of Countering ISIS in Libya

<http://www.rand.org/blog/2016/02/the-three-challenges-of-countering-isis-in-libya.html>

Tunisia Completes Barrier Along Libya Border



<http://www.aljazeera.com/news/2016/02/tunisia-completes-barrier-libya-border-160207075238223.html>

Nigeria: The Failing State

<http://www.strategypage.com/qnd/nigeria/articles/20160205.aspx>

Mali: The Key Is Not Working

<https://www.strategypage.com/qnd/mali/articles/20160207.aspx>

African Union Official Defends Burundi Force Decision



<http://www.voanews.com/content/african-union-official-defends-burundi-force-decision/3181262.html>

40,000 Starving To Death As South Sudan Teeters On Famine: UN



<http://news.yahoo.com/40-000-starving-death-sudan-teeters-famine-un-003511994.html>

South Africa Farmers Devastated By El Nino Drought, Millions Left Hungry



<http://www.aljazeera.com/news/2016/02/africa-farmers-devastated-el-nino-drought-160207103049477.html>

<http://www.aljazeera.com/news/2016/01/southern-africa-severe-drought-leaves-millions-hungry-160118140707396.html>

CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICA

Violence Surges In Central America, Threatening New Refugee Flood: Despite U.S. Aid, El Salvador On Track For World's Highest Murder Rate

<http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2016/jan/10/el-salvador-honduras-guatemala-violence-surges-thr/>

America Helped Pull Colombia Back From The Brink. Now What?

<http://www.csmonitor.com/USA/Foreign-Policy/2016/0204/America-helped-pull-Colombia-back-from-the-brink.-Now-what>

Washington Must Remedy Colombia's Flawed FARC Deal

<http://www.heritage.org/research/commentary/2016/2/washington-must-remedy-colombias-flawed-farc-deal>

CUBA

Times Are Changing in Havana, Cuba

<http://learningenglish.voanews.com/content/times-are-changing-in-havana-cuba/3180597.html>

Cuban Colonel Meets In Miami With U.S. Officials

<http://www.miamiherald.com/news/local/community/miami-dade/article58677568.html>

Exclusive Look Inside Detention Camps At Guantanamo Bay Cuba

<http://www.nbcmiami.com/news/local/Exclusive-Look-Inside-Detention-Camps-at-Guantanamo-Bay-Cuba-367856161.html>

Debate Remains Loud, But Gitmo Quieting: 91 Inmates Remain, More To Be Freed; Peak Was Nearly 700

<http://www.journalgazette.net/news/Debate-remains-loud--but-Gitmo-quieting-11332657>

Cuba, Gitmo and the Surrendering of America

<http://townhall.com/columnists/davidgrantham/2016/01/13/cuba-gitmo-and-the-surrendering-of-america-n2103993/page/full>

CANADA

Canada To End Bombing Missions In Iraq And Syria



<http://news.yahoo.com/canada-end-bombing-missions-iraq-syria-161246085.html>

John Kerry 'Confident' Canada Will Still Contribute To ISIS Fight

<http://www.cbc.ca/news/politics/foreign-ministers-speak-quebec-city-1.3425881>

Canada To 'Respond Appropriately' To North Korea Rocket Launch, Says Stéphane Dion

<http://www.cbc.ca/news/world/north-korea-rocket-missile-test-1.3437637>

MEXICO

'El Chapo' Guzmán Is Willing To Plead Guilty In The U.S., But Under One Big Condition

<http://www.businessinsider.com/el-chapo-guzman-plead-guilty-in-us-conditions>

DoD/U.S.

Pentagon Orders Commanders To Prioritize 'Climate Change' In All Military Actions: 'Military Will Not Be Able To Maintain Effectiveness Unless Directive Is Followed' – New Layer Of Bureaucracy on DoD



The directive is loaded with orders to civilian leaders and officers on specifically how counter-climate change strategy is to permeate planning: “Incorporate climate change impacts into plans and operations and integrate DoD guidance and analysis in Combatant Command planning to address climate change-related risks and opportunities across the full range of military operations, including steady-state campaign planning and operations and contingency planning.”

Climate change must be integrated in:

- Weapons buying and testing “across the life cycle of weapons systems, platforms and equipment.”
- Training ranges and capabilities.
- Defense intelligence surveillance and reconnaissance.
- Defense education and training.
- Combatant commander joint training with allies to “assess the risks to U.S. security interests posed by climate change.”
- Joint Chiefs of Staff collaboration “with allies and partners to optimize joint exercises and war games including factors contributing to geopolitical and socioeconomic instability.”

<http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2016/feb/7/pentagon-orders-commanders-to-prioritize-climate-c/>

No Replacement for Military Engagement and Forward Presence



<http://warontherocks.com/2016/02/no-replacement-for-military-engagement-and-forward-presence/>

Squeezing Water from a Stone: Five Missed Opportunities in Planning the Future of the U.S. Army



<http://warontherocks.com/2016/02/squeezing-water-from-a-stone-five-missed-opportunities-in-planning-the-future-of-the-u-s-army/>

Surprisingly Sound Answers on the Future of the Army

<http://warontherocks.com/2016/02/surprisingly-sound-answers-on-the-future-of-the-army/>

Ignoring the Army's Recent Past Will Not Help it Win Future Wars

The Future of the Army report is part of a broader pattern of a denial of the significance and relevance of the Army's recent experiences.



<http://warontherocks.com/2016/02/ignoring-the-armys-recent-past-will-not-help-it-win-future-wars/>

Known Unknowns: Iraqi WMD, 13 Years Later



<http://warontherocks.com/2016/02/known-unknowns-iraqi-wmd-13-years-later/>

The Great Reversal: Obama's Military Buildup



<http://nationalinterest.org/feature/the-great-reversal-obamas-military-buildup-15151>

Size Of ISIS Army 'Remains The Same' Since Last Year, U.S. Official Says

<http://www.foxnews.com/politics/2016/02/04/size-isis-army-remains-same-since-last-year-us-official-says.html>

Islamic State Is Still On The Rise

https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/the-islamic-state-is-still-on-the-rise/2016/02/04/e631bdea-cb82-11e5-88ff-e2d1b4289c2f_story.html

Why The Next President From Either Party Will Be Stuck With Obama's ISIS Strategy

Last November, Obama launched "Operation Tidal Wave II" that took out ISIS oil fields, refineries and hundreds of tanker trucks in Syria. In December the alliance snatched back Ramadi in Iraq. The US Department of Defense released a slew of figures describing the breadth of the coalition destruction -- some 119 tanks; 340 High Mobility Vehicles or high maintenance trucks that carry men and materials;

510 staging areas; 3,262 buildings; 2,577 fighting positions; 196 oil infrastructure facilities; and 3,680 other targets. Such blows have critically damaged the ISIS insurgency.

Last Christmas, the ISIS leader, Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, released an audio address just days before Ramadi's fall, revealing the extent of his group's plight. Baghdadi blustered on about how well his Caliphate is doing, but he also delivered this stark message: "We urgently call upon every Muslim to join the fight..."

His plea comes at the same time that his monthly terrorist magazine, Dabiq, put out the word that ISIS needs more Sunni professionals, doctors, mechanics and computer programmers -- an acknowledgement that highly trained Muslim technicians no longer are eager to enlist in ISIS.

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/stephen-schlesinger/why-republicans-are-stuck_b_9167236.html

Instead Of A Viable Strategy, The Obama Plan Has Been A Series Of Tactical Actions That, While Seemingly Sensible In Theory, Are Not Coordinated With An Overarching Framework For Success

http://www.upi.com/Top_News/Analysis/de-Borchgrave/2015/12/07/Needed-Strategy-not-slogans-to-defeat-the-Islamic-State/7101449283891/

Can Obama Avoid LBJ's Vietnam Mistakes In Syria And Iraq?



http://www.upi.com/Top_News/Analysis/de-Borchgrave/2015/11/23/Can-Obama-avoid-LBJs-Vietnam-mistakes-in-Syria-and-Iraq/8731447978435/

Suppose President Obama Is Right About The Islamic State



http://www.upi.com/Top_News/Analysis/de-Borchgrave/2016/01/04/Suppose-Obama-is-right-about-the-Islamic-State/8681451480392/

President Obama Specializes In Saying Things For Sure That Are Actually In Dispute: Mosque Speech, President Scolds The Wrong People

Then the President lost his grip on reality: "Groups like ISIL are desperate for legitimacy. They try to portray themselves as religious leaders and holy warriors who speak for Islam. I refuse to give them legitimacy." Unfortunately, the determination of their legitimacy as Muslims is not up to Obama. And the fact is that a segment of Muslim believers accords terrorists not only legitimacy, but also financial, moral and physical support. A segment of Muslims firmly believes the terrorists *are* holy warriors who champion a more legitimate form of Islam than exists in *any* nation at this moment. Thus, Obama's solution — "So none of us can be silent. We can't be bystanders to bigotry. And together, we've got to show that America truly protects all faiths" — is a noble sentiment completely unsuited to the problem. Americans aren't the bigots.

http://www.cleveland.com/obrien/index.ssf/2016/02/from_the_mosque_obama_scolds_t.html

Al Jazeera: Why Obama Fails Middle East Leadership Test, US 'Better Safe Than Sorry' Approach To Middle East Has Proven Dangerous



<http://www.aljazeera.com/indepth/opinion/2016/02/obama-fails-leadership-test-middle-east-160208111035946.html>

Preventing a Middle Eastern Gordian Knot

<http://warontherocks.com/2016/02/preventing-a-middle-eastern-gordian-knot/>

The Iran Nuclear Deal: What the Next President Should Do

<http://www.heritage.org/research/reports/2015/10/the-iran-nuclear-deal-what-the-next-president-should-do>

America's Five-Year Flip-Flop on North Korea's Missiles

<http://www.nationalinterest.org/blog/the-buzz/americas-five-year-flip-flop-north-koreas-missiles-15144>

End America's 'Strategic Patience' With North Korea

<http://nationalinterest.org/feature/end-americas-strategic-patience-north-korea-15150>

In Honor of President's Day: Why In The World Does Anyone Want To Be President?

<http://www.westernjournalism.com/why-in-the-world-does-anyone-want-to-be-president/>

Why Has The Job Of President Of The United States Become So Complex?

http://www.socialstudieshelp.com/Lesson_16_Notes.htm

<https://www.icivics.org/web-quests/being-president>

True, and False, Meanings of U.S. Leadership



<http://www.nationalinterest.org/blog/paul-pillar/true-false-meanings-us-leadership-15067>

Reviving American Power In The Next Presidency

<http://www.heritage.org/research/commentary/2016/2/reviving-american-power-after-obama>

Foreign Affairs for a New President

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/ben-barber/foreign-affairs-for-a-new_b_9154376.html

Foreign Policy Challenges on the Campaign Trail



COMMENTARY (U.S. News & World Report)

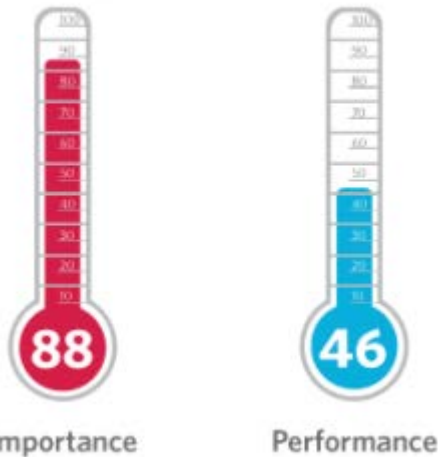
February 4, 2016

Foreign Policy Challenges on the Campaign Trail

<http://www.rand.org/blog/2016/02/foreign-policy-challenges-on-the-campaign-trail.html>

<http://www.usnews.com/opinion/blogs/world-report/articles/2016-02-04/2016-presidential-candidates-must-address-foreign-policy-challenges>

The Will of the People and the Constitution: American Attitudes and Support Gap Between Importance and Reality of Following Constitution



<http://www.heritage.org/research/reports/2016/01/the-will-of-the-people-and-the-constitution>

New Documentary Explores What Drove Fort Hood Shooter to Extremism

<http://www.military.com/daily-news/2016/02/06/documentary-explores-what-drove-fort-hood-shooter-to-extremism.html>

Feds: Army Deserter Who Supported ISIS Faces Gun Charges

<http://www.foxnews.com/us/2016/02/08/feds-army-deserter-who-supported-isis-faces-gun-charges.html>

New Army Directive Officially Opens All Positions to Women: 'No Exceptions'

<http://www.military.com/daily-news/2016/02/07/new-army-directive-officially-opens-all-positions-to-women.html>

Marine, Army Leadership Panel to Senate: Women in Combat Jobs Need Standards, Not Quotas



<http://news.usni.org/2016/02/02/marine-army-leadership-panel-to-senate-women-in-combat-jobs-need-standards-not-quotas>

Military's Move Toward Women In Combat Signals A Major Paradigm Shift

<http://www.marinecorpstimes.com/story/opinion/2016/02/07/women-in-combat-paradigm-shif-how-wars-fought/79873548/>

10 Realities The First Female Navy SEAL Trainee Will Face: Pain, Pressure, Success



<http://www.businessinsider.com/10-realities-the-first-female-navy-seal-trainee-will-face-2016-2>

One OF THE First Female's Allowed To Be A Combat Engineer Recruit Turns Herself In After Going AWOL

<http://www.armytimes.com/story/military/careers/army/2016/02/05/awol-female-combat-engineer-recruit-has-turned-herself/79889926/>

<http://www.military.com/daily-news/2016/02/08/one-of-armys-1st-female-combat-engineer-recruits-is-a-deserter.html>

Pentagon Extends Maternity And Paternity Leave For Military Families

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/checkpoint/wp/2016/01/28/pentagon-extends-maternity-and-paternity-leave-for-military-families/>

http://www.nytimes.com/2016/02/02/opinion/the-pentagons-new-parental-leave.html?_r=0

Impact Of Pregnancy On U.S. Army Readiness

<http://www.au.af.mil/au/awc/awcgate/acsc/99-016.pdf>

Baby Aboard: The Navy Responds to High Rates of Unplanned Pregnancies Among Sailors

<http://rhrealitycheck.org/article/2013/01/29/baby-on-board-us-navy-reacts-to-high-rates-unplanned-pregnancies-among-sailors/>

Overall Percentages of Non-Deployable Servicemembers for Desert Shield/Desert Storm

NAVY 1.5% of males, 5.6% of females

AIR FORCE 1.8% of males, 6.4% of females

ARMY 2.7% of males, 9.0% of females

MARINE CORPS 8.8% of males, 26.3% of females

(Source: Presidential Commission on the assignment of women in the Armed Forces)

<https://www.federalregister.gov/agencies/presidential-commission-on-assignment-of-women-in-the-armed-forces>

http://www.cmrlink.org/content/women-in-combat/34414/women_in_land_combat?year=2004

Pregnant Troops Leave The War; Central Command Not Counting

<http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2004/jun/15/20040615-115647-8125r/?page=all>

Army Has 50,000 Active Soldiers Who Can't Deploy, Top NCO Says

<http://www.military.com/daily-news/2015/11/25/army-has-50000-active-soldiers-who-cant-deploy-top-nco-says.html>

White House Demands \$1.8 Billion To Fight Zika Virus, \$250M Of It To Help Puerto Rico Fight Zika, Sees No Cause For Panic

<http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2016/feb/8/white-house-demands-18-billion-fight-zika-virus/>
<http://news.yahoo.com/puerto-rico-receive-250m-us-govt-fight-zika-152228360.html>
<http://af.reuters.com/article/worldNews/idAFKCN0VH1NP>

What Will Be In The President Obama's Final Budget Proposal?

<http://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-obama-budget-factbox-idUSKCN0VD0DP>

U.S. Military Service Members May Volunteer to Extend Tours if Offered

http://www.rand.org/pubs/research_reports/RR1034.html

New Military Retirement Law Creates Big Decisions For Many Troops

<http://www.marinecorpstimes.com/story/military/benefits/retirement/2016/02/07/new-military-retirement-law-creates-big-decisions-many-troops/79347998/>

Balancing Demand and Supply for Veterans' Health Care

http://www.rand.org/pubs/research_reports/RR1165z4.html

TECHNOLOGY

Russia's Lethal New Robotic Tanks Are Going Global



<http://nationalinterest.org/blog/russias-lethal-new-robotic-tanks-are-going-global-15143>

Should We Fear an AI Arms Race?



COMMENTARY (Defense One) February 11, 2016
Should We Fear an AI Arms Race?

<http://www.rand.org/blog/2016/02/should-we-fear-an-ai-arms-race.html>

Cyberwar is War

<http://smallwarsjournal.com/jrnl/art/cyberwar-is-war>

Desert Storm: GPS And The World's First 'Space War'

<http://www.scientificamerican.com/article/gps-and-the-world-s-first-space-war/>

GPS Spoofing: How Iran Tricked US Patrol Boats Into Capture



<http://sofrep.com/46818/gps-spoofing-how-iran-tricked-us-patrol-boats-into-capture/>

GPS Daily: China To Launch Nearly 40 Beidou Navigation Satellites In Five Years



[http://www.gpsdaily.com/reports/China to launch nearly 40 Beidou navigation satellites in five years_999.html](http://www.gpsdaily.com/reports/China%20to%20launch%20nearly%2040%20Beidou%20navigation%20satellites%20in%20five%20years_999.html)

SECURITY-SAFETY

Why Are So Many Genuinely Worried About Being Killed Or Wounded In A Terrorist Incident When The Chances Are Remote?

http://www.upi.com/Top_News/Analysis/de-Borchgrave/2015/12/29/We-have-met-the-enemy-and-he-is-us/5071450977137/

Beware: Teachers May Be Armed and Trained to Protect Students



<http://dailysignal.com/2016/02/08/beware-teachers-may-be-armed-and-dangerous-to-protect-students/>

10 Rules of Electronic Age 2016

http://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/news/nation/2016/02/652_195059.html

WORLD

Addressing Zika Virus Conspiracies: Huffington Post

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/tara-c-smith/the-zika-conspiracies-hav_b_9162854.html

The G7 Climate Mandate and the Tragedy of Horizons



<http://carnegieendowment.org/2016/02/04/g7-climate-mandate-and-tragedy-of-horizons/itjk>

Al Gore's 2006 Prediction Of 10 Years Left To Save The World From The Ravages Of Global Warming A Few Days Away From Not Materializing



Former-Vice U.S. President Al Gore saw the situation as "a true planetary emergency." "If you accept the truth of that, then nothing else really matters that much," Gore said in an interview with The Associated Press. "We have to organize quickly to come up with a coherent and really strong response, and that's what I'm devoting myself to."

"The unfortunate truth of the matter is that environmentalists will only lose credibility with those who are already skeptical of the global warming movement," Marc Fitch told WND. "I think time will ultimately make the difference. The global warming movement in general seems to be grasping at any and everything these days to make their case, but the more they try to tie everything (ISIS, immigration,

disease, war) to global warming, the more it just falls on deaf ears.” Average temperature has remained steady for 15 years and some climate scientists suggest the Earth is on the verge of another ice age. Yet Fitch observed

<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2016/01/02/24-days-to-al-gores-10-years-to-save-the-planet-and-point-of-no-return-planetary-emergency-deadline/>

http://www.wnd.com/2016/01/time-runs-out-on-al-gores-global-warming-armedgeddon/?cat_orig=us

Five Ways Al Gore Has Been Running A Global Warming Racket

<http://www.investors.com/politics/editorials/al-gore-runs-global-warming-racket/>

Embarrassing Predictions Haunt the Global-Warming Industry

<http://www.thenewamerican.com/tech/environment/item/18888-embarrassing-predictions-haunt-the-global-warming-industry>

Australia Cuts 110 Climate Scientist Jobs

<http://www.scientificamerican.com/article/australia-cuts-110-climate-scientist-jobs/>

ASIA NEWS

State Department - Asia <http://www.state.gov/p/eap/index.htm>

State Dept Travel Warnings http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/tw/tw_1764.html

Defense Department <http://www.defense.gov>

Pacific Stars and Stripes <http://www.stripes.com/news/pacific>

CNN <http://edition.cnn.com/ASIA/index.html>

Reuters <http://www.reuters.com/news/world>

Yahoo <http://news.yahoo.com/asia>

Maritime News <http://www.maritime-executive.com/news>

PACIFIC DISASTER CENTER

<http://www.pdc.org>

WEATHER

Joint Typhoon Warning Center <http://www.usno.navy.mil/JTWC/>

Japan's Meteorological Agency <http://www.jma.go.jp/en/typh/>

Japan Weather Warnings <http://www.jma.go.jp/en/warn/index.html>

Korea Meteorological Administration <http://web.kma.go.kr/eng/>

NASA Storm Tracking http://www.nasa.gov/mission_pages/hurricanes/main/index.html

Typhoon Definitions <http://www.aoml.noaa.gov/hrd/tcfaq>, <http://agora.ex.nii.ac.jp>

EARTHQUAKES

USGS <http://earthquake.usgs.gov/earthquakes/map/>

Earthquakes Today <http://earthquakestoday.info/>

TSUNAMI

Pacific Tsunami Warning Center <http://ptwc.weather.gov>

GLOBAL HEALTH MAP

<http://healthmap.org/en/>

<http://healthmap.org/predict/>