

**Geopolitical, International, and Security collected stories, week of 24
December**

[China, Internal Politics, Government Figures, Corruption, Economy] [*Heir's of Mao's Comrades Rise as New Capitalist Nobility*](#) – Bloomberg News.

[U.N., Mali, Military Intervention] [*UN Security Council approves Mali intervention force*](#) – Agence France Presse.

[Central African Republic, Internal Conflict] [*CAR rebels seize biggest, most southern town yet*](#)- Reuters. (Reuters [later reported](#) that the CAR government is asking for the help of French forces stationed in CAR, as the French embassy was the target of protests in the country.)

[China, Corruption, Internal Politics, Journalism] [*Chinese Officials Find Misbehavior Now Carries Cost*](#) – New York Times.

[Syria, Internal Conflict, Government Figures] [*Syria: military chief defects to opposition*](#) – Euronews.

[Japan, Internal Politics] [*Kaieda takes DPJ helm; Ozawa overture hinted*](#) – Japan Times.

[Egypt, Internal Politics] [*Egypt's President Morsi hails constitution and urges dialogue*](#) – BBC News.

[U.S. Army, Africa] [*Army Teams Going to Africa as Terror Threat Grows*](#) – Associated Press.

[Mali, Jihadist Groups, Internal Conflict, Cultural Heritage] [*Timbuktu mausoleums 'destroyed'*](#)- BBC News.

[Italy, Pollution, Internal Politics] [*A Showdown In Italy Over A Polluting Steel Plant*](#) – NPR.

[U.S., Benghazi Consulate Attack, Counterterrorism] [*FBI question Benghazi consulate attack suspect*](#) – Associated Press.

[U.N., South Sudan, Peacekeeping Forces] [*South Sudan admits it downed U.N. helicopter, killing four*](#) – DefenceWeb.

[U.S., al Qaeda, Cyberattacks] [*Major al-Qaeda Websites Disrupted by Cyberattacks for over Two Weeks*](#) – Softpedia.

[U.S., Israel, Iran, Malware] [Former CIA Officials: US and Israel Behind New Batchwiper Malware Found in Iran](#) – Softpedia.

[India, Cybersecurity] [E-mail Addresses of 10,000 Indian Officials Compromised by Cyberattack](#) – Softpedia.

[Ecuador, Government Figures, Lulz] [Ecuador Central Bank President Resigns After Admitting Fake Degree](#) – Wall Street Journal, Real Time Economics blog.

[United Arab Emirates, Counterterrorism] [UAE says arrests cell planning attacks](#) – Reuters.

[China, Navigation, Technology] [China Turns On Navigation Systems Over Asia That Rivals GPS](#) – NextGov.

[Russia-U.S. Relations, Internal Politics] [Putin Says He Will Sign Law Barring U.S. Adoptions](#) – Associated Press.