**UNICEF OPSCEN Brief -** **Monday, 16 September 2013**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| GENERAL | **Across Regions** | Congo accuses Rwanda of 'Kidnapping' soldier |
|  | **United Nations** | U.N. inspectors turn in report on Syria's chemical weapons |
| EAPR | **Cambodia** | PM, opposition leader pledge to avoid further police-protester clashes |
|  |  | Protest turns into clash with police |
|  | **Philippines** | Military launches airstrike at rebel position in Zamboanga City |
|  |  | Nearly 100 Philippine rebels killed or captured |
|  |  | Evacuations ordered as Mindanao fighting continues |
| ESAR | **Kenya** | Kimaiyo criticised for shoot-to-kill order |
|  | **Rwanda** | Rwanda's independents struggle to gain political foothold |
|  | **Tanzania** | All illegal immigrants must be flushed out |
|  | **Zambia** | President threatens to disolve parliament |
| MENA | **Across MENA** | Clashes near border of Algeria, Libya and Tunisia, residents flee |
|  | **Egypt** | Security forces storm town south of Cairo held by supporters of ousted president |
|  |  | Mubarak back in Egypt court over protest deaths |
|  |  | Roadside bomb hits police bus in Sinai |
|  | **Iraq** | Attack against Sunni-Shiite prayer kills 30 people |
|  |  | Suicide bombing at funeral kills 26 people |
|  |  | Bombings kill 35 in south and central Iraq |
|  |  | Bombs kill 5 soldiers in northern city |
|  | **Jordan** | Return to school offers hope to refugees – UNICEF mention |
|  | **Sudan** | Rape incident rattles town in Sudan’s West Kordofan state |
|  |  | UN warns against tribal clashes in central Darfur |
|  | **Syria** | Chemical weapons deal wins time for Assad but at a cost |
|  |  | Western powers vow to increase backing for Syrian rebels |
| ROSA | **Afghanistan** | 24 Afghans Die as Tunnel Collapses in Coal Mine |
|  |  | Suicide car bomber targets NATO-Afghan convoy, kills at least 3 civilians |
|  |  | Wide-open presidential race kicks off |
|  | **India** | Powerful bomb blast in the north-east kills 9 people, injures 21 |
|  |  | Security forces kill 14 Maoist rebels |
|  |  | India Retests Missile Able to Reach Chinese Cities |
|  | **Maldives** | Outgoing president raises concerns over vote |
|  | **Pakistan** | Top officers killed 'by Taliban' |
|  |  | Bomb kills two Pakistan government allies |
|  |  | Taliban set conditions for peace talks as seven die |
|  |  | Three women shot dead in 'honour' killing |
| TACR | **Colombia** | 6 die in stampede from Bogota bar raided by police |
|  | **Mexico** | Big storms hit Mexico on opposite coasts; 21 dead |
| WCAR | **Across WACR** | Congo boosts CAR peacekeeping force |
|  | **CAR** | President dissolves rebel alliance |
|  | **DR Congo** | Still no direct talks in peace bid |
|  | **Guinea** | Chief of opposition gives 5-day deadline |
|  | **Guinea Bissau** | Security Council urges elections to be held ‘as soon as possible’ |

GENERAL

**Across Regions**

**Congo accuses Rwanda of 'Kidnapping' soldier**

A spokesman for Congo's military says a sergeant was detained by Rwandan soldiers near the two countries' shared border, a move Congo's government described as a "provocation." Col. Olivier Hamuli said Munanga Kafakana was detained Sunday while trying to visit family in Goma. He accused Rwandan soldiers of kidnapping Kafakana, who he insisted hadn't crossed the border into Rwanda. Congo's army engaged in heavy fighting late last month with the M23 rebel group, which observers accuse Rwanda of backing. As the fighting escalated, a convoy of military vehicles was seen leaving the Rwandan capital, Kigali, for the Congolese border, heightening fears the two nations, which have gone to war twice before, might be heading for another confrontation. Rwandan officials couldn't immediately be

**AP -** [**http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/congo-accuses-rwanda-kidnapping-soldier-20262128**](http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/congo-accuses-rwanda-kidnapping-soldier-20262128)

**United Nations**

**U.N. inspectors turn in report on Syria's chemical weapons**

The world is expected to get a look at the findings of U.N. weapons inspectors Monday as Security Council powers work to turn a U.S.-Russian framework on Syria's chemical weapons into a concrete plan. U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon received the inspectors' report on the August poison gas attack outside Damascus on Sunday, the United Nations announced. Ban is scheduled to brief the Security Council on the report in a closed-door session Monday morning -- and two diplomats told CNN the report is likely to be released publicly at that time.

**CNN -** [**http://www.cnn.com/2013/09/15/world/meast/syria-civil-war-diplomacy/index.html**](http://www.cnn.com/2013/09/15/world/meast/syria-civil-war-diplomacy/index.html)

EAPR

**Cambodia**

**PM, opposition leader pledge to avoid further police-protester clashes**

Cambodia’s long-serving Prime Minister (PM) Hun Sen and long-time opposition leader Sam Rainsy on Monday agreed to avoid further clashes between the police and protesters after a clash at Sunday night left one protester dead and several injured. “Both sides agree to comply with the king’s royal message dated Sept. 16,” Prak Sokhon, minister attached to the PM told reporters after a 5-hour meeting between the two political leaders at the National Assembly. King Norodom Sihamoni on Monday called on opposition protesters and police to stop using violence against each other after a deadly clash at Sunday night.

**Xinhua -** [**http://www.nzweek.com/world/cambodian-pm-opposition-leader-pledge-to-avoid-further-police-protester-clashes-79692/**](http://www.nzweek.com/world/cambodian-pm-opposition-leader-pledge-to-avoid-further-police-protester-clashes-79692/)

**Protest turns into clash with police**

Cambodia’s political deadlock turned violent on Sunday as opposition supporters clashed with security forces in the streets of Phnom Penh, leaving at least one person dead and several injured, according to journalists and a Cambodian human rights organization. The violence came during a day of mass protests in the capital of Phnom Penh led by Sam Rainsy, a former finance minister and the leader of the opposition to Cambodia’s authoritarian prime minister, Hun Sen.   
**NYT -** [**http://www.nytimes.com/2013/09/16/world/asia/cambodia-police-use-water-cannons-on-protesters.html?\_r=0**](http://www.nytimes.com/2013/09/16/world/asia/cambodia-police-use-water-cannons-on-protesters.html?_r=0)

**Philippines**

**Military launches airstrike at rebel position in Zamboanga City**

The Philippine military on Monday launched an airstrike at the position of the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) in Zamboanga City as the fighting entered its second week. Two MG520 attack helicopters staged the airstrike shortly after a brief lull midday cutting off the silence of the southern skies, unleashing rockets towards the rebels' defensive positions, the military said. There was no immediate confirmation if the rebels were dislodged or casualties were incurred in the air attack. But the military said what was launched was close air support to complement the ground forces offensive.   
**Xinhua -** [**http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/world/2013-09/16/c\_132724902.htm**](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/world/2013-09/16/c_132724902.htm)

**Nearly 100 Philippine rebels killed or captured**

Nearly 100 Muslim guerrillas who have held scores of people hostage for a week in a southern Philippine city have been killed or captured in an offensive to retake rebel-held coastal communities, officials said Sunday. Army troops and police special forces have regained rebel-held grounds and are pressing an assault deeper into communities in the coastal outskirts of Zamboanga city, where more than 100 Moro National Liberation Front guerrillas are holding an unspecified number of hostages, military spokesman Lt. Col. Ramon Zagala said. At least 51 rebels have been killed and 42 others captured, most while trying to escape along the coast after discarding their camouflage uniforms for ordinary clothes, Interior Secretary Mar Roxas said, adding that the gunmen would face criminal charges

**AP -** [**http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/100-philippine-rebels-killed-captured-20260373**](http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/100-philippine-rebels-killed-captured-20260373)

**Evacuations ordered as Mindanao fighting continues**

Authorities in the city of Zamboanga under siege from rogue rebels opposed to peace talks have ordered the "forced evacuation" of thousands of villagers as negotiations to end the standoff falter. The President flew to Zamboanga city to personally assess the situation, five days after 100 to 200 Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) rebels encroached on six coastal villages, triggering heavy fighting that has left at least 14 combatants and civilians dead and dozens injured. Up to 180 residents have reportedly been taken hostage and are currently being used as "human shields" to prevent a full-on military assault. The number of displaced has swollen to more than 16,000 people, currently housed in 13 evacuation centres in the city, including in the main sports complex where many slept on the ground.  
**IRIN** - [**http://reliefweb.int/report/philippines/evacuations-ordered-mindanao-fighting-continues**](http://reliefweb.int/report/philippines/evacuations-ordered-mindanao-fighting-continues)

ESAR

**Kenya**

**Kimaiyo criticised for shoot-to-kill order**

Leaders from cattle rustling prone North Rift region have criticised a shoot-to kill-directive by Inspector General of Police David Kimaiyo warning that it will escalate acts of lawlessness. The leaders instead want County Policing Authority unit established to facilitate community participation in the fight against prolonged banditry activities in the region. “The order is not applicable to cattle rustlers who operate in areas where the rule of law is minimal due to few or no government officials,” said the leaders led by Turkana Women Representative Joyce Emanikor.  
**Daily Nation -** [**http://www.nation.co.ke/news/David+Kimaiyo+criticised+for+shoot+to+kill+order/-/1056/1994478/-/6t5k23/-/index.html**](http://www.nation.co.ke/news/David+Kimaiyo+criticised+for+shoot+to+kill+order/-/1056/1994478/-/6t5k23/-/index.html)

**Rwanda**

**Rwanda's independents struggle to gain political foothold**

As Rwanda prepares to vote in parliamentary elections on Monday, the country's small independent parties are struggling to gain political space in what will essentially be a one horse race. The central African nation has been dominated by the Rwandan Patriotic Front (RPF) of President Paul Kagame since 1994, when his rebel army unseated Hutu extremists and ended a genocide that left close to a million dead. Since the horrific events of nearly 20 years ago, when the outside world stood idle while ethnic Tutsis were hacked to death en masse, Kagame's RPF has been credited with producing an African success story.

**Sapa/AFP -** [**http://www.thenewage.co.za/107182-1019-53-Rwandas\_independents\_struggle\_to\_gain\_political\_foothold**](http://www.thenewage.co.za/107182-1019-53-Rwandas_independents_struggle_to_gain_political_foothold)

**Tanzania**

**All illegal immigrants must be flushed out**

IN early August, President Jakaya Kikwete gave a two-week ultimatum to all illegal immigrants to voluntarily leave the country. A good number of them complied with the president's directive, with about 8,000 illegal immigrants who were hiding in several villages in Kagera Region having left for their countries of origin by the expiry of the deadline. The president had warned that force would be used against those disobeying the order and, true, many illegal immigrants disobeyed, giving room for the strong arm of the law to do its work.

**Tanzania Daily News -** [**http://allafrica.com/stories/201309160175.html**](http://allafrica.com/stories/201309160175.html)

**Zambia**

**President threatens to disolve parliament**

Zambia's President Michael Sata threatened to dissolve parliament and prompt fresh elections Monday, accusing ministers of failing to defend his government from opposition attacks. Sata's two-year-old administration has come under fire for having too many cabinet ministers, who, critics say, are cronies of the president and not servants of the nation. "Why are you not talking? Why are you so quiet?" Sata asked cabinet ministers in a meeting broadcast on radio. If the southern African country's parliament is dissolved, the constitution stipulates that fresh polls be held within 90 days.

**AFP -** [**http://www.foxnews.com/world/2013/09/16/zambia-president-threatens-to-disolve-parliament/**](http://www.foxnews.com/world/2013/09/16/zambia-president-threatens-to-disolve-parliament/)

MENA

**Across MENA**

**Clashes near border of Algeria, Libya and Tunisia, residents flee**

Fighting in Derdj, in southwestern Libya and about 100 km. east of Ghadames at the shared border between Libya, Algeria and Tunisia has left 11 dead and an untold number of wounded. Local media have reported that the clashes erupted between border guards and representatives of the el-Djeramla tribe. The Libyan military is said to have set some homes on fire to take vengeance for the killing of four police officers, fueling locals’ reaction. The violence has forced several families in the area to flee and some have even chosen to head to the desert to wait for the unrest to town.  
**MISNA** - [**http://reliefweb.int/report/libya/clashes-near-border-tunisia-residents-flee**](http://reliefweb.int/report/libya/clashes-near-border-tunisia-residents-flee)

**Egypt**

**Security forces storm town south of Cairo held by supporters of ousted president**

Two rights activists say security forces have stormed and taken control of a town south of Cairo that had been held by militants loyal to the ousted Islamist president. Local activists Adel Shafiq and Ezzat Ibrahim said a joint force of army and police rolled into the town of Dalga, about 300 kilometers (190 miles) south of the Egyptian capital, before dawn on Monday. There were clashes with militants, they said. Two army helicopters were flying low over the town, which has a 120,000 population of which an estimated 20,000 are minority Christians.  
**AP -** [**http://www.foxnews.com/world/2013/09/16/egyptian-security-forces-storm-town-south-cairo-held-by-supporters-ousted/**](http://www.foxnews.com/world/2013/09/16/egyptian-security-forces-storm-town-south-cairo-held-by-supporters-ousted/)

**Roadside bomb hits police bus in Sinai**

Egyptian security officials say suspected Islamic militants have set off a roadside bomb in the Sinai Peninsula as a bus full of police conscripts was driving by, wounding nine of them. Monday's ambush on the road outside the town of Rafah, on the border with the Gaza Strip, comes amid a major counterinsurgency operation by Egypt's military in the lawless desert region. The military offensive followed a surge of attacks by insurgents triggered by the army's July 3 overthrow of Islamist President Mohammed Morsi and subsequent violence. The worst insurgent attack in Sinai was an Aug. 19 ambush in which militants pulled 25 police conscripts off minibuses and shot them dead.  
**AP-** [**http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/egypt-militants-booby-trap-border-gaza-20262632**](http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/egypt-militants-booby-trap-border-gaza-20262632)

**Iraq**

**Attack against Sunni-Shiite prayer kills 30 people**

Two nearly simultaneous bombs targeted worshippers streaming out of joint Sunni-Shiite prayers north of Baghdad on Friday, killing at least 30 people in the latest deadly surge in violence. Unrest elsewhere left three others dead, as authorities grapple with Iraq's worst bloodshed since 2008. The country is stuck in a prolonged political deadlock while officials fear neighbouring Syria's 30-month civil war is increasingly spilling over across the border. Two roadside bombs went off outside the Al-Salam mosque, a Sunni place of worship in the confessionally mixed city of Baquba, at around midday as Sunnis and Shiites left after a joint prayer session.  
**AFP -** [**http://www.bangkokpost.com/news/world/369589/iraq-attack-against-sunni-shiite-prayer-kills-30**](http://www.bangkokpost.com/news/world/369589/iraq-attack-against-sunni-shiite-prayer-kills-30)

**Suicide bombing at funeral kills 26 people**

A suicide bomber killed 26 people at the funeral for a member of the Shabak minority group, the latest in a months-

long wave of bloodshed plaguing the country. The funeral -- being held in the town of Basshiqah, just outside the city of Mosul -- was for a man who had died of natural causes, officials said. The 30,000-strong Shabak community mostly lives near the Turkish border. The attack was one of several to strike predominantly Sunni Arab northern Iraq, beset by growing instability in recent months as anti-government protests have combined with spillover from Syria's years-long civil war to give militant groups increased room to maneuver.

**Al Jazeera** - [**http://america.aljazeera.com/articles/2013/9/14/suicide-bomber-carriesoutdeadlyattackatiraqfuneral.html**](http://america.aljazeera.com/articles/2013/9/14/suicide-bomber-carriesoutdeadlyattackatiraqfuneral.html)

**Bombings kill 35 in south and central Iraq**

A new wave of insurgent attacks, mostly car bombs targeting Shiite-dominated cities in central and southern Iraq, killed at least 35 people on Sunday, officials said. The attacks continue a surge in bloodshed that has engulfed the country for months. No one has claimed responsibility for the blasts, which targeted commercial areas and parking lots in seven cities. But systematically organized waves of bombings are used out by al-Qaida's local branch, known as the Islamic State of Iraq, to undermine confidence in the Shiite-led government.

**AP -** [**http://news.yahoo.com/bombings-kill-35-south-central-iraq-094710658.html**](http://news.yahoo.com/bombings-kill-35-south-central-iraq-094710658.html)

**Bombs kill 5 soldiers in northern city**

Authorities say that two separate bombings have killed five soldiers in a northern Iraq city. Police officials said that the deadlier of the attacks in Mosul took place Monday afternoon when a roadside bomb struck an army convoy, killing four soldiers. Elsewhere in the city, a suicide bomber set off his explosive belt near the motorcade of a local military intelligence officer, killing one soldier and wounding six others, police say. The intelligence officer was unhurt in the attack. Mosul, a former al-Qaida stronghold, is 360 kilometers (225 miles) northwest of Baghdad. Medical officials confirmed the casualty figures. All officials spoke anonymously as they weren't authorized to release information.  
**AP -** [**http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/bombings-kill-53-south-central-iraq-20261820**](http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/bombings-kill-53-south-central-iraq-20261820)

**Jordan**

**Return to school offers hope to refugees – UNICEF mention**

Pupils struggle to sing along as the Jordanian national anthem crackles out from loudspeakers before classes begin at al-Mothana Bin Haretha school in Irbid. The boys here are almost all Syrian refugees, who have recently come to stay in this city in north Jordan. Many come from Daraa, just across the border, 25km away, where the conflict in Syria began two-and-a-half years ago. They have not been to school since. UNICEF is providing financial support for the Jordanian authorities to cover teachers' salaries and administrative costs. It also gives books and bags to the Syrian students.

**BBC** - [**http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-middle-east-24064092**](http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-middle-east-24064092)

**Sudan**

**Rape incident rattles town in Sudan’s West Kordofan state**

A mass rape incident has shocked the town of Shomoaa in West Kordofan state sparking heated debate among residents and calls for asserting security in the turbulent areas of Kordofan which suffer from the wide proliferation of illegal weapons. Eyewitnesses recounted that masked armed men intercepted 8 girls who were walking on their way to the University of Peace and forced them at gunpoint to accompany them to an abandoned house where they were gang raped. According to the eyewitnesses, one girl was taken to Babanousa hospital in a critical condition.

**Sudan Tribune -** [**http://www.sudantribune.com/spip.php?article48045**](http://www.sudantribune.com/spip.php?article48045)

**UN warns against tribal clashes in central Darfur**

The United Nations has warned against the outbreak of tribal clashes between the Misseriya and Salamat in Central Darfur state and revealed that field reports show large mobilization of armed groups in areas of Um Dokhon, Bendasi and Mukjar. A humanitarian bulletin issued by the UN Office for the Coordination for Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) said that according to local authorities in Central Darfur, armed Misseriya and Salamat tribesmen have mobilized in these three localities in preparation for conflict despite the reconciliation agreement signed by representatives of the two tribes in early July.   
**Sudan Tribune -** [**http://www.sudantribune.com/spip.php?article48046**](http://www.sudantribune.com/spip.php?article48046)

**Syria**

**Chemical weapons deal wins time for Syria's Assad but at a cost**

Bashar al-Assad's chemical weapons bargain with Russia and the United States offers another political and military lifeline to the Syrian president, just two years after he was dismissed in Washington as a "dead man walking". The deal, reached under the shadow of threatened U.S. air strikes and only after the intervention of Syria's ally Moscow, does come at a cost to the Syrian leader - a fact which likely explains the muted response in Damascus when it was announced.

**Reuters -** [**http://www.reuters.com/article/2013/09/16/us-syria-crisis-assad-idUSBRE98F05620130916**](http://www.reuters.com/article/2013/09/16/us-syria-crisis-assad-idUSBRE98F05620130916)

**Western powers vow to increase backing for rebels**

Britain, France and the United States on Monday agreed to step up their backing for rebels fighting Syrian President Bashar al-Assad. The three powers also agreed at talks in Paris that Mr Assad would face "serious consequences" if he fails to comply with a United Nations resolution setting out a timetable for the handover of Syria's chemical weapons to international control, French Foreign Minister Laurent Fabius said. In a slight difference of emphasis, US Secretary of State John Kerry did not use the word "serious", saying: "If Assad fails to comply with the framework, we are all agreed that there will be consequences."   
**AFP -** [**http://www.straitstimes.com/breaking-news/world/story/western-powers-vow-increase-backing-syrian-rebels-20130916**](http://www.straitstimes.com/breaking-news/world/story/western-powers-vow-increase-backing-syrian-rebels-20130916)   
  
ROSA

**Afghanistan**

**24 Afghans Die as Tunnel Collapses in Coal Mine**

A tunnel collapsed in a coal mine in Afghanistan's north, killing at least 24 workers and leaving three others missing, officials said Sunday. Some 14 area residents trying to aid in the rescue were overcome by fumes and had to get treatment. Workplace safety standards are poor in Afghanistan as in many developing nations, and such accidents are common. But concern about such standards is likely to grow in the coming years as the government tries to develop a wealth of mineral resources in the country — a challenging goal as it battles a Taliban insurgency.

**AP -** [**http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/24-afghans-die-tunnel-collapses-coal-mine-20260240**](http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/24-afghans-die-tunnel-collapses-coal-mine-20260240)

**Suicide car bomber targets NATO-Afghan convoy, kills at least 3 civilians**

An official says a suicide car bomber apparently aiming to hit a NATO-Afghan convoy near the southern city of Kandahar blew up early, killing at least three civilians. Saturday's explosion occurred along a highway near the Kandahar airport. Javid Faisal, a spokesman for the provincial governor, says it's unclear why the car bomber detonated his explosives early. He says the NATO and Afghan soldiers are all safe. There were conflicting reports on the number of dead civilians — some said four people died — and how many were men, women or children.

**AP -** [**http://www.foxnews.com/world/2013/09/14/officials-suicide-car-bomber-targets-nato-afghan-convoy-kills-at-least-3/**](http://www.foxnews.com/world/2013/09/14/officials-suicide-car-bomber-targets-nato-afghan-convoy-kills-at-least-3/)

**Wide-open presidential race kicks off**   
Afghanistan's presidential race kicked off Monday as election authorities began accepting the nominations of would-be candidates, the start of a wide-open race whose winner will oversee the final phases of the withdrawal of U.S.-led troops amid a relentless Taliban insurgency. The election, set for April 5, will also mark the first transfer of power from incumbent President Hamid Karzai, who has in some form or shape led Afghanistan since the Taliban government was ousted in the American-led invasion in 2001. Karzai is barred from running for a third four-year term. Candidates have until Oct. 6 to submit their names, along with a hefty fee and voter identification information of 100,000 people backing them.  
**AP -** [**http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/wide-open-afghan-presidential-race-kicks-off-20265228**](http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/wide-open-afghan-presidential-race-kicks-off-20265228)

**India**

**Powerful bomb blast in the north-east kills 9 people, injures 21**

A powerful bomb blast in India's north-east, has killed nine labourers and injured about 21 other people, the police reported. The explosion took place in a busy area on the outskirts of Imphal, state of Manipur. "The bomb was planted in a makeshift tent and was of high intensity," the Manipur police chief reported. Police officials said the victims were migrant workers employed by a Kolkata-based company. The motive for the explosion was not immediately known. No rebel group has yet claimed responsibility.

**AFP -** [**http://www.foxnews.com/world/2013/09/14/powerful-bomb-blast-in-india-northeast-kills/**](http://www.foxnews.com/world/2013/09/14/powerful-bomb-blast-in-india-northeast-kills/)

**Security forces kill 14 Maoist rebels**

Security forces killed 14 Maoists in a firefight in eastern India on Saturday, police said, marking the latest bloodshed in a long conflict in which the rebels have been battling to overthrow the government. It was the single biggest rebel death toll in Orissa state from one incident and came amid an intense anti-Maoist campaign in the area conducted over the past month, police said. “Fourteen rebels, including one woman cadre, were killed. We are awaiting further information,” Orissa state police director general Prakash Mishra told AFP. There were no immediate reports of casualties among security forces, Mishra added.

**AFP -** [**http://www.scmp.com/news/asia/article/1309836/indian-security-forces-kill-14-maoist-rebels**](http://www.scmp.com/news/asia/article/1309836/indian-security-forces-kill-14-maoist-rebels)

**India Retests Missile Able to Reach Chinese Cities**

India on Sunday successfully test-fired for the second time a nuclear-capable missile that can strike the major Chinese cities of Beijing and Shanghai, officials said. Ravi Gupta, a spokesman for the Defence Research and Development Organisation, said the latest test of the Agni-V brought the missile a step closer to being inducted into India's arsenal at some point in 2014 or 2015. The missile was launched early Sunday morning from Wheeler Island off India's east coast. The missile has a range of 5,000 kilometers (3,100 miles) and was first successfully tested in April last year. It's seen as a boost to India's efforts to counter China's regional dominance and become an Asian power in its own right.

**AP -** [**http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/india-retests-missile-reach-chinese-cities-20260376**](http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/india-retests-missile-reach-chinese-cities-20260376)

**Maldives**

**Outgoing president raises concerns over vote**

Outgoing Maldivian President Mohamed Waheed raised concerns Sunday about the first round of the polls in which he suffered a humiliating defeat, while calling for "peace and harmony" before the final vote. Waheed received just 5.13 percent of the vote in the first round on September 7, while ex-leader Mohamed Nasheed took the top spot with 45.45 percent. Nasheed, however, fell short of the majority mark and now faces a tricky run-off against his nearest rival Abdullah Yameen, who garnered 25.35 percent.

**AFP -** [**http://www.foxnews.com/world/2013/09/15/outgoing-president-raises-concerns-over-maldives-vote/**](http://www.foxnews.com/world/2013/09/15/outgoing-president-raises-concerns-over-maldives-vote/)

**Pakistan**

**Top officers killed 'by Taliban'**

Two senior Pakistani military officers and a soldier have been killed in a roadside bomb close to the border with Afghanistan.The Pakistani Taliban have said they were responsible for the deaths. One of the men who died was a major general - a rare high-ranking casualty in Pakistan's war against militants. The blast happened as the Taliban outlined a number of pre-conditions it wants met before it will take part in peace talks with the government.   
**BBC -** [**http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-asia-24102055**](http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-asia-24102055)

**Bomb kills two Pakistan government allies**

A bomb explosion Saturday killed two members of a Pakistani pro-government militia and wounded four others during an archaeological dig in a tribal district on the Afghanistan border, officials said. The incident took place in the mountainous area of Darra, 30 kilometres (18 miles) northeast of Khar, the main town of Bajaur tribal district, one of the seven semi-autonomous tribal regions. “About a dozen members of the local peace committee were digging at an excavation site when a remote controlled bomb went off, killing two members and wounding four others,” senior local administration official Sardar Yousuf said. The group were digging in the area to look for antiquities.

**AFP -** [**http://english.alarabiya.net/en/News/2013/09/14/Bomb-kills-two-Pakistan-government-allies.html**](http://english.alarabiya.net/en/News/2013/09/14/Bomb-kills-two-Pakistan-government-allies.html)

**Three women shot dead in 'honour' killing**

Relatives have shot dead three women in a lawless tribal area of northwest Pakistan after one of them left her husband, officials said Monday. The "honour" killings happened in Jawaki village in the Darra Adam Khel district, between the cities of Peshawar and Kohat. A 22-year-old woman from Karachi who married a Jawaki shopkeeper about two years ago was accused of fleeing her husband's house and marrying another man in the northwestern Swat valley with the help of her aunt and cousin, a local administration official told AFP.

**AFP -** [**http://www.foxnews.com/world/2013/09/16/three-women-shot-dead-in-pakistan-honour-killing/**](http://www.foxnews.com/world/2013/09/16/three-women-shot-dead-in-pakistan-honour-killing/)

**Taliban set conditions for peace talks as seven die**

The Pakistani Taliban on Sunday announced preconditions for talks on ending an insurgency that has killed thousands, as seven more soldiers or police including a general died in insurgent attacks. Shahidullah Shahid, spokesman for the Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP), had earlier welcomed the new government's move to begin peace talks, but said Sunday it must show its sincerity. "First of all, troops in the entire tribal area should go back to barracks and then our prisoners should be released," Shahid told AFP. "The Pakistan government must take steps which can develop an atmosphere of trust and can remove the doubts and suspicion. We cannot move forward unless the governments accepts these two demands."

**AFP -** [**http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5iHeJEAF5hic00SqaHBJIUMvxf0VQ?docId=CNG.d2590aaadb2be2f9dacea036246f9c28.2e1**](http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5iHeJEAF5hic00SqaHBJIUMvxf0VQ?docId=CNG.d2590aaadb2be2f9dacea036246f9c28.2e1)

TACR

**Colombia**

**6 die in stampede from Bogota bar raided by police**

Colombian authorities say six people died from suffocation or being crushed during a stampede from a crowded bar that police raided. Federal prosecutors are investigating whether police used excessive force. Witnesses have told local media that officers sprayed pepper gas when they entered the "Night Club" bar early Sunday, causing the approximately about 100 people inside to join a rush to escape.

**AP -** [**http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/die-stampede-bogota-bar-raided-police-20263795**](http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/die-stampede-bogota-bar-raided-police-20263795)

**Mexico**

**Big storms hit Mexico on opposite coasts; 21 dead**

The remnants of Tropical Storm Manuel continued to deluge Mexico's southwestern Pacific shoulder with dangerous rains while Hurricane Ingrid headed for a Monday landfall on the country's opposite coast in an unusual double onslaught that federal authorities said had caused at least 21 deaths. The heaviest blow Sunday fell on the southern coastal state of Guerrero, where Mexico's government reported 14 confirmed deaths. State officials said people had been killed in landslides, drownings in a swollen river and a truck crash on a rain-slickened mountain highway.

**AP -** [**http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/hurricane-ingrid-ts-manuel-mexico-kill-12-20262130**](http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/hurricane-ingrid-ts-manuel-mexico-kill-12-20262130)

WCAR

**Across WACR**

**Congo boosts CAR peacekeeping force**

The Republic of Congo has sent 200 more soldiers to join a peacekeeping force in the Central African Republic, following an upsurge in violence earlier this month. General Blanchard Okoye, the armed forces chief of staff, urged the soldiers to be disciplined during a ceremony on Sunday marking their departure. The troops will join 150 other Congolese soldiers who were deployed in July under the banner of a regional force that is now being transformed into a 3,600-member international peacekeeping mission.  
**AFP -** [**http://news.yahoo.com/congo-boosts-car-peacekeeping-force-183707890.html**](http://news.yahoo.com/congo-boosts-car-peacekeeping-force-183707890.html)

**CAR**

**President dissolves rebel alliance**

CAR's new president reported that he was dissolving the rebel alliance that swept him to power, a group that has since been blamed for a wave of violence. Seleka rebels seized Bangui and overthrew leader Francois Bozize in March. Michel Djotodia, himself a former Seleka leader sworn in as the country's new president in August, released a decree over state radio dissolving the umbrella group "throughout the national territory". It was unclear what impact the order would have on Seleka, a loose alliance made up of five organisations.

**Reuters** - [**http://www.reuters.com/article/2013/09/13/us-centralafrican-rebels-idUSBRE98C0W020130913**](http://www.reuters.com/article/2013/09/13/us-centralafrican-rebels-idUSBRE98C0W020130913)

**DR Congo**

**Still no direct talks in peace bid**

Mediators in peace talks between DR Congo's government and M23 rebels admitted that the sides were yet to negotiate face-to-face, but insisted that progress was still being made. The Uganda's Defence Minister is chairing the talks near Kampala. “The two sides don't talk to each other directly, they communicate through the mediator,” the M23 delegation leader reported. The Ugandan Defence Minister spokesperson added that the mediator “prefers to hold separate consultations with each group because that way consensus is built”. “Progress has been made and we hope next week they (parties and the mediator) will issue a joint communique on what they have so far achieved,” he said.  
**AFP** - [**http://www.iol.co.za/news/africa/still-no-direct-talks-in-drc-peace-bid-mediators-1.1577493**](http://www.iol.co.za/news/africa/still-no-direct-talks-in-drc-peace-bid-mediators-1.1577493)

**Guinea**

**Chief of opposition gives 5-day deadline**

The head of Guinea's opposition announced that he is giving the country's election body another five days to meet their demands, including publishing a corrected list of registered voters. He said at the news conference broadcast on private radio stations that if the National Independent Electoral Commission fails to comply with their request by 18 September at midnight, the opposition will begin street protests on 19 September. The new ultimatum come after the expiry of a 72-hour deadline imposed by the opposition earlier last week.

**AP** - [**http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/chief-guinea-opposition-day-deadline-20251586**](http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/chief-guinea-opposition-day-deadline-20251586)

**Guinea Security Council urges elections to be held ‘as soon as possible’**

The UN Security Council has called on Bissau Guinean authorities to resolve any outstanding issues and allow the start of the electoral process in the shortest time possible. In a statement the Council stressed that “it is imperative that the presidential and legislative elections be held as soon as possible,” taking into account the end of the transition period set on 31 December 2013. Earlier this month, UN Special Representative Jose Ramos Horta, who is also the head of the UN political mission in Guinea-Bissau (UNIOGBIS), briefed the Security Council, noting that a potential delay to the polls could “destabilize the political situation, undermining the efforts we have achieved so far.”  
**UN News Centre** - [**http://www.un.org/News/Press/docs//2013/sc11118.doc.htm**](http://www.un.org/News/Press/docs//2013/sc11118.doc.htm)

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