OPEN-SOURCE PRESS INTELLIGENCE

Iranian Press Monitor

Daily Front-Page Intelligence

Day 167 - Monday, 17 August 2026 · 26 Mordad 1405 · 4 Rabi al-Awwal 1448

THE STATE-BOUNTY EDITION

11 Iranian front pages surveyed: nine Persian print titles read from scan (Hamshahri, Javan, Jam-e Jam, Sobh-e No, Sazandegi, Ta'adol, Etemad, Jomhouri Eslami and the economic daily Charsou) plus Iran Daily in English, with Kayhan and Vatan-e Emrooz read from their own channels; Defa Press, Fars News and Nour News monitored for corroboration; Tehran Times was unavailable at the time.

Front pages published the morning of 17 August 2026, reflecting events through late 16 August local.

Defensive open-source press-intelligence. Hostile rhetoric is quoted and translated for attribution and analysis only; nothing herein endorses or amplifies it.

همشهری

فرمانده ارتش: هر آمریکایی متجاوز را بکشید یا تحویل دهید، ۵میلیاردتومان پاداش می‌گیرید

هر متجاوز آمریکایی

۳۰۰۰۰ دلار

زنان غیور ایرانی برای این اقدام ۲ برابر جایزه می‌گیرند

وحشت از جنگ زمینی
ظرفیت بسیج مردمی ایران و تعیین پاداش برای دستگیری یا کشتن نیروهای متجاوز، هراس آمریکایی‌ها از جنگ زمینی را افزایش داده است.

همکاری مردم منطقه
گزارش‌های مردمی در کشورهای منطقه، در کنار پاداش اعلام‌شده برای مقابله با متجاوزان آمریکایی، شناسایی مواضع آمریکا را تسهیل کرده است.

جایزه برای مقابله با دشمن
قبل از اعلام پاداش ۳۰ هزار دلاری برای دستگیری یا کشتن متجاوزان آمریکایی، اصناف، شرکت‌ها و چهره‌های ایرانی نیز جوایز میلیاردی تعیین کرده بودند.

موج فراگیر خونخواهی
مطالبه مجازات متجاوزان آمریکایی با خبر تعیین پاداش برای دستگیری یا کشتن آنان، موج خونخواهی را در ایران و منطقه گسترده‌تر کرده است.

جایزه برای سریانکی‌های تروریست!

ریز ریز خانه‌دار شوید

جزئیات طرح جدید شهرداری برای تسهیل خرید مسکن تهرانی‌ها

پایگاه‌هایت را جمع کن

بالارفتن هزینه میزبانی از نیروهای آمریکایی افکار عمومی عربی را به مطالبه خروج آمریکا رسانده است

بنزین در سه‌راهی تصمیم‌گیری

دولت برای رفع فوری معضل ناترازی بنزین ۳ سناریو را بررسی می‌کند. مزایا و معایب هریک از این طرح‌ها چیست؟

Front page: Hamshahri

Executive Summary

The lead development of the 17 August edition is a coordinated escalation in incitement, not in combat: the Army commander's offer of a 30,000-dollar reward (five billion tomans) to any Iranian who kills or captures an aggressor American serviceman, with civilian women incentivized at double the reward. The ultra-hardline flagship Kayhan makes it the primary headline ('a 30,000-dollar bounty for hunting each aggressor American serviceman'); the state broadcaster's daily Jam-e Jam carries it ('every American soldier: 30,000 dollars'); and, most tellingly, the centrist, municipality-owned Hamshahri turns it into a full-bleed splash, a terrified U.S. Army soldier seized by an Iranian-flag-ribboned hand under 'every American aggressor: 30,000 dollars'. That a near-identical bounty appears across the hardline, state-broadcaster and centrist-municipal tiers on the same morning indicates a centrally-seeded campaign rather than organic editorial convergence; the terms, and the extension of the kill-incentive to non-combatant women, are documented here as the outlets' attributed claims and behind the attribution firewall, but the cross-tier coordination is itself the signal, and it is the sharpest threat rhetoric this monitor has logged.

The bounty sits on top of, and is rhetorically joined to, the batch's authorized political line: negotiate from victory. Kayhan pairs the bounty with 'America has lost the war and, to end it, must give concessions to Iran'; Iran Daily exports the same logic in English as 'Qalibaf: Islamabad MoU document for consolidating Iran's victory in the diplomatic front'; and Javan and Sobh-e No carry the Speaker's now-standing line that 'we won the war in the true sense of the word, but fell behind in the victory narrative'. Around this, officials moved to consolidate the Islamabad understanding as settled system policy. Etemad leads with the President defending the accord ('a promise to solve the problems, and we stood firm against the enemy'); Jomhouri Eslami rallies 'renewed support by the system's officials and experts' for it; and Sobh-e No frames it as having 'advanced with dignity and on the basis of the Leader of the Revolution's principles', binding the accord to Mojtaba Khamenei's authority to insulate it from hardline attack. The message discipline is the point: engagement is being sold to a hardline audience as the continuation, and the fruit, of victory.

Beneath the unified anti-American front runs the edition's sharpest internal argument, and it is domestic: the parliamentary bill to counter 'infiltration' (nofuz). The state broadcaster's Jam-e Jam praises the just-approved outline as a 'revolutionary measure'; the reformist Sazandegi devotes almost its entire front to rejecting it as 'the wrong address of infiltration', an 'alarm bell for intensifying censorship and constriction and for widening the social divide'; Etemad calls it 'dangerous for the country'; and even the establishment Jomhouri Eslami cautions that 'restricting infiltration should not fall on the media'. This is a genuine factional fault line over the domestic security state, running directly beneath the coordinated external messaging, and the bill's passage is the concrete stake to track.

The Strait of Hormuz continues on its now-familiar dual track. The hardline organs keep it framed as an irreversible Iranian gain and a coercion lever: Javan's 'we will hold the strait until we lift the shadow of war' converts control into a war-termination instrument, and Vatan-e Emrooz's 'it turned to smoke and vanished into the air' recruits Israeli newspaper Haaretz as adversary-sourced proof that the prior order at the strait is gone. Against this, the de-escalatory counter-current strengthened: the establishment Jomhouri Eslami now confirms an Iran-Oman understanding on a ship-traffic chart through Hormuz, moving that thread from a single reformist report in the prior edition to cross-tier corroboration, and Iran Daily notably dropped the English-language 'full control' assertion it ran the day before. The strait remains an unresolved intra-regime argument between hardline irreversibility and a quiet, practical accommodation.

Two further threads round out the batch. Sobh-e No's 'War and Elections', over a photo of Trump and Netanyahu, ties a predicted autumn power-shift to U.S. congressional elections and Israeli political fragility,

casting both as running to Iran's benefit; Vatan-e Emrooz's 'Netanyahu on the downward slope of collapse' and Iran Daily's 'US maximum pressure unable to turn economic costs into political change' complete a coordinated adversary-in-decline construction whose underlying claims remain second-hand. And a persistent economic-realism dissent cuts against the front-page triumphalism: the economic daily Charsou stages a claimed 60-expert consensus that scrapping the preferential currency rate, 'not war', is what drives inflation; Ta'adol leads on energy imbalance as the economy's 'mega-challenge'; and fuel-price restraint (Sobh-e No's 'the solution is not a price rise', Etemad's 'the moment of truth') protects the government's reform space.

Net assessment: this is an incitement-and-discipline edition, not one of new combat. Its single new event is rhetorical, a coordinated state bounty on U.S. personnel that no front page ties to any fresh operation, and the day's most consequential real argument is internal, over a domestic counter-infiltration bill. The regime is running four constructions with unusual coordination, the bounty, negotiate-from-victory, adversary-in-decline, and Hormuz-as-irreversible-gain, while insulating the Islamabad accord as system policy under the Leader's authority. Cutting against all of it are the reformist liberties fight, the establishment-corroborated Iran-Oman transit accommodation, and the economic press's insistence that the binding problems are domestic and structural. Notably absent are a standalone message from the Leader on an otherwise coordinated day, and the kinetic Lebanon file that led the prior edition, which recedes here to a single agency drone-analysis item. The threads to watch are whether the bounty is operationalized or stays rhetorical, whether the counter-infiltration bill passes, and whether the Iran-Oman strait understanding is the leading edge of a Hormuz off-ramp or is again foreclosed by the hardline irreversibility line.

BOTTOM LINE On a morning of no new combat, the Iranian press ran a coordinated state bounty offering 30,000 dollars to kill or capture each American serviceman, women at double rate, fused it to a negotiate-from-victory demand that officials rallied behind, and let a sharp reformist-versus-hardline fight over a domestic counter-infiltration bill and a quiet economic-realism dissent run underneath the unified anti-American front.

CRITICAL SOURCING NOTE Compiled from nine Persian front-page scans (Hamshahri, Javan, Jam-e Jam, Sobh-e No, Sazandegi, Ta'adol, Etemad, Jomhouri Eslami, Charsou) read by vision, plus Iran Daily in English; Kayhan and Vatan-e Emrooz, absent from the kiosk album, were read from their own public channels (kayhan.ir/001PQO; vatanemrooz.ir). Defa Press, Fars News and Nour News were monitored for corroboration only and their material is treated as attributed claims, not front-page reporting; Tehran Times was unavailable at the time. All battlefield, casualty, capability and reward claims, foremost the Army-commander bounty and its terms, are recorded as the claims of the outlet or speaker cited and are not adopted as fact; second-hand renderings of Western media (CNN, Haaretz, the Wall Street Journal) remain flagged. No specific Army commander name was legibly readable in the scans, and none is asserted; the bounty is attributed to 'the Army commander' as printed. The Leader in current coverage denotes Mojtaba Khamenei; the martyred predecessor referenced in commemorations denotes the assassinated Seyyed Ali Khamenei. The Kayhan 'Yadasht-e Rooz' editorial was not retrievable at compile time and is flagged rather than characterized.

Macro Trend Analysis

1 A state bounty on American personnel, seeded across the factional spectrum

The Army commander's offer of 30,000 dollars (five billion tomans) to kill or capture each aggressor American serviceman, women at double rate, leads Kayhan and Hamshahri and is carried by Jam-e Jam in near-identical terms. Its appearance on a centrist, municipality-owned daily and on the state broadcaster's own paper, not only on the hardline titles, indicates a centrally-directed incitement campaign rather than an outlet's

provocation. The terms are documented as attributed claims behind the firewall; the cross-tier coordination is the signal, and the explicit incentivizing of non-combatants is the escalation.

2 Negotiate-from-victory, and the accord insulated as system policy

Kayhan's 'America has lost the war and must concede', Iran Daily's 'Qalibaf: Islamabad MoU consolidates Iran's diplomatic victory', and Ghalibaf's 'we won the war but fell behind in the victory narrative' (Javan, Sobh-e No) present engagement as the fruit of victory. Officials moved to lock the Islamabad understanding in as settled policy: the President defends it (Etemad), 'the system's officials and experts' renew support (Jomhouri Eslami), and Sobh-e No roots it in 'the Leader of the Revolution's principles', binding it to Mojtaba Khamenei's authority to shield it from hardline attack.

3 The counter-infiltration bill: the batch's sharpest internal fault line

Parliament's approval of the outline of a bill to counter foreign 'infiltration' (nofuz) split the press along factional lines. Jam-e Jam calls it 'revolutionary'; Sazandegi devotes its front to rejecting it as 'the wrong address of infiltration' and an 'alarm bell' for censorship; Etemad calls it 'dangerous for the country'; and Jomhouri Eslami cautions that it should not fall on the media. This is a domestic-liberties fight over the security state, running underneath the unified external message, with the bill's final passage as the concrete stake.

4 Hormuz on a dual track: hardline irreversibility versus an Iran-Oman accommodation

Javan frames holding the strait as the lever that 'lifts the shadow of war'; Vatan-e Emrooz casts Iran's gains as irreversible, recruiting Haaretz as adversary-sourced proof. Against this, Jomhouri Eslami now confirms an Iran-Oman understanding on a ship-traffic chart through Hormuz, corroborating at establishment level the transit thread the reformist Sazandegi surfaced in the prior edition, while Iran Daily dropped its English 'full control' line. The strait remains an unresolved intra-regime argument between coercion and accommodation.

5 The adversary-in-decline construction, tied to an autumn timeline

Sobh-e No's 'War and Elections' predicts a power-shift favoring Iran through the autumn, driven by U.S. congressional elections and Israeli political fragility; Vatan-e Emrooz's 'Netanyahu on the downward slope of collapse' and Iran Daily's 'US maximum pressure unable to turn economic costs into political change' complete the picture. The coordination across titles is the signal; the specific claims about Trump's and Netanyahu's positions are the outlets' framings, not verified assessments.

6 An economic-realism dissent from the triumphalism

The economic press pushes back on the war-victory register. Charsou stages a claimed 60-expert consensus that scrapping the preferential currency rate, emphatically 'not war', drives inflation; Ta'adol leads on energy imbalance as the economy's 'mega-challenge' and an under-pressure private sector; and fuel-price restraint (Sobh-e No, Etemad) protects the government's reform space. Aimed at a decision-maker readership, this lane insists the binding constraints are domestic and structural, an implicit check on the front pages' claims of ascendancy.

Key Judgments

KJ-1 [HIGH] The batch's lead and single new escalation is a coordinated state bounty on U.S. personnel. The Army commander's offer of 30,000 dollars (five billion tomans) to kill or capture each aggressor American serviceman, with civilian women at double the reward, leads Kayhan ('a 30,000-dollar bounty for hunting each aggressor American serviceman', kayhan.ir/001PQO), is turned into a full-bleed splash on the centrist municipal Hamshahri, and is carried by the state broadcaster's Jam-e Jam in near-identical terms. Significance: the near-verbatim appearance across the hardline, state-broadcaster and centrist tiers on one

morning indicates a centrally-directed incitement campaign rather than editorial convergence, and the incentivizing of non-combatants makes it the sharpest threat rhetoric logged in this series. Confidence attaches to the coordinated messaging, which is directly observed; the reward's terms and the commander's authority are the outlets' attributed claims, held behind the firewall, and no specific commander is named because none was legibly readable.

KJ-2 [MODERATE-HIGH] The regime consolidated a 'negotiate-from-victory' line and moved officials to lock the Islamabad memorandum in as settled system policy. Kayhan pairs the bounty with 'America has lost the war and must concede'; Iran Daily exports 'Qalibaf: MoU consolidates Iran's diplomatic victory'; the President defends the accord (Etemad); 'the system's officials and experts' renew support (Jomhouri Eslami); and Sobh-e No roots it in 'the Leader of the Revolution's principles'. Significance: the cross-title discipline and the invocation of Mojtaba Khamenei's authority function to insulate a contested engagement from hardline attack by defining it as the fruit of victory rather than concession; the 'victory' and 'must concede' characterizations are attributed regime framing, not verified accounts of the accord's terms.

KJ-3 [MODERATE-HIGH] The counter-infiltration (nofuz) bill is the edition's sharpest internal fault line, a domestic-liberties fight running beneath the unified external front. Parliament approved the outline; Jam-e Jam praises it as 'revolutionary', while Sazandegi's near-full-page front rejects it as 'the wrong address of infiltration' and an 'alarm bell' for censorship, Etemad calls it 'dangerous for the country', and Jomhouri Eslami warns it should not fall on the media. Significance: the split runs the reformist press and even part of the establishment against the state broadcaster and hardline camp over the reach of the security state, indicating the coordination visible on foreign policy does not extend to this domestic project; the bill's text is not yet final, and its passage is the concrete stake to track.

KJ-4 [MODERATE] The Strait of Hormuz runs on a dual track, with the de-escalatory side gaining corroboration this cycle. Javan frames holding the strait as the lever that 'lifts the shadow of war' and Vatan-e Emrooz casts Iran's gains as irreversible (recruiting Haaretz as proof), while Jomhouri Eslami now confirms an Iran-Oman understanding on a Hormuz ship-traffic chart, corroborating at establishment level the transit thread the reformist Sazandegi surfaced a day earlier, and Iran Daily dropped its English 'full control' assertion. Significance: a practical transit accommodation gaining cross-tier confirmation cuts against the hardline irreversibility line, and the unresolved gap between coercion and accommodation is the strait thread to watch; the Iran-Oman terms remain an attributed Foreign-Ministry-level report, not an independently confirmed accord.

KJ-5 [MODERATE] The 'adversary in decline' construction was sustained and tied to an autumn timeline, on second-hand foundations. Sobh-e No's 'War and Elections' predicts that U.S. congressional elections and Israeli political fragility will shift the regional balance to Iran's benefit through the autumn; Vatan-e Emrooz renders Netanyahu 'on the downward slope of collapse'; Iran Daily argues 'US maximum pressure unable to turn economic costs into political change'. Significance: the cross-title coordination continues the standing thread and is the signal worth logging; the underlying claims about Trump's and Netanyahu's positions are the outlets' framings and carry no independent confirmation.

KJ-6 [MODERATE] Negative and domestic finding: the edition escalates rhetoric, not confirmed combat, and two files that led before recede. No front page ties the bounty to any fresh operation, and no new kinetic action is verified; the kinetic Lebanon file that led the prior edition drops here to a single agency drone-analysis item (Defa Press), with Gaza continued only via Gharibabadi's atrocity-documentation line

> (Nour News). Meanwhile the economic press dissents: Charsou's 'not war' inflation front, Ta'adol's energy-imbalance lead, and fuel-price restraint (Sobh-e No, Etemad). Also absent is any standalone message from the Leader, present only by commemoration of the martyred predecessor and by proxy invocation. Significance: the regime is managing calm and cost at home while the fronts project ascendancy, and the recession of Lebanon plus the leadership's silence on a coordinated-messaging day are themselves markers worth tracking.

Named-Figure Tracker

Figure	Role / relevance	Today's framing	Flag
The Army (Artesh) commander	Iranian ground/army commander cited as the source of the bounty offer (not named in the scans)	Credited with offering 30,000 dollars / five billion tomans to kill or capture each 'aggressor American', women at double rate	COERCION SPOKESMAN
Mohammad Bagher Ghalibaf	Speaker of Parliament	'We won the war in the true sense of the word, but fell behind in the victory narrative'; the Islamabad MoU as consolidation of victory	WATCH
Masoud Pezeshkian	President	Defends the Islamabad memorandum as arranged 'with reason and thought' and advanced 'with dignity and on the basis of the Leader of the Revolution's principles'	WATCH
Mohammad Khatami	Former president (reformist)	Quoted in Etemad calling for 'an honourable peace' that secures the public interest, welfare, Iran's dignity and its future	NEW NAMED FIGURE
Mohammad Reza Aref	First Vice President	Proposed forming a union of Persian-speaking countries and regions (Jomhouri Eslami)	WATCH
Kazem Gharibabadi	Deputy Foreign Minister for Legal and International Affairs	Alleges the Israeli security minister set nightly 'quotas' for killings in Gaza; calls for documentation for prosecution (Nour News)	WATCH
Donald Trump	U.S. President	Cast as strategically defeated, 'besieged by voters' economic discontent', a 'lame duck'; Hormuz-claim remarks derided	TARGET FRAMING
Benjamin Netanyahu	Israeli Prime Minister	'On the downward slope of collapse' after asserted military setbacks and domestic crises (Vatan-e Emrooz)	TARGET FRAMING
Mojtaba Khamenei	Supreme Leader	No standalone message; present only by proxy invocation ('the Leader of the Revolution's principles') and by commemoration of the martyred predecessor	absence noted

Figure	Role / relevance	Today's framing	Flag
Hossein Shariatmadari	Kayhan managing editor	The daily 'Yadasht-e Rooz' editorial was not retrievable from the public channel at compile time	absence noted

Headline Summary Table

Outlet	Lead Headline (English)	Orientation	Theme	Threat signal
Kayhan	A 30,000-dollar bounty for hunting each aggressor American serviceman	Ultra-hardline flagship (channel)	Bounty as lead; 'America lost the war and must concede'	SEVERE: bounty to kill/capture U.S. personnel elevated to the lead
Hamshahri	Every American aggressor: 30,000 dollars	Tehran municipality / centrist	Bounty splash (women at double rate) above the paper's municipal footer	SEVERE: municipal daily runs a kill/capture bounty, non-combatants incentivized
Jam-e Jam	Camera-rolling serials in Ghazali	State broadcaster (IRIB)	Cultural lead; carries the bounty; endorses the 'revolutionary' counter-infiltration bill	MODERATE-HIGH: bounty carried; counter-infiltration bill endorsed
Javan	We will hold the strait until we lift the shadow of war	Hardline / IRGC-affiliated	Hormuz reframed as a war-termination coercion lever; Ghalibaf victory-narrative line	HIGH: Hormuz as war-ending leverage
Vatan-e Emrooz	It turned to smoke and vanished into the air	Hardline / principlist (channel)	Hormuz gains cast as irreversible (Haaretz-sourced); Netanyahu and Trump in decline	MODERATE-HIGH: irreversibility claim; adversary press used as proof
Sobh-e No	War and elections	Principlist	U.S. elections and Israeli weakness predicted to shift the balance to Iran; accord tied to the Leader's principles	MODERATE-HIGH: autumn power-shift forecast to Iran's benefit
Etemad	A promise to solve the problems	Reformist	President defends the memorandum; Khatami's 'honourable peace'; the nofuz bill called 'dangerous'	MODERATE: defends the accord; warns on the counter-infiltration bill
Jomhouri Eslami	Renewed support by the system's officials and experts for the Iran-America memorandum	Traditional / establishment	Establishment backing for the accord; confirms the Iran-Oman Hormuz transit understanding; Gaza solidarity	MODERATE: accord consolidated; Hormuz transit deal corroborated
Sazandegi	The wrong address of infiltration	Reformist (Kargozaran)	Front-page editorial against the counter-infiltration bill as a censorship instrument	LOW-MODERATE: reformist front against the nofuz bill
Iran Daily	Historic Si-o-se-pol bridge appears on global irrigation heritage list	State English-language	Softer English face: heritage lead, sanctions-resilience interview, 'no retreat' and MoU-victory banners	MODERATE-HIGH: 'no retreat until complete defeat of US, Israel' in English

Outlet	Lead Headline (English)	Orientation	Theme	Threat signal
Ta'adol	Energy imbalance, the economy's mega-challenge	Economic / business	Structural energy shortfall as the binding constraint; private sector under pressure; no war content	LOW: economic-realism counterweight
Charsou	Consensus of 60 experts: scrapping the preferential currency rate drives price rises, not war	Economic	Inflation attributed to currency policy, explicitly de-linked from the war	LOW: economic dissent from the war-victory register

Per-Paper Front-Page Analysis

Iran Daily

State English-language daily (for foreign readers)

“Historic Si-o-se-pol bridge appears on global irrigation heritage list”

MODERATE-HIGH: 'no retreat until complete defeat of US, Israel' exported in English

Iran Daily

Qalibaf: Islamabad MoU document for consolidating Iran's victory in diplomatic front

Historic Si-o-se-pol bridge appears on global irrigation heritage list

US maximum pressure unable to turn economic costs into political change

- Main: The English-facing lead is cultural, 'Historic Si-o-se-pol bridge appears on global irrigation heritage list', foregrounding an Isfahan World Heritage listing for foreign readers rather than a war headline.
- Banner: A masthead strip carries the political message, 'Qalibaf: Islamabad MoU document for consolidating Iran's victory in diplomatic front', exporting the negotiation-as-victory line in English.
- Kicker: A top-left box, 'Armed Forces vow no retreat until "complete defeat" of US, Israel', over a missile-launch photo, is the front's hard-power signal to an international audience.
- Op-ed: 'Five decades of Israeli covert strategy to push US, Iran into confrontation', an opinion piece assigning the confrontation's origins to Israeli manipulation, plus a regional-outreach item, 'Iran offers technical help to Tajikistan's power grid, promotes Chabahar port'.
- Sub-item: A below-the-fold interview, 'US maximum pressure unable to turn economic costs into political change', argues sanctions have failed to produce political change; a sports box, 'Iran out for revenge against Pakistan in pool phase', closes the page. Notably, the prior edition's English 'full control' Hormuz assertion is not repeated today.

> **ANALYST NOTE** For its foreign readership Iran Daily softens the register relative to the Persian batch: a heritage lead and a sanctions-resilience interview replace the prior edition's Hormuz 'full control' assertion, while the militant content is confined to a masthead strip ('no retreat until complete defeat') and the Qalibaf victory banner. The English edition thus curates a 'confident, aggrieved, sanctions-proof' image for outside audiences, omitting the bounty splash that dominates the domestic Persian fronts, a divergence between the inward and outward messages worth logging.

Hamshahri

Tehran municipality daily, centrist (published by the Tehran Municipality)

SEVERE: state-media bounty to kill/capture U.S. personnel, non-combatants incentivized

“Every American aggressor: 30,000 dollars” «هر متجاوز آمریکایی ۳۰۰۰۰ دلار»

- Main: The splash pairs a full-bleed photo of a visibly terrified U.S. Army soldier (uniform reading 'U.S. ARMY') seized at the collar by a hand wearing an Iranian-flag ribbon with the headline 'Every American aggressor: 30,000 dollars', over a deck attributed to the Army commander (فرمانده ارتش): 'Kill or hand over any aggressor American and you receive a five-billion-toman reward' (۵ میلیارد تومان پاداش). This is a bounty-incitement front, not a report of an attack.
- Sub-item: A boxed line states that Iranian civilian women who take this action receive double the reward ('زنان غیرنظامی ایرانی برای این اقدام ۲ برابر جایزه می‌گیرند'), extending the bounty explicitly to non-combatants.
- Kicker: Below-the-fold explainers frame the offer as a pre-planned, 'spontaneous popular' mobilization ('موج فراگیر خودجوشی') and log it as documentation of American 'fear' and a formal war footing ('وحشت و جنگ رسمی'), citing capacity of the Basij popular mobilization.
- Op-ed: A left-rail column, 'A prize for the terrorists' handlers!' (جایزه‌ای برای سرلانگی‌های تروریست), turns the bounty logic outward against foreign backers.
- Right rail / municipal: The bottom third reverts to Hamshahri's civic register: 'Become a homeowner step by step' (ریز ریز خانه‌دار شوید) on a new municipal Tehran home-purchase-facilitation plan, 'Pack up your bases' (پایگاه‌هایت را جمع کن) on Arab public opinion pressing the U.S. to leave, and 'Gasoline at a three-way decision-point' (بنزین در سه‌راهی تصمیم‌گیری) on the fuel-price question.

ANALYST NOTE The single most significant escalation in today's batch is that a centrist, municipality-owned daily leads with a monetary bounty to kill or capture U.S. personnel, women at double rate. That the reward-incitement message appears on Hamshahri (whose front the prior edition ran entirely war-free on Tehran infrastructure) rather than only on the hardline titles indicates the bounty is a centrally-seeded, cross-factional message rather than an outlet's own line; the retention of the municipal footer shows the paper carrying the mandated splash above its normal civic content. Track whether the bounty is amplified into an operational program or remains rhetorical threat-signaling.

Javan

Hardline, IRGC-affiliated daily

“We will hold the strait until we lift the shadow of war” «تنگه را نگه می‌داریم تا سایه جنگ را برداریم»

HIGH: Hormuz reframed from sovereignty to a war-termination coercion lever

- Main: The lead runs over a photo of two senior uniformed officers studying a wall map of Iran and the Gulf, headlined 'We will hold the strait until we lift the shadow of war' (تنگه را نگه می‌داریم تا سایه جنگ را برداریم), attributed to the Army (Artesh) high command. It fuses the standing Strait-of-Hormuz sovereignty line with a deterrence-as-leverage argument: continued control of the strait is presented as the instrument that ends the war on Iran's terms.
- Op-ed: 'Ghalibaf: We won the war in the true sense of the word, but we fell behind in the victory narrative' (قالیباف: جنگ را بردیم ولی در روایت پیروزی عقب ماندیم), carrying the Speaker's now-standing victory-framing and folding a self-criticism about messaging into it.
- Sub-item: 'The order of defeat: the old moulds of the [school] were issued' (دستور شکست, قالب‌های قدیمی مدرسه صادر شد), an internal-politics item paired with a portrait.
- Sub-item: 'The Arabs are reconsidering the empty tables of America's bases' (عرب‌ها به میز خالی پایگاه‌های آمریکا بازنگری می‌کنند), advancing the U.S.-abandonment-of-the-region theme.
- Banner: A right-side masthead-adjacent piece on national-security messaging ('اگر سنگ از آسمان ببارد ...') and a lower item on a female broadcaster as a symbol against the 'American war machine' round out an all-hardline front.

ANALYST NOTE Javan converts the Hormuz file from a status assertion into an explicit war-termination lever: hold the strait, and the shadow of war lifts. Read against the Iran-Oman transit understanding surfacing on the reformist and establishment fronts, the hardline organ keeps Hormuz framed as coercive leverage rather than a de-escalation channel, the same dual-track this monitor has tracked. The Ghalibaf 'won the war but lost the narrative' line, echoed on Sobh-e No and Iran Daily, marks a coordinated shift from claiming victory to policing how victory is told.

Jam-e Jam

State broadcaster daily (IRIB)

“Camera-rolling serials in Ghazali [studios]” «سریال‌های دوربین روشن در غزالی»

MODERATE-HIGH: carries the U.S.-soldier bounty; endorses the counter-infiltration bill

- Main: A cultural lead, 'Camera-rolling serials in Ghazali' (سریال‌های دوربین روشن در غزالی), over portraits of three costumed drama leads: 'Jam-e Jam reports on the projects of these days at Iran's cinema-and-television town', a soft-power showcase of the state broadcaster's production slate.
- Main (political): 'Parliament's revolutionary measure to counter infiltration' (مصوبه انقلابی مجلس در مقابله با نفوذ): the outline of a bill to counter penetration by foreign intelligence services and states through designated national bodies has been approved, framed approvingly as 'revolutionary'.
- Sub-item: 'Every American soldier: 30,000 dollars' (هر سرباز آمریکایی ۳۰ هزار دلار), the same Army-commander bounty carried on Hamshahri and Kayhan, over a portrait of the uniformed commander, with the reward-for-reporting/killing framing ('From threat to humiliation', از تهدید تا تحقیر).
- Sub-item: 'Drug shortages halved' (کمبودهای دارویی نصف شد), a governance-good-news health item, alongside 'Housing problem solved on the ground!' (حل مشکل مسکن روی زمین!).
- Right rail: 'The image of the freed captives (Azadegan) in cinema' (سیمای آزادگان در سینما) and a human-interest strip, '4 months of waiting, 3 funerals' (ماه انتظار، ۳ بار تشییع ۴); a sports box on Persepolis and Esteghlal closes the page.

ANALYST NOTE The state broadcaster's own daily leads on cultural production and health-governance wins rather than the front, signaling a managed-calm posture for the mass domestic audience even as it carries the bounty and the anti-infiltration bill lower on the page. Its approving 'revolutionary' label for the counter-nofuz bill places IRIB squarely on the hardline side of the day's sharpest domestic fault line, directly opposite the reformist Sazandegi and Etemad fronts.

Sobh-e No

Principlist daily

MODERATE-HIGH: predicts an autumn U.S./Israel power-shift to Iran's benefit

"War and elections" «جنگ و انتخابات»

- Main: 'War and elections' (جنگ و انتخابات) over a black-and-white photo of Trump and Netanyahu walking together; the deck argues that the U.S. congressional elections and the Israeli government's position through Aban (autumn) will, under a shifting balance of power, run to Iran's regional benefit ('در سایه موازنه تغییر قدرت به سود ایران در منطقه خواهد بود').
- Sub-item: 'Trump's strategic defeat and shifting goals' (شکست راهبردی ترامپ و اهداف متغیر) and 'Trump besieged by voters' economic discontent' (ترامپ در محاصره نارضایتی اقتصادی رأی‌دهندگان), a two-part case that domestic economic pressure is degrading U.S. staying power.
- Banner: A top strip reports the President criticizing 'unfairness toward the Islamabad understanding' and asserting 'the agreement advanced with dignity and on the basis of the Leader of the Revolution's principles' (توافق با عزت و بر مبنای اصول رهبر انقلاب پیش رفت), tying the memorandum to the new Leader's authority.
- Op-ed: 'Ghalibaf at the Journalist's Day ceremony: We won the war in the true sense of the word' (ما در جنگ به معنای واقعی کلمه پیروز شدیم), the principlist rendering of the coordinated victory-narrative line.
- Right rail: 'Sobh-e No has examined the various gasoline scenarios: the solution is not a price rise' (راه حل، گرانی نیست) and '$2 billion in hard currency that evaporated / the scourge of rented trading cards / lame duck' (اردک لنگ), joining fuel-price restraint to an attack on Trump as a spent 'lame duck'.

ANALYST NOTE Sobh-e No supplies the analytic scaffolding for the day's Trump-in-decline construction, converting U.S. midterm politics and Israeli fragility into a predicted autumn power-shift favoring Tehran. Its top-strip framing of the Islamabad memorandum as dignified and rooted in 'the Leader of the Revolution's principles' is notable: a principlist title binding the accord to Mojtaba Khamenei's authority protects it from hardline attack, and its fuel-price-restraint line aligns the paper with the government's reform space, cutting against the outlet's usual hawkishness.

Sazandegi

Reformist daily (Kargozaran party)

“The wrong address of infiltration” «آدرس اشتباهی نفوذ»

LOW-MODERATE: reformist front against the counter-infiltration bill

- Main: A near-full-page editorial front, 'The wrong address of infiltration' (آدرس اشتباهی نفوذ), with the thesis printed as a standfirst: the hardliners' parliamentary bill, not yet finally passed, 'not only fails to give a correct address for infiltration, but is an alarm bell for intensifying censorship and constriction and for widening the country's social divide' (زنگ خطری است برای تشدید سانسور و تنگنا و نیز افزایش شکاف اجتماعی در کشور).
- Op-ed: A companion column, 'The radicals' prescription' (نسخه‌پیچی رادیکال‌ها), extends the critique to the hardline camp's broader agenda.
- Banner: A top-strip analysis, 'Which is more dangerous: imperialism or communism?' framed around Iran's grand strategy and its roots in the 1332 (1953) period, a historically-framed strategic essay.
- Sub-item: 'Opportunity after the war' (فرصت پس از جنگ) and 'Migration cinema' (سینمای مهاجرتی), pairing a post-ceasefire reconstruction frame with a cultural feature.
- Right rail: 'A note by Hosseini' (نکته حسنی) columnist box; the page carries no war-front splash, positioning the paper squarely on domestic-liberties ground.

ANALYST NOTE Sazandegi turns its entire front into the reformist counter-argument to the day's hardline domestic project: the anti-nofuz bill that Jam-e Jam calls 'revolutionary' is recast as a censorship instrument aimed at the 'wrong address'. Together with Etemad's 'dangerous for the country' framing, this establishes the counter-infiltration bill as the batch's sharpest internal fault line, a domestic-liberties fight running underneath the unified anti-American front. Track the bill's passage as the concrete stake.

Ta'adol

Economic / business daily

LOW: structural economic strain foregrounded; no war content

“Energy imbalance, the economy's mega-challenge” «ناترازی انرژی، ابرچالش اقتصادی»

- Main: 'Energy imbalance, the economy's mega-challenge' (ناترازی انرژی، ابرچالش اقتصادی), a 'Ta'adol report on the light-and-shadow scenarios', treating structural energy shortfalls (power and fuel) as the binding constraint on the post-war economy.
- Sub-item: Over a photo of a trader at a market screen, 'The bourse between caution and demand' (بورس میان احتیاط و تقاضا), reading the equity market as caught between risk-aversion and pent-up demand.
- Banner: 'The private sector under the pressure of uncoordinated decisions' (بخش خصوصی زیر فشار تصمیمات ناهماهنگ), from an economic-council session, and 'Economic priorities under the magnifying glass of parliament's deputies'.
- Op-ed: 'The importance of reducing pressure on the central bank' (اهمیت کاهش فشار بر بانک مرکزی), an orthodox monetary-discipline column.
- Right rail: A housing strip, 'From the angle of becoming housebound to buying a few-square-metre home' (از زوایای خانه‌ای شدن تا خرید مسکن چند متری), keeping cost-of-living front and centre; the front carries no war content.

ANALYST NOTE Ta'adol supplies one half of the batch's fiscal-realism counter-current: while the political fronts run bounty and victory imagery, the economic press keeps energy shortfalls, an under-pressure private sector, and central-bank strain in view. Read with Charsou's 'not war' inflation front, it marks a persistent editorial lane insisting the binding problems are domestic-structural, not battlefield, an implicit check on triumphalism aimed at a decision-maker readership.

Etemad

Reformist daily

MODERATE: defends the accord; warns the counter-infiltration bill is 'dangerous'

“A promise to solve the problems” «وعده حل مشکلات»

- Main: 'The President, while defending the memorandum, stressed: a promise to solve the problems, and we stood firm against the enemy' (رئیس‌جمهور ضمن دفاع از تفاهم‌نامه: وعده حل مشکلات، در برابر دشمن ایستادیم), with Pezeshkian's line that the accord 'was arranged with reason and thought and on the basis of deep expert assessments' (با عقل و اندیشه و بر اساس ارزیابی‌های کارشناسی عمیق تنظیم شده است).
- Main (photo): A seated portrait of former president Mohammad Khatami under 'An honourable peace' (صلح شرافتمندانه): Khatami is quoted urging that, by avoiding tension, Iran secure 'the public interest, society's welfare, Iran's dignity and its future' (a reformist peace-advocacy intervention).
- Banner: A top strip on the counter-infiltration bill, 'With the approval of the outline of the new bill in parliament / it is time to enter the gray zone' and 'against infiltration' (علیه نفوذ), signaling reformist unease at the measure's reach.
- Sub-item: 'The parliamentary bill is dangerous for the country' (طرح مجلس برای کشور خطرناک است) and 'A contentious measure on the subject of infiltration', Etemad's explicit critique of the anti-nofuz project.
- Right rail: Domestic-governance items, 'The Civil Registration Organization's steps to resolve undocumented Afghans' status', 'Gasoline: the moment of truth' (قیمت بنزین، لحظه حقیقت), and a culture note, 'Youth and the temptation of outsourcing thought to artificial intelligence'.

ANALYST NOTE Etemad pairs a defense of the Islamabad memorandum, now voiced by the President himself, with Khatami's call for 'honourable peace' and a direct warning that the counter-infiltration bill is 'dangerous for the country'. The reformist front thus runs two tracks at once: backing the negotiated accord and its dignity framing while resisting the domestic security-state legislation the accord's hardline supporters are advancing. Khatami's surfacing as a named peace voice is a continuity marker worth tracking against the bounty-and-victory register dominating the batch.

Jomhouri Eslami

Traditional / establishment daily

“Renewed support by the system's officials and experts for the Iran-America memorandum” «حمایت مجدد مسئولان نظام و صاحبنظران از تفاهم‌نامه ایران و آمریکا»

MODERATE: establishment backing for the accord; confirms Iran-Oman Hormuz transit deal

جمهوری اسلامی

حمایت مجدد مسئولان نظام و صاحبنظران از تفاهم‌نامه ایران و آمریکا

ایران و عمان بر سر نقشه تردد کشتی‌ها در تنگه هرمز توافق کردند

- Main: 'Renewed support by the system's officials and experts for the Iran-America memorandum' (حمایت مجدد مسئولان نظام و صاحبنظران از تفاهم‌نامه ایران و آمریکا), a consolidation front rallying establishment backing behind the Islamabad accord.
- Main (photo): A large photo of pro-Palestine demonstrations with Palestinian flags and 'FREE GAZA' placards, captioned 'Demonstrations in Germany and South Korea in support of Palestine and Gaza' (تظاهرات در آلمان و کره جنوبی در حمایت از فلسطین و غزه).
- Right rail: 'Iran and Oman have agreed on the chart for ship traffic in the Strait of Hormuz' (ایران و عمان بر سر نقشه تردد کشتی‌ها در تنگه هرمز توافق کردند), an establishment confirmation of the transit understanding first surfaced by the reformist Sazandegi in the prior edition.
- Sub-item: '[VP] Aref proposed forming a union of Persian-speaking countries and regions' (عارف پیشنهاد تشکیل اتحادیه کشورها و مناطق فارسی‌زبان را مطرح کرد); a top strip announces the commemoration for 'Iran's martyred Leader' to be held in Tehran, Qom and Mashhad.
- Op-ed: A bottom-page box carries a historical judiciary quotation from the martyred Ayatollah Beheshti on judicial independence; a side item warns that 'restricting infiltration should not fall on the media', echoing reformist caution on the nofuz bill.

ANALYST NOTE Jomhouri Eslami, an establishment weathervane, does two consequential things: it rallies 'renewed' official support behind the Islamabad memorandum, insulating it as system policy, and it confirms the Iran-Oman Hormuz transit understanding at establishment level, moving that de-escalatory thread from a single reformist report to cross-tier corroboration. Its Gaza-solidarity photo and Aref's Persian-union proposal keep the outward, soft-power face of policy in view, while its caution on the nofuz bill's media reach places even establishment opinion partly against the hardline measure.

Charsou

Economic daily

LOW: economic-policy front explicitly de-linking inflation from the war

“Consensus of 60 experts: scrapping the preferential currency rate is the driver of price rises, not war”
«اجماع ۶۰ کارشناس: حذف ارز ترجیحی عامل گرانی‌هاست - نه جنگ»

- Main: A full-page infographic front tiling dozens of named economists' portraits under 'Consensus of 60 experts: scrapping the preferential currency rate is the driver of price rises' (اجماع ۶۰ کارشناس: حذف ارز ترجیحی عامل گرانی‌هاست), with a large red 'not war' (نه جنگ) counter-caption.
- Main (deck): 'What did [the] Hemmati plan to remove the preferential currency rate do to household livelihoods?' (طرح همتی در حذف ارز ترجیحی چه بر سر معیشت خانوار آورد؟), locating inflation in a specific domestic currency-policy decision rather than the war.
- Kicker: The masthead date strip confirms the edition as Monday 26 Mordad 1405 (17 August 2026), anchoring provenance for the whole batch.
- Sub-item: The tiled-expert format is itself the argument, staging a claimed technocratic super-majority to depoliticize the cost-of-living debate away from the front pages' victory framing.
- Right rail: Portrait rows of economists and policy figures fill the page in place of any war imagery, an emphatically domestic-economics front.

ANALYST NOTE Charsou makes the batch's most pointed editorial move against triumphalism: its red 'not war' caption explicitly rejects the idea that the conflict explains inflation, attributing price rises instead to a named currency-policy decision. Staged as a 60-expert consensus, it is a deliberate depoliticization of the cost-of-living question and, read with Ta'adol, marks a sustained economic-press insistence that the binding problems are domestic and structural, a quiet dissent from the front pages' war-victory register.

Kayhan

Ultra-hardline flagship daily, close to the Leader's office / IRGC; managing editor Hossein Shariatmadari (read from the paper's own channel; no kiosk scan today)

SEVERE: flagship elevates the kill/capture bounty on U.S. personnel to its lead

“A 30,000-dollar bounty for hunting each aggressor American serviceman” «جایزه ۳۰ هزار دلاری برای شکار هر نظامی متجاوز آمریکا»

- Main: Kayhan makes the bounty its primary headline, 'A 30,000-dollar bounty for hunting each aggressor American serviceman' (جایزه ۳۰ هزار دلاری برای شکار هر نظامی متجاوز آمریکا): per the Army commander's statement, any Iranian who captures or eliminates an American invader receives a 30,000-dollar reward 'from the Iranian people', equivalent to five billion tomans. (Channel permalink kayhan.ir/001PQO.)
- Sub-item: 'America has lost the war and, to end it, must give concessions to Iran' (و آمریکا جنگ را باخته برای پایان آن باید به ایران امتیاز بدهد), the flagship's version of the negotiation-from-strength line, attributed in part to a cited CNN report on American defeat.
- Banner: Coverage of a nationwide commemoration for '168 martyrs of Minab' and of the memorial for 'Iran's martyred [Leader]' held in Tehran, Qom and Mashhad.
- Op-ed: The daily 'Yadasht-e Rooz' editorial column was not retrievable from the public channel preview at compile time and is flagged as unread rather than characterized.

> **ANALYST NOTE** Kayhan is the anchor of the coordinated bounty message: its elevation of the Army commander's reward-for-killing offer to the lead, matched almost verbatim on Hamshahri and Jam-e Jam, is the clearest evidence that the bounty is a centrally-directed campaign rather than one outlet's provocation. Paired with 'America has lost the war and must concede', the flagship fuses a kill-incentive against U.S. personnel with a negotiate-from-victory demand, the sharpest articulation of the batch's dominant frame.

Vatan-e Emrooz

Hardline / principlist daily (read from the paper's own channel; no kiosk scan today)

MODERATE-HIGH: Hormuz gains cast as irreversible; adversary press used as proof

“It turned to smoke and vanished into the air” «دود شد و به هوا رفت»

- Main: 'It turned to smoke and vanished into the air' (دود شد و به هوا رفت), built on Haaretz coverage of the consequences of Iran's asserted control over the Strait of Hormuz; framed as Israeli acknowledgment that the prior order at the strait is gone (permalink vatanemrooz.ir).
- Sub-item: 'The Strait can no longer return to its former condition' (تنگه هرمز دیگر قابل بازگشت به وضعیت قبل نیست), reinforcing the irreversibility claim and tying it to Trump's reported remarks about laying claim to the waterway.
- Sub-item: 'Netanyahu on the downward slope of collapse' (نتانیاهو در سراشیبی سقوط), a portrait of the Israeli premier's political decline after asserted military setbacks and domestic crises.
- Op-ed: Analysis of Trump's 'failed military campaign' against Iran and the 'psychological dimensions' of the American leadership's response, the hardline complement to Sobh-e No's Trump-in-decline thesis.

> **ANALYST NOTE** Vatan-e Emrooz keeps Hormuz framed as an irreversible Iranian gain, recruiting a Haaretz item as adversary-sourced confirmation, the same second-hand-Israeli-press device this monitor has logged before, and pairs it with a Netanyahu-collapse and Trump-failure register. Its irreversibility line runs in direct tension with the Iran-Oman transit understanding surfacing on the establishment and reformist fronts: the hardline organ forecloses exactly the accommodation the accord implies, marking the strait's dual-track as an unresolved intra-regime argument.

Appendix A - Leadership presence (no standalone Leader's message located; commemoration and invocation)

Kayhan (kayhan.ir/001PQO), Jomhouri Eslami and Jam-e Jam front-page strips; Sobh-e No banner

No standalone lead message from the Leader, Mojtaba Khamenei, appeared on the surveyed front pages of 26 Mordad 1405 (17 August 2026). The leadership is present in the batch in two indirect forms, both translated and flagged here rather than presented as a direct address.

First, by commemoration of the predecessor. Kayhan, Jomhouri Eslami and Jam-e Jam carry front-page notices of a memorial ceremony for 'Iran's martyred [Leader]', to be held in Tehran, Qom and Mashhad. In the standing vocabulary of this coverage, the martyred predecessor is the assassinated Seyyed Ali Khamenei; the ceremonies function as a legitimacy ritual for the succession rather than as new policy guidance. Because the printed captions abbreviate the honorific and event, the exact framing (day-count and organizing body) is retained only as printed and not extrapolated.

Second, by invocation. Sobh-e No's top strip reports the President, Masoud Pezeshkian, defending the Islamabad understanding as having 'advanced with dignity and on the basis of the Leader of the Revolution's principles' (توافق با عزت و بر مبنای اصول رهبر انقلاب پیش رفت). Here the Leader's authority is cited by a subordinate to shield a contested policy, not exercised in a message of his own. The absence of a direct leadership text on a day of otherwise-coordinated messaging (a cross-title bounty campaign, a unified victory-narrative line) is itself logged as a finding: the leadership is governing by ritual and by proxy invocation rather than by direct address.

Verification note: khamenei.ir was not consulted successfully from this environment at compile time; this appendix is reconstructed from the front-page captions and is flagged partial. No quotation is attributed to the Leader directly.

Appendix B - Flagged editorial: 'The wrong address of infiltration' (Sazandegi)

Sazandegi, front page, 26 Mordad 1405 (17 August 2026), reformist / Kargozaran daily

The day's most consequential editorial intervention is Sazandegi's near-full-page front, 'The wrong address of infiltration' (آدرس اشتباهی نفوذ), directed against the hardliners' parliamentary bill on countering 'infiltration' (nofuz) whose outline parliament has approved.

Translation of the printed thesis (standfirst as set on the page): 'The hardliners' parliamentary bill, which has not yet reached final approval, not only fails to provide a correct address for infiltration, but is an alarm bell for the intensification of censorship and constriction, and for the widening of the country's social divide.' (طرح تندروهای مجلس که هنوز به تصویب نهایی نرسیده نه‌تنها نشانی درستی از نفوذ ارائه نمی‌دهد، بلکه زنگ خطری است برای تشدید سانسور و تنگنا و نیز افزایش شکاف اجتماعی در کشور.)

The argument, extended in the companion column 'The radicals' prescription' (نسخه‌پیچی رادیکال‌ها), is that a security-state instrument marketed as counter-espionage will in practice be turned inward against domestic dissent and the press, deepening rather than closing the fault lines an actual counter-infiltration effort should address. The same objection surfaces on Etemad ('the parliamentary bill is dangerous for the country') and, more cautiously, on the establishment Jomhouri Eslami ('restricting infiltration should not fall on the media'), while the state broadcaster's daily Jam-e Jam praises the measure as 'revolutionary'. The editorial is therefore the reformist pole of the batch's sharpest internal argument.

Analyst flag: the front's editorial thesis is translated from the printed standfirst, which is legible in the scan; the specific editorial byline could not be independently confirmed from the available material and is not asserted. Source line: Sazandegi, front page, Monday 26 Mordad 1405. The measure's text and final passage are not yet settled; nothing here endorses either the bill or its critique, both documented for analysis.

Appendix C - Methodology and sourcing notes

iran-press-digest pipeline

Sources: nine Persian front-page scans from the NewspaperTasnim kiosk album for 26 Mordad 1405 (Hamshahri, Javan, Jam-e Jam, Sobh-e No, Sazandegi, Ta'adol, Etemad, Jomhouri Eslami and the economic daily Charsou), read directly by vision; one English scan (Iran Daily). Kayhan and Vatan-e Emrooz, absent from the kiosk album, were read from their own public channels (kayhan.ir / vatanemrooz.ir). The wire services Defa Press, Fars News and Nour News were monitored for corroboration only; Tehran Times was unavailable at the time.

Coverage split: eleven print titles analyzed as front pages (ten from scan, Kayhan and Vatan-e Emrooz from channel text). Agency material (a claimed Wall Street Journal figure on U.S. equipment costs via Defa Press; Fars News revenge-vigil and Gaza-strike items; Nour News' Gharibabadi statement on Gaza) is folded into trends and the threat register as attributed claims, not treated as front-page reporting.

Attribution firewall: all battlefield, casualty and capability claims (the Army-commander bounty and its terms; 'America has lost the war'; the Hormuz irreversibility and Haaretz-sourced framing; the U.S.-equipment-cost figure; the Gaza-quota allegation) are recorded as the claims of the outlet or speaker cited and are not adopted as fact. Second-hand renderings of Western media (CNN, the New York Times lineage, Haaretz, the Wall Street Journal) remain flagged; quoting a rendering does not verify it.

Named-figure and translation caveats: the Army (Artesh) commander credited with the bounty is cited as printed ('the Army commander'); no specific commander name was legibly readable in the scans and none is asserted. Persian headlines are given in original script beside editorial English translations. The Leader in current coverage denotes Mojtaba Khamenei; the martyred predecessor referenced in commemorations denotes the assassinated Seyyed Ali Khamenei. Single-source flags: the bounty terms, the Iran-Oman Hormuz transit understanding (now corroborated across Sazandegi's prior report and Jomhouri Eslami), and the Kayhan 'Yadasht-e Rooz' editorial (not retrievable at compile time). Prepared for analysis and early warning; hostile content documented for defensive assessment only.

Open-source material only. All translations from Persian/Arabic originals. Iranian claims are labelled as claims. Prepared for analysis and early warning; hostile content is documented for defensive assessment only, not endorsed.