Week of 14 – 20 April 2014

• Africa
  - April 15: Alleged Boko Harem militants abduct 100 school girls in northeastern Nigeria
  - April 16: Somalia rethinks security plan in wake of Islamist assault
  - April 16: Chad says it has withdrawn all of its troops from the CAR
  - April 16: U.S. expands AFRICOM missions
  - April 19: Dozens killed in South Sudan cattle raid
  - April 20: Insurgents kill at least 11 Algerian soldiers
  - April 20: South Sudan urges Sudan to prevent attacks by armed groups

• Asia (Central)
  - April 14: Afghan election day was unusually violent despite perception of relative calm; Afghan security forces prepare for potential run-off election
  - April 14: India reportedly needs to hike defense spending by 30% if it is to narrow gap with China
  - April 15: Gunmen abduct Afghanistan’s Deputy Public Works Minister in Kabul on his way to work
  - April 15: Afghanistan says a NATO airstrike killed a woman and two children
  - April 16: Afghan elections’ early indicators increase chances U.S. forces will remain in the country
  - April 18: India selects new head of Navy

• Asia (Eastern) & Australia
  - April 13: U.S. may strengthen and disperse Pacific bases
  - April 14: Indonesia upgrades naval vessels with stealth radar
  - April 16: Hundreds missing as South Korea ferry sinks
  - April 17: U.S. warns Burma over anti-Muslim violence

• Europe
  - April 14: U.S. condemns “provocative” actions by Russian warplane over U.S. Navy destroyer in the Black Sea
  - April 14: Pro-Russian police help foil Ukrainian crackdown in East
  - April 14: Italy faces “Biblical Exodus” of migrants in Mediterranean Sea
April 14: Lithuania to deploy new radars to Belarus border
April 15: Russia to begin sea trials of new nuclear submarines this summer
April 15: NATO weighs in on controversial French contract to supply Russia with advanced navy vessels
April 16: Ukrainian troop defections, deployments escalate tensions in eastern Ukraine
April 16: NATO ramps up Eastern European deployments
April 17: Pro-Russian gunmen attack Ukrainian base in southeastern city of Mariupol; 3 are killed and at least 13 wounded
April 17: Agreement to defuse Ukraine tensions agreed upon in Geneva
April 18: U.S. ground troops to be stationed in Poland
April 20: Shootout in eastern Ukraine shatters Easter truce, leaves 3 dead

**Latin America**

April 13: Venezuelan military admits to “some excesses” during weeks of political unrest
April 15: Latin America is “most violent” region in the world
April 16: Mexico “cartel city” mayor arrested
April 16: Venezuela rejects amnesty for protestors but expands truth commission
April 20: Protestors battle police in Venezuelan cities

**Middle East**

April 14: Iranian bazaar allegedly filled with U.S. Army gear
April 14: Gulf Cooperation Council seeks military alliance with Jordan and Morocco
April 14: Al Nusra official explains al Qaeda strategy and its dispute with ISIS
April 15: Iraqi military warns civilians to leave Fallujah
April 15: Iraq shuts down Abu Ghraib prison due to fears it could be overrun by insurgents
April 16: Israeli police and Palestinians clash at holy sites in Jerusalem
April 16: Jordan airforce destroys unidentified combat vehicles crossing from Syria
April 16: Number of foreign fighters in Syria “jumped from 800 to 8000 in the past year”
April 16: Syrian opposition has US-made “TOW” anti-tank missiles
April 19: First U.S. drone strike in Yemen in two weeks reportedly kills 16 Al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula fighters, 5 civilians
April 20: Further violence claims more lives in Fallujah, Baghdad

**United States & Canada**

April 13: As U.S., West decrease military spending, budgets rise in China, Russia, and the Middle East
April 15: U.S. navy cruiser headed for Mediterranean turns back after fighting a major fire onboard
April 16: Current U.S. defense spending plan would cut procurement and research & development by $66 billion
April 16: U.S. would cut new missile defense programs under sequestration
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