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DAY 206 – THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY WEEK OPENS: PEZESHKIAN ARRIVES TO ADDRESS THE ASSEMBLY (TUESDAY) AND HOLD TALKS, TRUMP IS OPEN TO MEETING HIM AND WILL MEET THE GULF LEADERS (INCLUDING THE UAE) ON TUESDAY – BUT TRUMP THREATENS TO "DESTROY IRAN'S ECONOMY OR ELIMINATE ITS LEADERSHIP" IF NO DEAL, AND THE HOUTHIS STRUCK RIYADH (FIRST AIR-RAID ALERT IN THE SAUDI CAPITAL SINCE JULY; INTERCEPTED, NO DAMAGE). THE STRAIT STAYS SHUT. THE IRAN-UAE THAW STANDS – NO CONFIRMED STRIKE ON UAE TERRITORY – MAXIMUM HELD, HIGH READINESS

Prepared for the CEO

Westminster Security Group Ltd

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

Classification: STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

⚠ **MAXIMUM ALERT:** THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY HIGH-LEVEL WEEK HAS OPENED, BRINGING THE DIPLOMACY TO A HEAD, EVEN AS THE HARDER TONE PERSISTS AND THE HOUTHI CAMPAIGN ESCALATES; THE STRAIT REMAINS SHUT AND THE ALERT REMAINS AT MAXIMUM. Iran's President Pezeshkian has arrived in New York to lead Iran's delegation, address the assembly on Tuesday, and hold talks with several leaders; President Trump has said he is open to meeting him and is due to meet the Gulf leaders, including the UAE, on the sidelines on Tuesday to discuss the war. But President Trump has simultaneously threatened to destroy Iran's economy or eliminate its leadership if Tehran does not strike a deal; the Houthis struck Riyadh on Saturday, triggering the first air-raid alert in the Saudi capital since July, though the missile was intercepted with no casualties or damage; and the Strait remains effectively shut. Oil has eased but remains historically elevated. The Iran-UAE thaw and the easing threads continue. There is NO CONFIRMED STRIKE on UAE territory, ports or infrastructure, and no new attack near the UAE in the latest period. 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.

⚖ **MIXED SIGNALS:** THE UNGA BRINGS THE DIPLOMACY TO A HEAD – AGAINST A PERSISTENT HARDER TONE AND A HOUTHI ESCALATION. The UN General Assembly week is the key diplomatic moment of this phase, and brings both the prospect of progress and the persistence of the harder tone into sharp focus. On the diplomatic side: President Pezeshkian will address the assembly on Tuesday and hold talks; President Trump is open to meeting him, and is due to meet the Gulf leaders, including the UAE, on Tuesday to discuss the war; Qatar has pressed for an end to the cycles of escalation; and the easing threads and the Iran-UAE thaw continue. On the harder side: President Trump has threatened to destroy Iran's economy or eliminate its leadership if no deal is struck; the Houthis have escalated, striking Riyadh for the first time since July; and the Strait remains shut, with Iran claiming to have downed a drone over it. The UN General Assembly this week is a genuine potential inflection point, but the harder tone and the Houthi escalation set it against a still-severe picture.

⚠ **ASSESSMENT:** THE UNGA IS THE KEY MOMENT – BUT THE THREATS PERSIST, AND THE ALERT STAYS AT MAXIMUM. The UN General Assembly week is the most important diplomatic moment of this phase: with Iran's president in New York, President Trump open to meeting him, and the Gulf leaders due to coordinate with President Trump on the war, the week offers a genuine opportunity for progress toward a de-escalation. But the picture remains ambivalent and the alert stays at MAXIMUM. President Trump's threat to destroy Iran's economy or eliminate its leadership underlines that the harder tone persists alongside the diplomacy; the Houthi strike on Riyadh shows the Yemen front escalating; the Strait remains shut; and no meeting is confirmed and no agreement reached. For the UAE, the Gulf leaders' meeting with President Trump is a significant opportunity to shape the US approach, and the Iran-UAE thaw is favourable; but Iran's warning to the Gulf and the harder tone keep the danger elevated. For UAE clients, the posture remains MAXIMUM with high readiness. There is NO CONFIRMED STRIKE on UAE territory.

1. SITUATION SUMMARY: DAY 206 – THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY WEEK OPENS

The UN General Assembly high-level week has opened, bringing the diplomacy to a head, even as the harder tone persists and the Houthi campaign escalates; the Strait remains effectively shut and the alert remains at MAXIMUM. On the diplomatic side, Iran's President Pezeshkian has arrived in New York to lead Iran's delegation, address the assembly on Tuesday, and present Iran's positions on the war, and will hold talks with the leaders of several countries; President Trump has said he is open to meeting him, and is due to meet the leaders of the six Gulf Cooperation Council states – Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Bahrain, Kuwait and Oman – on the sidelines on Tuesday to discuss next steps for the war. On the harder side, President Trump has simultaneously threatened to destroy Iran's economy or eliminate its leadership if Tehran does not strike a deal; the Iran-backed Houthis struck Riyadh on Saturday, claiming missile and drone attacks and triggering the first air-raid alert in the Saudi capital since July, though Saudi authorities said the ballistic missile was intercepted with no casualties or damage; and the Strait remains effectively shut, with Iran claiming to have downed a drone over it. Oil has eased in recent days but remains historically elevated, as markets balance recovering Saudi supplies against the continuing disruption. Qatar has warned against repeated cycles of escalation and retaliation, and the easing threads and the Iran-UAE thaw continue. There is no confirmed strike on UAE territory, ports or infrastructure, and no new attack near the UAE in the latest period. 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 0900 GMT Monday 21 September)
Alert level	**MAXIMUM (held), high readiness.** Both phases suspended. The UNGA opens; the Strait stays shut. Complete departures; high readiness; suspend all Strait transits.
UNGA – Iran	**PEZESHKIAN ADDRESSES TUESDAY.** Pezeshkian has arrived in New York to address the assembly Tuesday and hold talks; Trump is open to meeting him. A potential first leader-level contact.
UNGA – Gulf leaders	**TRUMP MEETS THE GCC TUESDAY.** Trump is due to meet the six GCC leaders, including the UAE, Tuesday to discuss the war – a US-Gulf coordination moment relevant to the UAE.
Trump tone	**THREATENS IRAN'S LEADERSHIP.** Trump threatens to "destroy Iran's economy or eliminate its leadership" if no deal. The harder tone persists.
Yemen front	**HOUTHIS STRIKE RIYADH.** Houthi missile/drone attacks on Riyadh (Saturday) – first air-raid alert in the capital since July; missile intercepted, no casualties or damage.

Strait / oil	**SHUT; OIL ELEVATED.** The Strait remains shut; Iran claims it downed a drone over it. Oil eased but remains historically elevated; easing threads continue.
UAE territory	**NO CONFIRMED STRIKE.** No confirmed strike on UAE soil, ports or infrastructure; no new attack near the UAE. The Iran-UAE thaw stands. Airports open.

WS Assessment: The UN General Assembly week is the key diplomatic moment of this phase – with Iran's president in New York, President Trump open to meeting him, and the Gulf leaders due to coordinate with President Trump on the war – and a genuine potential inflection point. But it is set against a persistent harder tone (President Trump's threat to eliminate Iran's leadership), a Houthi escalation (the strike on Riyadh), and a shut Strait. The alert stays at MAXIMUM with high readiness; clients should watch the UNGA closely while holding posture.

2. THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY WEEK OPENS – PEZESHKIAN ADDRESSES, TRUMP OPEN TO A MEETING, THE GULF LEADERS TO COORDINATE

- **Pezeshkian in New York:** Iran's President Pezeshkian has arrived in New York to lead Iran's delegation at the UN General Assembly, where he will address the assembly on Tuesday and present Iran's positions on the war with the US and Israel, and will hold talks with the leaders of several countries; his presence, amid renewed hopes for a diplomatic solution, makes the high-level week the key moment of this phase.
- **Trump open to meeting Pezeshkian:** President Trump has said he would be open to meeting President Pezeshkian during the assembly; a meeting, if it occurs, would be the first leader-level US-Iran contact of the war, and a potential breakthrough, and Iran has conveyed conditions for renewed negotiations through mediators – though no meeting has been confirmed by either side.
- **Trump to meet the Gulf leaders:** President Trump is due to meet the leaders of the six Gulf Cooperation Council states – Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Qatar, Bahrain, Kuwait and Oman – on the sidelines of the assembly on Tuesday to discuss next steps for the war, with the guest list possibly widening to other Arab and Muslim leaders; the meeting is a significant US-Gulf coordination moment, and directly relevant to the UAE.
- **A significant opportunity for the UAE:** The Gulf leaders' meeting with President Trump is a significant opportunity for the UAE to help shape the US approach to the war, to press for a de-escalation and a reopening of the Strait, and to coordinate the Gulf position; the UAE's pragmatic, de-escalatory posture, and its thaw with Iran, place it well to influence the outcome.
- **Qatar presses for de-escalation:** Qatar's prime minister has warned that lasting security in the region cannot be achieved through repeated cycles of escalation and retaliation, and that permanent security cannot be built through arrangements that leave any state vulnerable; the Gulf states, and Qatar in particular, continue to press for a diplomatic resolution.

WS Assessment: The UN General Assembly week, with Iran's president in New York, President Trump open to meeting him, and the Gulf leaders due to coordinate with President Trump, is the most important diplomatic moment of this phase and a genuine potential inflection point. For the UAE, the Gulf leaders' meeting is a significant opportunity to shape the US approach; clients should watch the week closely.

3. BUT THE HARDER TONE PERSISTS – TRUMP THREATENS IRAN'S LEADERSHIP, THE HOUTHIS STRIKE RIYADH

- **Trump threatens Iran's leadership:** Even as he signals openness to a meeting, President Trump has threatened to destroy Iran's economy or eliminate its leadership if Tehran does not strike a deal; the threat, among the harshest of the war, underlines that the harder tone persists alongside the diplomatic opening, and that President Trump is maintaining maximum pressure ahead of the assembly.
- **The Houthis strike Riyadh:** The Iran-backed Houthis struck Riyadh on Saturday, claiming missile and drone attacks and triggering the first air-raid alert in the Saudi capital since the fighting escalated in July; Saudi authorities said they intercepted and destroyed a ballistic missile, with no casualties or damage, and thwarted further attacks on civilians and infrastructure. The strike on the capital marks a significant escalation of the Houthi campaign.
- **The Yemen front escalates:** The Houthi strike on Riyadh, following the group's gains on the Red Sea coast and its attacks on Saudi oil infrastructure and shipping, shows the Yemen front continuing to escalate despite the proposed two-week Saudi-Houthi truce; the second front remains hot, and the Houthi pressure on Saudi Arabia is intensifying.
- **The Strait still shut:** The Strait of Hormuz remains effectively shut, with Iran claiming to have downed a drone over it and continuing to operate its toll system; the diplomatic opening at the UNGA has not translated into a reopening, and the blockade persists, with oil remaining historically elevated despite recent easing.
- **The underlying reality unchanged:** Beneath the diplomatic opening and the harder tone, the underlying reality is unchanged: the Strait remains shut, the blockade persists, Iran and the US remain apart on terms, and no meeting or agreement has been reached; the UNGA is a potential inflection point, but the facts on the water have not yet changed.

WS Assessment: The harder tone – President Trump's threat to eliminate Iran's leadership, the Houthi escalation to Riyadh, the shut Strait – persists alongside the UNGA diplomacy, and the underlying reality is unchanged. Clients should watch the UNGA while holding posture, and guard against a US escalation, a Houthi attack, and a rogue attack.

4. THE UAE; THE GULF LEADERS' MEETING; THE REGIONAL PICTURE

- **No confirmed strike on UAE territory:** There is no confirmed damaging strike on UAE territory, ports or infrastructure, and no new attack in the waters near the UAE in the latest period; the Houthi attacks in the latest period were on Saudi Arabia, on Riyadh, not near the UAE, and the Gulf tanker war remains at a lower intensity.
- **The Gulf leaders' meeting an opportunity for the UAE:** President Trump's meeting with the Gulf leaders, including the UAE, at the UNGA on Tuesday is a significant opportunity for the UAE to help shape the US approach to the war, to press for a de-escalation and a reopening of the Strait, and to coordinate the Gulf position; the UAE's pragmatic posture and its thaw with Iran place it well to influence the outcome.
- **Iran's warning a standing caution:** Iran's warning that regional countries supporting renewed US strikes could face retaliation remains a standing caution for the UAE, which hosts US forces; a US escalation – which President Trump continues to threaten – could place the UAE at risk of Iranian retaliation, and readiness must be maintained against that contingency, notwithstanding the Iran-UAE thaw.
- **The UAE's favourable threads hold:** The Iran-UAE thaw, the Houthi pledge not to target non-Saudi commercial vessels, and the UAE's Fujairah export route stand, and the UNGA diplomacy and the easing threads further ease the regional picture; the UAE remains in a relatively favourable position, though the harder tone and the Houthi escalation keep the danger elevated.
- **US security posture:** US security alerts for the region remain in force, and the threat environment across the Gulf remains heightened; the UAE hosts US forces at Al Dhafra, and the Gulf states hosting US forces remain exposed to Iranian retaliation, including a rogue hardliner attack, should the diplomacy fail or the US escalate. Clients should hold high readiness and protect energy resilience.

WS Assessment: The UAE remains in a relatively favourable position, and the Gulf leaders' meeting with President Trump is a significant opportunity to shape the US approach; but Iran's warning to the Gulf, the harder tone, the Houthi escalation, and the core blockade keep the danger elevated, and a US escalation could draw the UAE in. Clients should hold high readiness and watch the UNGA.

5. SHIPPING, OIL AND THE REGIONAL PICTURE

- **The Strait still shut, easing elsewhere:** The Strait of Hormuz remains effectively shut, with Iran operating its toll system and claiming to have downed a drone over it; but easing continues elsewhere – recovering Saudi oil supplies through Oman's Sohar port and the resuming East-West pipeline, the Houthi pledge narrowing the Red Sea threat to non-Saudi vessels, and the proposed Saudi-Houthi truce – so the maritime picture is easing at the margins while the core route remains closed.
- **Oil eased but elevated:** Oil has eased in recent days, pulling back despite the widening hostilities, as traders hope for a recovery in Saudi energy shipments; but it remains historically elevated, and analysts expect it to stay high while Iran keeps its chokehold on the Strait, with a reopening or a UNGA breakthrough needed to ease it materially.
- **Gulf producers bypassing the Strait:** Gulf producers continue to bypass the blockaded Strait – the UAE through Fujairah, Saudi Arabia through Oman's Sohar port and the resuming East-West pipeline – easing the impact of the closure on the region's oil exports and helping keep prices from spiking, though the Strait remains the primary route.
- **The Yemen front escalates:** The Houthis have struck Riyadh and continue their campaign against Saudi Arabia, threatening the Bab el-Mandeb and Saudi Red Sea exports; the proposed Saudi-Houthi truce, if agreed, would ease the Red Sea route, but for now the second maritime front remains disrupted and escalating.
- **UAE approaches:** There is no confirmed damaging strike on UAE territory or ports, and no new attack near the UAE; vessels remain anchored off the UAE's east coast at Khor Fakkan, and the UAE's Fujairah ports continue to export oil bypassing the Strait. UAE-linked operators should continue to suspend all Strait transits pending a confirmed reopening.

WS Assessment: The maritime and energy picture is easing at the margins – oil pulled back, Gulf producers bypassing the Strait – but the Strait itself remains shut and hostile, and the Yemen front is escalating. For UAE-linked operators, all Strait transits should remain suspended pending a confirmed reopening with verified safe passage.

6. DUBAI AND THE UAE

Operational Picture

- **The UNGA opens – a UAE opportunity – but the harder tone persists, and no confirmed strike on UAE territory.** The UNGA week opens with the UAE's leadership due to meet President Trump and the Gulf leaders on Tuesday – a significant opportunity – even as President Trump threatens Iran's leadership and the Houthis strike Riyadh; the Strait remains shut. There is no confirmed damaging strike on UAE territory, ports or infrastructure, and no new attack near the UAE. The Iran-UAE thaw and the Fujairah route keep the UAE favourably placed, but Iran's warning keeps the danger elevated.
- **COMPLETE DEPARTURES NOW – THE PICTURE IS AMBIVALENT AND A US ESCALATION IS POSSIBLE.** With airports operating and the Gulf tanker war quieter, complete any deferred non-essential departure on scheduled commercial flights without delay. The picture is ambivalent, the Strait remains shut, and President Trump's threat of a major escalation – which Iran warns could bring retaliation against the Gulf – cannot be discounted; completing departures now, while the window is open, remains prudent.
- **HOLD READINESS AT A HIGH LEVEL – A US ESCALATION COULD DRAW THE UAE IN.** Essential personnel should maintain shelter-in-place and evacuation readiness at a high level; President Trump's threat to eliminate Iran's leadership, Iran's warning of retaliation against the Gulf, and the rogue-hardliner risk mean a US escalation and a strike on the Gulf cannot be discounted. 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 Strait remains shut, though oil has eased and Gulf producers are bypassing the Strait. Protect energy resilience; keep water, fuel and generator contingencies ready; the UAE's Fujairah exports provide a degree of insulation.
- **Shipping: SUSPEND ALL STRAIT TRANSITS – THE STRAIT REMAINS SHUT AND HOSTILE.** Despite the UNGA diplomacy and the easing elsewhere, the Strait of Hormuz remains effectively shut. Suspend all transits through the Strait, hold vessels clear of the Strait and the waters near the UAE, and treat the Strait as shut until a confirmed reopening with verified safe passage is in place.
- **Watch the UNGA closely; build on the UAE's opportunity.** The UN General Assembly this week – with a potential Trump-Pezeshkian meeting and President Trump's meeting with the Gulf leaders, including the UAE – is the key event and a possible inflection point; watch it closely. The Gulf leaders' meeting is a significant opportunity for the UAE to shape the US approach; build on it while holding posture until the Strait reopens and a durable de-escalation is confirmed.

Return Guidance: MAXIMUM Held, High Readiness – the UNGA Opening, the Strait Still Shut

Westminster Security maintains MAXIMUM alert, with both Phase 1 (essential) and Phase 2 (non-essential) returns suspended and readiness at a high level. The UNGA week has opened, bringing the diplomacy to a head – a potential Trump-Pezeshkian meeting, President Trump's meeting with the Gulf leaders – but President Trump threatens Iran's leadership, the Houthis struck Riyadh, and the Strait remains shut. Clients should complete departures now, hold high readiness, suspend all Strait transits, protect energy and water resilience, and watch the UNGA.

- **All returns – SUSPENDED:** Halt all inbound travel to the UAE until a durable, verified de-escalation and a confirmed reopening are in place; a diplomatic moment with the Strait still shut is not a settlement.
- **Non-essential personnel – COMPLETE DEPARTURES NOW:** Use the open airports and the quieter period to finish any deferred departures without delay, on scheduled commercial flights; do not assume the picture will resolve favourably.
- **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 the UN General Assembly, any Trump-Pezeshkian meeting, President Trump's meeting with the Gulf leaders, whether the Strait reopens, a US escalation and Iran's warned retaliation against the Gulf, the Houthi campaign, the Iran-UAE thaw, a rogue hardliner attack, and any strike toward UAE territory.

- **Business/compliance clients:** Review exposure given the US sanctions campaign, the standing threat, and the escalation; consult qualified counsel. This is not legal advice.
- **De-escalation path (MAXIMUM → HIGH):** A Trump-Pezeshkian meeting and progress at the UN General Assembly, a reopening of the Strait, the lifting of the US blockade, a confirmed ceasefire, an agreed Saudi-Houthi truce, and a durable de-escalation with verified safe passage would allow the alert to come down. The UNGA is the most promising moment yet, but the harder tone and the shut Strait keep this from being met; Westminster Security is ready to lower the alert to HIGH promptly once a durable de-escalation and a confirmed reopening are in place.
- **Further escalation – the central risk:** A US escalation, which Iran warns could bring retaliation against the Gulf, a rogue hardliner attack, a collapse of the diplomacy, a further Houthi escalation, a strike on UAE territory, or an Iranian attack on Israel would deepen the emergency; Westminster Security will issue immediate updates.
- **Standing posture:** MAXIMUM, high readiness – the UNGA week the key diplomatic moment, but the Strait still shut, a US escalation threatened and warned to bring Gulf retaliation, the Houthi front escalating, the easing threads and the UAE's favourable position holding; protect people first, complete departures now, hold high readiness, suspend all Strait transits, protect energy and water resilience, and watch the UNGA.

7. WESTMINSTER SECURITY'S RECOMMENDATIONS

- **MAXIMUM ALERT HELD, HIGH READINESS – the UN General Assembly week opens.** Pezeshkian has arrived to address the assembly Tuesday and hold talks, President Trump is open to meeting him and will meet the Gulf leaders, including the UAE, on Tuesday – the key diplomatic moment. But President Trump threatens to "destroy Iran's economy or eliminate its leadership" if no deal, and the Houthis struck Riyadh (first air-raid alert in the capital since July; intercepted, no damage). The Strait stays shut. There is no confirmed strike on UAE territory.
- **WATCH THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY – THE KEY EVENT, A POTENTIAL BREAKTHROUGH.** A potential Trump-Pezeshkian meeting and President Trump's meeting with the Gulf leaders are the most significant diplomatic moment of the war and could open a path to a de-escalation; but no meeting is confirmed. Watch the high-level week closely while holding posture.
- **THE GULF LEADERS' MEETING IS A UAE OPPORTUNITY.** President Trump's meeting with the Gulf leaders, including the UAE, is a significant opportunity for the UAE to help shape the US approach, press for a de-escalation, and coordinate the Gulf position. The UAE's pragmatic posture and its thaw with Iran place it well to influence the outcome.
- **NOTE THE HARDER TONE AND IRAN'S WARNING – A US ESCALATION COULD DRAW THE UAE IN.** President Trump's threat to eliminate Iran's leadership and Iran's warning of retaliation against the Gulf mean a US escalation could place the UAE at risk. Hold high readiness against that contingency, and guard against a Houthi and a rogue attack.
- **BUILD ON THE UAE'S FAVOURABLE THREADS; SUSPEND ALL STRAIT TRANSITS.** The Iran-UAE thaw, the Houthi pledge, and the Fujairah route keep the UAE favourably placed; build on them. Suspend all transits through the Strait pending a confirmed reopening. Consult qualified counsel on sanctions exposure; this is not legal advice.
- **Monitor for:** (1) the UN General Assembly, any Trump-Pezeshkian meeting, and President Trump's meeting with the Gulf leaders; (2) whether the Strait reopens or a US escalation occurs; (3) Iran's warned retaliation against the Gulf; (4) the Houthi campaign and the proposed Saudi-Houthi truce; (5) a rogue hardliner attack; (6) any strike on UAE territory.
- **The UN General Assembly week opens – emergency updates to follow.** Westminster Security will issue immediate updates on any Trump-Pezeshkian meeting or UNGA development, any reopening of the Strait, any US escalation, any strike on UAE territory, or any major development, and will lower the alert to HIGH only once a durable de-escalation and a confirmed reopening are in place.
- **This is the one hundred and ninety-third edition.** Day 206 of the war.

8. KEY POINTS

- **THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY WEEK OPENS – THE KEY DIPLOMATIC MOMENT.** Iran's President Pezeshkian has arrived in New York to address the assembly Tuesday and hold talks; President Trump is open to meeting him, and is due to meet the six Gulf leaders, including the UAE, on Tuesday to discuss the war. The week is the most important diplomatic moment of this phase and a genuine potential inflection point, though no meeting is confirmed.
- **THE GULF LEADERS' MEETING IS A UAE OPPORTUNITY.** President Trump's meeting with the six GCC leaders, including the UAE, is a significant US-Gulf coordination moment and an opportunity for the UAE to help shape the US approach to the war, press for a de-escalation and a reopening of the Strait, and coordinate the Gulf position. The UAE's pragmatic posture and its thaw with Iran place it well to influence the outcome.
- **BUT THE HARDER TONE PERSISTS – TRUMP THREATENS IRAN'S LEADERSHIP, THE HOUTHIS STRIKE RIYADH.** President Trump has threatened to "destroy Iran's economy or eliminate its leadership" if no deal is struck; and the Houthis struck Riyadh on Saturday, triggering the first air-raid alert in the Saudi capital since July, though the missile was intercepted with no casualties or damage. The Yemen front is escalating, and the harder tone persists alongside the UNGA diplomacy.
- **THE STRAIT STAYS SHUT – IRAN'S WARNING A CAUTION FOR THE UAE.** The Strait of Hormuz remains effectively shut, with Iran operating its toll system; oil has eased but remains historically elevated. Iran's warning that regional countries supporting renewed US strikes could face retaliation remains a caution for the UAE: a US escalation – which President Trump threatens – could place the UAE at risk. Readiness must be maintained.
- **NO CONFIRMED STRIKE ON UAE TERRITORY – THE UAE'S POSITION FAVOURABLE.** There is no confirmed damaging strike on UAE territory, ports or infrastructure, and no new attack near the UAE; the Houthi attacks were on Saudi Arabia, on Riyadh, not near the UAE. The Iran-UAE thaw, the Houthi pledge sparing UAE shipping, the Fujairah route, and the Gulf leaders' meeting keep the UAE in a relatively favourable position. But the harder tone and the Houthi escalation keep the danger elevated. Hold high readiness.
- **MAXIMUM HELD, HIGH READINESS – NO CONFIRMED STRIKE ON UAE TERRITORY. ONE HUNDRED AND NINETY-THIRD EDITION. DAY 206.** The UN General Assembly week is the key diplomatic moment – a potential Trump-Pezeshkian meeting, President Trump's meeting with the Gulf leaders – but set against a persistent harder tone, a Houthi escalation, and a shut Strait; no UAE territory has been struck. Both phases remain suspended; complete departures now, hold high readiness, suspend all Strait transits, protect energy and water resilience, and watch the UNGA this week. Westminster Security will lower the alert to HIGH only once a durable de-escalation and a confirmed reopening are in place.

Prepared 21st September 2026 – Information current as of 09:00 GMT

THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY HIGH-LEVEL WEEK HAS OPENED, BRINGING THE DIPLOMACY TO A HEAD. IRAN'S PRESIDENT PEZESHKIAN HAS ARRIVED IN NEW YORK TO ADDRESS THE ASSEMBLY (TUESDAY) AND HOLD TALKS; PRESIDENT TRUMP IS OPEN TO MEETING HIM AND IS DUE TO MEET THE SIX GULF LEADERS, INCLUDING THE UAE, ON TUESDAY TO DISCUSS THE WAR – A SIGNIFICANT US-GULF COORDINATION MOMENT AND A UAE OPPORTUNITY. THE WEEK IS THE MOST IMPORTANT DIPLOMATIC MOMENT OF THIS PHASE AND A POTENTIAL INFLECTION POINT.

BUT THE HARDER TONE PERSISTS: PRESIDENT TRUMP HAS THREATENED TO "DESTROY IRAN'S ECONOMY OR ELIMINATE ITS LEADERSHIP" IF NO DEAL, THE HOUTHIS STRUCK RIYADH (FIRST AIR-RAID ALERT IN THE SAUDI CAPITAL SINCE JULY; INTERCEPTED, NO DAMAGE), AND THE STRAIT REMAINS SHUT. THERE IS NO CONFIRMED STRIKE ON UAE TERRITORY, AND NO NEW ATTACK NEAR THE UAE; THE IRAN-UAE THAW STANDS AND THE UAE'S POSITION IS FAVOURABLE, THOUGH IRAN'S WARNING TO THE GULF IS A CAUTION. MAXIMUM ALERT HELD, HIGH READINESS – COMPLETE DEPARTURES NOW,

HOLD HIGH READINESS, SUSPEND ALL STRAIT TRANSITS, PROTECT ENERGY AND WATER RESILIENCE.

WATCH THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY THIS WEEK AS THE KEY EVENT AND A POTENTIAL BREAKTHROUGH; THE GULF LEADERS' MEETING WITH PRESIDENT TRUMP IS A UAE OPPORTUNITY; NOTE THAT A US ESCALATION COULD DRAW THE UAE IN; AND BUILD ON THE UAE'S FAVOURABLE POSITION. PROTECT PEOPLE FIRST; EMERGENCY UPDATES TO FOLLOW. ONE HUNDRED AND NINETY-THIRD EDITION. DAY 206.