

The Aid Security Monthly News Brief

February
2015

Security Incidents

Africa

Guinea

08 February 2015 - Due to fear and mistrust triggered by the Ebola outbreak, two Red Cross volunteers were beaten by scared communities in the town of Forécariah while trying to conduct a safe burial in the area. More information on [BBC](#), [CIDRAP](#), [Deutsche Welle](#), [ICRC](#), [IFRC](#), [The New York Times](#) and [Voice of America](#).

13 February 2015 - In the town of Faranah, crowds attacked health workers, destroyed an Ebola treatment facility, and torched a Médecins Sans Frontières vehicle in response to a rumour that the Red Cross was planning to disinfect a school. More information on [Reuters](#) and [Voice of America](#).

Nigeria

24 February 2015 - A US woman working for the Christian organisation Hope Academy was abducted by a group of armed men in Kogi state. More information on [BBC](#).

South Sudan

04 February 2015 - Two staff members of the Lutheran World Federation were detained by rebels after a WFP-chartered UNHAS operated helicopter, in which they were travelling, landed in a disputed territory. More information on [Bloomberg Business](#) and [Nyamile](#).

17 February 2015 - A British citizen working for the American organization Carter Centre was shot dead by an armed man in Juba. Evidence suggests that he was deliberately targeted because gunmen attacked him at his compound. He is the 14th aid worker who died in South Sudan since the conflict erupted in December 2013. More information on [News24](#), [Salon](#), [The Guardian](#) and [Yahoo! News](#).

This monthly digest comprises threats and incidents of violence affecting the delivery of humanitarian assistance. It is prepared by Insecurity Insight from information available in open sources.

We welcome your [feedback](#). The questionnaire can be completed in 3 minutes, and it will help us understand what kind of monthly information you would be looking for in a database-centered project.

All decisions made, on the basis of, or with consideration to, such information remains the responsibility of their respective organisations.

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Sudan

08 February 2015 - Three Sudanese Red Crescent Society staff members were killed in the state of Blue Nile when returning from the regional capital Kurmuk where they had monitored food distribution. More information on [Al Arabiya](#), [Bloomberg Business](#) and [Reuters](#).

Asia

Myanmar

Intense fighting between government and rebel forces erupted in the Kokang area, in the northeastern Shan State, in early February. Myanmar Red Cross volunteers were injured in two separate incidents.

17 February 2015 - Two Myanmar Red Cross volunteers were injured when unknown gunmen fired at an eight car convoy carrying internally displaced people towards the town of Laukkai. More information on [Channel News Asia](#), [ICRC](#), [IFRC](#), [The Irrawaddy](#), [The New York Time](#), [Trust](#), [ReliefWeb](#) and [Reuters](#).

21 February 2015 - Another Red Cross volunteer sustained minor injuries near the Myanmar-China border during a second ambush on a Red Cross vehicle close to the location of the first incident. Both warring parties denied responsibility. More information on [IFRC](#), [New Strait Times Online](#), [Reuters](#) and [The Irrawaddy](#).

Pakistan

Attacks on polio vaccination teams occurred in Baluchistan, the Khyber tribal area, and Karachi in February.

04 February 2015 - Quetta, Baluchistan. A policeman guarding a team of anti-polio workers was killed when members of the banned militant group Jundullah opened fire on them, injuring also a passerby child. More information on [Dawn](#).

13 February 2015 - Zhob district, Baluchistan. Four members of a polio vaccination team were abducted near the Pakistan-Afghanistan border by the Taliban, who accused them of espionage and sterilising Muslim children. Their bodies were found four days later. More information on [Al Arabiya](#) and [BBC](#).

14 February 2015 - Khyber, FATA. A driver was killed and a health worker was left wounded when a vehicle carrying a team of anti-polio workers came under fire. Nobody claimed responsibility for the attack. More information on [The New York Times](#).

22 February 2015 – Karachi. Two anti-polio workers were held at gunpoint and threatened with death by an armed man, who was later arrested. More information on [The Tribune](#).

Europe

Turkey

09 February 2015 - Unidentified gunmen injured the Chairperson of the Red Crescent Istanbul branch in an attack that also affected his brother, the former minister of transportation. More information on [Daily Sabah](#) and [Today's Zaman](#).

Middle-East

Syrian Arab Republic

06 February 2015 - A private US aid worker, who had been snatched by the Islamic State in August last year in the town of Aleppo, allegedly died in the falling rubble of a building in the north of Syria amid US-Jordanian airstrikes. More information on [NPR](#), [Reuters \(1\)](#), [Reuters \(2\)](#), [The Daily Beast](#), [The Guardian \(1\)](#), [The Guardian \(2\)](#), [The New York Times \(1\)](#) and [The New York Times \(2\)](#).

Yemen

24 February 2015 - A first kidnapping occurred in Saana since the Houthi rebels took control. A French woman working as a consultant for a World Bank-funded anti-poverty project was abducted by a group of unidentified armed men in downtown Sanaa. More information on [Al Jazeera](#), [Reuters](#) and [The New York Times](#).

	Total of new incidents reported ¹ (from open sources)	Country	Staff affected
Kidnappings	3	Pakistan, Nigeria, Yemen	Local Pakistani, US, French
Deaths	6 ¹	South Sudan, Sudan, Pakistan and Syria	Local Pakistani, Local Sudanese, UK and US
Injured	4 ¹	Myanmar, Pakistan and Turkey	Local Myanmar, Local Pakistani and Local Turkish
Assaults	2	Guinea	Local Guinean
Detained/Held	2	South Sudan, Pakistan	Local South Sudanese, Local Pakistani

¹ Please note the double listing of events that had more than one reported effect (eg. kidnapping and deaths, events in which some were killed others injured.)

Security-related and other access restraints

Africa

Central African Republic

Insecurity remains high while the different factions negotiate the framework for the planned peace and reconciliation process. On February 2, a group of six people, including a priest and his wife, were abducted. The UN Humanitarian Coordinator does not believe that humanitarian aid has to be restricted but that security measures need to be improved. More information on [IRIN](#).

Niger

Early in February, the World Food Programme (WFP) suspended its operations along the Niger-Nigeria border amid fears of Boko Haram attacks. Aid delivery for thousands of displaced people in camps was resumed at the end of the month. More information on [Trust](#).

Asia

Myanmar

The attacks on Myanmar Red Cross Volunteers during the evacuation of displaced people led to suspensions of operations. More information on [Myanmar Times](#) and [New Strait Times Online](#).

Pakistan

The polio vaccination campaign was postponed in Quetta, Zhob, Sherani and Sibi districts of Baluchistan following attacks and security threats. More information on [BBC](#).

Europe

Ukraine

04 February 2015 - Artillery shelling in the rebel-held city of Donetsk eastern Ukraine hit the hospital N27, schools and kindergartens impacting on people's ability to access vital services. More information on [BBC \(1\)](#), [BBC \(2\)](#), [BBC \(3\)](#), [CBC News](#), [ICRC](#), [NPR](#) and [Zeit Online](#).

Middle-East

Syrian Arab Republic

27 February - The Assad Regime expelled two OCHA and a UNICEF workers for negotiating access with the rebels to deliver aid in rebel-controlled areas. The expulsions are likely to have an adverse impact on the entire humanitarian operation across the country during the proposed six-week suspension of fighting in Aleppo. More information on [Associated Press](#).

