

Geopolitical, International, and Security collected stories, week of 2 December 2013

[Central African Republic, Sectarian Violence, France, U.N.] [Twelve killed in Central African Republic attack: U.N.](#) – Reuters.

[Ukraine, Internal Politics, Protests, European Union] [Ukraine protests: Opposition loses no-confidence motion](#) – BBC News. (The Ukrainian Orthodox Church is also [supporting](#) the protesters and their goal of ousting the Yanukovich government, the New York Times reported.)

[Hezbollah, Lebanon, Assassinations] [Hezbollah says commander killed in Beirut, blames Israel](#) – Reuters.

[NSA, Surveillance, Communications] [NSA tracking cellphone locations worldwide, Snowden documents show](#) – Washington Post.

[Canada, Espionage, China, RCN] [Ontario Man Accused of Plot to Sell Secrets](#) – New York Times.

[Thailand, Internal Politics, Protests] [Thailand protests: PM rejects resignation demand](#) – BBC News.

[U.S. Navy, Surveillance Aircraft, Japan] [Navy deploys first high-tech surveillance aircraft to Okinawa](#) – NextGov.

[North Korea, Internal Politics, Government Figures] [North Korea's Kim seen behind sacking of powerful uncle](#) – Reuters.

[Bangladesh, Textiles, Protests] [Bangladesh factory burned down by angry workers](#) – CBC News.

[South Korea, Air Defense, Disputed Territories, China] [South Korea to Expand Its Air Defense Identification Zone](#) – The Diplomat, Flashpoints blog.

[Japan, Corruption, Internal Politics] [Vote-buying probe nets arrest of Tokuda's mom](#) – Japan Times.

[China, IT, NSA, Espionage, Business] [NSA spying scandal accelerating China's push to favor local tech vendors](#) – IDG News Service.

[Palestine, Government Figures] [Tests on Arafat Find No Proof of Radiation Poisoning](#) – New York Times.

[History, Japan, Submarines, U.S.] [Japan's WW II super-submarine found scuttled off Hawaii](#) – Reuters.

[Defense Industry, Arms Transfers, Gulf Cooperative Council] [U.S., Europeans battle for big Persian Gulf arms deals](#) – United Press International.

[U.K., Business, European Union] [Goldman Sachs threatens to leave London if Britain leaves EU](#) – The Guardian.

[Mexico, Nuclear Materials] [Stolen cobalt-60 found in Mexico; curious thieves likely doomed](#) – Washington Post.

[U.S., Space Exploration, Agriculture] [NASA is sending basil to the moon](#) – NextGov.

[U.K., Natural Disasters] [Homes evacuated as England's east coast braces for floods](#) – The Guardian.

[Eritrea, Human Trafficking, Egypt, Sudan] [Thousands of Eritreans 'abducted to Sinai for ransom'](#) – BBC News.

[U.S., Diplomacy, Israel, Palestine] [U.S. to offer West Bank security proposals to Israel](#) – New York Times.

[Libya, Internal Politics] [Libyan assembly votes to follow Islamic law](#) – Reuters.

[China, U.S., Diplomacy, Press Freedom] [Biden Faults China on Foreign Press Crackdown](#) – New York Times.

[Yemen, Terrorism] [Militants attack hospital at Yemen's Defense Ministry, killing 52](#) – CNN.

[India, Energy] [India will be largest source of oil demand growth after 2020: International Energy Agency](#) – Press Trust of India.

[U.N., DRC, Drones, Peacekeeping Operations] [UN starts drone surveillance in DR Congo](#) – BBC News.

[Mali, Executions] [Mali investigators find mass grave in search for soldiers](#) – BBC News.

[India, Smuggling, Precious Metals] [Bullion smuggling outstrips narcotics to feed gold habit](#) – Reuters.

[Somalia, Internal Politics] [Somali prime minister voted out by lawmakers](#) – Reuters.

[Iraq, Terrorism] [Bombings near homes of Iraqi officials kill 3 west of Baghdad](#) – Associated Press.

[U.N., Syrian Civil War, War Crimes] [UN: Syria crimes evidence 'indicates' Assad role](#) – Associated Press.

[China, Space Exploration] [China Launches Moon Rover Mission](#) – New York Times.

[Russia, U.S., Diplomats, Fraud] [*U.S. Charges Dozens of Russian Diplomats and Spouses With Medicaid Fraud*](#) – New York Times.

[Japan, Internal Politics, Press Freedom] [*Japan's Government Railroads Controversial Secrets Bill*](#) – Wall Street Journal, Japan Realtime blog.

[U.S. Air Force, Fighter Aircraft] [*Air Force to base F-35 squadrons in Utah, Vermont*](#) – Military Times.

[Iran, Submarines] [*Iran Launches New Submarine Class*](#) – USNI News.

[India, Nuclear Programs, Unconfirmed] [*India expanding nuclear weapon facility, US thinktank claims*](#) – Press Trust of India. (Link to the [ISIS report](#), including satellite imagery.)