

WIRE Daily Brief

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BLUF. No topic changed crisis level overnight, but the war and Russia topics both escalated. The regional war holds at **PROBABLE CRISIS (↑)**: the IRGC navy again declared Hormuz “closed” after claiming a supertanker hit a mine and caught fire; UKMTO logged two tanker attacks off Saudi Arabia’s Gulf coast on 16 Oct and at least 10 attacks in the week, a wartime weekly high; Kpler’s 7-day Hormuz clearance fell to **10.26 mb/d** (14 Oct, ~40% below pre-war); Brent settled at **\$109.86** (+3.7%), its highest since 19 May; and Egypt’s Sisi asked parliament to authorize defending Saudi Arabia if Riyadh asks. Russia holds at **POTENTIAL CRISIS (↑)**: **RUS-03 day 4 counted (tally 4/5)** after what Zelensky called one of the largest strikes on Ukraine’s energy system (15+ facilities; 332 drones overnight, 289 downed), hours after Trump waived the Graham Act’s new Russia tariffs and sanctions. The midterms hold at **ENVIRONMENT FOR CRISIS (=)**: no consolidation order found in the D.D.C. polling-place suits, the NAACP filed a new suit against DOJ’s 1,000-plus poll-monitor plan, and ~6.5M early ballots are in. Bitcoin holds at **ENVIRONMENT FOR CRISIS (=)** near **\$81.5k**; October Fed-hike odds collapsed to ~15–16%, offset by Brent nearing the \$110 B-5 Significant bar.

0. W.I.R.E. Topic Crisis Assessment Dashboard

TOPIC	CRISIS LEVEL	DOM. INDICATOR	KEY DRIVER (today)	TREND
Widespread war (Israel-originated)	PROBABLE CRISIS	EXTREME	W-1/W-2: IRGC re-declares Hormuz “closed” after claimed mine strike on a supertanker; UKMTO: ≥10 attacks in the week, 2 tankers hit off Al Jubayl (16 Oct); Kpler 7d clearance 10.26 mb/d (14 Oct); Yanbu missile intercepted; Brent \$109.86 (16 Oct); Egypt seeks mandate to defend Saudi	↑ (no level change)
Russian aggression	POTENTIAL CRISIS	SIGNIFICANT	R-3: RUS-03 day 4 (4/5); 332 drones overnight, 15+ energy facilities in 10 oblasts; Graham Act tariffs/sanctions waived (16 Oct); Putin rules out concessions on “security zone”	↑ (no level change)
US midterm results	ENVIRONMENT FOR CRISIS	SIGNIFICANT	M-1: no D.D.C. consolidation order found (RECAP); new NAACP v. DOJ suit over 1,000+ federal poll monitors (16 Oct); ~6.5M early ballots (16 Oct)	= (no level change)
Bitcoin	ENVIRONMENT FOR CRISIS	ABNORMAL	B-1/B-5: BTC ~\$81.5k (~35% off ATH); Oct hike odds ~15–16% (from ~32–34%); Brent \$109.86 vs \$110 bar; ETFs ~\$82.4M (16 Oct), week ~\$228.6M	= (no level change)

Indicator: **ROUTINE** **ABNORMAL** **SIGNIFICANT** **EXTREME** Crisis level: **NO CRISIS** **ENV. FOR CRISIS** **POTENTIAL** **PROBABLE** **IMMINENT**

Level change since 16 Oct brief (160715 EDT): none. Trend: ↑ toward crisis, ↓ away, = no net change (analyst addition; not in the white paper).

Moved indicators (vs 16 Oct). No indicator changed score. Within-band moves: **W-6 SIGNIFICANT ↑** (Egypt mandate request; tanker attacks off Al Jubayl); **W-7 SIGNIFICANT ↑** (Brent +3.7% to \$109.86); **W-4 ABNORMAL ↑** (Israel raised alert; Trump on striking “Pickaxe Mountain”); **R-3 SIGNIFICANT ↑** (largest energy strike of the cycle); **R-10 ABNORMAL ↑** toward Significant (Graham waiver; Putin rejects concessions); **B-5 ABNORMAL** = (hike odds down, oil up; net unchanged); **B-4 ROUTINE** = (week ~\$228.6M, inside ±\$1B).

I. WIDESPREAD WAR (ISRAEL-ORIGINATED) | PROBABLE CRISIS

Hormuz (as of 170700 EDT). The IRGC navy said on 17 Oct that a supertanker carrying more than 2 million barrels of crude, “attempting to pass illegally” with tracking off, “struck a mine, triggering an explosion and a fierce fire”; it gave no vessel name or location, and then declared via IRNA that “the Strait of Hormuz is closed” to ships of all nationalities (**CBS live, 17 Oct; Middle East Eye, 17 Oct**). UKMTO Warning **174-26** reports a tanker struck by an unknown projectile **68 nm northeast of Al Jubayl**, Saudi Arabia, at 0900 UTC on 16 Oct; all crew safe and evacuated (**UKMTO 174-26**). UKMTO separately reported a second tanker off Al Jubayl hit by an **RPG from a small boat** (aft-quarter damage, crew safe) and said at least **10 vessels** were attacked in or near Hormuz since last Sunday, a weekly high for the war, with **23 attacks** so far in October (**CBS live**). India’s shipping minister said crude tanker **MT ST 3** was struck by a projectile in the strait on 16 Oct; all 15 Indian crew safe (**The National, 16–17 Oct**). No new sinking was confirmed by cutoff. Trump said the US Navy blockade is “effective” (**Al Jazeera live, 17 Oct**).

Kpler flows (WAR-03). Kpler’s 16 Oct Media Briefing (flows as of 14 Oct, T-2): Total Hormuz Clearance **7,628 kbd** on 14 Oct; 7-day average **10,255 kbd**, about **40% below** the 17,175 kbd pre-war baseline (down from 11,617 kbd a day earlier). Strait-only 7-day average **8,232 kbd**. Kpler Insight counts at least 10 confirmed incidents this week; strait tanker crossings averaged 12/day vs a pre-war 50, and 30 of 32 crossings on 11–14 Oct were dark or unknown-route. Yanbu loadings slowed to ~668 kbd this week from 3.1 mb/d as Saudi exports shift back to Ras Tanura (6.25 mb/d). Gulf-of-Oman-to-NE-Asia freight is ~\$22/bbl vs <\$10 a month ago (**Kpler PDF, 16 Oct**). WAR-03’s <12 mb/d bar remains met.

Saudi Arabia / Houthis / Egypt. The Saudi-led coalition said it destroyed a ballistic missile aimed at **Yanbu**, two cruise missiles over the Red Sea, and three drones over the south and Riyadh region on 16 Oct; initial reports showed no Yanbu damage (**CBS live; Reuters via Euronext, 16 Oct**). Two missiles hit **Aden airport** on 16 Oct night, no casualties reported; the Yemeni government now puts the 15 Oct Maashiq palace toll at **at least 5 killed** (AP via CBS). Iran’s MFA rejected Saudi claims of a role in Houthi attacks and offered to mediate (CBS/AFP). On 17 Oct

Egypt's President **Sisi** called an emergency session of parliament to authorize action to defend Saudi Arabia **if Riyadh requests it**, stressing any action would be defensive ([Gulf News, 17 Oct](#); [Ahram Online](#)). No US decision to join Saudi strikes (WAR-06) was found.

Iran-Israel / US posture. Ynet reports Israel raised its alert level and is preparing for renewed fighting at short notice, while Netanyahu and defense officials are reluctant to start a campaign before the 27 Oct election. Ynet also relays Trump on Newsmax (15 Oct): "Now, we're looking at Pickaxe Mountain. We may have to go there," while ruling out ground troops and saying Iran has asked the US to "please stop" amid negotiations ([Ynet, 16 Oct](#)). Iranian President Pezeshkian denied nuclear-weapons ambitions and said Iran is ready for dialogue; Iran's regular-military spokesman said Hormuz reopens only if the US "leaves the region" (CBS live). MOAB contingency reporting from 15 Oct stands. Israeli media reports of possible Iranian pre-emptive preparations are unverified (see VIII).

Lebanon. On 16 Oct Israeli aircraft struck Mansouri (Tyre district), artillery hit around Bint Jbeil and Srebbeine, demolitions were set off in Kfar Tebnit and Zawtar al-Sharqiya, and a bulldozer with two tanks advanced toward Kfar Shuba (NNA via [Türkiye Today, 16 Oct](#); same account carried by Anadolu). Lebanon's official toll since 2 Mar is **4,389 killed, 12,424 injured**. No Beirut strike found.

Energy. December Brent settled at **\$109.86** on 16 Oct, up \$3.94 (+3.72%); the highest settlement since 19 May and +4.91% on the week; WTI \$101.41 ([Dow Jones via Morningstar](#); Reuters via Euronext). The IEA agreed to release 20M+ barrels of fuel; DOE issued an RFP for an exchange of up to 17M barrels from the SPR (Reuters via Euronext).

Indicators. W-1 EXTREME (=; record weekly attacks, closure declaration, claimed mine strike). W-2 EXTREME (=; Yanbu, Aden airport, Riyadh tempo). W-3 SIGNIFICANT (=). W-4 ABNORMAL (↑ within band). W-5 SIGNIFICANT (=). W-6 SIGNIFICANT (↑ within band; Egypt mandate, Gulf-coast tanker hits). W-7 SIGNIFICANT (↑; \$0.14 under \$110, \$10.14 under the \$120 Extreme bar). W-8 SIGNIFICANT (=; conditions-first statements). Roll-up: 2 Extreme + 6 Significant = PROBABLE. No tripwire met (W-5/W-6 Extreme, or W-3+W-4 both Extreme).

ANALYST NOTE. The maritime war is widening geographically: tankers are being hit inside the Gulf off Saudi Arabia's east coast, not only at the strait and in the Gulf of Oman, while Yanbu loadings on the Red Sea side fell ~80% week on week (Kpler). That is a squeeze on both of Riyadh's export coasts. Egypt's mandate request is a notable step toward a non-GCC Arab state entering the Saudi fight. It does not meet the W-6 Extreme criterion (a GCC state striking Iran or formally joining the coalition), but it raises the odds that the Saudi-Houthi front internationalizes before the US decides on WAR-06. We assess W-1 will **almost certainly** stay Extreme through 3 Nov, and WAR-03 is **very likely** a hit. With crews evacuated from at least one hull, WAR-07 (another sinking by 3 Nov, 45%) is **roughly even**; we do not move it. New **WAR-08** (Brent >\$120 settle by 3 Nov, 20%) and **WAR-09** (Egypt's parliament approves the mandate by 31 Oct, 70%) are logged. Mortgage-rate watch: Brent near \$110 and PPI at 6.3% keep long-rate pressure on even as October hike odds fall.

II. RUSSIAN AGGRESSION | POTENTIAL CRISIS

Energy strikes (RUS-03 day 4 counted). The Ukrainian Air Force said Russia launched **332 drones** overnight into 17 Oct, including jet-powered attack drones, plus Iskander-M/KN-23 ballistic missiles; **289 drones** were downed, with hits at 22 locations ([Kyiv Independent, 17 Oct](#)). The Ministry of Energy said energy facilities were attacked overnight and in the morning in **Vinnitsia, Volyn, Donetsk, Zaporizhzhia, Zhytomyr, Odesa, Rivne, Ternopil, Khmelnytskyi, and Kharkiv** oblasts; power was restored to more than half a million customers, and hourly outage schedules and industrial limits apply ([Ukrinform, 17 Oct](#)). Zelensky called it "one of the largest strikes against Ukrainian energy," with more than **15** generation and transmission facilities hit; Luts'k, Rivne, Zhytomyr, Vinnitsia, Shepetivka, Slavuta, and Netishyn were worst affected ([Kyiv Post, 17 Oct](#)). Regional officials report **7 killed and ~90 injured** over the past day (Kyiv Independent). ISW also logged **315 drones and 15 Banderol/Dan-T** loitering munitions launched during the day on 16 Oct, after the 149-drone night ([ISW, 16 Oct](#)). **RUS-03 tally: 4 of 5 days (14, 15, 16, 17 Oct). RUS-07 tally: 4 of 8.** RUS-06 (>800 in one night) not met.

Graham Act waiver. On 16 Oct Trump signed an executive order using the national-interest waiver in Section 115 of the Lindsey O. Graham Sanctioning Russia and Iran Act of 2026. It waives the duties under Sections 112–113 (up to 500% on Russian goods and up to 100% on the top buyers of Russian oil and gas) and the Section 102(d) sanctions, two days before the law's implementation deadline; pre-existing Russia sanctions orders are preserved ([White House EO](#); [AP](#); [CBS](#); [CNBC, 17 Oct](#)). CBS ties it to last week's easing on Russian diesel. Zelensky: "a decision was unfortunately made in America to completely ignore the Lindsey Graham law" (Kyiv Post).

Kremlin line and front. At a Joint Group of Forces command post on 16 Oct, Putin claimed 6,500 km² seized in 2026 and said he would not make the northern "security zone" a subject of negotiation. ISW assesses Russia has taken only ~100 km² net since 1 Jan and has a **net loss of 122 km²** since 1 Sep (ISW, 16 Oct). Ukraine struck a Gazprom condensate plant near Surgut, its first reported strike on Khanty-Mansi, and Reuters sources say Ryazan refinery halted a primary crude unit after a 15 Oct drone attack (ISW; Reuters via Euronext). Diplomacy: per two RBC-Ukraine sources (14 Oct), Ukrainian negotiators invited Witkoff and Kushner to Brussels "or another city" for a new round "in the coming days"; no acceptance, date, or venue was confirmed by cutoff ([RBC-Ukraine, 14 Oct](#)). No trilateral with Russia is scheduled (RUS-02).

Flank and nuclear. Moldova's MoD said at least four drones violated its airspace at least five times overnight 15–16 Oct; one exploded in a field near Scaieni, about 30 km inside Moldova (ISW). The CSTO closed the active phase of two exercises in Belarus (peacekeeping; NBC defense). No October Grom strategic-forces exercise has been announced (RUS-01; anniversary ~22 Oct).

Indicators. R-3 SIGNIFICANT (↑ within band; 332 overnight is under the 400 bar, but on 16 Oct ISW counted 149 drones overnight plus 315 drones and 15 Banderol/Dan-T by day, and 15+ energy sites were hit). R-4 SIGNIFICANT (=; Moldova detonation). R-5 ABNORMAL (=). R-6 ABNORMAL (=). R-8 ABNORMAL (=). R-10 ABNORMAL (↑ toward Significant). R-1 ROUTINE (=; ISW net Russian loss since 1 Sep). Roll-up: 2 Significant = POTENTIAL.

ANALYST NOTE. Four straight energy-strike days at rising scale, plus a US waiver that removes the main new economic lever, mark a clear Russian winter-blackout campaign that faces less pressure. RUS-03 is now **almost certain** to hit; one more qualifying day closes it. RUS-07 (8+ days) is **likely** if the tempo holds. The waiver does not meet R-10 Significant, since no talks have collapsed and no ultimatum was issued, but it weakens the case for RUS-05 (Kremlin-confirmed halt, trending miss). Kyiv is seeking an envoy meeting, and new **RUS-08** (Zelensky meets Witkoff and/or Kushner in person by 31 Oct, 50%) tests whether Washington accepts. A trilateral with Russia (RUS-02) remains **unlikely** after Putin's no-concessions line.

III. US MIDTERM ELECTION RESULTS | ENVIRONMENT FOR CRISIS

Federal posture and courts. The 16 Oct deadline for joint status reports on consolidating *LULAC v. DHS* (1:26-cv-03157), *NAACP v. DHS* (1:26-cv-03263), and *DSCC v. ICE* (1:26-cv-03330) has passed. CourtListener's RECAP index, refreshed ~2230 EDT 16 Oct, shows **no consolidation order** and no joint report uploaded; RECAP is partial, so a filing may exist on PACER ([CourtListener](#); [Capture Cascade](#)). Democracy Docket notes no plaintiff has sought a TRO, making a pre-3 Nov ruling unlikely unless deployments begin ([Democracy Docket](#)). **New suit:** on 16 Oct the NAACP and Advancement Project filed *NAACP v. DOJ* (D.D.C., 1:26-cv-03626) seeking to block DOJ's plan to send 1,000-plus "election monitors," including prosecutors and other federal law-enforcement personnel, to polling sites ([complaint PDF](#); [NAACP](#)). **Process.** Who Shows Up counts about **6.5 million** early and mail ballots in 36 states as of 16 Oct, up from ~5.3M on 15 Oct ([Who Shows Up](#)). Early voting expands from 19 Oct. **Indicators.** M-1 SIGNIFICANT (=). M-2 ABNORMAL (=; one more pre-election suit). M-7 ABNORMAL (=). M-3 to M-9 pending Election Day. Roll-up: 1 Significant + 2 Abnormal = ENVIRONMENT. **ANALYST NOTE.** The litigation front is widening (a fourth federal suit on federal personnel at polls) but has not produced a ruling, which keeps M-1 at Significant rather than Extreme. MID-04 (consolidation by 24 Oct, 55%) is still open; no order on day one is weak evidence against it. New **MID-05** (a D.D.C. TRO or preliminary injunction restricting armed federal agents or federal poll monitors at polling places by 3 Nov, 15%) prices the low chance of court relief before Election Day. This assessment takes no position on any party's prospects.

IV. BITCOIN | ENVIRONMENT FOR CRISIS

Price and flows. BTC traded at ~\$81,558 at 0549 GMT Saturday after briefly dipping below \$80k earlier in the week ([Investing.com via Yahoo, 17 Oct](#)). Yahoo lists the 16 Oct close at **\$81,500.80** (low \$80,719) ([Yahoo history](#)). That is ~35% below the ~\$126.2k ATH, at the B-1 Abnormal edge. US spot ETFs: **-\$82.4M** on 16 Oct (IBIT -\$71.8M, FBTC -\$10.6M); 15 Oct finalized at **+\$5.1M**. Week of 12–16 Oct net **-\$228.6M**; October to date **-\$617.2M** ([TFTC/Farside table](#)). **Fed odds.** Futures priced only a ~15% chance of an October hike on Friday morning after Fed Chair Warsh, speaking at an IMF event in Bangkok, said he was not signaling a decision; Jefferson and Williams have signaled comfort with holding ([CNBC, 16 Oct](#)). Other FedWatch reads put it at ~16% ([ActionForex](#)). CNBC notes Warsh rejects forward guidance and the CPI/PPI data leave room for a surprise. **Indicators.** B-1 ABNORMAL (=). B-5 ABNORMAL (=; hike odds fell sharply, but Brent is \$0.14 below the >\$110 Significant trigger). B-4 ROUTINE (=). B-7 ABNORMAL (=). B-2 ROUTINE. B-10 ROUTINE (no liquidation print over \$2B found). Roll-up: 3 Abnormal = ENVIRONMENT. Tripwires (B-7/B-8 Extreme) not met. **ANALYST NOTE.** Two macro forces now pull against each other. The rate channel eased (October hike odds roughly halved in two days), while the oil channel tightened (Brent at the B-5 threshold). A Brent settle above \$110 would move B-5 to Significant even with the Fed on hold. BTC-05 (October hike, 35%) is now **unlikely**, below the logged figure, and we note the market-implied ~15% without editing the row. BTC-06 (close <\$78k by 28 Oct, 40%) has not hit; the cushion is ~4%. The 13 Oct sub-\$81k weekly-close note stays open through ~20 Oct; the Sunday 18 Oct UTC close is the test.

V. INDICATORS TO WATCH | EWC / EWP ASSESSMENT

SCORE	TYPE	INDICATOR	WHY IT MATTERS	NEXT TRIGGER
EXTREME	EWC	W-1 Hormuz attacks / flows	IRGC "closed" declaration; ≥10 attacks/week; Kpler 7d 10.26 mb/d	Confirmed sinking (WAR-07); named mine-strike hull; next Kpler weekly
EXTREME	EWP	W-2 Houthis-Saudi / Bab el-Mandeb	Yanbu intercept; Aden airport and palace hits; Yanbu loadings ~0.67 mb/d	US decision (WAR-06); FII 26–29 Oct
SIGNIFICANT	EWP	W-6 Gulf-state belligerency	Tankers hit off Al Jubayl; Egypt seeks mandate to defend Saudi	Egyptian vote (WAR-09); GCC strike on Iran = tripwire
SIGNIFICANT	EWP	W-7 Energy price shock	Brent \$109.86, highest since May	Settle >\$120 = Extreme (WAR-08)
SIGNIFICANT	EWP	R-3 Strikes on Ukraine	RUS-03 4/5; 332 drones; 15+ energy sites	Day 5 closes RUS-03; >800 night (RUS-06)
SIGNIFICANT	EWC	R-4 NATO / partner spillover	Drone detonation ~30 km inside Moldova	Casualty on NATO soil = tripwire
SIGNIFICANT	EWP	W-5 US forces	MOAB plans; "Pickaxe Mountain" remark; deferral holds	Israeli vote 27 Oct; US vote 3 Nov; WAR-05
SIGNIFICANT	EWC	M-1 Federal posture on elections	No consolidation order; new NAACP v. DOJ suit	MID-04 by 24 Oct; MID-05 TRO/PI
ABNORMAL	EWP	R-10 Negotiation track	Graham waiver; Putin rules out concessions	Envoy meeting (RUS-08); ultimatum = SIG
ABNORMAL	EWP	B-5 Macro / rates	Hike odds ~15%; Brent at \$110 edge	Brent >\$110 settle = SIG; FOMC 28 Oct
ABNORMAL	EWC	W-4 Iran-Israel exchange	Israel alert raised; pre-emption reports unverified	Any Iranian launch at Israel (WAR-04)
ABNORMAL	EWC	B-1 BTC drawdown	~35% off ATH at ~\$81.5k	BTC-06 <\$78k; <\$63k = SIG

VII. PREDICTION LEDGER CHECK

Open: 28 (24 prior + 4 new). Due today: 0. Resolved today: 0. Running record: 0 resolved; mean Brier n/a. Ledger backed up to WIRE_Prediction_Ledger_backup_2026-10-17.csv. Notes appended; no core fields edited.

- **RUS-03 (5+ energy-strike days, 14–31 Oct, 70%): Day 4 counted** (MinEnergy via Ukrinform, 17 Oct). Tally **4/5**. Almost certain to hit.
- **RUS-07 (8+ days, 55%)**: Tally **4/8** with 14 window days left. Likely.
- **RUS-06 (>800 in one night, 30%)**: 332 overnight; not met.
- **RUS-05 (Kremlin confirms energy halt, 20%)**: Fourth strike day plus the Graham waiver. Trending miss.
- **RUS-01 / RUS-02**: No Grom announcement; no trilateral scheduled.
- **WAR-03 (Hormuz <12 mb/d weekly, 75%)**: Kpler 7d clearance **10.26 mb/d** (14 Oct). Very likely a hit.
- **WAR-07 (another sinking by 3 Nov, 45%)**: No confirmed new sinking; at least one crew evacuated (UKMTO 174-26); IRGC fire claim unconfirmed.
- **WAR-05 / WAR-06**: No US strike on Iran or Yemen decision. Trump's Pickaxe Mountain remark is noted on WAR-05.
- **BTC-05 (Oct hike, 35%)**: Futures ~15–16%. Trending miss. **BTC-06 (<\$78k close, 40%)**: 16 Oct close ~\$81.5k; not hit.
- **MID-04 (consolidation by 24 Oct, 55%)**: No order in RECAP as of ~2230 EDT 16 Oct.
- **New predictions (dated 2026-10-17)**:
- **WAR-08**: Front-month ICE Brent settles above **\$120** on any day by 3 Nov. **20%, unlikely**. Resolve by 2026-11-03.
- **WAR-09**: Egypt's House of Representatives votes to approve the authorization Sisi requested to defend Saudi Arabia. **70%, likely**. Resolve by 2026-10-31.
- **RUS-08**: Zelensky meets Witkoff and/or Kushner in person. **50%, roughly even**. Resolve by 2026-10-31.
- **MID-05**: A D.D.C. judge issues a TRO or preliminary injunction restricting armed federal agents or DOJ poll monitors at polling places. **15%, very unlikely**. Resolve by 2026-11-03.

VIII. GAPS AND UNVERIFIED

- **IRGC supertanker “mine” claim**. No vessel name, position, or UKMTO confirmation by cutoff; it may or may not be the same hull as MT ST 3 or the tanker the Iranian navy said was burning in the Gulf of Oman on 16 Oct. Mining remains unverified.
- **Vessel identities**. Al Arabiya names the 174-26 tanker as Marshall Islands-flagged *Safeen Principal* (power loss, engine-room fire); UKMTO did not name it, and that page did not load. The RPG small-boat attack is relayed via CBS from a UKMTO social post; no product PDF was opened. MT ST 3 damage and attacker are unconfirmed.
- **Iranian pre-emptive-strike reporting**. Israeli media (Channel 12/Globes relays) cite “unusual” Iranian military movements; Energy Aspects calls it unverified. Ynet says preparations do not indicate an imminent attack.
- **Kpler wording**. The 16 Oct briefing quotes Kpler Insight “from over 20 mbd the week before,” above the 17.175 mb/d baseline and outside the WAR-03 window. Scored on Total Hormuz Clearance 7-day averages only.
- **D.D.C. dockets**. PACER was not accessed; joint status reports may have been filed but not uploaded to RECAP.
- **Ryazan refinery outage** rests on two unnamed industry sources (Reuters). CNBC's line that a Russian envoy praised the waiver was not opened.
- **Egypt**. No date set for the parliamentary session.
- **BTC closes differ by vendor** (Tindex shows 16 Oct close \$80,804; Yahoo \$81,500.80). Both are above \$78k.
- **Not re-verified**. UA daily clash counts (R-2); Riyadh casualty totals; FII status; exact FedWatch timestamp.
- **Timing**. The 16 Oct Brent settle and ETF flows are in; 17 Oct is a weekend for futures and ETFs.

Sources

CBS News live (16–17 Oct); Middle East Eye (17 Oct); Al Jazeera live (17 Oct); UKMTO Warning 174-26 (16 Oct); The National (16–17 Oct); Kpler Media Briefing PDF (16 Oct); Reuters via Euronext (16 Oct); Dow Jones via Morningstar (16 Oct); Gulf News and Ahram Online (17 Oct); Ynet (16 Oct); Türkiye Today and Anadolu/NNA (16 Oct); Kyiv Independent (17 Oct); Ukrinform (17 Oct); Kyiv Post (17 Oct); ISW (16 Oct); White House EO (16 Oct); AP; CBS; CNBC (16–17 Oct); RBC-Ukraine (14 Oct); CourtListener RECAP; Capture Cascade; Democracy Docket; NAACP v. DOJ complaint (16 Oct); NAACP; Who Shows Up (16 Oct); Investing.com via Yahoo (17 Oct); Yahoo Finance history; TFTC/Farside ETF table; ActionForex; Metropolis of Morphou (17 Oct); Metropolis of Atlanta; Orthodox Times (16 Oct); Ekklesia Online.

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