

US-Iran Conflict Briefing

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Five arrested near RAF Fairford in suspected terror plot

- Five men were arrested around 12:45 a.m. Sunday near RAF Fairford, an airbase used by the US for strikes on Iran, initially on suspicion of offences under the explosives act and later re-arrested on suspicion of preparation of a terrorist act; counter-terrorism police are now leading the investigation. — [Reuters](#)
- A local councillor told Reuters there had been a specific Iranian threat against the base about six weeks ago, leading to increased surveillance; Britain said in July its armed forces were ready to protect the country after the IRGC warned that any base used to launch attacks would be a legitimate target. — [Reuters](#)
- About 85 households were evacuated, a 400-metre cordon remains in place around three vehicles, and the army's explosive ordnance disposal unit has conducted examinations; a local farmer tipped off police after seeing three large white vans and "hooded and masked men" running toward the base. — [Reuters](#)
- Defence Minister Wes Streeting told BBC TV he would not speculate on motives; Trump said Sunday the group had been under investigation for "a long time" and intended "big damage" to the base. — [Reuters](#)
- Britain has authorised the US to use bombers based at Fairford to strike Iranian missile sites attacking ships in the Strait of Hormuz. — [Reuters](#)

Mediators press Iran for nuclear concessions as ceasefire talks stall

- Peace negotiators are pressing Iran to make a concession on its nuclear program in a long-shot bid to revive ceasefire talks with the US after Trump rejected Tehran's truce proposal; mediators say Iran has given little indication it is ready to talk about the issue. — [Wall Street Journal](#)
- Middle East officials who speak with Tehran regularly told the Journal that power in Iran is now concentrated in the IRGC's hands, while Gulf officials said Iran wants Washington to offer concessions first; Trump himself is skeptical diplomacy will work and sees a renewed bombing campaign as likely. — [Wall Street Journal](#)
- On NBC's "Meet the Press" Sunday, Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi said: "We are fully prepared for the war to resume... We stand firm in the face of any new aggression, even if it comes to a doomsday war. But at the same time we stand ready for diplomacy. It is up to President Trump to choose." He stayed in New York after the General Assembly for additional talks. — [Wall Street Journal](#)
- Qatari Prime Minister Sheikh Mohammed told Bloomberg the conflict is becoming harder to resolve, citing Houthi attacks on Saudi Arabia; US and Gulf officials told the Journal that Iran is losing control of the Strait of Hormuz as millions of barrels of oil pass through, weakening Tehran's leverage. — [Wall Street Journal](#)

Qatar-linked LNG traffic through Hormuz picks up

- More QatarEnergy-linked LNG vessels, laden and in ballast, have transited the Strait of Hormuz in the last week despite the US-Iran conflict; in August, Kpler data showed no visible transits by Qatar-linked LNG vessels or vessels carrying cargoes from the Ras Laffan terminal. — [Reuters](#)
- The GasLog Skagen reappeared off Sri Lanka on September 27 with a cargo from Ras Laffan, while the Al Shamal reappeared outside the strait around September 24-25; the Mesaimeer, Al Ghashamiya, Al Samriya and Al Daayen also exited the Gulf with cargoes. — [Reuters](#)
- At least one LNG vessel entered the strait last week: the Al Mafyar reappeared in ballast inside the strait on September 22. — [Reuters](#)

Shipping

- Twenty-seven commodity vessels transited the Bab el-Mandeb Strait on September 23, up from twenty-four the day before and near the ten-day average of about twenty-six, according to preliminary Kpler tracking data that excludes vessels sailing with transponders off. — [Reuters](#)

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