



Weekly Report

Federal Republic of Somalia

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- 1** Suicide bomb attack leaves 12 dead in southern Somalia
- 2** Heroin valuing \$132 million seized off the coast of Somalia
- 3** Barkhad Abdi, actor from Captain Phillips, joins the campaign to protect family-to-family financial support in Somalia

“The seizure “removed a major source of funding for terrorist and criminal networks which included Al Qaeda, the Taliban and al-Shabaab”, said ship commander Terry Morrison.

Suicide bomb attack leaves 12 dead in southern Somalia

- A suicide attack in Baidoa, likely targeting Abdi Fateh Gesey who was a former governor of the region, has left more than a dozen individuals dead.
- The attack occurred in a region which has been home to much violence during AMISON’s recent incursions to expel al-Shabaab from southern Somalia.
- Although al-Shabaab has been responsible for the vast majority of attacks in Somalia no claims of responsibility have been made.
- Source: Al Jazeera

<http://www.aljazeera.com/news/africa/2014/05/suicide-bomber-strikes-somalia-2014512152748252502.html>

Heroin valuing \$132 million seized off the coast of Somalia

- An Australian warship has seized 449 kilograms of heroin found on a dhow (shipping vessel) 40 nautical miles off of the coast of Somalia.
- Australia’s navy has been operating with a multinational naval partnership to defeat terrorism, prevent piracy, reduce illegal trafficking of people and drugs, and to promote the maritime environment as a safe place to conduct business.
- Source: ABC

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2014-05-15/australian-warship-nabs-132-million-heroin-haul-off-somalia/5455220>

Barkhad Abdi, actor from Captain Phillips, joins the campaign to protect family-to-family financial support in Somalia

- Barkhad Abdi writes about how he relied on remittance payments while living in poverty in Somalia.
- Remittance funds commonly come through the informal ‘hawala’ banking system which uses agents in the US and Somalia to send money between the two countries.
- The system has been associated with terrorist financing, however its closure would mean the financial ruin of thousands of Somali’s relying on these funds to continue living.
- Source: Huffington Post

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/barkhad-abdi/keep-the-lifelines-open-f_b_5316964.html