



# **African Centre for the Study and Research on Terrorism**

**African Union Commission**

## **ACSRT Terrorism Daily News Briefs Thursday, 13 April 2017 - Edition N°1221**

### **EAST AFRICA**

#### **Somalia**

##### **Al-Shabab vows 'doubled response' to US move in Somalia**

Al-Shabab's statements come after Somalia's new military chief survived a suicide car bomb attack Sunday following his swearing-in with a mandate to launch a new offensive against the Islamic extremists. Thirteen people were killed. A day later, a suicide bombing at a military academy in the capital, Mogadishu, killed at least five soldiers.

*startribune 12 Apr 2017*

<http://www.startribune.com/al-shabab-vows-doubled-response-to-us-move-in-somalia/419241184/>

##### **Les pirates somaliens sont de retour dans le business d'otages**

Grâce aux efforts de la communauté internationale et aux navires de guerre déployés dans les eaux de l'océan Indien au large de la Corne de l'Afrique, les attaques de navires de commerce ou de plaisance commises par des pirates somaliens avaient disparu.

*slateafrique 12 Apr 2017*

<http://www.slateafrique.com/737639/retour-piraterie-somalie>

##### **Ali Hussein is a trader “not a terrorist”, says Elder**

Ahmed Hussein, a prominent Somali elder has called for the immediate and unconditional release of Ali Hussein Ali who was detained in Kenya in connection with Islamic state (ISIL). The Elder has denied all charges against Ali, and urged Kenyan authorities to release him.

*shabelle 12 Apr 2017*

<http://www.shabelleneews.com/2017/04/elder-ali-hussein-is-a-businessman-not-a-terrorist/>

##### **Al-Shabaab Plays on Aid Distribution Role to Win Over Desperate Somalis**

With a severe drought unfolding across Somalia, al-Shabaab militants have turned to distributing food aid in the country's southern battlegrounds in a new strategy aimed at

bringing locals on side. Two consecutive seasons of poor rainfall has led to livestock deaths and crop failure, forcing people....

*refworld 12 Apr 2017*

<http://www.refworld.org/docid/58ee2d4f4.html>

### **Somali Forces Free 8 Sailors Kidnapped by Pirates**

Somali officials say security forces have rescued eight Indian sailors who were taken to land by pirates on Monday. The mayor of Hobyo town, Abdullahi Ahmed Ali, told VOA's Somali service Wednesday that the sailors from MSV Al Kausar are safe and in the hands of the security forces. "The captain is riding the car with me," Ali said.

*voanews 12 Apr 2017*

<http://www.voanews.com/a/somalia-forces-free-8-sailors-kidnapped-by-pirates/3806794.html>

### **Somali President Vows to Eradicate Militants as He Offers Peace Talks**

Somali's president vowed Wednesday that his administration will eradicate the terrorist militant group al-Shabab across Somalia within two years, and he offered its leaders peace talks. Mohamed Abdullahi Mohamed, better known as Farmajo, was speaking at a ceremony marking the 57th anniversary of the....

*voanews 12 Apr 2017*

<http://www.voanews.com/a/somali-president-vows-eradicate-militants-offers-peace-talks/3807259.html>

## **CENTRAL AFRICA**

### **Central African Republic**

#### **Central African Republic militia leaders hit with U.S. sanctions**

The United States imposed financial sanctions on Wednesday against two militia leaders accused of collaborating on violence intended to destabilise the Central African Republic, which is struggling to end years of division and bloodshed.

*reuters-af 9:25:00 AM CEST*

<http://af.reuters.com/article/topNews/idAFKBN17F0PT-OZATP>

## **WEST AFRICA**

### **Burkina Faso**

#### **Jihadist cohesion likely to drive greater resistance to Burkina-Mali border operations, posing disruption risks to mining activities**

Key Points Jihadist cohesion demonstrates a capacity to resist counter-terrorism operations, with assaults likely to increase on the Burkina-Mali border in coming weeks. Overstretched Burkinabé security forces are likely to rely on self-defence groups for help. Gold mining activities at Kéréboulé near the border risk disruption.

*janes 12 Apr 2017*

[http://www.janes.com/article/69514/jihadist-cohesion-likely-to-drive-greater-resistance-to-burkina-mali-border-operations-posing-disruption-risks-to-mining-activities?from\\_rss=1](http://www.janes.com/article/69514/jihadist-cohesion-likely-to-drive-greater-resistance-to-burkina-mali-border-operations-posing-disruption-risks-to-mining-activities?from_rss=1)

### **Mali**

#### **L'équation Iyad et Kouffa (Le challenger)**

La Conférence d'Entente Nationale déroulée du 27 mars au 02 avril 2017 au Palais de la Culture Amadou Hampaté Ba, a proposé dans son rapport général au chapitre des recommandations générales de « négocier avec les belligérants du centre en l'occurrence Ahmadou Kouffa et les extrémistes religieux du....

*abamako 12 Apr 2017*

<http://news.abamako.com/h/158004.html>

#### **Mokhtar Belmokhtar le ressuscité des occidentaux**

En l'espace de sept ans, le Sahel est devenu un carrefour des attaques perpétrées contre les étrangers et les militaires. Orchestrées par une organisation terroriste à dessein stratégique, commanditée par des chefs terroristes, dont le tristement célèbre Mokhtar Belmokhtar, alias Mokhtar « Marlboro....

*presse-dz 12 Apr 2017*

<https://www.presse-dz.com/revue-de-presse/mokhtar-belmokhtar-le-ressuscite-des-occidentaux>

### **OIC concerned over violence in Mali**

The Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) expressed its concern over the resurgence of violence and numerous armed attacks, including that targeting Gargando Circle, the town of Benitieni, in the Circle of San, as well as Anefis village in northern Mali. The Secretary General, Dr.

*bna-en 12 Apr 2017*

<http://www.bna.bh/portal/en/news/780377>

### **Nigeria**

#### **Nigeria thwarts Boko Haram plan to attack US, UK embassies**

Nigerian security officials said Wednesday they have thwarted plans by Islamic State group-linked Boko Haram members to attack the embassies of the United States and Britain. A statement by the Department of State Services said that late last month it broke up a ring that had....

*WashingtonPost 12 Apr 2017*

[https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/africa/nigeria-thwarts-boko-haram-plan-to-attack-us-uk-embassies/2017/04/12/9476651e-1f78-11e7-bb59-a74ccaf1d02f\\_story.html](https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/africa/nigeria-thwarts-boko-haram-plan-to-attack-us-uk-embassies/2017/04/12/9476651e-1f78-11e7-bb59-a74ccaf1d02f_story.html)

#### **Projets d'attentat de Boko Haram contre des ambassades à Abuja**

Projets d'attentat de Boko Haram contre des ambassades à Abuja. Les services de sécurité du Nigeria ont dit mercredi avoir déjoué des projets d'attentat contre les ambassades des Etats-Unis et de Grande-Bretagne à Abuja ourdis par des militants du groupe islamiste Boko Haram.

*lorientlejour 12 Apr 2017*

<https://www.lorientlejour.com/article/1046454/projets-dattentat-de-boko-haram-contre-des-ambassades-a-abuja.html>

#### **Life after Boko Haram**

Global outrage was sparked three years ago when 276 schoolgirls from the town of Chibok in northeast Nigeria were kidnapped by the insurgency group Boko Haram. They are just some of the 8,000 women and girls, and many boys

*12 Apr 2017*

<http://www.international-alert.org/news/life-after-boko-haram>

#### **FG negotiating with Boko Haram on Chibok girls—Osinbajo**

The Vice President, Professor Yemi Osinbajo, has said negotiations are ongoing for the release of more Chibok schoolgirls still in the custody of Boko Haram terrorists, expressing optimism that the dialogue would yield the desired result. Yemi Osinbajo.

*vanguardngr 7:06:00 AM CEST*

<http://www.vanguardngr.com/2017/04/fg-negotiating-boko-haram-chibok-girls-osinbajo/>

#### **Shocking that Chibok girls still not free: UN experts**

The UN says Nigeria is not doing enough to free the girls. Nigeria must do more to rescue the 195 Chibok schoolgirls kidnapped three years ago in the jihadist group Boko....

*enca 7:26:00 AM CEST*

<http://www.enca.com/africa/shocking-that-chibok-girls-still-not-free-un-experts>

## **Rise in Boko Haram Child Suicide Bombers 'Alarming', Says UNICEF**

An "alarming" number of children, most of them girls, have been used by Boko Haram as suicide bombers in the first months of 2017, UNICEF said Wednesday. The Islamists have increasingly been using children to attack crowded markets, mosques and camps for internally displaced people in northeast Nigeria and the broader Lake Chad region.

*naharnet-en 7:02:00 AM CEST*

<http://www.naharnet.com/stories/en/228379-rise-in-boko-haram-child-suicide-bombers-alarming-says-unicef>

## **Senegal**

### **Senegal arrests suspected Boko Haram recruiter, extremists**

Senegalese police say authorities have arrested a suspected recruiter for the Nigeria-based Boko Haram Islamic extremist group. Police said Wednesday they arrested the Nigerian on April 1 in a Dakar suburb. Police said the suspect was known to Nigerian intelligence services and had....

*therepublic 12 Apr 2017*

<http://www.therepublic.com/2017/04/12/af-senegal-arrests/>

### **DAKAR, UNE CIBLE DES DJIHADISTES ?**

Les mis en cause sont venus de la Turquie où ils logeaient dans un camp de réfugiés recueillant en majorité des Syriens. Cependant, soutient le document envoyé par la Police, «les deux ressortissants marocains, rejetant les faits de terrorisme qui leur sont reprochés, ont déclaré jeter leur dévolu....

*sudonline 12 Apr 2017*

[http://www.sudonline.sn/dakar-une-cible-des-djihadistes- a\\_34374.html](http://www.sudonline.sn/dakar-une-cible-des-djihadistes- a_34374.html)

## **NORTH AFRICA**

### **Egypt**

#### **Egypt Church curtails Easter celebrations after bombings**

Egypt's Coptic Church announced on Wednesday that it would cut back Easter celebrations to a simple mass after twin bombings killed 45 worshippers last weekend.

*enca 12 Apr 2017*

<http://www.enca.com/africa/egypt-church-curtails-easter-celebrations-after-bombings>

#### **Les coptes limitent les célébrations de Pâques**

L'Eglise copte en Egypte a décidé mercredi de limiter les célébrations de Pâques aux messes et demandé un renforcement de la sécurité des églises après des attentats meurtriers contre cette communauté. Dimanche, en pleine célébration des Rameaux, deux attentats suicide revendiqués par le groupe....

*journalducameroun 12 Apr 2017*

<http://journalducameroun.com/attentants-en-egypte-les-coptes-limitent-les-celebrations-de-paques/>

#### **Alexandria church suicide bomber identified**

Egypt's interior ministry said on Wednesday it had identified the suicide bomber behind a deadly attack at the weekend outside a church in the coastal city of Alexandria. The ministry said Mahmud Hassan Mubarak Abdullah had carried out the attack outside Saint Mark's church in Alexandria on....

*middle-east-online\_en 10:17:00 AM CEST*

<http://www.middle-east-online.com/english/?id=82587>

#### **Grand Imam of Azhar: Terrorism is an Intellectual and Psychological Disease**

The terrorism in the world is not a result of any religion, but it is an intellectual and psychological disease that is always seeking excuses for its existence, said Grand Imam

of al-Azhar Ahmed el-Tayeb. He told Asharq Al-Awsat: “Terrorism and violence are two opposites and the....

*aaawsat 9:56:00 AM CEST*

<http://english.aawsat.com/walid-abdul-rahman-dalia-assem-and-asharq-alawsat/news-middle-east/grand-imam-azhar-terrorism-intellectual-psychological-disease>

## **Egypt beefs up security outside churches ahead of Easter**

A dozen high-ranking police officers are stationed on all entrances, searching cars and scanning the area, as security measures are visibly beefed up outside churches before Easter prayers on Sunday.

*AP 8:37:00 AM CEST*

[http://hosted2.ap.org/APDEFAULT/cae69a7523db45408eeb2b3a98c0c9c5/Article\\_2017-04-12-ML--Egypt/id-a1519880db3c4c79b27a11d6d8fb5e8b](http://hosted2.ap.org/APDEFAULT/cae69a7523db45408eeb2b3a98c0c9c5/Article_2017-04-12-ML--Egypt/id-a1519880db3c4c79b27a11d6d8fb5e8b)

## **INTERNATIONAL**

### **America**

#### **US**

### **US judge to check on man forcibly medicated in terror case**

A federal judge is checking whether a mentally ill North Carolina man accused of trying to join al-Qaida-linked fighters in Syria has improved after nearly a year of forced medication. US District Judge Terrence Boyle wants to eyeball Basit Sheikh on Thursday.

*ynetnews 10:27:00 AM CEST*

<http://www.ynetnews.com/articles/0,7340,L-4948749,00.html>

### **Asia**

#### **Bangladesh**

### **Bangladesh executes HuJI chief, two associates**

Bangladesh tonight executed banned Harkat-ul-Jihad al-Islami chief Mufti Abdul Hannan and his two associates for a 2004 attack on a shrine that killed....

*economictimes 10:13:00 AM CEST*

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/international/world-news/bangladesh-executes-huji-chief-two-associates/articleshow/58152882.cms>

### **Iraq**

### **The Competition Over ISIS-Freed Territory**

With the fall of the Islamic State (also known as ISIS) seemingly imminent, nearly every Iraqi political group and its associated militia have been rushing to take control of the newly liberated territories in the governorates of Anbar, Diyala, Kirkuk, Nineveh, and Salahadin.

*foreignaffairs 10:16:00 AM CEST*

<https://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/iraq/2017-04-10/land-grabs-iraq>

### **Surrender or be killed, Coalition tells ISIS**

The Combined Joint Task Force Operation Inherent Resolve says that terrorists of Islamic State around Raqqa, Syria and Mosul, Iraq should either surrender or be killed. Spokesman of the coalition, Col. John Dorrian, said on Wednesday that the coalition was closing in on ISIS, Dorrian said this in a statement by the U.

*vanguardngr 10:08:00 AM CEST*

<http://www.vanguardngr.com/2017/04/surrender-killed-coalition-tells-isis/>

## **Yemen**

### **Houthi Putschists Deprive Eight Yemeni Cities from Water**

Yemeni areas under insurgency control continue to register deteriorating humanitarian conditions, with worsening water supply shortages. The internationally backed government estimated that eight Houthi-held areas have poor water supply. With every day that passes by Yemenis locked in....

*aawsat 12 Apr 2017*

<http://english.aawsat.com/s-alabyad/news-middle-east/houthi-putschists-deprive-eight-yemeni-cities-water>

## **Europe**

### **Cyprus**

### **Cyprus turned back 18 would-be fighters**

Cyprus has turned back 18 foreign nationals on their way to fight in Syria on the side of the Islamic State, foreign ministry permanent secretary Alexandros Zenon told the Cyprus News Agency. "Due to our geographical position we are in close cooperation with various security and intelligence...."

*cyprus-mail 10:05:00 AM CEST*

<http://cyprus-mail.com/2017/04/13/cyprus-turned-back-18-fighters/>

## **Czech Republic**

### **Czechs to boost security over Easter after attacks in Europe**

Czech authorities are boosting security measures across the country over Easter and Passover holidays following recent terror attacks in Europe.

*siouxcityjournal 12 Apr 2017*

[http://siouxcityjournal.com/news/world/czechs-to-boost-security-over-easter-after-attacks-in-europe/article\\_83054691-0c0f-51de-90a9-63781543d968.html](http://siouxcityjournal.com/news/world/czechs-to-boost-security-over-easter-after-attacks-in-europe/article_83054691-0c0f-51de-90a9-63781543d968.html)

## **Germany**

### **Explosions de Dortmund : le sport, cible de longue date de terroristes**

Depuis l'assassinat des athlètes israéliens en 1972, aux Jeux olympiques de Munich, les compétitions sportives ont été touchées à plusieurs reprises par des attentats. 1972 : le 5 septembre au matin, huit membres de l'organisation palestinienne Septembre noir s'introduisent dans le village....

*leparisien 12 Apr 2017*

<http://www.leparisien.fr/sports/explosions-de-dortmund-le-sport-cible-de-longue-date-de-terroristes-12-04-2017-6847905.php#xtor=RSS-1481423633>

### **Germany detains suspect with Islamist background in Dortmund attack probe**

Germany detains suspect with Islamist background in Dortmund attack probe. A man of Islamist background has been detained by German investigators probing blasts against a bus carrying players of Borussia Dortmund football club,....

*thestar-my 12 Apr 2017*

<http://www.thestar.com.my/news/world/2017/04/12/germany-detains-suspect-with-islamist-background-in-dortmund-attack-probe/>

### **Explosions à Dortmund: la piste islamiste privilégiée, un suspect interpellé**

Après les explosions visant un bus de l'équipe de football du Borussia Dortmund, le parquet fédéral allemand n'exclut aucune piste mais la police examine surtout la piste islamiste excluant celle peu crédible d'extrême gauche. Deux suspects issus de la mouvance " islamiste " ont été identifiés, dont...

rtbf 12 Apr 2017

[https://www.rtf.be/info/monde/detail\\_explosions-dortmund-une-deuxieme-personne-blessee-par-les-explosions?id=9578713](https://www.rtf.be/info/monde/detail_explosions-dortmund-une-deuxieme-personne-blessee-par-les-explosions?id=9578713)

## **Russian football chief: Terrorists now target world's most popular sport of football**

Football as the most popular sport around the globe is now attracting terrorists, who are aiming to spoil matches with their heinous acts, Russian Deputy Prime Minister Vitaly Mutko told TASS on Wednesday in the wake of a bomb attack on Germany's Dortmund FC.

itartass\_en 12 Apr 2017

<http://tass.com/sport/940962>

## **Sweden**

### **Stockholm attack puts a choke-hold on Swedish tolerance**

Hours after the truck attack that killed four people in the heart of Stockholm, Muslim taxi driver Abdi Dahir found himself in a suffocating choke-hold from a man sitting in the back seat. Struggling to breathe, Dahir, who moved to Sweden....

reuters-af 12 Apr 2017

<http://af.reuters.com/article/worldNews/idAFKBN17E1W5>

### **Sweden to Consider Tougher Anti-Terror Laws**

The Swedish government is to launch an investigation into introducing a new law similar to one in Norway which would make participating in a terrorist organization a criminal offence, The Local writes. In Sweden , people who travel to another country seeking training from a terrorist organization or....

novinite 10:05:00 AM CEST

<http://www.novinite.com/articles/179778/Sweden+to+Consider+Tougher+Anti-Terror+Laws>

## **UK**

### **Manchester United on high alert after Dortmund bomb attack**

Manchester United have been put on high security alert ahead of a match in Brussels tonight in the wake of the bombing attack on Borussia Dortmund's team bus in Germany earlier this week. The club face Anderlecht in the quarter finals of the Europa League and are taking the threat of another attack 'very seriously', with an 'unprecedented' security operation launched to protect the players.

dailymail 10:26:00 AM CEST

[http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-4407892/Manchester-United-high-alert-Dortmund-bomb-attack.html?ITO=1490&ns\\_mchannel=rss&ns\\_campaign=1490](http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-4407892/Manchester-United-high-alert-Dortmund-bomb-attack.html?ITO=1490&ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490)

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