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GENERAL

**Across Regions**

**Nusra Front warns the world against airstrikes in Syria**

The head of the Syrian branch of al-Qaeda has denounced US-led airstrikes in the country, warning of retaliatory attacks in the "homes" of the Western and Arab countries that have taken part in the bombings.

In an audio message posted online on Monday, Abu Mohammad al-Golani, the leader of the Nusra Front, called on European and US citizens to denounce Washington's actions. Failure to stop these strikes "will transfer the battle to your very homes," Jolani said. ".

**Al Jazeera -** [**http://www.aljazeera.com/news/middleeast/2014/09/nusra-front-warns-against-airstrikes-syria-201492995026241309.html**](http://www.aljazeera.com/news/middleeast/2014/09/nusra-front-warns-against-airstrikes-syria-201492995026241309.html)

CEE/CIS

**Bosnia-Herzegovina**

**UN prosecutors demand life sentence for Karadzic**

Former Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic should be sentenced to life imprisonment if he is convicted of "a substantial portion" of the crimes he stood trial for at a UN war crimes tribunal, prosecutors said in a public written brief. Karadzic is charged with 11 crimes including genocide for allegedly directing Bosnian Serb atrocities throughout the war, including the 1995 massacre of thousands of Muslim men and boys in Srebrenica.

**AP -** [**http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/prosecutors-demand-life-sentence-karadzic-25780096**](http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/prosecutors-demand-life-sentence-karadzic-25780096)

**Turkey**

**PKK claim deadly ambush in southeast**

Three Turkish police were killed after an ambush in Turkey's southeast, in an attack claimed by armed Kurdish militants despite a one-and-a-half-year ceasefire. The Dogan news agency said traffic police on the highway between the southeastern cities of Diyarbakir and Bitlis were attacked with rocket-propelled grenades and rifles. If confirmed, the attack would be a significant breach of the ceasefire between the PKK and Turkish authorities, which has largely held since March 2013 despite stalling peace talks.

**AFP -** [**http://www.globalpost.com/dispatch/news/afp/140927/kurdish-militants-claim-deadly-ambush-turkeys-southeast**](http://www.globalpost.com/dispatch/news/afp/140927/kurdish-militants-claim-deadly-ambush-turkeys-southeast)

**Refugee crisis deepens as IS besieges Syrian border town**

More than 150,000 Syrian Kurds have fled to Turkey over the past week to escape the advance of Islamic State militants, who have seized villages and beheaded residents as they push towards the strategic border town Kobani. Turkey, already home to an estimated 1.5 million refugees from Syria's civil war, is pushing the US and its allies to create a safe haven for refugees inside Syrian territory. A safe haven along the border would require a no-fly zone policed by foreign jets. The Turkish President has said Turkish troops could be used to help set up such a zone.

**Reuters -** [**http://www.trust.org/item/20140928125507-4r5f2**](http://www.trust.org/item/20140928125507-4r5f2)

**Ukraine**

**3 killed in worst east Ukraine shelling in a week**

Authorities say the eastern Ukraine rebel stronghold of Donetsk has been hit by the worst shelling in more than a week, killing three people and wounding five overnight. Authorities say the eastern Ukraine rebel stronghold of Donetsk has been hit by the worst shelling in more than a week, killing three people and wounding five overnight.

**ABC News -** [**http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/killed-worst-east-ukraine-shelling-week-25830512**](http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/killed-worst-east-ukraine-shelling-week-25830512)

**Two people killed in clashes despite cease-fire**

A Ukrainian security official said that one serviceman and one civilian have been killed in the past day as rebels in the east continue attacks despite a cease-fire declared three weeks ago. A spokesperson for Ukraine's national Security Council said that the civilian died and 16 others were wounded in rebel mortar fire on the town of Shchastya, damaging the local hospital and a vocational school. He also said one serviceman was killed and eight wounded over the past day. Rebel fire continued in the vicinity of the airport in Donetsk, he said. Ukrainian forces have held the airport against rebels since May.

**AP -** [**http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/ukraine-killed-clashes-cease-fire-25800968**](http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/ukraine-killed-clashes-cease-fire-25800968)

EAP

**Philippines**

**Rebels start difficult disarming process**

The difficult process of disarming the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) rebels after a decades-long insurgency has started, negotiators said, with the decommissioning of a first batch of firearms expected before year-end. The Philippine government and rebel negotiators started meeting in Malaysia to discuss the disarmament process, key to ending the insurgency in the country's south and sealing a peace deal. The two sides have appointed three foreign experts -- from Brunei, Turkey and Norway -- to join an independent body that will oversee the decommissioning process, together with four local experts who are yet to be nominated. The meeting will continue until 29 September.

**AFP -** [**http://www.ndtv.com/article/world/philippine-muslim-rebels-start-difficult-disarming-process-598999**](http://www.ndtv.com/article/world/philippine-muslim-rebels-start-difficult-disarming-process-598999)

ESA

**Somalia**

**Somalia puts bounty on new leader of al-Shabaab**

The Somali intelligence agency has put a bounty on the new leader of Al-Shabaab who took over the control of the group after its leader was killed in a US air strike. The country's new intelligence chief, Abdirahman Muhammad Tur'yare, said they will reward anyone who facilitates the killing of Ahmad Umar Abu-Ubeydah with $2m and another $1m for anyone who provides information for his whereabouts.

**Yahoo News -** [**https://in.news.yahoo.com/somalia-announces-2-million-dollars-bounty-information-al-061015893.html**](https://in.news.yahoo.com/somalia-announces-2-million-dollars-bounty-information-al-061015893.html)

LAC

**Across Region**

**US donates $10 million to assist with drought and coffee rust**

The WFP welcomed a contribution of $10 million from the United States to assist people across Central America affected by severe drought and the Coffee Rust disease. The contribution, channelled through USAID’s Office of Food for Peace, will provide cash transfers and food vouchers to some 220,000 food insecure people. At the request of the governments of Central America, WFP plans to provide food assistance to nearly 1.5 million people, for which more than $65 million is required. According to initial estimates, more than 2 million people may be in need of food assistance.

**WFP -** [**http://www.wfp.org/news/news-release/united-states-donates-10-million-assist-central-americans-hit-drought-and-coffee-r**](http://www.wfp.org/news/news-release/united-states-donates-10-million-assist-central-americans-hit-drought-and-coffee-r)

**Colombia**

**Army kills 3 rebels in southwestern region**

The Colombian army killed three rebels in the country's southwestern Putumayo department, authorities said. During a military operation in the municipality of Puerto Guzman, three members of the FARC were killed by the army. Two of the dead were identified as leaders of the Edgar Tovar Column of the FARC's 48th Front, which consists of hundreds of combatants.

**Xinhua -** [**http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/world/2014-09/26/c\_133674528.htm**](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/world/2014-09/26/c_133674528.htm)

**Per****u**

**At least 8 people killed, including 4 children in earthquake in the south**

At least eight people were killed by a 5.1 magnitude earthquake that hit rural southern Peru over the weekend, emergency authorities said on 28 September as the search for victims continued. The quake late on 27 September night in Paruro province, in the Andean region of Cusco. The victims were all from the community of Mica, where 90% of the town's rustic homes collapsed and left 75 people homeless, national emergency operations spokesperson reported. Five people were injured and power was knocked out to the village.

**AFP -** [**http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/eight-dead-including-four-children-in-peru-quake-114092800794\_1.html**](http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/eight-dead-including-four-children-in-peru-quake-114092800794_1.html)

**AP -** [**http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/authorities-killed-peru-quake-25816327**](http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/authorities-killed-peru-quake-25816327)

**Reuters -** [**http://www.trust.org/item/20140928154221-gkvqw**](http://www.trust.org/item/20140928154221-gkvqw)

MENA

**Across MENA**

**US hits militants in Syria as UK bombers fly over Iraq**

The US-led coalition widened its air strikes against the Islamic State group in Syria on 27 September as British warplanes took off for anti-jihadist missions over neighbouring Iraq. The targets in Syria were said to include IS fighters around the besieged Kurdish town of Ain al-Arab, also known as Kobani, which the militants have been battling to capture. Meanwhile, Royal Air Force Tornado GR4 combat jets armed with laser-guided bombs took off from Britain's RAF Akrotiri base on Cyprus for missions over Iraq. Earlier Belgium and Denmark also approved plans to join France and the Netherlands in carrying out air raids against the militants in Iraq, allowing Washington to focus on the more complex operation in Syria, where IS is based.

**AFP -** [**http://news.yahoo.com/anti-jihadist-coalition-widens-strikes-hit-syria-oil-195151755.html**](http://news.yahoo.com/anti-jihadist-coalition-widens-strikes-hit-syria-oil-195151755.html)

**Libya**

**Tribal clashes kill two people**

Clashes between two of the largest tribes in southern Libya killed at least two people on 28 September, a tribal leader reported. "Violent clashes are under way in Sabha between the Awlad Suleiman tribe and the Gaddadfa" the head of the Council of Dignitaries which represents the tribes and mediates in disputes. He said at least two people were killed and more wounded as fighting erupted after the death of a young member of the Gaddadfa tribe, which accused the Awlad Suleiman of killing him.

**AFP -** [**http://www.dailystar.com.lb/News/Middle-East/2014/Sep-28/272264-libya-tribal-clashes-kill-two-mediator.ashx#axzz3EdiGi6jm**](http://www.dailystar.com.lb/News/Middle-East/2014/Sep-28/272264-libya-tribal-clashes-kill-two-mediator.ashx#axzz3EdiGi6jm)

**Syria**

**Islamic State fighters kill 40 Kurdish militia in past five days**

Islamic State fighters have killed 40 Kurdish militia in the past five days of heavy fighting for the strategic Syrian town of Kobani, near the border with Turkey, the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said on 27 September. The Observatory said some of the Kurdish casualties were caused by a suicide bomber who drove into the western outskirts of the town in a vehicle disguised to look as though it was carrying humanitarian aid. It did not say when the incident took place.

**Reuters -** [**http://www.trust.org/item/20140927173325-65w00**](http://www.trust.org/item/20140927173325-65w00)

**Yemen**

**Separate attacks target Houthis in Yemen**

Shiite Houthi militants were on Sunday the target of three separate attacks in the Yemeni capital Sanaa, the eastern province of Maarib and the central province of Al-Bayda'. Ansar Al-Sharia, an Al -Qaeda- linked group, claimed responsibility for two of the attacks that killed six Houthi militants and injured scores of others. Ansar Al-Sharia claimed responsibility earlier in the day for a car bombing, targeting Houthi militants in Majzar, a district of the eastern Maarib province.

**AA -** [**http://www.worldbulletin.net/world/145341/separate-attacks-target-houthis-in-yemen-20-killed**](http://www.worldbulletin.net/world/145341/separate-attacks-target-houthis-in-yemen-20-killed)

**Yemenis demonstrate in Sanaa against Shiite rebels**

Hundreds of Yemenis are demonstrating in the capital, Sanaa, urging state security forces to return to the streets and demanding the departure of Shiite rebel militias. The Sunday demonstrations come a day after Yemeni political forces signed a security deal in which the Shiite rebels, known as Hawthis, agreed to disarm their militia and withdraw from areas they recently seized.

**ABC News -** [**http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/yemenis-demonstrate-sanaa-shiite-rebels-25814255**](http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/yemenis-demonstrate-sanaa-shiite-rebels-25814255)

**Houthi rebels attack security chief's home**

Shi'ite Muslim rebels attacked the home of Yemen's intelligence chief in Sanaa on Saturday, residents and security sources said, showing the fragility of a power-sharing accord that has failed to halt fighting in the capital. Houthi rebels attacked National Security Chief's Ali al-Ahmadi's house in the city's upscale Hadda neighborhood early on Saturday and clashes continued for two hours. One soldier and two insurgents were killed in the fighting, while 15 people - six soldiers and nine Houthis - were wounded**. Reuters -** [**http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/09/27/us-yemen-security-idUSKCN0HM08920140927**](http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/09/27/us-yemen-security-idUSKCN0HM08920140927)

SA

**Afghanistan**

**Blast near airport in Afghan capital as new president sworn in**

A suicide bomber attacked a security checkpoint near the airport in Kabul city on Monday, minutes before new President Ashraf Ghani was sworn in. The attack came as dignitaries gathered in Kabul for Ghani's inauguration. He is taking over from longtime leader Hamid Karzai at a crucial time as foreign forces prepare to leave and the fight against Taliban militants intensifies. There were casualties and a Reuters witness saw dead bodies at the scene. It was not clear how many people had been killed and wounded  
**Reuters -** [**http://www.dailymail.co.uk/wires/reuters/article-2773271/Blast-near-airport-Afghan-capital-casualties--Reuters-witness.html**](http://www.dailymail.co.uk/wires/reuters/article-2773271/Blast-near-airport-Afghan-capital-casualties--Reuters-witness.html)

**Taliban launch attack in Afghanistan's Paktia**

A group of Taliban suicide bombers has attacked a local government headquarters in Afghanistan's eastern Paktia province, killing 12 people, as the country's new president was preparing to be sworn in.

A fighter detonated an explosives laden vehicle at the entrance of a district headquarters in Paktia's Zurmat district on Monday, leading to a heavy exchange of gunfire between the Taliban and security officials which resulted in three of the other fighters being killed.

**Al Jazeera -** [**http://www.aljazeera.com/news/asia/2014/09/taliban-launch-attack-afghanistan-paktia-20149294182914536.html**](http://www.aljazeera.com/news/asia/2014/09/taliban-launch-attack-afghanistan-paktia-20149294182914536.html)

**Bangladesh**

**Bangladesh arrests Briton over jihadist recruitment**

Officers said Samiun Rahman, of Bangladeshi origin, was picked up from a railway station in the capital around midnight on Sunday. Dhaka police spokesman Monirul Islam said Rahman, alias Ibn Hamdan, planned to send Bangladeshi militants to Syria, and also wanted to set up an Al-Qaeda network inside Bangladesh and neighbouring Myanmar. The arrests come after Al-Qaeda chief Ayman al-Zawahiri announced earlier this month plans to launch a South Asian branch of the militant network.

**AFP -** [**http://english.ahram.org.eg/NewsContent/2/9/111940/World/International/Bangladesh-arrests-Briton-over-IS-jihad-recruitmen.aspx**](http://english.ahram.org.eg/NewsContent/2/9/111940/World/International/Bangladesh-arrests-Briton-over-IS-jihad-recruitmen.aspx)

**Pakistan**

**Airstrikes, gunfight kill 21 militants in NW Pakistan**

At least 21 militants have been killed in airstrikes and a gunfight in Pakistan's restive northwestern tribal areas, officials said Sunday. The air attacks were carried out on five insurgent hideouts in the Shawal area of North Waziristan overnight. In precise aerial strikes last night 5 terrorist hideouts were destroyed and 15 terrorists including foreigners were killed in Shawal area of North Waziristan Agency. Separately, at least six militants were killed early Sunday in a gunfight that erupted after they attacked a paramilitary checkpoint at the Ghundi checkpoint in the Khyber tribal district which is a gateway for NATO supplies to Afghanistan.

**AFP -** [**http://en.prothom-alo.com/international/news/54331/21-militants-killed-in-Pakistan-airstrikes**](http://en.prothom-alo.com/international/news/54331/21-militants-killed-in-Pakistan-airstrikes)

WCA

**CAR**

**Country faces insecurity, logistics challenges as rains set in**

Due to the rainy season in the CAR, the WFP has announced that it is facing a double challenge of insecurity and logistical constraints. Recently, significant security-related events occurred in central parts of the country – particularly within the Bambari-Sibut-Dekoa area. In total, six primary and secondary at-risk axes were identified in the west, central and north of the country. The WFP-managed UN Humanitarian Air Service was also experiencing problems with the supply of jet fuel.

**UN News Centre -** [**http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=48893#.VCbgAWjD\_cs**](http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=48893#.VCbgAWjD_cs)

**President asks UN to tweak arms embargo to aid troops**

The CAR interim President asked the UN to consider tweaking an arms embargo on the landlocked state so its security forces could be properly equipped to work alongside UN peacekeepers. "I should here like to ask for the understanding of the sanctions committee to ensure that the arms embargo imposed on the CAR be reassessed and re-examined," Samba Panza told the General Assembly.

**Reuters -** [**http://www.trust.org/item/20140927204257-st40c**](http://www.trust.org/item/20140927204257-st40c)

**Guinea-Bissau**

**At least 22 people killed after vehicle hits landmine**

At least 22 people were killed in Guinea-Bissau when a vehicle taking them to a funeral struck a landmine, a police source said on Saturday. The incident happened on Friday afternoon near Mansoa, about 60 km (37 miles) northeast of the capital, Bissau. Hundreds of people have been killed by landmines laid during Guinea-Bissau's independence war with Portugal in the 1970s and the nation's internal conflicts in the 1990s.

**AFP –** [**http://www.focus-fen.net/news/2014/09/28/349702/guinea-bissau-landmine-blast-toll-rises-to-21.html**](http://www.focus-fen.net/news/2014/09/28/349702/guinea-bissau-landmine-blast-toll-rises-to-21.html)

**Reuters -** [**http://www.trust.org/item/20140927114221-ynmj8**](http://www.trust.org/item/20140927114221-ynmj8)

**Liberia**

**Deputy Health Minister goes under Ebola quarantine**

Liberia's Deputy Health Minister is placing herself under quarantine for 21 days after her office assistant died of Ebola. Bernice Dahn, a deputy health minister, told The Associated Press Saturday she did not have any Ebola symptoms but wanted to ensure she was not infected. She said she had also instructed her office staff to remain at home for three weeks. The World Health Organization says 21 days is the maximum incubation period for Ebola, which has killed more than 3,000 people across West Africa and is hitting Liberia especially hard.

**AP -** [**http://www.wvnstv.com/story/26642451/liberia-top-doctor-goes-under-ebola-quarantine**](http://www.wvnstv.com/story/26642451/liberia-top-doctor-goes-under-ebola-quarantine)

The Brief is produced by UNICEF's Emergency Operations Centre (OPSCEN) and is a daily compilation of the main humanitarian, political and security-related media stories from around the world. It aims to provide field offices and senior decision-makers with critical information related to humanitarian emergencies and staff security.

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