

## World

### [Mexico horror: Gunmen dump 35 bodies on avenue](#)

(AP: Olgar Rodriguez) The simmering insurgency in Mexico continues. "Suspected drug traffickers dumped 35 bodies at rush hour beneath a busy overpass in the heart of a major Gulf coast city as gunmen pointed weapons at frightened drivers."

### [The Meaning of Rabbani's Death](#)

(Diplomat: Sanjay Kumar) Whatever analysts say, one thing is clear: With each terrorist attack in Afghanistan, trust in the government is eroding, and people seem to be resigned to their fate once the NATO troops withdraw from the Hindu Kush by 2014.

### [Obama's rejection of Palestinian bid offers strongest embrace of Israel](#)

(WaPo: Scott Wilson) President Obama delivered his clearest statement of support and sympathy for Israel on Wednesday in a speech that rejected the Palestinians' bid to have the United Nations recognize their statehood. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu called the president's opposition to the Palestinian diplomatic effort a "badge of honor."

### [Assange can't block release of own autobiography](#)

(Politico) Independent book publisher Canongate will publish Julian Assange's autobiography Thursday, despite efforts by the Wikileaks founder to cancel the book deal. The Unauthorized Biography "Assange directly confronts the allegations of sexual misconduct in Sweden and the lengthy legal limbo that has resulted."

## National

### [A future for drones: Automated killing](#)

(WaPo: Peter Finn) Autonomous robotics could presage the future of the American way of war: a day when drones hunt, identify and kill the enemy based on calculations made by software, not decisions made by humans. Imagine aerial "Terminators," minus beefcake and time travel.

## Local

### [Staff college now or war college later?: Our FSO civilian arrives at his decision](#)

(FP: Tom Ricks) Good news story regarding our integration of civilian education system to our own. "The staff colleges make the most sense for FSO's looking to work the pol-mil area, as well as the POLAD jobs. An FSO who has the staff college experience would stand a better chance of contributing and fitting in at a command or HQ. War colleges would seem to be more about networking and exposure to intra-agency topics."

## Defense

### [Buck McKeon Warns Military Spending Cuts Could Mean Big Consequences](#)

(HuffPo: Donna Cassata) Political posturing on defense cuts continue. Chairman of the HASC has said that further reductions to projected defense spending could make a military career so unattractive that it would force the Pentagon to revive the draft.

### [General Donn A. Starry, Cold War Strategist, Dies at 86](#)

(NYT, Dennis Hevesi) Donn A. Starry, a retired four-star general and the chief architect of the cold war military strategy for repelling a tank-heavy Soviet invasion of Western Europe, died on

Aug. 26 at his home in Canton, Ohio. He was 86. When General Starry was named a Distinguished Graduate of West Point in 2009, the citation said, "His depth and breadth of strategic and tactical knowledge significantly contributed to the eventual collapse of the Soviet Union."

## **Opinion/Editorial/Blogs**

### **[Shaken Troops Face New Foe: Early Dementia](#)**

(Danger Room, Sharon Weinberger) The most devastating impact of the current wars in Iraq and Afghanistan could be on soldiers' brains, and many of the injured likely don't even know it. A growing body of scientific evidence suggests that these injured troops, who could easily number in the hundreds of thousands, face a heightened risk of early-onset dementia, and other diseases that attack the brain.

### **[The price of becoming addicted to drones](#)**

(WaPo: David Ignatius) What "rules of war" should apply to Predator drones, the eerily efficient weapons that cruise the skies and target adversaries with the precision of a sharpshooter's bullet? It's an urgent question — not simply for the United States, which is expanding its use of drones, but for dozens of other nations that may soon use them to target their own "bad guys."

### **[Drones can't change war](#)**

(Politico: William S. Cohen) The ease of pressing a button in a command center thousands of miles from the battlefield to send a missile to its intended target may lead some to think that war itself is a cost-free exercise. Technology should not prove so dazzling as to blind us to the reality that war will always prove to be the doorway into a hell that is far easier to enter than to exit.

## **CENTCOM AOR**

### **[The Taliban's Deadly Ploy](#)**

(Daily Beast: Sami Yousafzai and Ron Moreau) Behind the murder of former Afghan president Burhanuddin Rabbani was a cruel ruse that originated in Pakistan. The authors contest that the series of tricks that the Taliban have employed at the cost of reintegration will backfire.

### **[Pakistan ISI Urged Attacks on U.S. Targets-Officials](#)**

(Reuters) There is mounting evidence that Pakistan's chief intelligence agency has been encouraging the Pakistan-based Haqqani network to attack U.S. targets. The allegations heighten a painful dilemma for President Barack Obama's administration. Washington is under growing political pressure to take action against the militant network after a spate of deadly attacks.

## **AFRICOM AOR**

### **[Libyan rebels discover Gaddafi's chemical weapons](#)**

(The Guardian, Ian Black) Libyan rebel forces claim to have discovered banned chemical weapons stockpiles in southern desert areas captured from diehard Gaddafi regime loyalists in the last few days. A depot was found in the Jufra area, 435 miles south of Tripoli, during an offensive against regime strongholds in the remote south of the country.