WESTMINSTER SECURITY

Great British Standards, Great British Security.

UAE SITREP DOCUMENT

DAY 195 – THE TANKER WAR SPREADS INTO THE WATERS NEAR THE UAE: IRAN ENFORCES ITS "EXCLUSION ZONE," CLAIMING TO HAVE ATTACKED TEN VESSELS IN A "PROHIBITED AND UNSAFE" ZONE (CENTCOM DISPUTES THE CLAIM); UKMTO CONFIRMS SEVERAL MERCHANT VESSELS HIT BY "DISABLING FIRE," AND A VESSEL WAS SEEN LISTING 24NM NW OF PORT RASHID, POSSIBLY HIT BY A PROJECTILE. OIL TOPS $100; THE TWO-STRAIT SQUEEZE PERSISTS – NO CONFIRMED STRIKE ON UAE TERRITORY – MAXIMUM HELD, HIGH READINESS

Prepared for the CEO

Westminster Security Group Ltd

10 September 2026 (1100 GMT)

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

Classification: STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

⚠ **MAXIMUM ALERT:** THE TANKER WAR HAS INTENSIFIED SHARPLY AND SPREAD INTO THE WATERS NEAR THE UAE. Iran's Revolutionary Guard claimed it had attacked ten vessels – two US vessels and eight oil tankers – that it said had tried to cross a zone of the Strait it has designated "prohibited and unsafe," enforcing its exclusion zone; the UK's maritime agency confirmed that several merchant vessels in the northern Gulf and Gulf of Oman were hit by "disabling fire," though US Central Command disputed Iran's claims, saying no US warship was struck and the attempted attacks failed. Critically for the UAE, a vessel was seen listing at anchor some 24 nautical miles northwest of Port Rashid, near the UAE's coast, possibly after being hit by a projectile – a maritime incident close to the UAE, though it involves a ship at sea, beyond UAE territorial waters, and the cause is not confirmed. The US says it has destroyed ten Iranian tankers over the past week; oil has topped $100 a barrel; and Iran, which struck Jordan's al-Azraq airbase in retaliation, has vowed a "faster, heavier and more painful" response. On the second front, the Houthi campaign for Bab el-Mandeb persists. There is NO CONFIRMED DAMAGING STRIKE on UAE territory, ports or infrastructure – but the maritime danger has spread into the waters near the UAE, and the threat is acute. Westminster Security MAINTAINS MAXIMUM ALERT, keeps both phases suspended, holds readiness at a high level, and advises clients to complete departures, protect energy and water resilience, and suspend all Strait transits.

⚠ **ASSESSMENT:** THE DANGER HAS MOVED CLOSER TO THE UAE – BUT THE TERRITORIAL THRESHOLD IS NOT CROSSED. The significant development for the UAE is that the tanker war has spread into the waters near its coast: a vessel listing some 24 nautical miles northwest of Port Rashid, possibly hit by a projectile, is the closest maritime incident to the UAE in weeks, and Iran's mass interdiction – attacking, by its own account, ten vessels in a "prohibited and unsafe" zone – brings the confrontation into the waters through which UAE-linked shipping moves. Two cautions are essential. First, this is shipping at sea, beyond UAE territorial waters, and the cause of the Port Rashid incident is not confirmed; there is no strike on UAE territory, ports or infrastructure, and the territorial threshold has not been crossed. Second, Iran's claims are contested: US Central Command says no US warship was struck and the attempted attacks failed, so the scale of Iran's interdiction may be overstated, even as the UK's maritime agency confirms several vessels were hit. Nonetheless, the

spread of the danger into the waters near the UAE, the enforcement of the exclusion zone, and Iran's threat of a heavier response raise the risk to the UAE and its shipping. For UAE clients, the posture must remain at its most cautious: MAXIMUM, high readiness, complete departures, suspend all Strait transits, protect energy and water resilience, and heightened vigilance. There is NO CONFIRMED STRIKE on UAE territory.

1. SITUATION SUMMARY: DAY 195 – THE TANKER WAR SPREADS NEAR THE UAE; OIL TOPS $100

The tanker war has intensified sharply and spread into the waters near the UAE, and oil has topped $100 a barrel. Iran's Revolutionary Guard claimed on Wednesday that it had attacked ten vessels – two US vessels and eight oil tankers – that it said had tried to cross a zone of the Strait of Hormuz it has designated "prohibited and unsafe," enforcing the maritime exclusion zone it announced; the United Kingdom Maritime Trade Operations centre confirmed that several merchant vessels in the northern Gulf and the Gulf of Oman had been hit by "disabling fire" during military activity, though it could not confirm casualties or environmental impact. US Central Command disputed Iran's account, saying no US warship had been struck and that the attempted attacks had failed. Critically for the UAE, a vessel was seen listing at anchor some 24 nautical miles northwest of Port Rashid, near the UAE's coast, possibly indicating water ingress after being hit by a projectile – the closest maritime incident to the UAE in weeks, though it involves a ship at sea, beyond UAE territorial waters, and the cause is not confirmed. The US says it has now destroyed ten Iranian tankers over the past week, and Iran, which struck Jordan's al-Azraq airbase in retaliation, has vowed a faster, heavier and more painful response. On the second front, the Houthi campaign for the Bab el-Mandeb persists, with Saudi Arabia vowing to defend itself while keeping the door to diplomacy open, and the two-strait squeeze on Gulf oil exports continues. The UAE's diplomatic adviser has reaffirmed the UAE's pragmatic engagement with Iran. There is no confirmed damaging strike on UAE territory, ports or infrastructure. Westminster Security MAINTAINS MAXIMUM ALERT with readiness at a high level, keeps both phases suspended, and advises clients to complete departures, protect energy and water resilience, and suspend all Strait transits.

Where Things Stand

Element	Status (as of 1100 GMT Thursday 10 September)
Alert level	**MAXIMUM (held), high readiness.** Both phases suspended. The tanker war has spread near the UAE. Complete departures; high readiness; suspend all Strait transits.
Mass interdiction	**EXCLUSION ZONE ENFORCED.** Iran claims it attacked ten vessels in a "prohibited and unsafe" zone. UKMTO confirms several merchant vessels hit by "disabling fire." CENTCOM disputes Iran's claims.
Vessel near UAE	**LISTING OFF PORT RASHID.** A vessel seen listing at anchor ~24nm NW of Port Rashid, possibly hit by a projectile. Shipping at sea, beyond territorial waters; cause unconfirmed. Not a strike on UAE territory.
US tanker strikes	US says it has destroyed ten Iranian tankers over the past week (the "shadow fleet"). Iran struck Jordan's al-Azraq airbase in retaliation; vows "faster, heavier and more painful" response.
Oil	**TOPS $100.** Oil has crossed $100 a barrel on the intensifying two-front war. Risk premium high; oil-spill fears rising.
Second front (Red Sea)	Houthi campaign for Bab el-Mandeb persists; Saudi Arabia vows to defend itself, door open to diplomacy. Two-strait squeeze continues.
UAE territory	**NO CONFIRMED STRIKE.** No confirmed damaging strike on UAE soil, ports or infrastructure. UAE (Gargash) maintains pragmatic engagement with Iran. Airports open.

WS Assessment: The tanker war has spread into the waters near the UAE, with a vessel listing off Port Rashid and Iran enforcing its exclusion zone, even as CENTCOM disputes the scale of Iran's claims; oil has topped $100. The territorial threshold has not been crossed – there is no confirmed

strike on UAE territory – but the maritime danger near the UAE has heightened. The alert stays at MAXIMUM with high readiness, and clients should treat the waters near the UAE, as well as both straits, as hostile.

2. THE TANKER WAR SPREADS – IRAN'S MASS INTERDICTION AND A VESSEL LISTING NEAR THE UAE

- **Iran's mass interdiction:** Iran's Revolutionary Guard claimed on Wednesday that it had attacked ten vessels – two US vessels and eight oil tankers – that it said had attempted to cross an area of the Strait of Hormuz it had designated "prohibited and unsafe," marking a move to enforce the maritime exclusion zone it announced and to interdict shipping transiting without its permission.
- **UKMTO confirms vessels hit:** The United Kingdom Maritime Trade Operations centre confirmed that several merchant vessels in the northern Gulf and the Gulf of Oman had been hit by "disabling fire" during military activity in the region, advising vessels to proceed with caution; it was unable to confirm casualties or environmental impact, and the incidents spanned Iraqi waters, the UAE, the Gulf of Oman and the Strait.
- **CENTCOM disputes Iran's claims:** US Central Command disputed Iran's account, saying that no US Navy warship had been struck and that all attempted IRGC attacks had failed; the scale of Iran's interdiction may therefore be overstated, though the confirmed hits on several merchant vessels show that shipping is being attacked in the waters around the Strait.
- **A vessel listing near the UAE:** Critically for the UAE, the UK's maritime agency reported that a vessel was seen listing at anchor some 24 nautical miles northwest of Port Rashid, near the UAE's coast, possibly indicating water ingress after being hit by a projectile; this is the closest maritime incident to the UAE in weeks, but it involves a ship at sea, beyond UAE territorial waters, and the cause has not been confirmed. There is no strike on UAE territory, ports or infrastructure.
- **The US campaign and Iran's retaliation:** US Central Command says it has now destroyed ten Iranian tankers over the past week, describing them as part of a multibillion-dollar shadow network; Iran struck Jordan's al-Azraq airbase in retaliation for the five tankers destroyed on Tuesday, and has vowed a faster, heavier and more painful response, reinforcing its declaration that the era of proportionate responses is over.

WS Assessment: The spread of the tanker war into the waters near the UAE, and the enforcement of Iran's exclusion zone, mark a heightening of the maritime danger close to the UAE, even though the territorial threshold has not been crossed and Iran's claims are contested. Clients should treat the waters near the UAE and both straits as hostile, and all Strait transits should remain suspended.

3. THE SECOND FRONT – THE HOUTHI CAMPAIGN FOR BAB EL-MANDEB; SAUDI ARABIA VOWS TO DEFEND

- **The campaign persists:** The Houthi campaign to control the Bab el-Mandeb Strait persists, following Tuesday's major attack on Saudi Arabia; the Houthis have accused Saudi Arabia of carrying out air strikes on Yemeni provinces, and the exchange between the Houthis and the Saudi-backed government continues, keeping the second energy front active.
- **Saudi Arabia vows to defend itself:** Saudi Arabia said it would not hesitate to defend itself against Houthi attacks and would use all available means to protect its interests, while keeping the door to diplomacy open; the Saudi foreign minister, speaking alongside his Russian counterpart in Moscow, said the kingdom would support what serves the interests of Yemen and the region.
- **The two-strait squeeze continues:** The two-strait squeeze on Gulf oil exports continues: Iran's blockade and interdiction of Hormuz and the Houthi campaign for Bab el-Mandeb keep both of the chokepoints through which the region's oil reaches world markets under threat, sustaining the pressure on Saudi Arabia, the world's top oil exporter, on two fronts.
- **The impact on oil:** The two-front war has driven oil above $100 a barrel, with the risk premium high and rising; the spread of the tanker war into the waters near the UAE, the enforcement of the exclusion zone, and the Houthi campaign all feed the market's fear of a sustained disruption to the region's oil exports.
- **The wider fronts:** Israel is bracing for a possible Iranian attack during the Jewish holidays, and the US blockade remains in force; with the two energy fronts active and the tanker war spreading, the regional arena is wide, and a disproportionate Iranian escalation could widen it further.

WS Assessment: The persistence of the Houthi campaign for Bab el-Mandeb and the two-strait squeeze keep the region's energy picture under severe pressure, and Saudi Arabia's vow to defend itself points to a continued, possibly intensifying, exchange on the second front. For the UAE and the wider Gulf, the energy picture remains acutely tight, and clients should protect energy resilience.

4. THE UAE; THE REGIONAL PICTURE

- **No confirmed strike on UAE territory – but the danger is near:** There is no confirmed damaging strike on UAE territory, ports or infrastructure, and no casualties in the UAE; but the tanker war has spread into the waters near the UAE, with a vessel listing off Port Rashid, and Iran's mass interdiction and exclusion zone bring the confrontation into the waters through which UAE-linked shipping moves. The territorial threshold has not been crossed, but the maritime danger near the UAE has heightened.
- **The UAE's pragmatic engagement:** The UAE's diplomatic adviser has reaffirmed that engagement with Iran remains a central issue for the UAE and its Gulf neighbours, because geography leaves them with little choice but to maintain communication, while distinguishing a necessary working relationship from a rebuilding of trust; the UAE continues to pursue a pragmatic, de-escalatory posture even amid the escalation.
- **The threats to the UAE:** Iran's exclusion zone and interdiction directly affect UAE-linked shipping, its threat to any country participating in Gulf operations implicates the UAE, its threatened heavier response raises the risk of a disproportionate strike, and the two-strait squeeze tightens the UAE's energy picture; the danger to the UAE, while not yet a territorial strike, is acute.
- **US security posture:** US security alerts for the region, warning of the potential for unforeseen escalation and urging heightened vigilance amid possible flight cancellations and airspace closures, remain in force; the threat environment across the Gulf is heightened, and clients should hold high readiness and protect energy resilience.
- **Utility and shelter measures:** 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 infrastructure make resilience a priority amid the escalation. Follow official UAE and NCEMA guidance.

WS Assessment: The spread of the maritime danger into the waters near the UAE raises the risk to the UAE and its shipping, even as the territorial threshold remains uncrossed and the UAE maintains its pragmatic engagement with Iran. Clients should hold high readiness, protect energy and water resilience, treat the waters near the UAE as hostile, and watch closely for any escalation toward UAE territory.

5. SHIPPING, OIL AND THE REGIONAL PICTURE

- **The danger spreads near the UAE:** The maritime danger has spread into the waters near the UAE, with a vessel listing off Port Rashid and several merchant vessels hit by disabling fire across the northern Gulf, the Gulf of Oman and the Strait; Iran's enforcement of its exclusion zone has widened the area of risk, and UKMTO has advised vessels to proceed with caution.
- **Oil tops $100:** Oil prices have topped $100 a barrel on the intensifying two-front war, with the tanker war spreading, the exclusion zone being enforced, and the Houthi campaign for Bab el-Mandeb persisting; the risk premium is high, oil-spill fears are rising as tankers are struck, and a further escalation would drive prices higher still.
- **Both straits and the waters between under threat:** Both the Strait of Hormuz and the Bab el-Mandeb are under threat, and the waters between – the northern Gulf and the Gulf of Oman – are an active strike zone; transit is acutely dangerous across the region's key oil corridors, now including the waters near the UAE.
- **The blockade and the fronts:** The US naval blockade remains in force, with the US destroying Iranian tankers; the Houthi campaign for Bab el-Mandeb is a second energy front, and Israel is bracing for an Iranian attack – the regional fronts are wide as the confrontation escalates.
- **UAE approaches:** There is no confirmed damaging strike on UAE territory or ports; vessels remain anchored off the UAE's east coast at Khor Fakkan, and a vessel was reported listing off Port Rashid. UAE-linked operators should treat the Strait, the Bab el-Mandeb, and the waters near the UAE as active, hostile strike zones and suspend all transits.

WS Assessment: The maritime picture has deteriorated sharply, with the danger spreading into the waters near the UAE and oil above $100; the danger to shipping across the region's oil corridors is acute. For UAE-linked operators, all transits should remain suspended pending a durable de-escalation.

6. DUBAI AND THE UAE

Operational Picture

- **The danger spreads near the UAE – but no confirmed strike on UAE territory.** The tanker war has spread into the waters near the UAE, with a vessel listing off Port Rashid and Iran enforcing its exclusion zone; oil has topped $100. But there is no confirmed damaging strike on UAE territory, ports or infrastructure, and the cause of the Port Rashid incident is unconfirmed. The maritime danger near the UAE has heightened, and Iran's threats directly affect the UAE.
- **COMPLETE DEPARTURES NOW – THE DANGER IS NEAR.** With airports operating, complete any deferred non-essential departure on scheduled commercial flights without delay. The tanker war has spread into the waters near the UAE and Iran has threatened a heavier response; completing departures now is a priority, and the window should not be assumed to remain open.
- **HOLD READINESS AT A HIGH LEVEL – WATCH FOR ANY ESCALATION TOWARD UAE TERRITORY.** Essential personnel should maintain shelter-in-place and evacuation readiness at a high level; the maritime danger has moved near the UAE, and Iran has threatened a faster, heavier response. 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.
- **PROTECT ENERGY AND WATER RESILIENCE.** The two-strait squeeze, the US attacks on Iran's oil fleet, and the Houthi attacks on Saudi oil facilities raise the risk of a disruption to, or an Iranian response against, Gulf oil and energy infrastructure. Keep water, fuel and generator contingencies ready and protect energy resilience.
- **Shipping: SUSPEND ALL TRANSITS – THE WATERS NEAR THE UAE ARE NOW A STRIKE ZONE.** A vessel has been reported listing off Port Rashid, several merchant vessels have been hit by disabling fire, and Iran is enforcing its exclusion zone. Suspend all transits, hold vessels clear of the Strait, the Bab el-Mandeb, the Gulf of Oman and the waters near the UAE, and treat the region's waters as an active strike zone until a durable de-escalation is confirmed.
- **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 the new US aviation sanctions; consult qualified counsel. This is not legal advice.

Return Guidance: MAXIMUM Held, High Readiness – the Danger Spreading Near the UAE

Westminster Security maintains MAXIMUM alert, with both Phase 1 (essential) and Phase 2 (non-essential) returns suspended and readiness at a high level. The tanker war has spread into the waters near the UAE, with a vessel listing off Port Rashid, though there is no confirmed strike on UAE territory; oil has topped $100 and the two-strait squeeze persists. Clients should complete departures now, hold high readiness, suspend all transits, protect energy and water resilience, and watch for any escalation toward UAE territory.

- **All returns – SUSPENDED:** Halt all inbound travel to the UAE; the tanker war has spread into the waters near the UAE and Iran has threatened a heavier response – 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 danger spreads near the UAE.
- **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 escalation toward UAE territory, a disproportionate Iranian response, any strike on UAE ports or infrastructure, and the Houthi campaign for Bab el-Mandeb.

- **Business/compliance clients:** Review exposure given the new aviation sanctions, the standing threat, and the escalation; consult qualified counsel. This is not legal advice.
- **De-escalation path (MAXIMUM → HIGH):** A confirmed 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 spread of the tanker war near the UAE has heightened the danger; Westminster Security is ready to lower the alert to HIGH promptly once a durable de-escalation is confirmed, but the immediate trajectory is toward wider conflict.
- **Further escalation – the central risk:** A strike on UAE territory, ports or infrastructure, a disproportionate Iranian strike, an Iranian move against Gulf oil infrastructure, a further escalation of the Houthi campaign, or an Iranian attack on Israel would deepen the emergency; Westminster Security will issue immediate updates.
- **Standing posture:** MAXIMUM, high readiness – the tanker war spreading near the UAE, the two-strait squeeze persisting, the disproportionate threat looming; protect people first, complete departures now, hold high readiness, suspend all transits, and protect energy and water resilience.

7. WESTMINSTER SECURITY'S RECOMMENDATIONS

- **MAXIMUM ALERT HELD, HIGH READINESS – the tanker war spreads near the UAE.** Iran is enforcing its exclusion zone, claiming to have attacked ten vessels in a "prohibited and unsafe" zone (CENTCOM disputes the claim); UKMTO confirms several merchant vessels hit by "disabling fire," and a vessel was seen listing ~24nm NW of Port Rashid, possibly hit by a projectile – shipping at sea, beyond territorial waters, cause unconfirmed. Oil tops $100. There is no confirmed strike on UAE territory, but the danger has spread near the UAE.
- **TREAT THE WATERS NEAR THE UAE AS A STRIKE ZONE – BUT NOTE THE THRESHOLD IS NOT CROSSED.** A vessel listing off Port Rashid and Iran's mass interdiction bring the danger into the waters near the UAE, but this is shipping at sea and the cause is unconfirmed; there is no strike on UAE territory. Suspend all transits and watch for any escalation toward UAE territory.
- **WATCH FOR A DISPROPORTIONATE IRANIAN RESPONSE.** Iran has vowed a faster, heavier and more painful response and warned Gulf participants of serious consequences. Treat the threat as elevated, hold high readiness, protect energy resilience, and watch closely for any Iranian escalation.
- **PROTECT ENERGY AND WATER RESILIENCE – THE TWO-STRAIT SQUEEZE PERSISTS.** With both Hormuz and Bab el-Mandeb under threat and oil above $100, protect energy resilience. Keep water, fuel and generator contingencies ready.
- **NOTE THE UAE'S PRAGMATIC ENGAGEMENT – AND CENTCOM'S DISPUTE OF IRAN'S CLAIMS.** The UAE maintains communication with Iran; and CENTCOM disputes the scale of Iran's interdiction claims. Read Iran's claims with caution while treating the confirmed hits and the spread of the danger seriously.
- **Monitor for:** (1) any strike on UAE territory, ports or infrastructure; (2) a disproportionate Iranian strike; (3) further vessel attacks in the waters near the UAE; (4) the Houthi campaign for Bab el-Mandeb; (5) an Iranian attack on Israel; (6) whether the Qatar-China diplomacy survives.
- **The danger spreads near the UAE – emergency updates to follow.** Westminster Security will issue immediate updates on any strike on UAE territory, any further vessel attacks near the UAE, any disproportionate Iranian strike, 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 eighty-second edition.** Day 195 of the war.

8. KEY POINTS

- **THE TANKER WAR SPREADS INTO THE WATERS NEAR THE UAE.** Iran is enforcing its exclusion zone, claiming to have attacked ten vessels – two US vessels and eight oil tankers – in a "prohibited and unsafe" zone; UKMTO confirms several merchant vessels hit by "disabling fire" across the northern Gulf, the Gulf of Oman and the Strait. A vessel was seen listing ~24nm NW of Port Rashid, near the UAE, possibly hit by a projectile – the closest incident to the UAE in weeks, though shipping at sea and cause unconfirmed.
- **NO CONFIRMED STRIKE ON UAE TERRITORY – THE THRESHOLD NOT CROSSED.** The Port Rashid vessel is a ship at sea, beyond UAE territorial waters, and the cause is not confirmed; there is no strike on UAE territory, ports or infrastructure. CENTCOM disputes the scale of Iran's interdiction claims (no US warship struck, attempted attacks failed). But the maritime danger near the UAE has heightened, and Iran's threats directly affect the UAE. Hold high readiness.
- **OIL TOPS $100; THE TWO-STRAIT SQUEEZE PERSISTS.** Oil has topped $100 a barrel on the intensifying two-front war. The Houthi campaign for Bab el-Mandeb persists, with Saudi Arabia vowing to defend itself while keeping diplomacy open; both of the region's oil chokepoints remain under threat, and the waters between – including near the UAE – are an active strike zone. The US says it has destroyed ten Iranian tankers over the past week; Iran struck Jordan's al-Azraq airbase in retaliation.
- **IRAN VOWS A HEAVIER RESPONSE – THE DISPROPORTIONATE THREAT LOOMS.** Iran has vowed a "faster, heavier and more painful" response, reinforcing its declaration that the era of proportionate responses is over. The disproportionate strike has not yet materialised, but the risk remains elevated, and the spread of the tanker war near the UAE and the enforcement of the exclusion zone point to further escalation. The China-backed diplomacy is being overtaken.
- **THE UAE MAINTAINS PRAGMATIC ENGAGEMENT WITH IRAN.** The UAE's diplomatic adviser has reaffirmed that engagement with Iran remains central for the UAE and its Gulf neighbours, because geography leaves little choice but to maintain communication, while distinguishing a working relationship from rebuilding trust. The UAE continues its pragmatic, de-escalatory posture even amid the escalation – a stance that may help insulate it, though the danger near its waters has grown.
- **MAXIMUM HELD, HIGH READINESS – NO CONFIRMED STRIKE ON UAE TERRITORY. ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-SECOND EDITION. DAY 195.** The tanker war has spread into the waters near the UAE and oil has topped $100 – but no UAE territory has been struck, and the cause of the Port Rashid incident is unconfirmed. Both phases remain suspended; complete departures now, hold high readiness, suspend all transits, protect energy and water resilience, review sanctions exposure, and watch for any escalation toward UAE territory. Westminster Security will lower the alert to HIGH only once a durable de-escalation is confirmed.

Prepared 10th September 2026 – Information current as of 11:00 GMT

THE TANKER WAR HAS INTENSIFIED SHARPLY AND SPREAD INTO THE WATERS NEAR THE UAE. IRAN IS ENFORCING ITS "EXCLUSION ZONE," CLAIMING TO HAVE ATTACKED TEN VESSELS IN A "PROHIBITED AND UNSAFE" ZONE (CENTCOM DISPUTES THE CLAIM, SAYING NO US WARSHIP WAS STRUCK); UKMTO CONFIRMS SEVERAL MERCHANT VESSELS HIT BY "DISABLING FIRE," AND A VESSEL WAS SEEN LISTING ~24NM NW OF PORT RASHID, POSSIBLY HIT BY A PROJECTILE – SHIPPING AT SEA, BEYOND TERRITORIAL WATERS, CAUSE UNCONFIRMED.

THERE IS NO CONFIRMED DAMAGING STRIKE ON UAE TERRITORY, PORTS OR INFRASTRUCTURE – THE TERRITORIAL THRESHOLD IS NOT CROSSED – BUT THE MARITIME DANGER NEAR THE UAE HAS HEIGHTENED. OIL HAS TOPPED $100; THE US HAS DESTROYED TEN IRANIAN TANKERS OVER THE WEEK, AND IRAN, WHICH STRUCK JORDAN'S AL-AZRAQ AIRBASE, VOWS A "FASTER, HEAVIER AND MORE PAINFUL"

RESPONSE. THE TWO-STRAIT SQUEEZE PERSISTS. MAXIMUM ALERT HELD, HIGH READINESS – COMPLETE DEPARTURES NOW, HOLD HIGH READINESS, SUSPEND ALL TRANSITS, PROTECT ENERGY AND WATER RESILIENCE.

TREAT THE WATERS NEAR THE UAE AND BOTH STRAITS AS A STRIKE ZONE; WATCH FOR ANY ESCALATION TOWARD UAE TERRITORY AND A DISPROPORTIONATE IRANIAN RESPONSE. PROTECT PEOPLE FIRST; EMERGENCY UPDATES TO FOLLOW. ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-SECOND EDITION. DAY 195.