Global Security Highlights

Compiled from various media sources by the Indiana University Center on American and Global Security

Week of 21 – 27 April 2014

• Africa
  - April 21: “Ethnic slaughter” in South Sudan condemned
  - April 21: 190 schoolgirls reported missing, abducted in Nigeria
  - April 22: LRA Commander captured in Central African Republic by Ugandan troops, captives freed
  - April 23: Special forces training base U.S. set up in Libya is now reportedly controlled by jihadists
  - April 23: Fighting intensifies in South Sudan despite ceasefire agreement; Sudan-backed Arab militias allegedly aid rebels

• Asia (Central)
  - April 21: U.S. forces in Afghanistan could be cut to less than 10,000 troops, perhaps under 5000
  - April 21: Senior Taliban leader released by UAE, may be able to revive stalled Afghan peace negotiations
  - April 22: Coordinated suicide attack thwarted by Afghan security forces in Kabul
  - April 22: At least 7 people killed in attacks in northwest Pakistan
  - April 22: Pakistan successfully tests short-range ballistic missile
  - April 24: 3 Americans killed in attack on Kabul hospital
  - April 24: Pakistan air strikes target Taliban near Afghan border
  - April 24: U.S. struggles to secure release of its soldier held captive by Taliban since 2009
  - April 25: Pakistan bomb likely targeting Shi’ites explodes late, kills 4 civilians
  - April 26: Afghan forces gradually take lead as coalition withdraws
  - April 27: India successfully test-fires anti-ballistic missile

• Asia (Eastern) & Australia
  - April 21: Japan angered by China seizing its ship over a pre-wartime debt
  - April 21: President Obama travels to Pacific region, still pledging “pivot”
  - April 22: Australia to buy 58 more F-35 fighter jets for ~$12 billion
  - April 22: Pacific navies agree on nonbinding code of conduct for unplanned sea encounters
  - April 23: U.S. explicitly acknowledges the disputed Senkaku Islands as falling under U.S.-Japan defense treaty
* April 23: U.S. denies Obama visit, Philippines security deal are aimed at containing China
* April 23: Search for missing Malaysian jet continues; Australia says cost “no issue”
* April 23: Pirates rob oil tanker in Straits of Malacca
* April 24: North Korean nuclear reactor may be operating
* April 24: Chinese army seeks to attract bright young minds
* April 25: Taiwan will reportedly simulate full-scale Chinese aircraft carrier attack as part of upcoming exercises
* April 26: Japan “sends message” to China with new island radar
* April 27: U.S. and Phillipines sign major 10-year defense deal

**Europe**
- April 21: Russia accuses Ukraine of undermining agreement as Kiev and West note Russian interference in eastern Ukraine
- April 22: U.S. Vice President Biden promises Ukraine it is not “alone” as U.S. offers $50 million support package
- April 22: U.S. deploying 600 troops to eastern Europe, seeking "persistent presence"
- April 22: Tensions increase in wake of deaths among Ukraine government, pro-Russian opposition; Ukraine orders new military operation
- April 23: Another U.S. navy ship deploys to Black Sea; 3 NATO ships now in region
- April 24: Ukraine forces move in on rebel stronghold as Russia steps up threats
- April 25: Latvia says Russia is using “provocateurs” in attempt to undermine state
- April 26: Analysts ponder next Russian moves on Ukraine

**Latin America**
- April 21: U.S. approves $680 million sale of 18 Black Hawk helicopters to Mexico
- April 23: Violent clashes and protests in Rio De Janeiro, Brazil
- April 23: U.S. Defense Secretary visits Latin America in bid to strengthen ties
- April 25: Ecuador order U.S. military group to leave country
- April 25: Bolivia fires hundreds of protesting soldiers

**Middle East**
- April 21: Iraqi forces begin to tighten ring around Fallujah
- April 21: U.S. probes possible Syrian chemical weapons attack
- April 21: Yahya Ayyash Brigades take credit for rocket strikes against Israel
- April 22: At least 30 killed in violent incidents around Iraq
- April 23: U.S. to deliver 10 apache helicopters to Egypt, partially relaxing hold on military aid
- April 23: Hamas and Fatah announce unity deal
- April 23: Senior Egyptian policeman killed in Cairo bombing
- April 23: Israel bombs Gaza, reportedly wounding 4 people
- April 23: UN: Syria diplomacy and humanitarian efforts have failed, despite UN Security Council Resolution
- April 24: Israel suspends talks with Palestinians
- April 27: Iraq strikes alleged Islamist militants in Syria
- April 27: U.S. weapons given to allegedly disciplined, moderate, pro-democracy Syrian rebel group

- United States & Canada
  - April 22: U.S. shrinks army, pushes out some young officers
  - April 22: U.S. details potential procurement and R&D cuts if budget caps remain
  - April 23: U.S. soldier dies in exercise in Guatemala
  - April 23: U.S. private arms makers continue high profits despite predictions
  - April 23: U.S. Airforce plans to gradually retire famous U-2 spy plane
  - April 23: FBI informant allegedly helped carry out cyberattacks abroad on nations including Iran, Syria, Brazil, and Pakistan
  - April 24: Bomb threat prompts evacuation at Portsmouth Naval Medical Center

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