**BROTHERS WHO BROUGHT DEATH AND RUIN TO PHILIPPINE CITY**

TARAKAN, Indonesia: Religious and criminal ties are growing stronger in Indonesia, a country where a third of the population is Muslim, and which is home to one of the world's most potent Islamic militant groups. The links were first identified in connection with the attack on an Indonesian naval vessel last week, when a nætro-terrorist was killed and another was arrested in the capital, Jakarta. The arrests came as Indonesia prepared to host a conference on terrorism, and as the country's military launched an operation in Mindanao, the southern island of the Philippines, to drive out militant groups. The operation is expected to last for at least two weeks, and could involve up to 5,000 soldiers and police. The military said it had already killed 12 people, and that it was actively searching for more. The operation is part of a larger campaign to counter the threat posed by militant groups in the region, including the Islamic State in Iraq and Syria (ISIS) and the terrorist group Jemaah Islamiyah (JI). The threat is particularly acute in Mindanao, where a long-running insurgency has claimed thousands of lives. The Indonesian military has been deployed to the region to help counter the threat, and has launched air strikes and ground operations in recent weeks.

**IS THREAT IN SOUTHEAST ASIA RAISES ALARM**

Area becoming new hub for local foreign fighters

WASHINGTON: Southeast Asia’s jihadis who fought for the hundreds of Islamic State group in Iraq and Syria have a different battle closer to home in the southern Philippines. It’s a scenario raising significant alarm in Washington. The recent ISIS-aligned bombing of Mindanao, the Philippines’ largest island, left 20 people dead and 200 injured. The attack was carried out by a local group, the Maute. In response, the United States has ordered its military to prepare for a ground operation in Mindanao, where the Maute group has been battling government forces for months. The operation is expected to involve up to 5,000 soldiers and police, and could last for at least two weeks. It is part of a larger strategy to counter the threat posed by militant groups in the region, including the Islamic State in Iraq and Syria (ISIS) and the terrorist group Jemaah Islamiyah (JI). The threat is particularly acute in Mindanao, where a long-running insurgency has claimed thousands of lives. The Indonesian military has been deployed to the region to help counter the threat, and has launched air strikes and ground operations in recent weeks.

**INDONESIA DEPLOYS JETS TO GUARD AGAINST MIGRANTS**

YAKABAR, Indonesia: Indonesia has deployed warplanes and increased its border security in response to reports that hundreds of migrants are heading towards the southern Philippines, a country where a third of the population is Muslim. The development is raising significant alarm in Indonesia, where the government has been under pressure to take action against the influx of foreign fighters. The migration of migrants from the southern Philippines to Indonesia is a concern for security officials in the region, as it could create a new hub for local foreign fighters. The government has been criticized for its response to the crisis, which has come under scrutiny in recent weeks. The government has been accused of covering up the influx of foreign fighters and of failing to take action against the threat. The government has also been criticized for its handling of the crisis, which has led to public outrage and calls for action.

**TALIBAN ATTACK KILLS FIVE AFGHAN POLICE, INJURES 18**

KABUL: A roadside bomb exploded near a police checkpoint in Kabul on Monday, killing five Afghan police officers and wounding 18 others. The attack was the latest in a series of insurgent attacks that have claimed hundreds of lives in recent weeks. The Taliban claimed responsibility for the attack, saying it was a response to the government’s failure to “fulfil its promises” of peace and security. The government has denied the claim, saying it was a false accusation by its enemies. The attack comes amid growing tensions between the government and the Taliban, which are engaged in a fierce battle for control of territory in the country. The government has been accused of failing to take action against the Taliban, and of not doing enough to protect its citizens. The attack is the latest in a series of insurgent attacks that have claimed hundreds of lives in recent weeks. The Taliban claimed responsibility for the attack, saying it was a response to the government’s failure to “fulfil its promises” of peace and security. The government has denied the claim, saying it was a false accusation by its enemies. The attack comes amid growing tensions between the government and the Taliban, which are engaged in a fierce battle for control of territory in the country.

**ABE’S SUPPORT SLUMPS AMID DOUBTS ABOUT SCHOOL SCANDAL**

TOKYO: Prime Minister Shinzō Abe’s approval rating has dropped amid growing doubts about a school scandal that was revealed in April. Abe’s support has fallen to a record low of 28%, down from 36% in April. The scandal involves the government’s selection of schools for the nation’s largest Muslim group. The government has been accused of favoring certain schools, and of using the selection process to reward political allies. Abe has denied any wrongdoing, saying the government’s actions were in line with the law. However, opposition politicians have called for Abe to resign, and have called on the government to investigate the matter further. The scandal has eroded Abe’s popularity, and has raised questions about his ability to lead the country. The government has denied any wrongdoing, saying the selection process was carried out in a fair and transparent manner. However, opposition politicians have called for Abe to resign, and have called on the government to investigate the matter further. The scandal has eroded Abe’s popularity, and has raised questions about his ability to lead the country. The government has denied any wrongdoing, saying the selection process was carried out in a fair and transparent manner. However, opposition politicians have called for Abe to resign, and have called on the government to investigate the matter further. The scandal has eroded Abe’s popularity, and has raised questions about his ability to lead the country.

**TWO PAKISTANI DIPLOMATS KILLED IN AFGHANISTAN**

ISLAMABAD: Two Pakistani diplomats have been killed in an attack on a passenger bus in Afghanistan. The attack was carried out by a group of militants, who used a vehicle packed with explosives to target the bus. The attack is the latest in a series of attacks that have claimed hundreds of lives in recent weeks. The Taliban claimed responsibility for the attack, saying it was a response to the government’s failure to “fulfil its promises” of peace and security. The government has denied the claim, saying it was a false accusation by its enemies. The attack comes amid growing tensions between the government and the Taliban, which are engaged in a fierce battle for control of territory in the country. The government has been accused of failing to take action against the Taliban, and of not doing enough to protect its citizens. The attack is the latest in a series of attacks that have claimed hundreds of lives in recent weeks. The Taliban claimed responsibility for the attack, saying it was a response to the government’s failure to “fulfil its promises” of peace and security. The government has denied the claim, saying it was a false accusation by its enemies. The attack comes amid growing tensions between the government and the Taliban, which are engaged in a fierce battle for control of territory in the country. The government has been accused of failing to take action against the Taliban, and of not doing enough to protect its citizens. The attack is the latest in a series of attacks that have claimed hundreds of lives in recent weeks. The Taliban claimed responsibility for the attack, saying it was a response to the government’s failure to “fulfil its promises” of peace and security. The government has denied the claim, saying it was a false accusation by its enemies. The attack comes amid growing tensions between the government and the Taliban, which are engaged in a fierce battle for control of territory in the country. The government has been accused of failing to take action against the Taliban, and of not doing enough to protect its citizens. The attack is the latest in a series of attacks that have claimed hundreds of lives in recent weeks. The Taliban claimed responsibility for the attack, saying it was a response to the government’s failure to “fulfil its promises” of peace and security. The government has denied the claim, saying it was a false accusation by its enemies. The attack comes amid growing tensions between the government and the Taliban, which are engaged in a fierce battle for control of territory in the country. The government has been accused of failing to take action against the Taliban, and of not doing enough to protect its citizens.