US–Iran Conflict Briefing

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U.S. weighing options to target Iranian oil over Hormuz closure, WSJ reports

- The United States is weighing options to target Iranian oil in response to the closure of the Strait of Hormuz, the Wall Street Journal reported, according to Reuters. — Reuters
- The options include strikes on Iran's oil export facilities and seizure of Iranian oil, as alternatives to wider attacks on military or missile sites, the Wall Street Journal reported, according to Reuters. — Reuters
- President Donald Trump has directed aides to draw up options to target Iranian oil in response to the closure of the Strait of Hormuz, the Wall Street Journal reported, according to Reuters. — Reuters

U.S. sanctions Karnakis law firm over Iranian shipping; FinCEN probes banks

- The U.S. Treasury Department on Wednesday, October 21, imposed sanctions on the Panama- and Greece-based law firm Karnakis and Karnakis, which it said has supported Iranian shipping for years, Reuters reported. — Reuters
- A senior Treasury official told Reuters the firm has worked for decades for clients including the National Iranian Oil Company, Naftiran Intertrade, the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps Quds Force, and Russian intelligence services and the Russian military. — Reuters
- The Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control designated Vasiliki Panas, Karnakis Legal, and partners Konstantinos Karnakis and Vasileios Karnakis, Reuters reported. — Reuters
- The U.S. Financial Crimes Enforcement Network issued an administrative subpoena to advance an investigation into a Greek bank over potential ties to Iran, which the Treasury statement did not name, and issued requests for information to six other banks in Europe over relationships with Iranian financial institutions under U.S. sanctions, Reuters reported. — Reuters

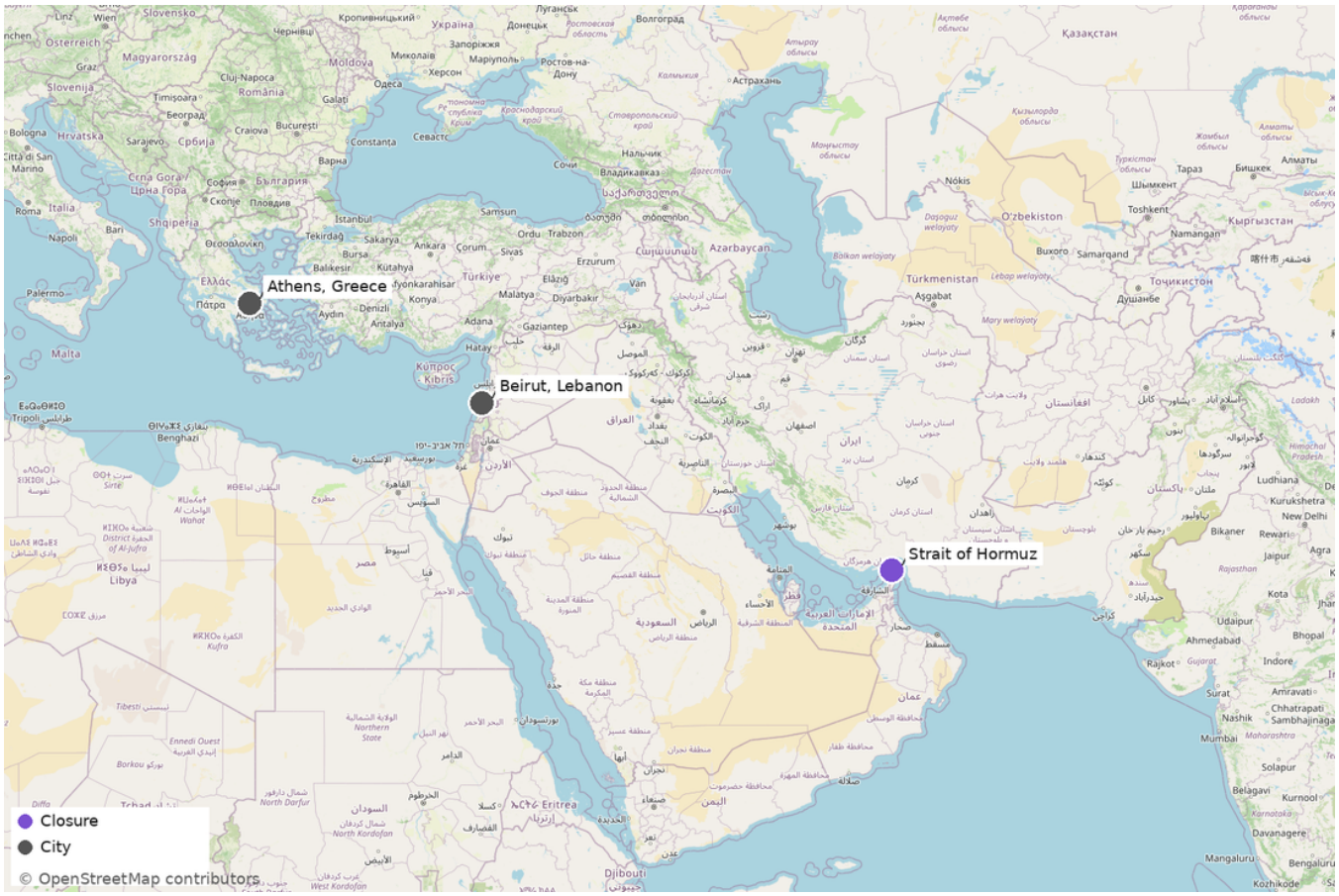
U.S. envoy Ortagus in Beirut backs Lebanese army effort to disarm Hezbollah

- U.S. deputy special envoy Morgan Ortagus visited Beirut on Wednesday, October 21, and met Lebanese Prime Minister Nawaf Salam, the Associated Press reported. — Associated Press
- Ortagus emphasized U.S. support for the Lebanese government and army in their efforts to disarm Hezbollah, the Associated Press reported. — Associated Press

Markets

- Brent crude was at $110.00 a barrel on October 21, on Middle East supply concerns, Reuters reported. — Reuters
- U.S. West Texas Intermediate crude was at $98.06 a barrel on October 21, on Middle East supply concerns, Reuters reported. — Reuters

Conflict map



Markers show reported strike sites, bases, and shipping areas. Purple polygons mark approximate or announced closure / exclusion zones.

Sources: Reuters · Reuters · Associated Press · Reuters

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