

SECURITY BULLETIN



NOVEMBER 2010

ARUP

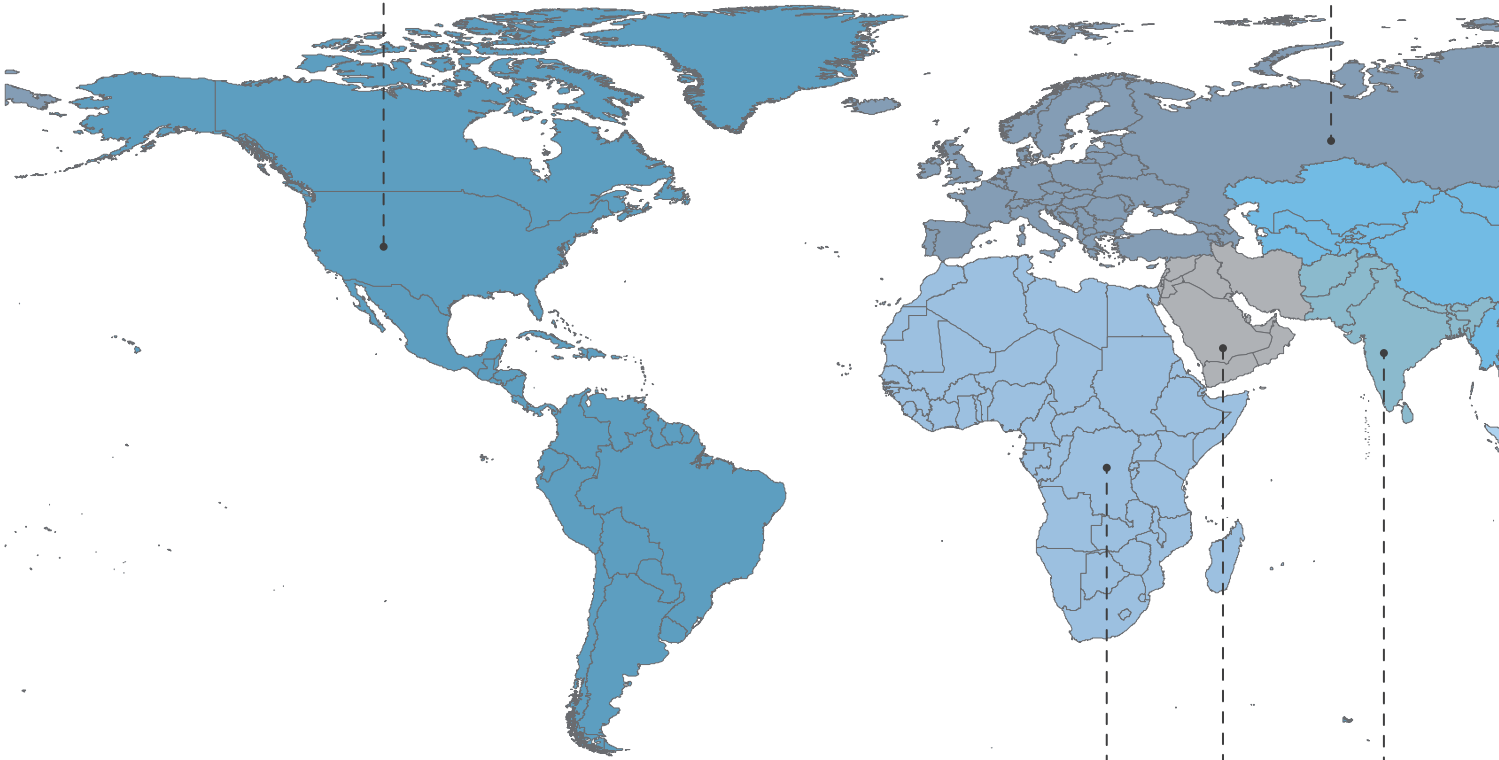
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Americas

The Americas saw a continuation of politically motivated violence throughout November, with criminal gangs and guerrilla organisations linked to the illegal narcotics industry continuing to destabilise large parts of Latin America. At the same time, the US received its second warning in as many months that individuals inspired by Islamist terrorism continue to seek ways to attack the country.

Europe

The region remains generally stable, but with extreme security risk still concentrated in Russia's Caucasus region, Turkey, Northern Ireland and sporadically in Greece. Across Europe unhappiness with changes to welfare, education and pension funding continues to generate public disorder. Many European nations remain understandably edgy over the threats from Islamist terrorists and in the UK there are real concerns that dissident Irish Republican extremists continue to grow in confidence.



Africa

The security situation across the continent remained variable with some areas of enduring extreme security risk. The last month has seen a resurgence of anti-western Islamist militants (Boko Haram) in northern Nigeria. The next month will see developments in the political conflict in Ivory Coast and an important referendum in Sudan.

Middle East

The region remains reasonably stable with Iraq and Yemen being the loci of the bulk of the security risk. Yemen particularly is struggling to remain a coherent state beset by huge security challenges and economic woes. Lebanon remains fractious with Hezbollah looking for ways to maintain its writ, but with no immediate prospect of it trying to provoke Israel.

Asia

The release of Myanmar's democracy campaigner Aung San Suu Kyi on 13 November created global headlines, although her future role within the country's democracy movement remains unclear. Russian President Medvedev visited the disputed Kuriles islands in November, in a move seen as provocative by Japan.



Australasia

Despite it being comparatively quiet across the region, there continues to be an appreciable level of background conflict associated with the region's assorted terrorist groups and the respective State agencies countering them. Within Australia and New Zealand, attention has been drawn to the tragedy at the Pike River coal mine on the west coast of South Island where 29 miners were killed in a series of underground explosions. It is too early to estimate the strategic impact of the incident on the production of extremely high grade coal from New Zealand.

The Arup Security Bulletin is a monthly circulation summarizing selected security events and strategic risk issues from around the world.

This issue of the Arup Security Bulletin includes those incidents and strategic risk issues developing during the month of November 2010.

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South Asia

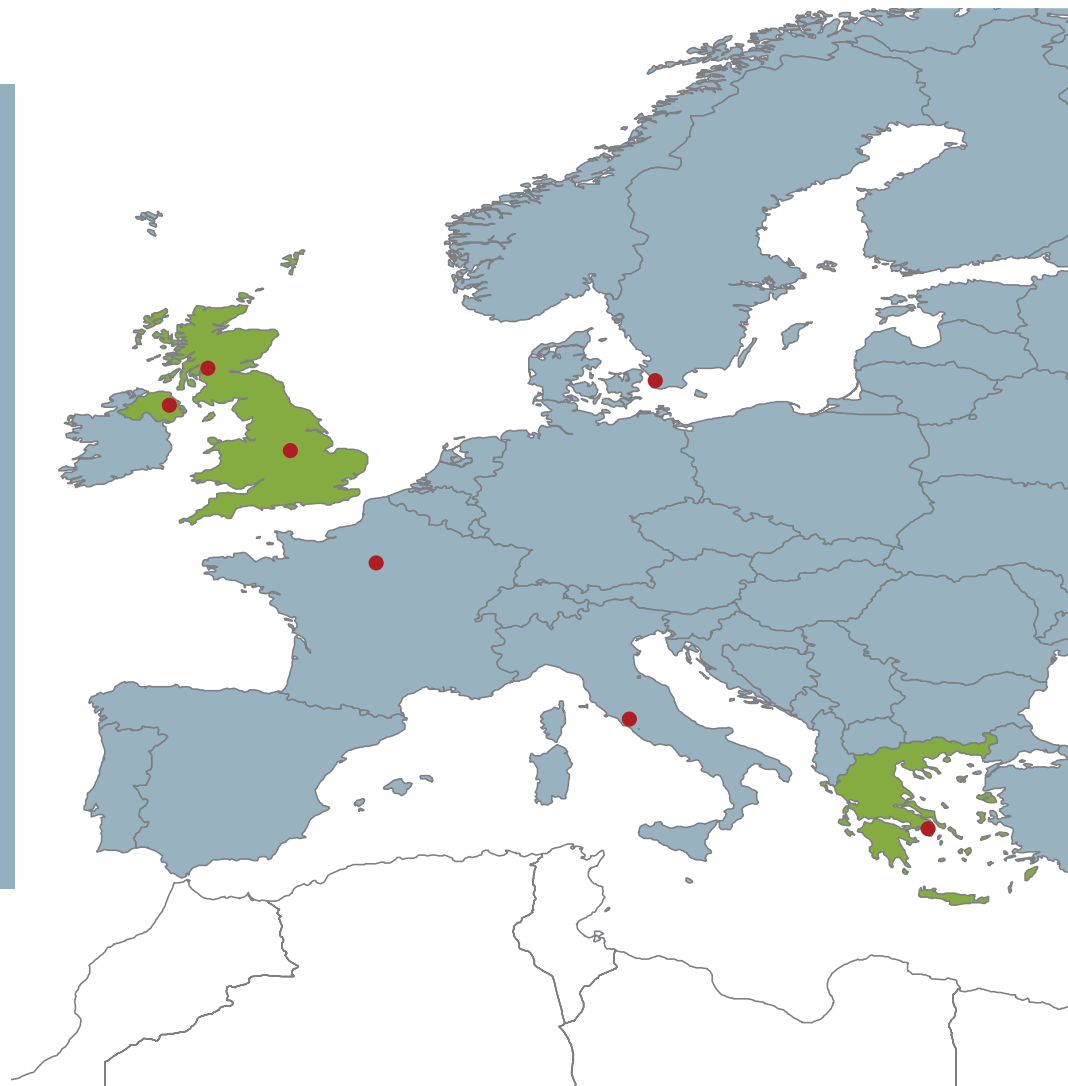
Terrorism continued to impact the South Asia region throughout November, with a large number of attacks being reported. In India, Maoist insurgents continued their campaign against the security forces with a series of high-impact attacks, while a suicide bombing in Karachi represented a significant switch in terrorist targeting activities and may indicate growing cooperation between the country's violent Islamist groups.

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EUROPE

Regional Summary

The region remains generally stable, but with extreme security risk still concentrated in Russia's Caucasus region, Turkey, Northern Ireland and sporadically in Greece. Across Europe unhappiness with changes to welfare, education and pension funding continues to generate public disorder. The overall scale of demonstrations is the highest it has been for generations. Many European nations remain understandably edgy over the threats from Islamist terrorists and in the UK there are real concerns that dissident Irish Republican extremists continue to grow in confidence.



Strategic Risk Highlights

United Kingdom (Northern Ireland)

In early November the British and Irish governments announced that the Independent Monitoring Commission (IMC) will discontinue its work after its next report. The IMC was set up six years ago to monitor the disarmament of the various paramilitary groups in Northern Ireland. The latest (25th) IMC report - covering the six-month period from March to August 2010 – says that the threat from dissident republican groups is “substantial” given the range and frequency of their violence in the past six months. The number of improvised explosive devices used by dissidents has doubled compared to last year; and four times as many have detonated. The IMC notes that the Real IRA (RIRA) and Oglaiġ na hEireann (ONH) are by far the most active and dangerous dissident Republican groups. The report also notes that these groups are not short of finances and reports that police discovered

£100,000 in a house in Lurgan. The IMC did also point out that, while the resurgent dissident groups are an existential threat, their capacity for terrorism is nowhere that of the PIRA. The report did highlight the success of co-operative policing between Northern Ireland and Eire and three times the number of dissidents have been charged with terrorist offences, including membership, from January to October 2010 as in the whole of 2009, and the number of arrests nearly doubled. The IMC notes the efforts of former paramilitary senior figures in the republican movement to try to control some of the unruly in their community. The next IMC report is due to be released in the spring of next year and will be its last.

Greece

Late in November a Greek anarchist group officially claimed responsibility for the parcel bombs sent to European leaders and embassies earlier in the month. It had been already been assessed that that the so-called Conspiracy of Cells was responsible for the IEDs. The targets included eight foreign embassies in Athens and devices were sent via air mail to President Sarkozy of France, Prime Minister Berlusconi of Italy, and Germany's Chancellor Merkel, as well as to the International Court of Justice in The Hague. In total, 14 parcel bombs shaped to appear like books were sent. Two members of the group were detained hours after the first booby-trapped parcel, addressed to the Mexican Embassy in Athens, exploded in a post office. Police arrested four people, including two men, who were found in possession of



Significant Security Incidents

Greece: Athens

On 1 November a woman was injured in a parcel bomb blast (described as small) at a commercial package delivery company in Athens. On 2 November Athens Police discovered other improvised explosive devices (IEDs) in packages addressed to the French President and three foreign embassies in Athens. The discovery of two further parcel bombs at Athens airport's cargo terminal resulted in Greece halting international air mail for 48 hours.

United Kingdom: East Midlands Airport

On 1 November an IED was discovered amongst air cargo that had been despatched from Yemen (routed via Dubai and Cologne) and destined for the USA. A second device was intercepted in Dubai after flying on two Qatar Airways passenger jets from Yemen. Both devices were made safe and are being examined; they are assessed as being the work of Al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula.

United Kingdom: Belfast

On 6 November police officers investigating a robbery in West Belfast were attacked with a hand grenade. Three officers were hurt, one with serious arm injuries. A dissident Irish Republican group, the ONH, has claimed it carried out the attack.

Sweden: Malmö

On 7 November Swedish police arrested a man in connection with a series of shootings of people from immigrant backgrounds over the past year. Suspected of one murder and seven attempted murders, officers said he was detained at his home in Malmö. The suspect is 38 years old and is living alone in Malmö; Sweden's third largest city with a substantial immigrant population. The suspect, who has a gun licence, denies any wrongdoing.

IEDs; both men were carrying handguns and one of them was wearing a wig and baseball cap and a bulletproof vest. The arrested individuals had links to the left wing 'Conspiracy of Fire Nuclei', which has a history of arson attacks on offices and homes of Greek politicians. European Union interior ministers have reportedly decided to examine ways to tighten up air cargo security following recent discoveries of these parcel bombs and the devices camouflaged in printer toner cartridges originating from Yemen.

France: Paris

On 9 November five people, believed to have trained as Islamist militants in Pakistan's troubled Afghan border region, were arrested in and around Paris. The arrests follow twelve in October and two earlier in November.

UK: Gartocharn Scotland

On 17 November explosives experts from Scotland Yard's Counter Terror Command travelled to the Garadhban forest near the village of Gartocharn to assess whether a report of an explosion might have been the site of a bomb test or storage site. Terrorists are known to use remote locations in the UK to store bomb-making materials and train in terror tactics.

Georgia: Tbilisi

On 19 November four people were arrested and a quantity of radioactive material was seized (believed to be caesium-137). This seizure follows the arrest in Georgia in March of two Armenian men accused of smuggling 18 grams of highly-enriched uranium from Armenia into Georgia. At least two similar smuggling cases have been reported since 2003, underscoring the risks posed by unsecured nuclear material being smuggled across porous borders in the former Soviet Union and potentially falling into the hands of radical groups.

Belgium, the Netherlands and Germany

On 23 November police in Belgium, the Netherlands and Germany arrested at least 10 Islamists suspected of plotting an attack in Belgium. Another 15 were arrested for allegedly recruiting insurgents for Iraq and Afghanistan. The arrests took place in Antwerp, Aachen and Amsterdam. These arrests were not necessarily linked to earlier intelligence that caused Germany to raise its terror vigilance levels.

Italy: Rome

In the latter part of the month many of Italy's cities were affected by student protests. In Rome students occupied the Coliseum and in Pisa the Leaning Tower. Building occupations in Rome continued with blockades of railway stations, the capital's roads and squares, as well as the Chamber of Deputies.

MIDDLE EAST

Regional Summary

The region remains reasonably stable with Iraq and Yemen being the loci of the bulk of the security risk. Yemen particularly is struggling to remain a coherent state beset by huge security challenges and economic woes. Lebanon remains fractious with Hezbollah looking for ways to maintain its writ, but with no immediate prospect of it trying to provoke Israel. Saudi Arabia has had the health of its monarch and senior princes more openly discussed in its media, but no constitutional crisis is anticipated in any royal succession. In Iraq a fight for dominance has intensified among insurgent groups, as competing sects and political factions drive to gain power through violence as the make-up of a new Iraqi government is negotiated and in anticipation of next year's withdrawal of US forces.

Strategic Risk Highlights

Lebanon

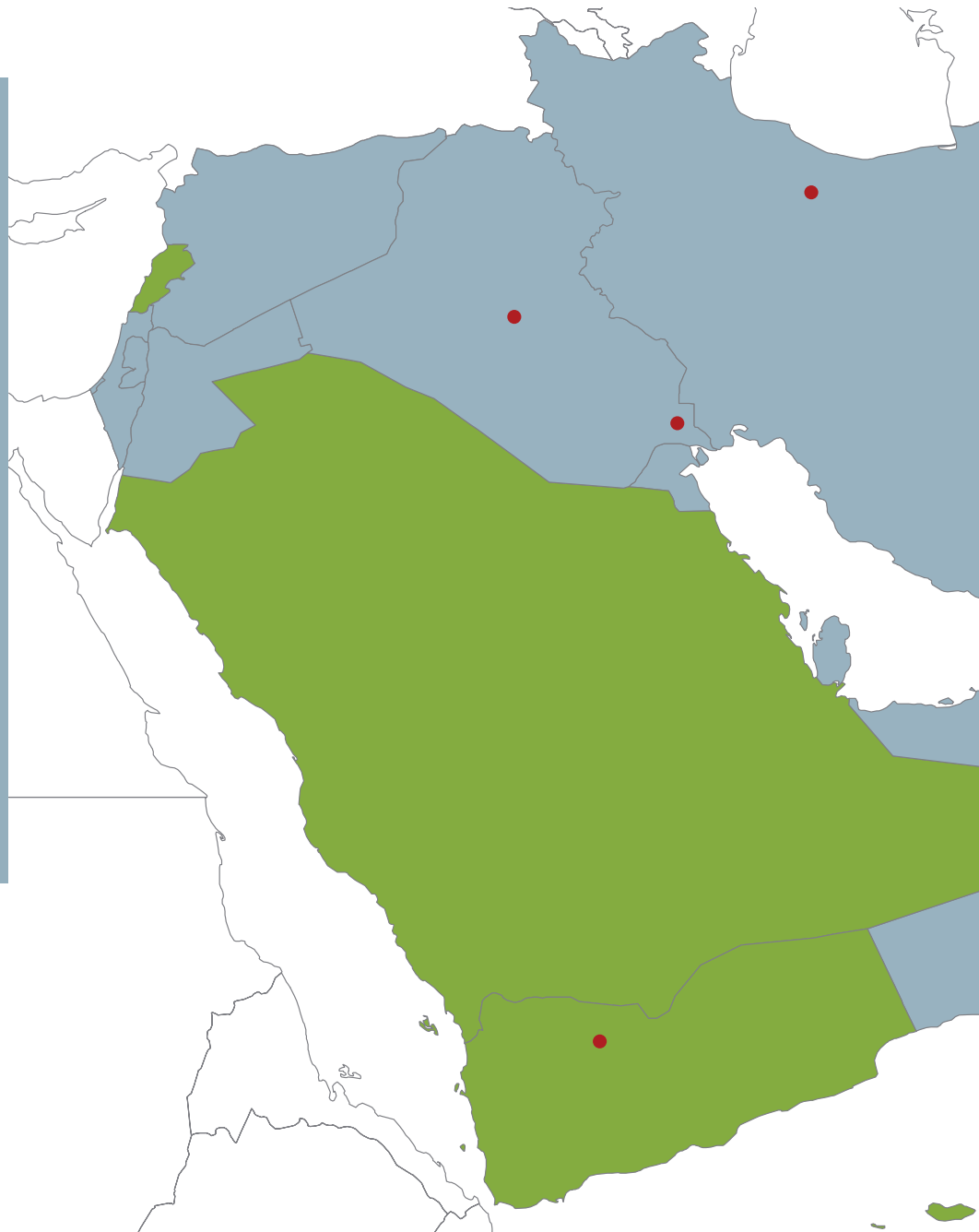
The Special Tribunal for Lebanon on the murders of former Prime Minister Rafiq al Hariri and other Lebanese politicians is expected to deliver its findings by the end of 2010, or early in 2011. It seems that senior Lebanese Hezbollah officials are likely to end up as suspects in the murders. The UN-sponsored tribunal may issue indictments and even arrest warrants, which the Lebanese authorities are obliged to execute without further inquiry. The spoiling tactics that the Iranian/ Syrian-backed Hezbollah have consistently employed during this lengthy enquiry are unlikely to deflect the decisions of the tribunal. However, there is expected to be an upswing in tension as senior members of the party are singled out for arrest. The Lebanese government is in no position to detain those accused without considerable resistance from a motivated and well-equipped Hezbollah military wing; this is an organisation that

has already proved it can overwhelm the Lebanese Army. Prime Minister Saad al Hariri (the son of the murdered Rafiq al Hariri) might try to seek some compromise with the national opposition of Hezbollah, Amal and the Christian Free Patriotic Movement to maintain national cohesion, but this risks grave damage to his personal reputation and his support within the Sunni Muslim communities of Lebanon. As the year closes and a new year begins tensions are bound to rise in the Levant. Yet we detect no evidence of an imminent civil war, let alone a deliberate attack by Hezbollah upon Israel to distract attention from the tribunal's findings.

The Hezbollah accused are unlikely to give themselves up and their trial will likely take place in absentia, probably at the International Court in The Hague.

Yemen

As if having three major national security challenges were not enough, Yemen is close to economic collapse with almost a third of its inhabitants suffering from lack of food (the UN described them as suffering from 'chronic hunger'); jobs are scarce, corruption is rife, and oil and water resources are running down, all straining the economy. The cash-strapped





government is close to powerless to meet the needs of its expanding population and there are fears that Yemen may tip into chaos if it cannot pay public sector wages. Oil revenues are declining steeply and the government said earnings from Yemen's new liquefied natural gas plant will be less than expected in 2010 due to a delay in production start-up. A recent tumble in the Yemeni Rial further added to the country's economic woes, forcing the central bank to inject some \$850 million (15 percent of its reserves) into the market this year to support the currency. Despite some Western and Saudi support, donor money is hard to come by and slow to reach those who need it most; only a fraction of the \$4.7 billion promised at a donor conference in 2006 has been distributed so far. Corruption is also pervasive. Yemen is near the bottom of Transparency

International's corruption index, ranking 154 out of 180 countries last year. As part of badly needed economic reforms, Yemen has begun reducing fuel subsidies, a huge burden on state finances, but is having to do this gradually to avoid stoking public anger. Unfortunately previous moves to raise fuel prices provoked riots. Yemen also faces a water crisis, deemed among the worst in the world and aggravated by excessive irrigation by farmers growing Qat (a mild narcotic leaf chewed by most Yemenis) and whose consumption severely limits the population's productivity.

Saudi Arabia

It was announced that King Abdullah bin Abdul Aziz al Saud was convalescing in New York's Presbyterian Hospital after what was described as a successful operation to reduce a blood clot that formed around a herniated disc. Some have commented that the transparency in some of the statements from the royal court on the health issues of the now ageing brothers of Ibn Saud has caused concerns amongst ordinary Saudis. We do not see any succession crises should the king or the crown prince die; there is an agreed method for selecting the Saudi monarch's successor, should that be necessary. At this stage King Abdullah does not appear to be immediate danger, but he is an old man, as is his heir apparent Crown Prince Sultan bin Abdul Aziz al Saud, and it is the heir apparent who has faced the most challenging health issues of late.

Significant Security Incidents

Iraq: Baghdad

On 2 November insurgents carried out more than a dozen coordinated IED attacks across the city to illustrate the parlous state of the capital and undermine the government's message that it is dealing with the insurgents.

Iraq: Basrah

On 8 November car bomb in a crowded market killed at least 10 people and wounded 40.

Saudi Arabia

On 26 November the Saudi Interior Ministry announced that over the last eight months it had arrested 149 people (124 Saudis and the other 25 foreigners), all allegedly members of al Qaeda. Those arrested were apparently plotting to kill government officials, security forces and media employees.

Yemen

On 28 November Al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula claimed responsibility for a suicide bombing killing Shiite tribesmen in northern Yemen on 24 November. The suicide vehicle-borne IED was targeted at a convoy of Shiites. Extreme Sunni Muslims groups, like AQAP, consider Shiites to be heretics.

Iraq: Baghdad

On 28 November seven persons (including three policemen) were injured in an explosive blast targeting a police patrol at the entrance of the Baghdad Mayor's garage.

Iran: Tehran

On 29 November an Iranian nuclear scientist Dr Majid Shahriari was killed by one of two specially designed IEDs. Three other people were injured (including Dr Shahriari's wife). Dr Shahriari was a member of the nuclear engineering department of Shahid Beheshti University in Tehran. In a separate attack, Dr Fereydoon Abbasi and his wife were injured. Dr Abbasi, undertook nuclear research at the defence ministry and was a colleague of another professor, Massoud Ali-Mohammadi, who was killed in January in a similar fashion. Who carried out the attacks is unclear and Iran's claim that Israeli agents were to blame is not convincing.

Iraq: Baghdad

On 30 November a series of attacks killed five civilians and injured dozens. A bomb attached to a civilian car in the al-Qadisiya neighborhood of western Baghdad exploded and killed the driver. In another incident a bomb attached to a civilian car exploded in al-Liqa Square in western Baghdad and wounded three civilians.

Regional Summary

The release of Myanmar's democracy campaigner Aung San Suu Kyi on 13 November created global headlines, although her future role within the country's democracy movement remains unclear. Russian President Medvedev visited the disputed Kuriles islands in November, in a move seen as provocative by Japan.

Strategic Risk Highlights

Myanmar

Myanmar held parliamentary elections on 7 November. This was followed, six days later, by the release of Aung San Suu Kyi from house arrest. She had been detained by the military junta in Myanmar on 20 July 1989 and since then been under house arrest for 15 of the subsequent 21 years.

In May 1990, Aung San Suu Kyi, the daughter of the liberation hero Aung San, and her National League for Democracy (NLD) won a clear majority in the first free elections in the country for three decades. However, the election was annulled by the State Law and Order Restoration Council (SLORC), controlled by the junta, and Dr Suu Kyi was again placed under house arrest. International pressure on the regime grew steadily and Dr Suu Kyi received the Nobel Peace Prize in 1991 for her "for her non-violent struggle for democracy and human rights."

In 2003 General Khin Nyunt announced a "Roadmap to Discipline-flourishing Democracy" for Myanmar. However, this strategy did not include any deadlines and two-and-a-half years would pass from the adoption of the new constitution in May 2008 to the general election in November. Dr Suu Kyi's party boycotted the election, which was not assessed to be free or fair by United Nations standards or by many international observers in democratic states. The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)

seems to remain cautiously optimistic concerning the election but did not comment on the release of Dr Suu Kyi.

Dr Suu Kyi's release from house arrest had been expected and following her release, she re-emphasised her continuing idealism, calling for democracy and free speech in Myanmar, but tempered this with a dose of realism, acknowledging the challenges facing those seeking to democratise the country's government and insisting that violence should be rejected as a means of achieving this goal. It is unclear what effect Dr Suu Kyi's release may have on the fractured NLD, the main opposition to the ruling junta, a breakaway faction of which decided to participate in the November elections, in the hope that it may slowly lead to more significant political change. In this new climate, Dr Suu Kyi's idealism may have to be tempered in order for her to remain relevant within political circles in Myanmar.

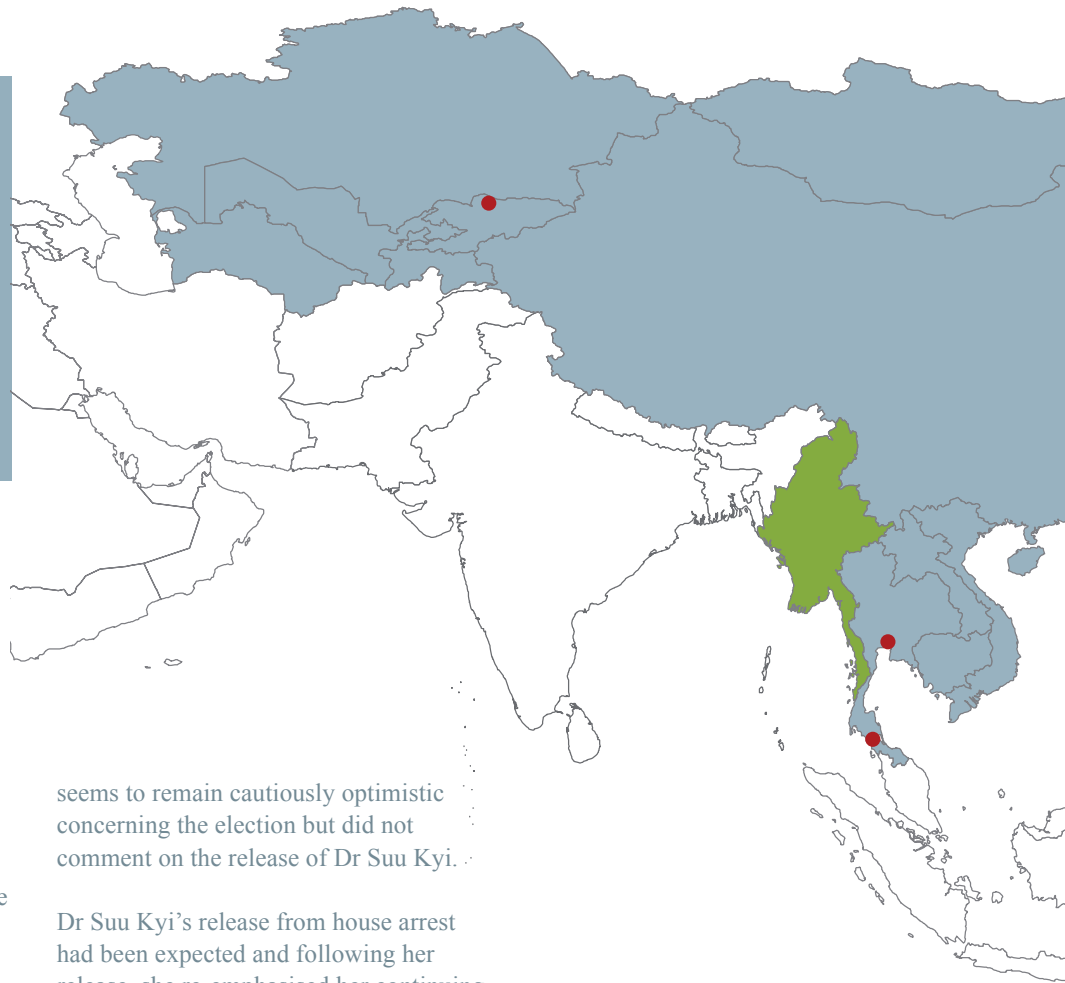
Japan

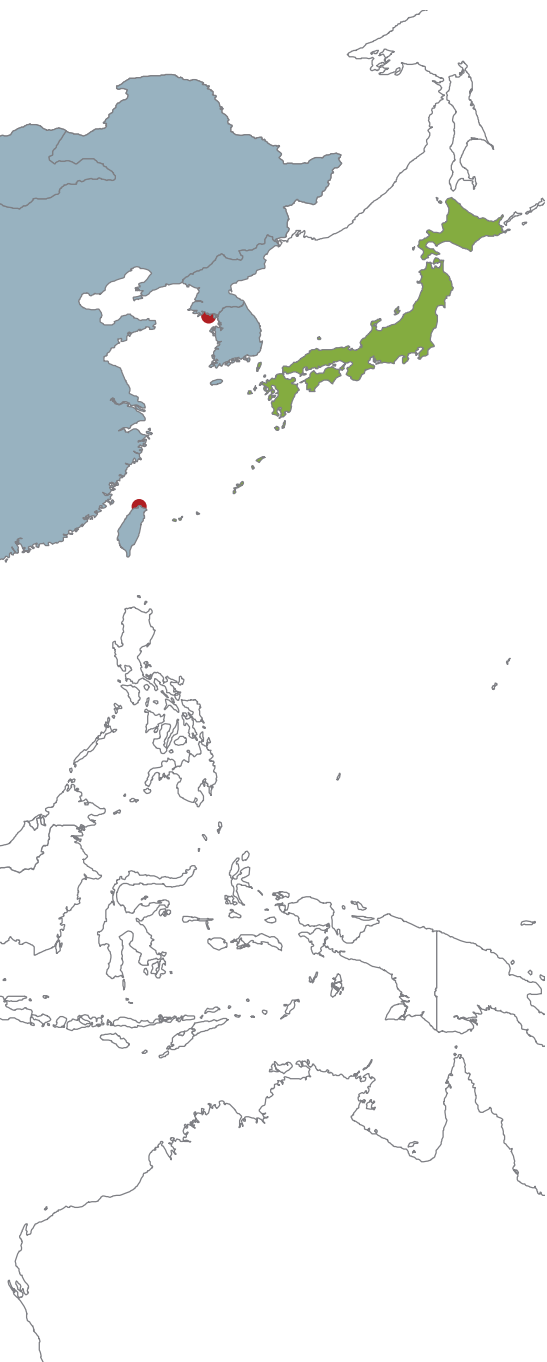
Japan has, in the last months, experienced a new flare of neighbourly uncertainties. On 7 September the Japan Coast Guard arrested a Chinese trawler and its crew off the Senkaku Islands (Japanese)/Diaoyu Islands (Chinese). The two names reflect the disagreement between Japan, the People's Republic of China and Taiwan

over the status of the islands, located between the Japanese Okinawa island group, Taiwan and mainland China.

With the territorial dispute still unresolved, Japan has also faced northern challenges to its geographic extent. On 1 November Russian president Dmitry Medvedev visited the Russian controlled Kurile Islands. Captured by Russia the week after the Japanese surrender on 15 August 1945 the chain of islands extend from Japan's main northern island of Hokkaido towards the Kamchatka Peninsula in the eastern end of the Russian Federation. With Kamchatka in the northeast and Sakhalin Island in the west, the Kuriles effectively protect the Sea of Okhotsk and Russian maritime deployments in the area.

Japan claims the four south western islands of the Kuriles and have had their claim supported by, among others, the European Parliament. President Medvedev's visit can therefore be seen as provocative and, in response, Japan recalled its ambassador to Moscow the day after the visit.





Significant Security Incidents

Kyrgyzstan: Bishkek

On 30 November, three people (two police officers and a passer-by) sustained injuries after an improvised explosive device detonated outside Bishkek Sports Palace, the Kyrgyz capital's largest sports stadium which is being used as the venue for the high-profile trial of former President Kurmanbek Bakiyev and 28 of his senior officials. Police have indicated that the device consisted of approximately 3kg of explosive material and was detonated by remote control. Mr Bakiyev and other senior aides are facing charges relating to the use of force against protestors during demonstrations in April, which led to a popular uprising in which Mr Bakiyev and his administration was deposed. The previous day, the security officers killed four members of an alleged extremist group as they tried to arrest them in the southern city of Osh. One officer was reportedly wounded in the encounter, which caused panic as local residents feared a new outbreak of the ethnic and nationalist violence that had gripped the city and surrounding regions in June. Authorities have indicated that those killed in the incident in Osh were members of an Islamist terrorist group. There is currently no evidence that the blast in Bishkek - which occurred two days before a plan visit to the capital by Hilary Clinton, US secretary of state - was related to the counter-terrorist operation the day before. However, the interior ministry has indicated that a connection is likely and pointed out that nine members of a terrorist group had been arrested in the country on 22 November.

Thailand: Bangkok

On 15 November, at approximately 5pm, unidentified assailants threw a hand grenade onto a minibus in an eastern suburb of Bangkok, killing one person and injuring eight others. It is not known whether the incident was politically motivated or related to the ongoing political crisis in the country. In early October four people were killed when an explosive device detonated accidentally as it was being manufactured in an apartment block close to Bangkok. The government

blamed the incident on members of the anti-government 'Red Shirt' movement, which has increasingly been adopting terrorist tactics following an unsuccessful popular uprising earlier in the year. Early, on 5 November, a small homemade bomb detonated inside a post box in front of the Labour Ministry in the Thai capital, causing no casualties and only minor property damage. Also in November, following suspicions concerning recent activities in the capital, the Centre for the Resolution of the Emergency Situation imposed more stringent controls on the sale of chemicals and materials that can be used in the manufacture of explosives.

South Korea: Yeonpyeong Island

On 23 November North Korean artillery fired what is reported to be between "several dozen" and 200 shells on the South Korean Yeonpyeong Island, close to the maritime border with North Korea. Four people were killed, 18 injured and a number of buildings damaged in the attack on the island. South Korea was in the midst of starting a major naval exercise with the United States as the attack came, and launched a counter-strike on Northern targets. The Korean War started in 1950 and military action continued until the ceasefire in July 1953.

Taiwan: Taipei

On 26 November Sean Lien, the son of former vice-president Lien Chan, was shot in the face as he was campaigning for the incumbent Kuomintang party. The shot was fired on the eve of local elections and killed a member of the public after striking Mr Lien. The presumed perpetrator was arrested immediately, and the attack was condemned by the chairwoman of the opposition Democratic Progressive Party (DPP).

Thailand: Sabayoi

On 30 November an improvised explosive device (IED) seriously injured five Thai police officers in the Sabayoi District of the Songkhla Province. The bomb had been placed under a bench in a market area and was remotely detonated using a mobile phone. Locals were also injured in the blast.

SOUTH ASIA

Regional Summary

Terrorism continued to impact the South Asia region throughout November, with a large number of attacks being reported. In India, Maoist insurgents continued their campaign against the security forces with a series of high-impact attacks, while a suicide bombing in Karachi represented a significant switch in terrorist targeting activities and may indicate growing cooperation between the country's violent Islamist groups. Meanwhile, US President Barack Obama visited India, where he signed one of the largest arms deals in American history, and Pakistan's President Zadari travelled to Beijing and was rewarded by a Chinese agreement to construct a further nuclear power station in Pakistan.

Strategic Risk Highlights

Pakistan / India

As an example of the shifting balance of power on the Indian subcontinent, the United States reached out to India in November, while Pakistan reinforced its relationship with China. President Obama arrived in Delhi on 6 November as part of a three day tour of the country aimed at stimulating the opening of Indian markets to US companies. While in India, the President signed what has been reported as one of the largest arms deals in US history. In a further display of support for India, Mr Obama also called for the country to be given a permanent seat on the UN Security Council. Meanwhile, Pakistan President, Asif Ali Zardari, visited Beijing in November to enhance diplomatic relations with the country and to promote Chinese investment in Pakistan. During the visit, Beijing announced that it would supply Pakistan with a fifth nuclear power station; in May it was announced that China would construct two 650 megawatt facilities in the country. The Chinese government also agreed to supply Pakistan with missiles and other military equipment. The deal should be seen in

the wider context of regional politics; in 2005 the US and India signed a Civil Nuclear Cooperation agreement. That deal emphasised India's emergence as a significant power on the world stage and was strongly opposed by China. Shortly after the US refused to enter into a similar deal with Pakistan, China announced that it would start supplying nuclear power stations to the country.

Pakistan

The publication of classified US diplomatic cables by the website WikiLeaks in November indicated US concerns about the security of Pakistan's nuclear weapons. The leaked reports expressed concerns that a nuclear missile might be stolen while in transit, or that insiders might attempt to smuggle sufficient equipment and knowledge out of nuclear facilities to enable a non-state group to construct a nuclear device. A further – and perhaps more realistic – concern is that, given Pakistan's political instability, control

of nuclear missiles or technology could fall into the hands of extremist groups. There seems to be some evidence to back up such concerns. Although the US has publicly stated that it is satisfied with the security arrangements in place in protect Pakistan's nuclear weapons programme, at least three terrorist attacks have been reported at such facilities since November 2007. In addition, a number of individuals working within the nuclear programme have been killed or kidnapped by suspected extremists, or have simply disappeared. While the threat of extremists in Pakistan gaining access to a nuclear weapon is low, continuing concerns are likely to ensure that US support for the Pakistani government continues into the foreseeable future.



Significant Security Incidents

Pakistan: Karachi

On 11 November, a suicide bomber drove an explosives-laden car into a police compound in Karachi. The attack followed shortly after an assault by gunmen on the front gate of the facility, which housed a branch of the Criminal Investigation Division. At least 20 people were killed in the attack and more than 140 others sustained injuries. The police station is located in Civil Lines, an area within the city's Saddar Town district. The attack site, located in an area which has elevated levels of security, is in close proximity to three five-star hotels popular with foreign visitors to Pakistan's commercial hub as well as several government offices and the US Consulate. The Tehrik-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) claimed responsibility for the attack, although Federal Interior Minister Rehman Malik subsequently attributed responsibility to Lashkar-e-Jhangvi (LeJ), another Islamist militant organisation based in Pakistan. Six alleged LeJ militants who had been arrested the previous week were being held at the targeted police compound at the time of the attack. The TTP has been forging closer relations with other Pakistan-based militant groups in recent months and the latest attack may be the result of collaboration between the TTP and the LeJ. Earlier in the year, it emerged that the TTP had formed a close relationship with another Islamist militant group in the country, Sipah-e-Sahaba (SeS). The LeJ splintered from the SeS in 1996.

Bangladesh: Daulatpur

On 13 November, an improvised explosive device detonated inside the residence of Afaz Uddin, a member of parliament for the ruling Awami League party, in Daulatpur in the Manikgonj District of the Dhaka Division. The individual carrying the bomb at the time was killed in the blast, along with two others. A further five people, including Afaz Uddin, sustained injuries in the attack. It is suspected that the attack was a suicide bombing, although the possibility that the device exploded prematurely before the assailant had a chance to plant it has not been discounted. The motive for the attack has not been

ascertained and it is unclear whether the incident was politically motivated or the result of a personal feud. The attack coincided with demonstrations in the capital, Dhaka, where up to thousands of protestors, some armed with sticks and stones, had gathered to oppose the forcible eviction of former Bangladesh National Party prime minister Begum Khaleda Zia from her residence after a High Court deadline for her to vacate the property has passed. Violent protests and general strikes spread to at least 20 other towns throughout the country.

India: Bihar

On 20 November, two members of the security forces were killed and nine others, including three local television journalists, sustained injuries when an explosive device detonated as bomb disposal officers attempted to defuse it in the Gaya District of Bihar. The device is thought to have been planted by assailants affiliated to the Communist Party of India Maoist (CPI-Maoist) in an attempt to disrupt state legislative elections in the district. Earlier, on 8 November, two members of the security forces were killed in the same district as they attempted to defuse a similar device, two auxiliary police officers and two journalists were also injured in the incident. On 21 November an improvised explosive device detonated in a field in the Pachokhar village in Bihar's Aurangabad District. The device – which is believed to have been planted by CPI-Maoist activists – had been discovered by police the previous day. The officers had cordoned off the site and covered the device with sandbags as no bomb disposal team was available in the area at the time. The following day, when curious locals gathered at the scene, the device detonated, killing eight people and injuring a further 11.

Afghanistan: Emam Sehab

On 13 November, an explosive device concealed on a motorcycle detonated in a crowded market in the Emam Sehab district of the Kunduz province. At least eight people were killed in the attack and a further 18 sustained injuries. It is believed that the incident was an attempt to assassinate an Arbaki (local militia leader), who was killed in the blast.



AUSTRALASIA

Regional Summary

Despite it being comparatively quiet across the region, there continues to be an appreciable level of background conflict associated with the region's assorted terrorist groups and the respective State agencies countering them. Within Australia and New Zealand, attention has been drawn to the tragedy at the Pike River coal mine on the west coast of South Island where 29 miners were killed in a series of underground explosions. It is too early to estimate the strategic impact of the incident on the production of extremely high grade coal from New Zealand.



Strategic Risk Highlights

Australia

The political map of Australia continues to be redrawn with the election of a Liberal/National Coalition government in the state of Victoria after 11 years of Labour (sic) rule. With the ruling Labour party in neighbouring New South Wales in some disarray, the portents are not good for the party retaining power in State's 2011 elections. A swing away from Labour in NSW as well as Victoria will put Prime Minister Gillard's delicate Labour/ Independent/ Green coalition in Canberra under added pressure with an increasing number of states falling under Liberal/ National control and thus fundamentally opposed to the direction of her Commonwealth Government. Add in ongoing debates over the cost/benefit of the National Broadband Network (Labour's support of which was key in securing their 2 independent allies) and the mining "super profits" (windfall) tax and the coalition will have to withstand many conflicting demands if it is survive to its first anniversary let alone a full term.

Indonesia

In Indonesia, tensions within the government's counter terrorist regime were revealed when the former commander of

the Detachment 88 unit in Central Java claimed that there are thousands in the area who are active members of terrorist groups. The commander (known as Daryono) claimed that groups are active in 17 of the province's 35 districts despite 118 convictions. Of those convicted it is believed that 55 are currently in jail and that 63 have been released upon completion of their sentences. Based upon recent reports it is assumed that a significant number of those 63 will have returned to their former habits despite the government's deradicalisation initiatives. It was subsequently reported, however, that the region's Detachment 88 unit has been disbanded with its main tasks now being undertaken by the Intelligence and Criminal Detective Division of the regional police. Clearly there are those who believe that Detachment 88 was the answer to the terrorist groups

whilst other favour the deradicalisation approach led by the regional police and that the local Detachment 88 may have significantly over-reported arrests in the past by to enhance their position. Others might contend that by silencing critics from within, adverse publicity regarding the effectiveness of the deradicalisation programme is avoided.

Indonesia

Also in Indonesia, there is a sign of growing international co-operation in the struggle against Islamist terrorism. The Pakistani foreign minister (Shah Mahmood Qureshi) announced that an agreement had been reached with Indonesia to fight terrorism and promote inter-faith dialogue with a view to showing the world the "peaceful and friendly face of Islam". The agreement created a joint working group

Significant Security Incidents

Philippines: Cotabato City

On 2 November Philippine security forces captured a suspected Muslim rebel bomber linked to a series of attacks carried out in the southern province of Mindanao. Andaman Mukidin Binago was arrested by the National Bureau of Investigation (NBI) at a house in Davao City. The NBI stated Binago was a high ranking member of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) special operations group.

Philippines: Quezon City

On 3 November a joint Philippine military & police operation resulted in the capture of a wanted Abu Sayyaf operative. The Philippine National Police stated that Patta Hoyoy Jahal was arrested in a village in the Tandang Sora District of Quezon City. Jahal was wanted for his involvement in two hostage-taking incidents that occurred in 2001.

Indonesia: Jakarta

On 9 November a group of students held demonstrations & burned the US flag during a protest against US President Barack Obama's visit to Indonesia & demanded the Indonesian government stop supporting US foreign policy.

Philippines: Abra

On 10 November Philippine troops from the 41st Infantry Battalion attacked and captured a communist training camp at Lacub, Abra. Following a brief firefight with members of the New People's Army, government troops recovered claymore mines, firearms and improvised explosive devices. Computers and medical supplies were also recovered.

Philippines: Cotabato

On 16 November a bomb exploded at a bus terminal in Carmen, North Cotabato, killing one male and injuring two others. One of the injured males was found to be carrying a bag that contained the improvised explosive device (IED) that exploded. The IED was made of an 81mm mortar shell and destroyed a large portion

of the bus terminal. No group has claimed responsibility for the incident.

Indonesia: Java

On 11 November the Head of the Central Java Police special counter terrorism detachment confirmed that there is a total of eight regions in Central Java where terrorist training camps have been established. He also revealed that intelligence had identified fifteen other locations that were being used as terrorist 'hiding places'. Police records confirmed that one hundred and eighteen people from the central Java province had been arrested for suspected links to various terrorist activities.

Australia: Sydney

On 17 November asylum seekers detained at the Villawood Immigration Detention Centre launched a roof-top protest after the suicide of an Iraqi detainee. The Iraqi national travelled to Australia by boat in 2009 and had had two of his applications for asylum rejected. This is the second roof-top protest at the Villawood Centre by asylum seekers in the past two months.

Indonesia: Jayawijaya

On 20 November nine Free Papua Movement (OPM) activists were arrested for unfurling the Morning Star flag at Yalengga Bolakme on the day before President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono was scheduled to visit. The OPM was formed in 1965 with the goal of separating West Papua from Indonesia. Active across West Papua, the OPM is thought to have widespread support amongst the Papuan majority despite the Indonesian government's assertion that a 1969 referendum (the Act of Free Choice) saw a clear majority in favour of incorporation into the Republic.

Australia: Alice Springs

On 24 November an Aboriginal elder appeared in an Alice Spring's Magistrates Court charged with inciting a riot that occurred in the remote Yuendumu Aboriginal community in the Northern Territory on 14 September. The riot followed the fatal stabbing of a male as part of an ongoing dispute between two

that will hold its first meeting in Jakarta in December; in addition, Indonesia will use its influence in the Organization of The Islamic Conference (OIC) to help resolve the problems in the Middle East and Afghanistan. The ability of the OIC to resolve the issues arising in the Middle East and Afghanistan is limited; therefore, the extent to which Indonesia is able to influence proceedings has to be viewed with a degree of scepticism. The initial view is that this agreement is more concerned with appearances than with a desire to achieve tangible results.

AFRICA

Regional Summary

The security situation across the continent remained variable with some areas of enduring extreme security risk. The last month has seen a resurgence of anti-western Islamist militants (Boko Haram) in northern Nigeria. The next month will see developments in the political conflict in Ivory Coast and an important referendum in Sudan.

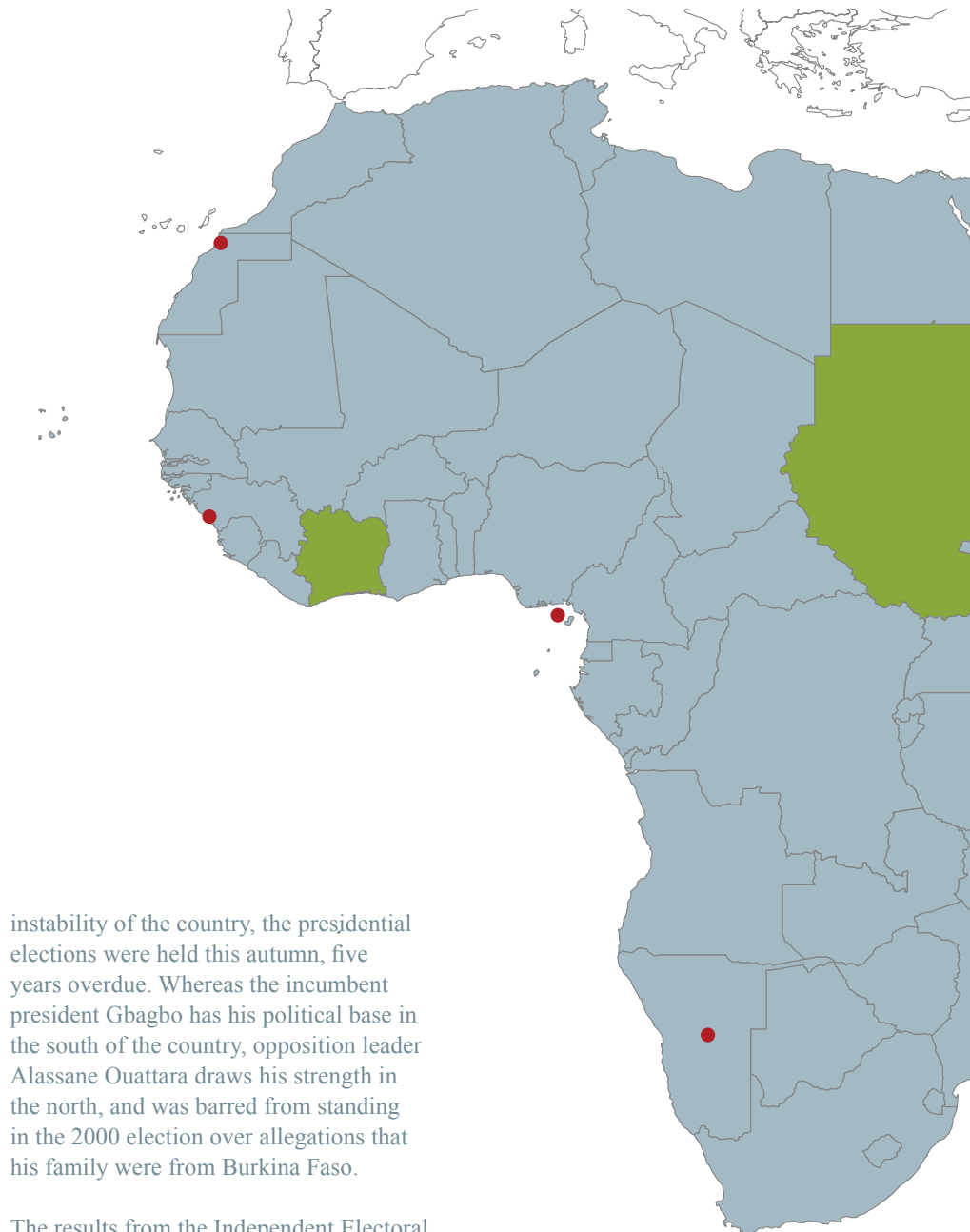
Strategic Risk

Cote d'Ivoire

Ivory Coast held presidential elections on 28 November. Postponed since 2005, the elections saw incumbent president Laurent Gbagbo in a runoff against opposition leader Alassane Ouattara after a first election round on 31 October. The aftermath of the election has been marked by violence and political strife.

Ruled by France since 1844 Ivory Coast achieved independence under the leadership of president Félix Houphouët-Boigny in 1960. His 33 year rule became known as the Ivorian miracle and the country prospered in an otherwise poor West Africa. Although the country was not politically free it benefited economically from its core exports of coffee and cocoa, and, politically, from the stability Mr Houphouët-Boigny created. The death of Houphouët-Boigny in 1993 was followed by the appointment of his chosen successor Henri Konan Bédié, who again was removed in a coup d'état in 1999. The election in 2000, which was not balanced and discriminated against northern Ivorians with an ancestry in neighbouring countries, saw Laurent Gbagbo take office. The lack of representation from the north of the country was then a major factor in triggering the civil war in 2002, which was later stabilised with interventions of French and UN forces.

After several postponements due to the



instability of the country, the presidential elections were held this autumn, five years overdue. Whereas the incumbent president Gbagbo has his political base in the south of the country, opposition leader Alassane Ouattara draws his strength in the north, and was barred from standing in the 2000 election over allegations that his family were from Burkina Faso.

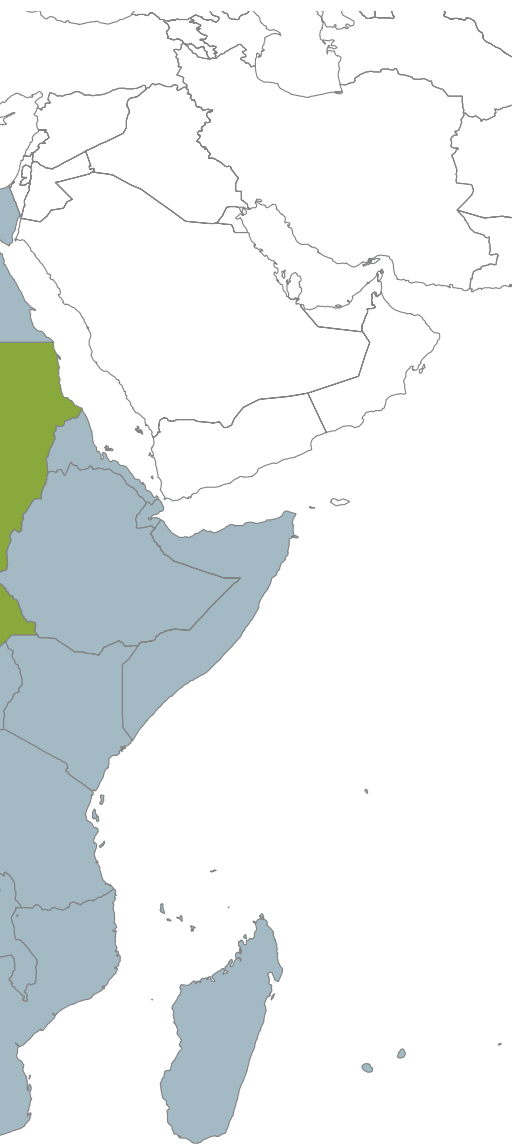
The results from the Independent Electoral Commission showed opposition leader Alassane Ouattara take home the victory with 54 per cent of the votes. This was, however, disputed by incumbent president Gbagbo who appealed the victory to the Constitutional Council. With Dr Gbagbo having close contacts in the Council it ruled that he was the rightful winner of the election, something that was disputed by international observers. In the international community both USA, the United Nations, the European Union, former colonial power France and the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) have supported Dr Ouattara as the legitimate president of Ivory Coast.

The run-up to the election saw curfews and general tension, whereas the aftermath of the election has seen severe violence

with around 20 deaths. Tension now runs along much of the same lines as it did in the 2002 civil war. Dr Gbagbo has ordered that the 9,000 strong UN force (ONUCI) and the 900 strong French battalion leave the country. The situation in Ivory Coast is likely to remain volatile from both a security and political perspective and further developments can be expected in the coming month.

Sudan

Southern Sudan is due to vote on whether to remain part of the Republic of Sudan on 9 January. This referendum was set out in the Comprehensive Peace Agreement in 2005. An estimated 1.9 million people



Significant Security Incidents

Nigeria: Akwa Ibom

On 8 November a group of militants attacked an oil rig in the Okoro oil field off the coast of Akwa Ibom state in Nigeria. The assailants took 19 hostages and wounded a crew member. Among the hostages were foreign nationals from Canada, France, Indonesia and USA. The militants, who have not been identified, demanded that their communities receive a more equitable share of the income generated through the region's oil industry. The hostages were freed ten days later by the Nigeria military, allegedly without a ransom being paid.

Western Sahara: Laayoune

On 8 November Moroccan forces dismantled the Gadaym Izik protest camp close to the West Saharan capital of Laayoune. The move resulted in five Moroccan security force members being killed, and according to the protesters one of their own was killed by Moroccan forces. It has been estimated that 12,000 people had residence in the camp. Western Sahara was a Spanish colony until 1975, and has since then been occupied by its northern neighbour Morocco, which claims it as part of their territory. Rabat has accused Algeria of supporting the recent rebellion in Western Sahara, and Algeria is indeed known as a main supporter of the Western Saharan liberation organisation Polisario Front.

Madagascar: Antananarivo

On 10 November security forces in Madagascar used tear gas to disperse opposition protesters in advance of the 17 November referendum on a new constitution for the island state. The government had banned demonstrations from 9 November. The 17 November referendum is part of a process to reinstate democracy after Andry Rajoelina took leadership in the country with assistance from the armed forces in March 2009. On 17 November the security situation in Antananarivo again deteriorated with the army claiming to have removed the same acting president, Mr Rajoelina,

they had introduced a year and a half earlier. Mr Rajoelina, however, maintained that he was still in power. The referendum saw 73 per cent of the voters support a new democratic political system, and a new presidential election is scheduled for 4 May 2011.

Namibia: Windhoek

On 17 November a suspect package was intercepted in baggage screening at Windhoek Hosea Kutako International Airport. The bag was destined for an Air Berlin charter flight to Munich, and contained what appeared to be a detonator, batteries and a time device. It was later discovered that the bag in question was a dummy bomb made for training purposes by the US company Larry Copello Inc. A 51 year old Namibian police officer has been arrested connected with the placement of the dummy device but it is unclear what his motives would have been for creating a scare. German authorities increased their alert level the same day as the Windhoek incident but it is not known whether this is related to the package. The German Federal Crime Office (BKA) dispatched officers to Namibia, who helped examine the suspect bag. Namibia remains one of the most stable countries on the African continent.

Guinea: Conakry

On 17 November a national state of emergency was declared in the Western African country of Guinea. Two days previously the country had organised its first real presidential election since it gained independence from France but the aftermath of the election saw increasing protests and violence. The 15 November election saw Alpha Condé, a professor who has been in prison for political opposition, receive more than half the votes. The violence has largely been attributed to supporters of Cellou Dalein Diallo, the failed presidential contender and former prime minister under the despotic rule of the late Lansana Conté..

were killed in the Second Sudanese Civil War from the outbreak in 1983 to the signature of the peace agreement in 2005. The north-south conflict in Sudan follows divisions between northern Muslim Arabs and Christians and animists in the south. With the majority of the 5bn barrels of the country's oil reserves located in Southern Sudan natural resources add to the equation of religious and ethnic tension. The referendum on 9 January is likely to confirm Southern Sudan's desire for independence but a good post-referendum organisation of a split in Sudan is still crucial to reap the benefits of the peace agreement. Negotiations on the future of Sudan are likely to continue until at least July 2011.

AMERICAS

Regional Summary

The Americas saw a continuation of politically motivated violence throughout November, with criminal gangs and guerrilla organisations linked to the illegal narcotics industry continuing to destabilise large parts of Latin America. At the same time, the US received its second warning in as many months that individuals inspired by Islamist terrorism continue to seek ways to attack the country.

Strategic Risk Highlights

Brazil

Rio de Janeiro witnessed an outburst of intense unrest in November which claimed at least 49 lives, after criminal groups responded with violence to the latest phase in the government's 'slum pacification' project, which has already seen the police target criminal groups operating in 13 of the city's favelas (shanty towns). The latest violence centred on the northern Cruzeiro favela and the neighbouring Complexo do Alemão, the traditional headquarters of the Red Command Rio's most notorious drug gang. The violence intensified following a police raid into Cruzeiro on 21 November, after which criminal groups engaged in protracted and intense gun battles with police and also hijacked dozens of buses and cars, forcing their occupants out before setting fire to the vehicles. It took more than 2,500 soldiers and State Military Police officers a week to bring the situation under control with most of the violence subsiding by 28 November; the deadline that the police had given the gangs to surrender or else face a renewed assault. After encountering less resistance than expected, the police were able to take control of the favela and more than 30 tons of marijuana and a significant quantity of cocaine were recovered during

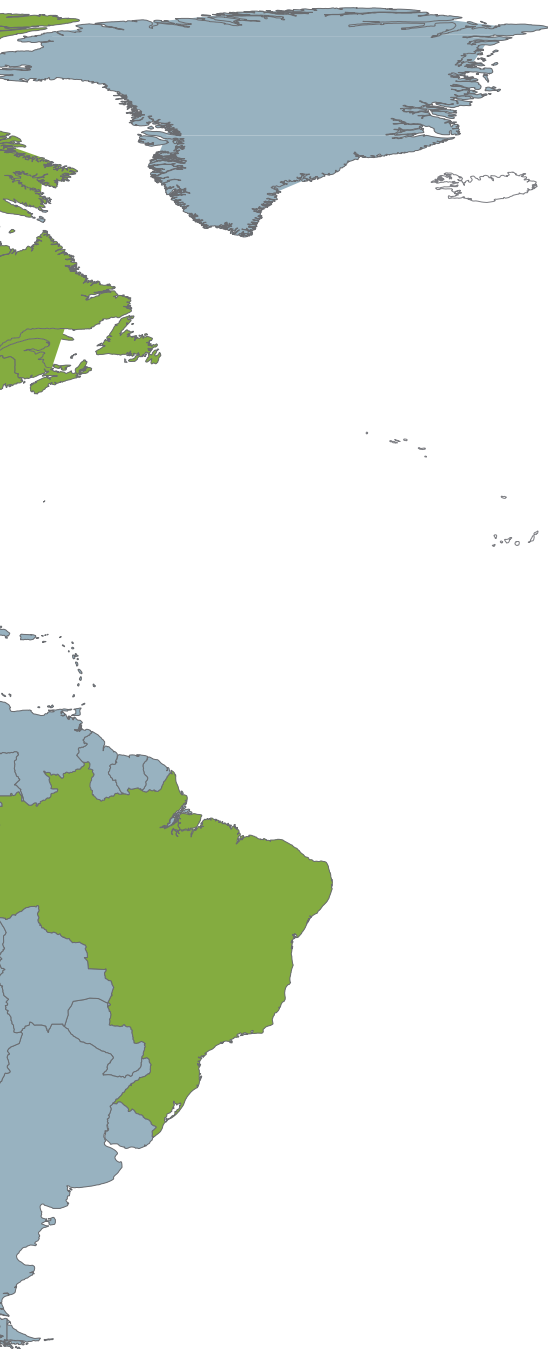
the operation. For decades the favelas have been controlled by criminal enterprises and the latest operation is part of a project to eradicate the dominance of such groups in Rio's poorer neighbourhoods. This has been presented by the government as an attempt to improve the quality of life of Rio's poorer residents, although it has also been pointed out that violence and criminality originating in favela gangs has started expanding beyond the favelas and into wealthier districts of the city. The police operations must also be seen in the context of a city attempting to promote security and safety ahead of its hosting the 2014 FIFA football World Cup and the 2016 Olympic Games.

USA & Canada

The US and Canadian governments have tightened air cargo security procedures; specifically banning large toner and ink cartridges from passenger flights and demanding new inspections on "high risk" shipments headed to their countries on all-cargo flights. The new measures, which were put in place this month, are intended to prevent a repeat of the cargo plot last

month. The ban applies only to cartridges that weigh at least one pound typically cartridges for office printers and copy machines. The ban affects checked baggage and carry-on luggage, and will be in place on certain all-cargo flights. Airlines or cargo companies that want to put packages onto United States-bound flights must inspect the item, either by visually checking it or using a scanning device like an X-ray machine. They would not define what would make a package high risk, but industry officials said the directives included certain shipments from countries where terrorists were known to operate or deliveries from an unknown shipper, like an individual who dropped it off in person at an express mail office. All air cargo shipments from Yemen to the United States will continue to be banned, as they have been since shortly after the bombs were intercepted on 29 October; shipments originating from Somalia have similarly been banned. US Homeland Security officials have also stated that more changes were imminent, including most likely a demand that airlines and cargo companies provide detailed advance cargo manifests before cargo planes take off for





Significant Security Incidents

USA, Oregon: Portland

On 26 November, the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) arrested Mohamed Osman Mohamud, a US citizen of Somali descent, after he attempted to detonate by mobile phone [what he believed to be] a van bomb in Pioneer Courthouse Square in Portland, Oregon. At the time of the attempted attack thousands of people had gathered in the square for the annual Christmas tree lighting. Unbeknownst to Mr Mohamud, the incident was, in fact, the culmination of a prolonged FBI sting operation and the 'van bomb' did not contain explosives.

Gulf of Mexico

On 22 November, ahead of the 16th United Nations Climate Change Conference in Cancun, four Greenpeace activists boarded the PetroRig III offshore platform in the Gulf of Mexico, which is operated by contractors on behalf of the state-owned Petroleos Mexicanos. Having travelled to the deep water facility on the icebreaker Arctic Sunrise and used speedboats to reach the platform the activists climbed more than 20 metres, established a temporary camp on the rig and displayed banners proclaiming 'Petroleum=Climate Change' and 'Go Beyond Oil'. Greenpeace later issued a statement claiming that it was seeking to put pressure on the US government to ban drilling in the Gulf of Mexico, publicise the alleged hypocrisy of Mexican President Felipe Calderon's energy policies and call for the replacement of hydrocarbons with renewable energy resources.

Colombia: Vegalarga

On 30 November, a car bomb detonated close to a police station in Vegalarga, a rural town close to Neiva, capital of the Huila province. Suspected members of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) – a leftist militant outfit heavily involved in the country's illegal narcotics industry – had earlier hijacked the public service vehicle, forced the occupants out and placed an explosive device in the car. The driver was killed in the attack and a further 10 people, including nine

police officers, sustained injuries.

Mexico: Mexico City

On 12 November, a small and relatively crude improvised explosive device detonated outside the offices of the Secretary of Rural Development, causing a small amount of damage but no casualties. Responsibility for the attack was claimed by the Frente de Liberación Animal (FLA) – the Mexican franchise of the UK-based Animal Liberation Front (ALF). The group claimed that the attack was a response to the planned opening of a government-sponsored slaughterhouse in Acatlán de Juárez in the Jalisco province. The group also issued a direct threat to secretary of rural development, Álvaro García Chávez. In the last year Mexico has emerged as one of the most active centres of animal rights extremism in both the intensity and frequency of attacks..

Mexico: Acapulco

On 10 November, at approximately 10.30, unidentified assailants armed with handguns and AK-47 assault rifles entered the offices of the El Sur de Guerrero newspaper in Acapulco in Guerrero state and opened fire, disconnected the phone lines and doused the building with petrol. The assailants gave no indication of the motive of the attack and intentionally avoided harming any occupants of the building.

Peru: Guacamayo

On 5 November, suspected Shining Path militant ambushed a police anti-narcotics unit in Guacamayo in the Tocache province. One police officer was killed in the attack and a second sustained injuries. The officers were resting for the night at the time of the incident. The attack is believed to have been retaliation for the unit's destruction of two cocaine factories in the area earlier the same day. The remnants of the Shining Path – once a powerful leftist guerrilla group – today mainly act as hired protection for the region's drugs cartels.

the United States. That information is typically required only four hours before an international arrival, which means it is too late for American authorities to use computer systems to evaluate who sent the package, what is in it and where it is going, so as to select items for detailed inspection before departure.



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