WESTMINSTER SECURITY

*Great British Standards, Great British Security.*

# UAE SITREP DOCUMENT

**DAY 189 – THE CYCLE WIDENS ACROSS THE GULF: IRAN FIRED MISSILES AND DRONES AT KUWAIT (THURSDAY), WHICH KUWAIT'S AIR DEFENCES ENGAGED, EXTENDING ITS RETALIATION BEYOND JORDAN AND THE UAE; OIL SURGED WITH BRENT BREAKING $97 (UP 7%+ THIS WEEK). THE US-IRAN STRIKE EXCHANGE CONTINUES, TRUMP'S KHARG THREAT STANDS, IRAN'S OIL-EXPORT THREAT PERSISTS – WHILE THE MEDIATORS PUSH FOR A CESSATION – NO NEW DAMAGING STRIKE ON UAE TERRITORY – MAXIMUM HELD, HIGH READINESS**

Prepared for the CEO

**Westminster Security Group Ltd**

4 September 2026 (0900 GMT)

*Subject: The Security Situation in Dubai, the UAE, and the Wider Middle East*

**Classification: STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL**

⚠ **MAXIMUM ALERT:** THE STRIKE CYCLE HAS NOT SUBSIDED – IT HAS WIDENED ACROSS THE GULF. Iran fired missiles and drones at Kuwait on Thursday, which Kuwait's air defences engaged, with Kuwait citing "ongoing Iranian aggression" – extending Iran's retaliation beyond Jordan and the UAE to another Gulf state hosting US forces. Oil has surged, with Brent crude breaking $97 a barrel and up more than 7% this week, on the Kuwait attack and the wider escalation. The US and Iran have continued trading strikes this week, the first exchange since July, and President Trump's threat to strike Kharg Island – Iran's main oil terminal – stands, though Kharg has not been confirmed struck, while Iran's threat to block all Gulf oil exports persists. The region's mediators – Qatar, Pakistan and Oman – continue pushing for an immediate cessation. There is NO CONFIRMED NEW DAMAGING STRIKE on UAE territory, ports or infrastructure, and no new attack on the UAE in the latest period – but the cycle is widening across the Gulf, and the threat to the UAE is acute. Westminster Security MAINTAINS MAXIMUM ALERT, keeps both phases suspended, holds readiness at a high level, and advises clients to complete departures and suspend all Strait transits.

⚠ **ASSESSMENT:** THE CYCLE IS WIDENING ACROSS THE GULF – THE UAE'S RISK RISES WITH IT. The attack on Kuwait is a significant development: it shows Iran extending its retaliation across the Gulf Arab states that host US forces – Jordan, the UAE, and now Kuwait – and it raises the risk to the UAE, which is similarly exposed as a US host. The apparent pause noted yesterday has given way to this fresh attack, and the cycle is escalating rather than subsiding, with oil surging as markets price in a wider conflict. The maximal escalations – a US strike on Kharg, an Iranian move to block all Gulf oil exports – have not yet occurred, but the trajectory is toward further escalation, and either would sharply worsen the picture. Against this, the mediators continue to push for a cessation, and Iran's conditional off-ramp stands, but the diplomacy is being outpaced by the escalation. For UAE clients, the widening cycle raises the threat, and the posture must remain at its most cautious: MAXIMUM, high readiness, complete departures, suspend all Strait transits, and heightened vigilance for any attack on the UAE. There is NO NEW DAMAGING STRIKE on UAE territory.

# 1. SITUATION SUMMARY: DAY 189 – THE CYCLE WIDENS ACROSS THE GULF

The strike cycle has not subsided – it has widened across the Gulf. Iran fired missiles and drones at Kuwait on Thursday, which Kuwait's armed forces said their air defences engaged, with Kuwait citing ongoing Iranian aggression; the attack extends Iran's retaliation beyond Jordan and the UAE to another Gulf Arab state that hosts US forces, and marks a widening rather than a subsiding of the cycle. Oil prices have surged in response, with Brent crude breaking $97 a barrel and up more than 7% over the week, as markets price in a wider conflict. The United States and Iran have continued to trade strikes this week – the first exchange since July – with Washington seeking to degrade Iran's ability to attack shipping in the Strait, and the US Energy Secretary claiming that a record volume of oil transited the Strait on Monday under US military protection. President Trump's threat to strike Iran's Kharg Island oil terminal stands, though the terminal has not been confirmed struck, and Iran's threat to block all Gulf oil exports persists. Against the escalation, the region's mediators – Qatar, Pakistan and Oman – continue to push for an immediate cessation and a return to talks, and Iran's conditional offer to reciprocate if Washington honours its June commitments stands. There is no confirmed new damaging strike on UAE territory, and no new attack on the UAE in the latest period, but the widening cycle raises the threat. Westminster Security MAINTAINS MAXIMUM ALERT with readiness at a high level, keeps both phases suspended, and advises clients to complete departures, hold high readiness, and suspend all Strait transits.

## Where Things Stand

| Element | Status (as of 0900 GMT Friday 4 September) |
|---|---|
| **Alert level** | **MAXIMUM (held), high readiness.** Both phases suspended. The cycle is widening across the Gulf. Complete departures; high readiness; suspend all Strait transits. |
| **Kuwait attacked** | **CYCLE WIDENS.** Iran fired missiles and drones at Kuwait (Thursday); Kuwait's air defences engaged them, citing "ongoing Iranian aggression." Retaliation now spans Jordan, the UAE, Kuwait. |
| **Oil** | **SURGES.** Brent broke $97 a barrel, up more than 7% this week, on the Kuwait attack and the wider escalation. |
| **Strike exchange** | **CONTINUES.** US and Iran trading strikes this week (first since July). Kharg threat stands – not confirmed struck. Iran's all-Gulf oil threat persists. |
| **US oil claim** | US Energy Secretary claims a record ~17M barrels transited the Strait Monday under US military protection – a contested, US-positive claim. |
| **Mediation** | **PUSHING FOR CESSATION.** Qatar, Pakistan and Oman continue pushing for an immediate cessation; Iran's conditional off-ramp stands – but outpaced by the escalation. |
| **UAE** | **NO NEW STRIKE; RISK RISES.** No new damaging strike on UAE territory; no new attack in the latest period. But the widening cycle raises the UAE's risk. Airports open. |

**WS Assessment:** The attack on Kuwait shows the cycle widening across the Gulf rather than subsiding, and it raises the risk to the UAE as a similarly exposed US host; oil has surged as markets price in a wider conflict. The alert stays at MAXIMUM with high readiness, and the trajectory is toward further escalation unless the mediators can secure a cessation; clients should remain at their most cautious and vigilant for any attack on the UAE.

## 2. IRAN ATTACKS KUWAIT – THE CYCLE WIDENS ACROSS THE GULF

- **The attack on Kuwait:** Iran fired missiles and drones at Kuwait on Thursday; Kuwait's armed forces said the country was facing ongoing Iranian aggression as its air defences engaged the incoming missiles and drones – a fresh Iranian attack on a Gulf Arab state, and the clearest sign that the cycle is widening rather than subsiding.
- **Retaliation across the Gulf:** The attack extends Iran's retaliation for the US strikes beyond Jordan, where it struck US bases, and the UAE, at which it fired a drone, to Kuwait – all Gulf Arab states that host US forces; Iran is spreading its retaliation across the region, following the pattern of horizontal escalation seen earlier in the war.
- **The apparent pause over:** The apparent pause after Tuesday's exchange, noted yesterday, has given way to this fresh attack; the cycle is escalating, not subsiding, and the risk of a sustained new phase of conflict has grown, with Iran demonstrating it will continue to strike US hosts across the Gulf.
- **The implication for the UAE:** The attack on Kuwait raises the risk to the UAE, which is similarly exposed as a host of US forces and a regional US partner; if Iran is willing to strike Kuwait, it may again target the UAE, and clients should treat the threat as heightened and hold high readiness.
- **No confirmed outcome detail:** Kuwait's air defences engaged the missiles and drones; the full outcome of the attack was not confirmed at the time of writing, but the engagement of Kuwait's defences and the framing of ongoing aggression underline that the attack was a serious escalation of the cycle.

**WS Assessment:** The attack on Kuwait is the key development of the day: it confirms the cycle is widening across the Gulf, extends Iran's retaliation to a third US host, and raises the risk to the UAE. Clients should treat the threat to the UAE as heightened, hold high readiness, and watch closely for any renewed attack on the UAE.

# 3. OIL SURGES; THE KHARG AND OIL-EXPORT THREATS STAND

- **Oil surges:** Oil prices have surged, with Brent crude breaking $97 a barrel and trading around $96, and US crude around $92; oil has gained more than 7% over the week as markets price in the Kuwait attack, the widening cycle, and the risk of strikes on oil infrastructure and of an Iranian move against Gulf exports.
- **The Kharg threat stands:** President Trump's threat to strike Kharg Island – Iran's principal oil export terminal – stands, and a strike on its oil infrastructure would mark a major escalation; the terminal has not been confirmed struck in the current escalation, but the threat remains a serious risk to watch, and its realisation would sharply disrupt oil supply.
- **Iran's oil-export threat persists:** Iran's threat that if it is prevented from exporting oil, no one will be able to export oil from the Persian Gulf, persists – a threat directly affecting the UAE and the other Gulf producers; the Kuwait attack demonstrates Iran's willingness to strike across the Gulf, lending weight to the threat.
- **The contested US oil claim:** The US Energy Secretary has claimed that a record volume of oil – more than 17 million barrels – transited the Strait on Monday under US military protection; the claim, if accurate, indicates the US is escorting oil through despite the strikes, but it is a US-positive account contested by the reality of the tanker attacks and the closed Strait.
- **The stakes for global supply:** The combination of the Kharg threat, Iran's oil-export threat, and the tanker attacks has raised the risk premium sharply; a strike on Kharg or an Iranian move to block Gulf exports would remove significant volumes from world markets and drive prices higher still, with global economic consequences.

**WS Assessment:** The oil surge reflects the market's reading of a widening conflict and the serious risk of strikes on oil infrastructure or an Iranian export blockade; either the Kharg threat or Iran's oil-export threat, if realised, would sharply escalate the crisis. For the UAE, the oil-export dimension is a direct concern, and the widening cycle raises the stakes.

# 4. THE MEDIATORS PUSH FOR CESSATION; THE UAE; THE REGIONAL PICTURE

- **The mediators push for cessation:** The region's mediators – Qatar, Pakistan and Oman – continue to push for an immediate cessation of the strikes and a return to the negotiating track; Qatar has called for an immediate and complete cessation of all military actions, warning that all are affected by the escalation, and is intensifying its efforts with its mediation partners.
- **Iran's conditional off-ramp:** Iran's president has reiterated that Iran would reciprocate immediately if Washington honoured its commitments under the June memorandum – the conditional off-ramp remains on the table; but the diplomacy is being outpaced by the escalation, with the Kuwait attack undercutting the push for a cessation.
- **No new attack on the UAE:** There has been no new attack on the UAE in the latest period, beyond Sunday's intercepted drone; there is no confirmed new damaging strike on UAE territory, ports or infrastructure, and no casualties in the UAE – but the attack on Kuwait raises the risk that the UAE could be targeted again.
- **US security posture:** The US embassy in the region has issued security alerts warning of the potential for unforeseen escalation and urging heightened vigilance amid possible flight cancellations, airspace closures and travel disruptions – a reflection of the heightened threat environment across the Gulf, relevant to the UAE and its airports.
- **The regional fronts:** Israel is bracing for a possible Iranian attack during the Jewish holidays, the Houthi campaign against Saudi shipping continues, and the US blockade remains in force; the regional fronts remain active, and the arena is widening as the cycle escalates across the Gulf.

**WS Assessment:** The mediators' push for a cessation is the main de-escalation hope, and Iran's conditional off-ramp stands, but the diplomacy is being outpaced by the escalation, with the Kuwait attack widening the cycle. For the UAE, the threat is heightened by the widening cycle, and clients should hold high readiness and watch closely.

# 5. SHIPPING, OIL AND THE REGIONAL PICTURE

- **The Strait a strike zone, the cycle widening:** The Strait remains a strike zone – tankers have been struck, the US and Iran are exchanging strikes, the waterway is mined and blockaded – and the cycle has now widened to a missile and drone attack on Kuwait; transit is acutely dangerous, and Iran threatens to block all Gulf oil exports.
- **Oil surges:** Oil has surged, with Brent breaking $97, up more than 7% this week, on the Kuwait attack and the wider escalation; the risk premium has climbed sharply as fears of a wider conflict and of strikes on oil infrastructure grow.
- **The contested US oil claim:** The US claims a record volume of oil transited the Strait on Monday under military protection; whatever the true figure, the tanker attacks and the widening cycle confirm that transit remains perilous and the waterway contested.
- **The blockade and regional fronts:** The US naval blockade remains in force, the Houthi campaign against Saudi shipping continues, and Israel is bracing for an Iranian attack; the regional fronts are active, with the direct US-Iran exchange the dominant dynamic and the cycle widening across the Gulf.
- **UAE approaches:** Beyond Sunday's intercepted drone, there is no damage to UAE territory or to shipping in UAE waters; vessels remain anchored off the UAE's east coast at Khor Fakkan. UAE-linked operators should treat the Strait as a strike zone and suspend all transits.

**WS Assessment:** The Strait remains a strike zone and the cycle is widening across the Gulf, with oil surging; the danger to shipping is acute. For UAE-linked operators, all Strait transits should remain suspended pending a durable de-escalation.

# 6. DUBAI AND THE UAE

## Operational Picture

- **The cycle widens across the Gulf – the UAE's risk rises, but no new damaging strike on UAE territory.** Iran has attacked Kuwait, widening the cycle across the Gulf and raising the risk to the UAE as a similarly exposed US host. There has been no new attack on the UAE in the latest period, and no new damaging strike on UAE territory, ports or infrastructure. But the widening cycle heightens the threat, and Iran's oil-export threat directly affects the UAE.
- **COMPLETE DEPARTURES NOW – THE THREAT IS RISING.** With airports operating, complete any deferred non-essential departure on scheduled commercial flights without delay. The cycle is widening across the Gulf and the threat to the UAE is rising; completing departures now is a priority, and the window should not be assumed to remain open.
- **HOLD READINESS AT A HIGH LEVEL – WATCH FOR AN ATTACK ON THE UAE.** Essential personnel should maintain shelter-in-place and evacuation readiness at a high level; Iran has struck Kuwait, and the UAE could be targeted again. Review shelter locations and NCEMA guidance, keep go-bags current, and be prepared to shelter promptly on any alert. The UAE hosts US forces at Al Dhafra.
- **Review Iran-related sanctions exposure.** Review exposure to Iran-related sanctions risk through exchange houses, trade finance, shipping and re-export, and watch for new designations given the escalation and warnings of new sanctions; consult qualified counsel. This is not legal advice.
- **Shipping: SUSPEND ALL STRAIT TRANSITS – THE STRAIT IS A STRIKE ZONE.** Tankers have been struck, the US and Iran are exchanging strikes, the cycle has widened to Kuwait, and Iran threatens to block all Gulf oil exports. Suspend all transits, hold vessels clear of the Strait and the Bab al-Mandeb, and treat the Strait as a strike zone until a durable de-escalation is confirmed.
- **Utility and shelter measures should remain in place, with attention to water and energy.** Keep water, fuel and generator contingencies ready; UAE strategic water reserves are reported at roughly two days at current consumption, and Iran's threats to Gulf energy make resilience a priority amid the escalation. Follow official UAE and NCEMA guidance.

## Return Guidance: MAXIMUM Held, High Readiness – the Cycle Widening Across the Gulf

**Westminster Security maintains MAXIMUM alert, with both Phase 1 (essential) and Phase 2 (non-essential) returns suspended and readiness at a high level. The cycle has widened across the Gulf with Iran's attack on Kuwait, oil has surged, and the threat to the UAE has risen; the mediators continue to push for a cessation, but the diplomacy is being outpaced by the escalation. Clients should complete departures now, hold high readiness, suspend all Strait transits, and watch for any attack on the UAE and any further escalation.**

- **All returns – SUSPENDED:** Halt all inbound travel to the UAE; the cycle is widening across the Gulf and the threat is rising – this is not a setting for returns.
- **Non-essential personnel – COMPLETE DEPARTURES NOW:** Use the open airports to finish any deferred departures without delay, on scheduled commercial flights; do not assume the window remains open as the cycle widens.
- **Essential personnel – high readiness:** Maintain shelter-in-place and evacuation readiness at a high level, review shelter locations, keep documentation and go-bags current, and monitor for any attack on the UAE, a US strike on Kharg, an Iranian move against Gulf oil exports, and any further widening of the strikes.
- **Business/compliance clients:** Review exposure given the direct sanctions, the standing threat, and the escalation; consult qualified counsel. This is not legal advice.
- **De-escalation path (MAXIMUM → HIGH):** A mediated cessation of the strikes, the lifting of the US blockade, a confirmed de-escalation or ceasefire, and a genuine reopening of the Strait with verified safe passage would allow the alert to come down. The mediators are

pushing for a cessation, and Iran's conditional offer stands, but the escalation is outpacing the diplomacy; Westminster Security is ready to lower the alert to HIGH promptly once a durable de-escalation is confirmed.

- **Further escalation – the central risk:** A renewed attack on the UAE, a US strike on Kharg, an Iranian move to block Gulf oil exports, an Iranian attack on Israel, or a collapse of the mediation would deepen the emergency; Westminster Security will issue immediate updates.
- **Standing posture:** MAXIMUM, high readiness – the cycle widening across the Gulf, the threat to the UAE rising, the mediators pushing for a stop; protect people first, complete departures now, hold high readiness, suspend all Strait transits, and protect energy and water resilience.

# 7. WESTMINSTER SECURITY'S RECOMMENDATIONS

- **MAXIMUM ALERT HELD, HIGH READINESS – the cycle widens across the Gulf.** Iran fired missiles and drones at Kuwait (Thursday), which Kuwait's air defences engaged – extending its retaliation beyond Jordan and the UAE. Oil surged, with Brent breaking $97. The US-Iran strike exchange continues, Trump's Kharg threat stands, and Iran's oil-export threat persists. There is no new damaging strike on UAE territory, but the widening cycle raises the UAE's risk.
- **THE UAE'S RISK IS RISING – HOLD HIGH READINESS.** Iran has struck Kuwait, another Gulf US host, raising the risk that the UAE could be targeted again. Hold shelter and evacuation readiness at a high level, review NCEMA guidance, and watch closely for any attack on the UAE.
- **COMPLETE DEPARTURES NOW; SUSPEND ALL STRAIT TRANSITS.** Complete deferred non-essential departures on scheduled flights without delay, and do not assume the window remains open as the cycle widens. The Strait is a strike zone; suspend all transits until a durable de-escalation is confirmed.
- **WATCH FOR A KHARG STRIKE OR AN IRANIAN OIL-EXPORT MOVE.** Trump's Kharg threat stands and Iran's all-Gulf oil threat persists; either's realisation would sharply escalate the confrontation and disrupt oil supply. Watch closely for either.
- **NOTE THE MEDIATION PUSH – BUT IT IS BEING OUTPACED.** Qatar, Pakistan and Oman continue pushing for a cessation, and Iran's conditional offer stands, but the escalation is outpacing the diplomacy. Watch whether the mediation can secure a cessation before the cycle escalates further.
- **Monitor for:** (1) any renewed attack on the UAE or damaging strike on UAE territory; (2) a US strike on Kharg Island; (3) an Iranian move to block Gulf oil exports; (4) an Iranian attack on Israel; (5) whether the mediators secure a cessation.
- **The cycle is widening across the Gulf – emergency updates to follow.** Westminster Security will issue immediate updates on any attack on the UAE, any strike on Kharg, any Iranian oil-export move, or any major development, and will lower the alert to HIGH only once a durable de-escalation is confirmed and safe passage verified.
- **This is the one hundred and seventy-sixth edition.** Day 189 of the war.

## 8. KEY POINTS

- **THE CYCLE WIDENS ACROSS THE GULF – IRAN ATTACKS KUWAIT.** Iran fired missiles and drones at Kuwait on Thursday, which Kuwait's air defences engaged, with Kuwait citing "ongoing Iranian aggression" – extending Iran's retaliation beyond Jordan and the UAE to another Gulf US host. The apparent pause has given way to this fresh attack; the cycle is escalating, not subsiding, and the risk to the UAE has risen.
- **OIL SURGES; THE KHARG AND OIL-EXPORT THREATS STAND.** Oil surged, with Brent breaking $97 and up more than 7% this week, on the Kuwait attack and the wider escalation. President Trump's threat to strike Iran's Kharg oil terminal stands (not confirmed struck), and Iran's threat to block all Gulf oil exports persists – either's realisation would sharply escalate the crisis and disrupt global supply. The US claims a record volume transited the Strait Monday under military protection.
- **THE MEDIATORS PUSH FOR CESSATION – BUT ARE BEING OUTPACED.** Qatar, Pakistan and Oman continue pushing for an immediate cessation and a return to talks, and Iran's conditional offer to reciprocate if Washington honours its June commitments stands. But the diplomacy is being outpaced by the escalation, with the Kuwait attack undercutting the push for a cessation; the mediation is the main de-escalation hope, but the trajectory is toward further escalation.
- **NO NEW DAMAGING STRIKE ON UAE TERRITORY – BUT THE RISK RISES.** There has been no new attack on the UAE in the latest period, beyond Sunday's intercepted drone, and no new damaging strike on UAE territory, ports or infrastructure. But the attack on Kuwait raises the risk that the UAE could be targeted again, Iran's oil-export threat directly affects the UAE, and the US has issued regional security alerts. The threat is heightened; hold high readiness.
- **THE STRAIT A STRIKE ZONE; THE ARENA WIDENING.** The Strait remains a strike zone – tankers struck, the US and Iran exchanging strikes, the waterway mined and blockaded – and the cycle has widened to Kuwait. Oil has surged, Israel is bracing for an Iranian attack, and the Houthi campaign continues; the regional arena is widening. Suspend all Strait transits until a durable de-escalation is confirmed.
- **MAXIMUM HELD, HIGH READINESS – NO NEW DAMAGING STRIKE ON UAE TERRITORY. ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTY-SIXTH EDITION. DAY 189.** The cycle has widened across the Gulf with Iran's attack on Kuwait, oil has surged, and the threat to the UAE has risen – the escalation continuing. Both phases remain suspended; complete departures now, hold high readiness, suspend all Strait transits, review sanctions exposure, and watch for any attack on the UAE, a Kharg strike, or an Iranian oil-export move. Westminster Security will lower the alert to HIGH only once a durable de-escalation is confirmed.

---

*Prepared 4th September 2026 – Information current as of 09:00 GMT*

**THE STRIKE CYCLE HAS NOT SUBSIDED – IT HAS WIDENED ACROSS THE GULF. IRAN FIRED MISSILES AND DRONES AT KUWAIT (THURSDAY), WHICH KUWAIT'S AIR DEFENCES ENGAGED, CITING "ONGOING IRANIAN AGGRESSION" – EXTENDING ITS RETALIATION BEYOND JORDAN AND THE UAE TO ANOTHER GULF STATE HOSTING US FORCES. OIL SURGED, WITH BRENT BREAKING $97 (UP 7%+ THIS WEEK).**

**THE US-IRAN STRIKE EXCHANGE CONTINUES, TRUMP'S THREAT TO STRIKE KHARG ISLAND STANDS (NOT CONFIRMED STRUCK), AND IRAN'S THREAT TO BLOCK ALL GULF OIL EXPORTS PERSISTS – WHILE THE MEDIATORS (QATAR, PAKISTAN, OMAN) PUSH FOR AN IMMEDIATE CESSATION, THOUGH OUTPACED BY THE ESCALATION. THERE IS NO CONFIRMED NEW DAMAGING STRIKE ON UAE TERRITORY, AND NO NEW ATTACK IN THE LATEST PERIOD, BUT THE WIDENING CYCLE RAISES THE UAE'S RISK. MAXIMUM ALERT HELD, HIGH READINESS – COMPLETE DEPARTURES NOW, HOLD HIGH READINESS, SUSPEND ALL STRAIT TRANSITS.**

**THE UAE'S RISK IS RISING WITH THE WIDENING CYCLE – WATCH FOR ANY ATTACK ON THE UAE, A KHARG STRIKE, OR AN IRANIAN OIL-EXPORT MOVE. PROTECT PEOPLE FIRST; PROTECT ENERGY AND WATER RESILIENCE; EMERGENCY UPDATES TO FOLLOW. ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTY-SIXTH EDITION. DAY 189.**