

US–Iran Conflict Briefing

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Saudi Aramco tells staff to evacuate Dhahran headquarters

- Saudi Aramco instructed staff to evacuate its headquarters in Dhahran and work remotely on Thursday, October 22, 2026, six people with knowledge of the matter told Reuters — the first time Aramco had asked staff to evacuate its headquarters since the start of the Iran war. — [Reuters](#)
- The Dhahran facility hosts the operations centre overseeing Aramco's rigs, refineries, export terminals and pipelines, and had been struck by the Houthis earlier in October, Reuters reported. — [Reuters](#)

Egypt calls for Yemen talks ahead of parliament vote on Saudi support

- Egyptian Foreign Minister Badr Abdelatty said on Thursday, October 22, 2026 that Egypt underlined the need to 'explore every opportunity for the possibility of reaching political solutions' ensuring a full Houthi withdrawal from territory seized during the group's September advance near the Bab el-Mandeb Strait, Reuters reported. — [Reuters](#)
- Abdelatty told a press conference: 'So that we can move on the political path that we always emphasize, and also side by side in support of the defensive path for the kingdom,' Reuters reported; Egypt's parliament vote on authorising military support to Saudi Arabia remains set for October 26. — [Reuters](#)

Reports of U.S.-Israel post-midterm strike plans put markets on edge

- Reports that Israel and the United States have drawn up plans for renewed strikes on Iran after the U.S. midterm elections on November 3, 2026 put markets on edge on Thursday, October 22, Reuters reported in its Energy Watch column, citing New York Times reporting of October 21. — [Reuters](#)
- The two militaries have developed plans for a short but intensive campaign and stepped up exercises, with President Trump not having approved any operation, Reuters reported, citing the New York Times reporting. — [Reuters](#)

Markets

- December Brent crude futures rose 4 percent to settle at \$113.17 a barrel on Thursday, October 22 — the highest close since May 4 — the Wall Street Journal reported. — [Wall Street Journal](#)
- December West Texas Intermediate crude gained 2.4 percent to settle at \$99.47 a barrel on Thursday, October 22, the Wall Street Journal reported. — [Wall Street Journal](#)

Sources: [Reuters](#) · [Reuters](#) · [Reuters](#) · [Wall Street Journal](#)

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