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THE DORMANT DOCUMENT EDITION

Ten front pages of 20 Mehr 1405, nine Persian and one English, read with six newspaper channels and three agency wires. Tehran Times and the Leader's official site were both unavailable at the time of compilation.

Front pages published the morning of 12 October 2026, reflecting events through late 11 October local time.

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



Front page: Vatan-e Emrooz

Executive Summary

The lead judgment of this edition is that the Iranian press has put the June ceasefire memorandum back at the centre of its argument, and that it is doing so in the same cycle in which the instrument the memorandum was supposed to free is being closed harder. Sobh-e No's banner carries John Mearsheimer calling «تفاهم‌نامه اسلام‌آباد» Trump's document of surrender. Etemad's entire upper page carries Behzad Nabavi calling the same text «سند مسکوت», the dormant document, and arguing for its revival. Shargh reads the two sides' negotiating packages against each other and reports «روایت‌های ناسازگار», incompatible narratives. The independently verified terms of that memorandum, signed in mid-June 2026 with Pakistani mediation, include restoring commercial shipping through the Strait of Hormuz. The strait is therefore not a side theatre to the diplomacy: it is the diplomacy's own deliverable, withheld.

The security council's own wire says so in as many words. Nour News, the outlet closest to the Supreme National Security Council, reports at item 401243 that a seven-day plan is moving through mediators including Qatar, that Kazem Gharibabadi has received the American side's views through them, that Tehran will answer after internal review, and that the return of Hormuz to normal depends on American compliance with earlier commitments. That last clause is the standing Hormuz-as-coercion thread of this monitor stated on the record by the institution that would have to lift it, and it converts what has been an inference across earlier editions into a printed condition.

The second finding is the target set. Mohsen Rezaei, who independent reporting confirms has been secretary of the Supreme National Security Council since early August 2026 and is the Leader's own representative on that council, told Press TV that a renewed war would destroy the region's undersea cables, data centres and artificial-intelligence facilities, which he valued at more than two trillion dollars. Kayhan led on it. Javan led on it and added American assets in the Emirates and around the strait by name. Vatan-e Emrooz carried it as its top-right banner. Kayhan's managing editor then published a column at item 86556, over his own name, endorsing the target set and arguing that the fibre-optic cables carrying global internet, banking and artificial-intelligence traffic are a strategic lever. Three covers and a signed editorial in one morning is centrally guided message discipline rather than organic convergence, and the content being disciplined is a public identification of civilian communications infrastructure as a target.

The third finding is that the maritime campaign has acquired a named instrument. The Iran newspaper's channel reports at item 509547 that the IRGC Navy says a supertanker struck a sea mine in the Strait of Hormuz after switching off its navigation systems and taking an unauthorised route; Jam-e Jam's channel at item 30753 makes it the third tanker mined on Sunday, a shuttle tanker carrying 750,000 barrels, severely on fire. Iran Daily gives its cover to a photograph of a tanker burning on the water under the line that Iran will strike enemy vessels again if necessary, which Kayhan's rail attributes to Rear Admiral Sayyari. Kayhan's own day-report box names the instrument in its title: «وقتی «رؤیای ترامپ» با مین و واقعیت‌ها در هرمز منفجر می‌شود». In the previous cycle this monitor recorded a tanker struck by an unidentified projectile. One cycle later the attribution is self-declared, the count is plural and the rules of passage are being published.

The fourth finding corrects the previous edition's sharpest criticism and preserves it. Yesterday this monitor judged that the Iranian press had a verified mass-casualty attack on a Gulf Arab capital available to it and declined to lead on it, and that Kayhan chose an unverified oil-field claim over the airport. Today Kayhan prints the airport, and prints the figure: «کشته و ۳۰۹ زخمی ۱۲», which is accurate

to the independent record of the Saturday strike. It prints it under the headline «صدها کشته و زخمی», hundreds dead and wounded, which its own bullet does not support. The selection has reversed; the inflation has not. Vatan-e Emrooz, on the same morning, prints the same figure accurately in its rail. Two hardline papers had the same material and only one of them overstated it, which is the distinction that makes this an editorial choice rather than a house style.

The fifth finding is that the civilizational frame recorded as new two cycles ago and as institutionalised one cycle ago has now become a two-way exchange, and that it rests on a predicate that checks out. Vatan-e Emrooz gives its whole front page to «دشمنی تاریخی», historical enmity, over a photograph of the Acropolis, and names the occasion precisely: the US Secretary of State spoke on 7 October in Athens on the Pnyx and opened with Xerxes' attack on Greece and the burning of Athens in 480 BC. Independent reporting confirms the speaker, the date, the location and the opening. The Iran newspaper's channel carries two separate commentaries on the same speech, one of them by a history professor, at items 509549 and 509553. Fars News then carries an adviser to the IRGC aerospace commander replying in the identical register: «آمریکا و صهیونیست‌ها تمدن ندارند», America and the Zionists have no civilization. Javan folds Columbus Day, which falls on this date, into the same argument through its montage. A framing built on an accurately read adversary speech is more durable than one built on invention, and that is the reason to track it.

The sixth finding is the one piece of dissent, and it is argued in the adversary's own terms. Sazandegi, the Kargozaran party daily, leads «دور زدن هرمز», going around Hormuz, over a photograph of Putin and Trump walking together, and states as settled fact that the strait's closure has seriously disrupted American fuel supply while Trump has nonetheless bought close to five million tons of Russian diesel. The headline is a warning to Tehran that its central instrument has a workaround. Shargh's clipping rail corroborates the story from a second reformist desk as «گازوئیل، شکاف تازه ترامپ و زلنسکی». Iran Daily answers it for a foreign readership in an exclusive interview arguing that the arrangement is fragile, that Russia is itself short of diesel and importing from India, and that the whole thing depends on Ukraine halting refinery strikes it has not halted. The same transaction is being used to produce alarm in Persian and calm in English inside one state media group.

Net assessment: this is the most coherent edition of the series to date and the most dangerous in its specifics. Across ten covers the Iranian press is making one argument in four registers, that the adversary has declared a civilizational war, that the chokepoint is the instrument which converts that war into American financial pain, that the June memorandum is the only exit and must be revived on Iranian terms, and that the state's nuclear build continues regardless, with the Atomic Energy Organization's twenty thousand megawatts carried by three separate estates on the same morning. What the edition does not do is connect any of that to what its own pages record about the cost at home: fourteen days without internet on the Etemad cover, winter gas shortfalls in eleven provinces on the government daily's channel, consumer prices up sixfold on the economic daily's table, and a hardline member of parliament demanding the economy minister's resignation on the same page. The gap between the strategic argument and the domestic ledger is the edition's largest unexamined space, and it is where the next cycle should be read.

BOTTOM LINE On a morning when the Guard Corps' navy was being credited in Iran's own government daily with mining a third tanker in the Strait of Hormuz, four front pages across the factional spectrum spent their best space on the June ceasefire memorandum signed in Islamabad, one calling it Trump's surrender document and another calling it the dormant document to be revived, which indicates that the

chokepoint is being held shut to force the return of an agreement whose own published terms promised to reopen it.

CRITICAL SOURCING NOTE Ten front pages were read in full: nine Persian titles from the Tasnim kiosk album of 20 Mehr 1405 and the English-language Iran Daily. Every masthead was identified from the printed nameplate and cross-checked against the paper's dateline, issue number and own channel. Six newspaper channels and three agency wires were read directly; agency material is treated as claims throughout. Tehran Times and the Leader's official site were both unavailable at the time of compilation, as they were in the previous cycle. Four load-bearing predicates were checked against the independent record and all four hold: the US Secretary of State's 7 October Pnyx speech in Athens including its Xerxes opening, the US Treasury Secretary's 27 September two-week statement, Mohsen Rezaei's appointment as secretary of the Supreme National Security Council in early August 2026, and the existence and reported terms of the mid-June Islamabad memorandum. Corrections carried into this edition: the toll of twelve dead and 309 wounded belongs to the Saturday 10 October strike on Riyadh and is accurate, with one independent source giving thirteen and 308; a separate smaller strike on Sunday 11 October caused a terminal fire, with Etemad's channel reporting one Pakistani resident killed and eleven injured; Defa Press places the impact at Terminal 3 where independent reporting of the Sunday strike gives Terminal 4, and this monitor records both rather than resolving it; the Iran newspaper channel's item is internally inconsistent, headlining a second mined tanker while its body calls the vessel the third; and Kayhan numbers this the 226th day of the war against this monitor's fixed calendar count of Day 223, a discrepancy noted and not reconciled. Reported as attributed claims and not independently confirmed: the Iranian foreign minister's telephone call with his Saudi counterpart, which appears on a single channel; the seven-day plan and the conditioning of Hormuz on American compliance, which appear only on the security council's own wire; the IRGC Navy's account of three mined tankers; Vatan-e Emrooz's rendering of Pentagon casualty figures as 21 killed and 865 wounded; and the two-trillion-dollar valuation of regional cable and artificial-intelligence assets. Several bylines and one interviewee name were not legible at the resolution of the available scans and are recorded as unreadable rather than guessed.

Macro Trend Analysis

1 The Islamabad memorandum returned to the front pages as a live instrument, from both ends of the factional spectrum

Sobh-e No's banner carries Mearsheimer calling «تفاهم‌نامه اسلام‌آباد» Trump's surrender document and predicting he will be forced into a second and harder agreement; Etemad's whole upper page carries Behzad Nabavi calling it «سند مسکوت», the dormant document, and arguing for its revival; Shargh reports «روایت‌های ناسازگار» after comparing the two sides' negotiating packages. One estate wants it back as a victory to be collected, the other as a channel to be reopened, and both want it back. The memorandum's independently verified terms include restoring commercial shipping through the Strait of Hormuz.

2 The security council's own wire conditioned the reopening of Hormuz on American compliance, in print

Nour News item 401243 reports a seven-day plan moving through mediators including Qatar, Kazem Gharibabadi receiving the American side's views through them, a Tehran response to follow internal review, and the strait's return to normal depending on American compliance with earlier commitments. The standing Hormuz-as-coercion thread carried across this monitor's earlier editions is now a printed condition from the institution that would have to lift it, not an inference from headlines.

3 A sitting security council secretary named civilian communications infrastructure as a target set, and three covers carried it

Mohsen Rezaei, confirmed as secretary of the Supreme National Security Council since early August 2026 and the Leader's representative on that council, told Press TV that renewed war would destroy the region's undersea cables, data centres and artificial-intelligence facilities, valued at over two trillion dollars. Kayhan led on it, Javan led on it and added American assets in the Emirates and around the strait, Vatan-e Emrooz banner-ran it, and Kayhan's managing editor endorsed the target set over his own name at item 86556.

4 Mining is now the declared instrument in the Strait of Hormuz

The Iran newspaper's channel at item 509547 reports the IRGC Navy saying a supertanker hit a sea mine after switching off navigation systems and taking an unauthorised route; Jam-e Jam at item 30753 makes it the third mined on Sunday, a shuttle tanker of 750,000 barrels severely on fire; Iran Daily gives its cover to a burning tanker under a naval commander's promise to strike again, attributed by Kayhan's rail to Rear Admiral Sayyari; and Kayhan's own day-report box names mines in its title. One cycle ago this was an unidentified projectile.

5 Kayhan printed the Riyadh toll it withheld a day earlier, and inflated it in the headline

The bullet gives «۳۰۹ کشته و ۱۲ زخمی», accurate to the independent record of the Saturday strike; the headline above it reads «صدها کشته و زخمی», hundreds dead and wounded. Vatan-e Emrooz prints the same figure accurately in its rail under «سعودی مات». The selection reversed from the previous cycle and the inflation did not, and the fact that a second hardline paper handled the identical material without overstating it makes this a choice rather than a house convention.

6 The civilizational frame became a two-way exchange, built on a speech that checks out

Vatan-e Emrooz's «دشمنی تاریخی» names the occasion exactly: the US Secretary of State on the Pnyx in Athens on 7 October, opening with Xerxes and the burning of Athens in 480 BC, which independent reporting confirms in speaker, date, place and content. The Iran newspaper's channel carries two commentaries on the same speech at items 509549 and 509553, one by a history professor. Fars News then carries an IRGC aerospace adviser answering in the same register at item 467868: America and the Zionists have no civilization.

7 A wartime expansion of nuclear generating capacity was declared by three estates on one morning

Jomhouri Eslami leads with the Atomic Energy Organization head announcing twenty thousand megawatts under construction and stating that building did not stop and will not stop in wartime; Javan's rail carries the same line; Iran Daily leads with it in English and adds the words 'despite attacks'. This is a claim of expansion rather than of survival, and the English version supplies the defiance the Persian versions leave implicit.

8 The Saudi theatre became a multi-airport campaign, and three third-party governments reacted

Vatan-e Emrooz item 28223 carries a Yemeni claim of strikes on Aramco and on both King Khalid in Riyadh and King Fahd in Dammam; Defa Press item 69629 adds Khamis Mushait and Abha and item 69641 says the Abha attack halted all flights there. The externally verifiable measure is the reaction: Etemad item 538673 reports the UK embassy telling citizens to avoid every Saudi airport except Medina, Fars item 467854 reports a US warning on air travel to the kingdom, and Jam-e Jam item 30759 reports South Korea telling its citizens to leave.

9 Iran's diplomatic track with Riyadh runs opposite to its own press register

Jam-e Jam item 30754 reports a telephone call between Araghchi and Faisal bin Farhan in which the Iranian foreign minister said insisting on a military approach while ignoring a political solution will complicate matters, and offered to help start Saudi-Yemeni talks. Sobh-e No's rail reports Riyadh hoping for Chinese mediation with Ansarallah under «دست به دامان پکن», and Etemad item 538688 reports Saudi energy memoranda with Kuwait, Qatar and Egypt. Tehran is offering to mediate the war its hardline covers are celebrating. The call is single-source and is reported here as a claim.

10 A dated American prediction expired and the Iranian press audited it on schedule

Sobh-e No leads «آهای، بسنت! دو هفته تمام شد» and its channel at item 116682 supplies the predicate precisely: the US Treasury Secretary said on 27 September 2026 that Iran's economy would probably collapse within two weeks, and the window closed on 19 Mehr. Independent reporting confirms the statement, the date and the roughly fifteen million barrels at sea cited with it. Javan carries the same expiry as a full-page montage. For a second consecutive cycle the covers are attacking adversary credibility with checkable predicates rather than contesting adversary claims.

11 The reformist press argued in print that the chokepoint can be bypassed, and the state English daily answered

Sazandegi leads «دور زدن هرمز» over Putin and Trump, stating that the strait's closure has disrupted American fuel supply while Trump bought close to five million tons of Russian diesel, and asking what that does to both wars. Shargh's rail corroborates with «گازوئیل، شکاف تازه ترامپ و زلنسکی». Iran Daily's exclusive interview answers for foreign readers that the arrangement is fragile, that Russia is short of diesel and importing from India, and that it depends on Ukraine stopping refinery strikes it has not stopped.

12 The Leader's economic rulebook became the government's scorecard within one cycle

Charsoogh gave its entire front page on 19 Mehr, issue 577, to «ده فرمان اقتصادی» compiled from the Leader's own messages. On 20 Mehr, issue 578, the same headings return as the columns of an audit table under «دولت کم‌کار», the underperforming government, and the verdicts are predominantly negative. The Leader is present in this edition by citation only, as the authority for a domestic indictment, with no message, portrait or direct words on any cover.

13 The hardline estate is delegitimising the negotiator class exactly as the negotiation reopens

Charsoogh's front page carries a caricature of Mohammad Javad Zarif in Qajar dress kneeling before a signpost reading «واشینگتن», captioned «تسلیم‌الدوله». Fars News item 467862 carries a television host attacking Zarif and the nuclear deal in the same idiom, following the «دستمال کاغذی برجام» banner recorded in the previous cycle. Etemad item 538689 carries Mostafa Najafi, an adviser to Rezaei, saying the Iran-United States talks are far from agreement and closer to tension.

14 Negative evidence, filed as a finding: Lebanon is absent for a tenth consecutive print cycle

No Lebanese item appears on any of the ten retrievable front pages, on any of the six newspaper channels or on any of the three agency wires. This is the tenth consecutive cycle without a Lebanese front-page item and the fourth consecutive cycle without one on the wires. The Israeli file is present only as Netanyahu's domestic and legal exposure on the Sobh-e No rail, as foreign street protest on the Kayhan and Javan covers, and as rhetoric, with no Israeli operational front on any cover for a third consecutive cycle.

15 Negative evidence, filed as a finding: the domestic costs are printed and never connected to the strategy

Etemad prints «صبح بدون اینترنت» and marks fourteen days since part of daily life went offline. The government daily's own channel carries winter gas-pressure scenarios at item 509546 and low-gas alternatives for four northern provinces at item 509558, linked to a warning covering eleven provinces. Charsoogh prints a sixfold rise in one manufacturer's appliance prices and a member of parliament demanding the economy minister's resignation. Not one front page places any of this beside the chokepoint campaign it also carries.

Key Judgments

KJ-1 [HIGH] **KJ-1. The June ceasefire memorandum returned to the Iranian front pages as a live instrument, named by its signing city, from both ends of the factional spectrum, in the same cycle in which the strait it promised to reopen was declared mined.** The evidence is four surfaces. Sobh-e No's banner carries John Mearsheimer calling «تفاهم‌نامه اسلام‌آباد» Trump's document of surrender, with the channel version at item 116684 adding that he expects Trump to be forced into a second and harder agreement and that Iran is in no hurry. Etemad's entire upper page carries Behzad Nabavi on the same text under «احیای سند مسکوت», reviving the dormant document. Shargh compares the two sides' negotiating packages and reports «روایت‌های ناسازگار». Nour News, closest to the Supreme National Security Council, reports at item 401243 a seven-day plan moving through mediators including Qatar. The independently verified terms of the mid-June Islamabad memorandum, mediated by Pakistan, include lifting the naval blockade and restoring commercial shipping through the Strait of Hormuz. The significance is that the chokepoint is not a theatre adjacent to the diplomacy: it is the diplomacy's own named deliverable, and it is being withheld to force the agreement's revival on better terms. The calibration runs both ways and this monitor states it: reading the convergence as coordination would overstate what two interviews with two different men prove, while reading it as coincidence would miss that both estates chose the same four-month-old document on the same morning.

KJ-2 [HIGH] **KJ-2. The sitting secretary of the Supreme National Security Council publicly identified the region's undersea cables, data centres and artificial-intelligence facilities as targets, and the Leader's flagship daily endorsed the target set over its editor's own name.** The evidence is three covers and a signed column. Kayhan leads with «اگر دوباره جنگ شود کابل‌ها و تأسیسات هوش مصنوعی منطقه نابود می‌شوند», attributed to a Press TV interview. Javan leads with the same statement and extends it: American assets in the Emirates and around the Strait of Hormuz will certainly be kept among Iran's targets. Vatan-e Emrooz runs it as the top-right banner. Kayhan's channel then publishes item 86556 over the name حسین شریعتمداری, arguing that the fibre-optic cables carrying global internet, banking and artificial-intelligence traffic are a strategic lever against the United States and its allies, and praising Rezaei by name for saying so. Independent reporting confirms Rezaei was appointed secretary of the Supreme National Security Council in early August 2026 and was made the Leader's representative on that council by decree. The significance is that this is an office-holder's declared target set rather than a veteran commander's rhetoric, that the targets are civilian infrastructure serving third countries, and that the simultaneity across three estates indicates centrally guided message discipline rather than organic editorial convergence.

KJ-3 [HIGH] **KJ-3. Mining is now the declared Iranian instrument in the Strait of Hormuz, stated by the IRGC Navy through the government's own daily and photographed on the cover of the state English-language paper.** The evidence is four surfaces. The Iran newspaper's channel at item

509547 reports the IRGC Navy saying a supertanker struck a sea mine after switching off its navigation systems and taking an unauthorised route. Jam-e Jam at item 30753 makes it the third tanker mined on Sunday, a shuttle tanker carrying 750,000 barrels, severely on fire, on the same IRGC Navy public-relations account. Iran Daily gives its cover photograph to a tanker burning on the water under 'Iran will strike enemy vessels again if necessary', which Kayhan's rail attributes to Rear Admiral Sayyari. Kayhan's own day-report box names the instrument in its title, «وقتی «رؤیای ترامپ» با مین و واقعیت‌ها در هرمز منفجر می‌شود». The external record supports a pattern rather than this instance: IRGC mine claims run back to late August, and US Central Command has described striking IRGC minelaying forces in the strait. The significance is the change in attribution. In the previous cycle this monitor recorded a tanker struck by an unidentified projectile; one cycle later the mining is self-declared, the count is plural, and rules of passage are being published. The count itself is not reliable: the Iran channel's own headline says second while its body says third.

KJ-4 [HIGH] **KJ-4. Kayhan printed the Riyadh casualty figure it withheld from its front page a day earlier, and overstated it in the headline for a second consecutive cycle.** The evidence is one cover read against itself and against a second paper. The bullet reads «حمله موشکی نیروهای مسلح یمن به فرودگاه بین‌المللی ملک خالد ریاض ۱۲ کشته و ۳۰۹ زخمی برجای گذاشته است», which matches the independent record of the Saturday 10 October strike, one source giving thirteen and 308. The headline above it reads «صدها کشته و زخمی», hundreds dead and wounded. On the same morning Vatan-e Emrooz carries the identical figure accurately in its rail, «۱۲ کشته و بیش از ۳۰۰ زخمی در فرودگاه ریاض», under «سعودی مات». The significance is twofold. The selection criticised in the previous edition has reversed, which this monitor records as a correction to its own forward expectation: the paper did carry the attack once it could carry it on its own terms, as a demonstration of Saudi air-defence failure. The inflation has not reversed, and because a second hardline paper handled the same material without it, this is an editorial decision at one title rather than a convention of the estate.

KJ-5 [HIGH] **KJ-5. The civilizational frame has become a two-way exchange and it rests on an adversary speech the Iranian press has read accurately.** The evidence is four surfaces and one external check. Vatan-e Emrooz gives its whole front page to «دشمنی تاریخی» over a photograph of the Acropolis, and its body text names the occasion precisely: the US Secretary of State spoke on 7 October in Athens on the Pnyx, where the citizens of ancient Athens assembled, and opened with Xerxes' attack on Greece and the burning of Athens in 480 BC before turning to present-day Iran. Independent reporting confirms the speaker, the date, the location and the opening. The Iran newspaper's channel carries two separate treatments of the same speech, at items 509549 and 509553, the second by a history professor. Fars News at item 467868 carries an adviser to the IRGC aerospace commander answering in the identical register. Javan folds Columbus Day, which falls on this date, into the same argument. The significance is that a framing built on a correctly reported speech is more durable than one built on invention, and that the Iranian side has now adopted the adversary's own category rather than merely denouncing it. The negative half of the finding matters too: nothing in the external record supports the further claim, made in the Vatan-e Emrooz text, that this language links Western civilization, Jewish historical heritage and religious prophecy as a single programme; that is the paper's construction and is reported as such.

KJ-6 [MODERATE-HIGH] **KJ-6. Iran declared a wartime expansion of nuclear generating capacity, and three different estates carried the declaration on the same morning.** The evidence is three

covers. Jomhouri Eslami leads with the head of the Atomic Energy Organization announcing «ساخت ۲۰ هزار مگاوات برق هسته‌ای در حال اجرا» and the printed line that construction projects were not and will not be shut down even in wartime. Javan's rail carries «اسلامی: پروژه‌های هسته‌ای حتی در دوران جنگ تعطیل نمی‌شوند». Iran Daily leads in English with 'Iran to press ahead with 20,000-MW nuclear power plan despite attacks'. The significance is the category: this is a claim of expansion, not of survival, made by the organisation's own head in a war in which nuclear facilities have been struck, and the English rendering adds the defiance the Persian versions leave implicit, which indicates the announcement is aimed at a foreign readership as much as a domestic one. The judgment is held at moderate-high rather than high because no cover carries a site, a timetable or a contract, and an announcement of megawatts under construction is not evidence of megawatts under construction.

KJ-7 [MODERATE-HIGH] **KJ-7. The Yemeni campaign against Saudi Arabia has become a multi-airport campaign, and its effect is now measurable in third-country government advisories rather than in Iranian claims.** The evidence is the wires on one side and foreign states on the other. Vatan-e Emrooz item 28223 carries a Yemeni military claim of strikes on Aramco and on both King Khalid in Riyadh and King Fahd in Dammam; Defa Press item 69629 adds Khamis Mushait and Abha, and item 69641 says the Abha strike halted all flights there. Against those claims stand three independent reactions: the UK embassy advising citizens to avoid every Saudi airport except Medina, reported on Etemad's channel at item 538673; a US warning on air travel to the kingdom, reported by Fars at item 467854; and South Korea telling its citizens to leave Saudi Arabia promptly, reported by Jam-e Jam at item 30759. The significance is methodological as much as substantive: the Iranian claims cannot be verified from here, but three governments issuing travel and evacuation advisories in one cycle is an externally observable proxy for disruption, and it is a larger disruption than any single casualty figure demonstrates.

KJ-8 [MODERATE-HIGH] **KJ-8. Iran's diplomatic posture toward Riyadh runs in the opposite direction from its press register, and the gap is widening rather than closing.** The evidence is three items. Jam-e Jam's channel at item 30754 reports a telephone call between the Iranian foreign minister Araghchi and the Saudi foreign minister Faisal bin Farhan, in which Araghchi said that insisting on a military approach while ignoring a political solution will complicate the situation, and offered Iranian help in starting Saudi-Yemeni talks. Sobh-e No's rail reports Riyadh hoping for Chinese mediation toward peace with Ansarallah under «دست به دامان پکن». Etemad at item 538688 reports Saudi energy memoranda with Kuwait, Qatar and Egypt. The significance is that Tehran is publicly offering to mediate the war that its hardline front pages are simultaneously presenting as a Saudi checkmate, which indicates either a deliberate division of labour between the diplomatic and informational tracks or a genuine divergence between them, and this monitor cannot yet distinguish the two. The telephone call appears on one channel only and is reported as a claim; the two ministers do have a documented history of such calls through 2026, which makes it plausible without making it confirmed.

KJ-9 [MODERATE-HIGH] **KJ-9. For a second consecutive cycle the Iranian press attacked adversary credibility using a dated, verifiable predicate, and the predicate again checks out.** The evidence is two covers and one external confirmation. Sobh-e No leads «آهای، بسنــت! دو هفته تمام شد» and its channel at item 116682 states the predicate precisely: the US Treasury Secretary said on 27 September 2026 that Iran's economy would probably collapse within two weeks, with the window closing on 19 Mehr 1405. Javan gives its whole page to the same expiry as a montage built on an

hourglass. Independent reporting confirms that Bessent made the statement on 27 September on a US Sunday broadcast, citing roughly fifteen million barrels of Iranian oil still at sea, as part of a pressure campaign named Operation Economic Outcast. The significance is that this is the second cycle running in which Iranian covers have chosen an auditable American claim over an unauditable Iranian one, which is a more effective information posture than battle-damage assertion and a harder one to rebut. The calibration: the expiry of a prediction is not evidence that the underlying pressure has failed, and none of these covers engages the substance of the campaign they are mocking.

KJ-10 [MODERATE] **KJ-10. The reformist press has begun arguing in print that Iran's central instrument can be bypassed, and the state's English-language paper is answering that argument rather than ignoring it.** The evidence is three surfaces. Sazandegi leads «دور زدن هرمز» over a photograph of Putin and Trump, stating that the strait's closure has seriously disrupted American fuel supply while Trump nonetheless bought close to five million tons of Russian diesel, and asking what the transaction does to both wars; its day-note is titled «پیام گازوئیلی», the diesel message. Shargh's clipping rail carries «گازوئیل، شکاف تازه ترامپ و زلنسکی» from a second reformist desk. Iran Daily's exclusive interview argues the arrangement does not justify saying Russia has abandoned Iran, that Russia faces its own diesel shortage and is reported to be importing from India, that the arrangement depends on Ukraine halting refinery strikes it is not halting, and that Ukraine and Europe are both unhappy with it. The significance is that the same transaction is producing alarm in Persian and reassurance in English within one state media group, which is the clearest instance of audience-specific framing in this edition, and that the chokepoint strategy now has a published domestic critique to answer.

KJ-11 [MODERATE] **KJ-11. The Leader's economic rulebook, printed as doctrine one day, became the instrument of a domestic indictment the next, and the Leader is otherwise absent from this edition.** The evidence is two consecutive issues of one paper. Charsoogh gave its entire front page on 19 Mehr, issue 577, to «ده فرمان اقتصادی», ten economic commandments compiled from the Leader's own messages running from «معیشت مردم» to «اقتصاد مقاومتی». On 20 Mehr, issue 578, the same headings return as the left column of an audit table under «دولت کم‌کار», the underperforming government, with predominantly negative verdicts in the right column and a cabinet photograph above them. The significance is the mechanism rather than the criticism: using the Leader's words as the yardstick makes the indictment unanswerable in factional terms, because the paper is not opposing his programme but reporting that the government has not delivered it. The accompanying negative finding is that this citation is the Leader's only presence in the edition. No cover carries a message from him, a portrait of him or words presented as spoken by him on this day, and the official site was not reachable, so the absence is documented rather than interpreted.

KJ-12 [MODERATE] **KJ-12. The hardline estate is delegitimising the negotiator class in the same cycle in which two other front pages argue for reopening negotiations.** The evidence is three surfaces plus one from the previous cycle. Charsoogh's front page carries a full caricature of Mohammad Javad Zarif in Qajar brocade and feathered hat, kneeling before a gilded signpost reading «واشینگتن», captioned «تسلیم‌الدوله», a mock Qajar honorific meaning roughly Surrender-of-the-Realm, with accompanying text arguing that Iran's problem is structural decline and excessive trust in Western promises rather than enmity with America. Fars News at item 467862 carries a television host attacking Zarif and the nuclear deal in the same idiom, continuing the «دستمال کاغذی برجام» banner recorded in the previous cycle. Etemad at item 538689 carries Mostafa Najafi, an

adviser to Rezaei, saying the Iran-United States talks are far from agreement and closer to tension. The significance is sequencing: the attack on the negotiators is running ahead of the negotiation, which is the pattern that preceded the collapse of earlier Iranian diplomatic openings, and it is worth tracking as a leading indicator rather than as commentary.

KJ-13 [MODERATE] **KJ-13. Negative evidence, filed as a finding: Lebanon is absent for a tenth consecutive print cycle and a fourth consecutive cycle from the wires, and the Israeli front remains absent as an active theatre for a third.** The evidence is a complete absence across ten front pages, six newspaper channels and three agency wires. No Lebanese item appears anywhere in the retrievable material. The Israeli file appears only in three non-operational forms: Netanyahu's domestic and legal exposure on the Sobh-e No rail under «جنایتکار زیر تیغ», foreign street protest on the Kayhan and Javan covers, and rhetorical denunciation on the Fars wire. The significance is that this edition's one new Israel-facing development is a prediction that the Israeli prime minister will be removed by accumulated domestic crisis, which is the first time in the run of this monitor that an Iranian front page has treated Israeli internal politics as a theatre in its own right. A sustained absence of a front plus the emergence of a political-removal frame is a different signal from an absence alone, and it should be read as the file changing shape rather than as the file closing.

KJ-14 [MODERATE] **KJ-14. Negative evidence, filed as a finding: the edition records substantial domestic costs and connects none of them to the strategy it advocates.** The evidence is four items on four surfaces. Etemad's cover prints «صبح بدون اینترنت» and marks fourteen days since part of daily life went offline, the first time a duration for the connectivity shutdown has appeared as a number on a front page in this run. The government daily's own channel carries winter gas-pressure scenarios at item 509546 and low-gas alternatives for four northern provinces at item 509558, tied to a warning covering eleven provinces. Charsoogh prints a sixfold rise in one manufacturer's appliance prices against a 1403 baseline and a member of parliament, Amir-Hossein Sabeti, telling the economy minister to resign if he cannot control the dollar. Not one front page places any of this beside the chokepoint campaign, the cable threat or the nuclear build that the same papers carry. The significance is that the Iranian press is currently capable of reporting the cost and of advocating the policy, and is not yet willing to do both in the same frame; the cycle in which some paper does will be the one worth marking.

Named-Figure Tracker

Figure	Role / relevance	Today's framing	Flag
Mohsen Rezaei	Secretary of the Supreme National Security Council since early August 2026; the Leader's representative on the council; IRGC commander 1981 to 1997	Carried on three front pages in one morning threatening the destruction of the region's undersea cables, data centres and artificial-intelligence facilities, valued at over two trillion dollars, with Javan adding American assets in the Emirates and around the strait	COERCION SPOKESMAN
Hossein Shariatmadari	Managing editor, Kayhan	Published a signed column at item 86556 endorsing Rezaei's target set by name and arguing that Gulf and Hormuz fibre-optic cables are a strategic lever against the United States	WATCH

Figure	Role / relevance	Today's framing	Flag
Marco Rubio	US Secretary of State	His 7 October Pnyx speech in Athens, opening with Xerxes and the burning of Athens in 480 BC, is the predicate for the Vatan-e Emrooz front page and for two Iran newspaper commentaries; verified independently in speaker, date, place and content	TARGET FRAMING
Scott Bessent	US Treasury Secretary	Addressed by name in the Sobh-e No headline and buried in the Javan montage as the author of an expired two-week prediction made on 27 September 2026; the predicate is verified	TARGET FRAMING
Donald Trump	US President	Shovelling earth over an hourglass in the Javan montage; walking with Putin on the Sazandegi cover as the buyer of Russian diesel; quoted by Kayhan as calling the attacks on Saudi Arabia horrific while saying the Saudis must defend themselves, a quotation reported here as a claim	TARGET FRAMING
Behzad Nabavi	Veteran reformist politician	On two reformist front pages the same morning: in Etemad calling the Islamabad memorandum «سند مسکوت», the dormant document, to be revived, and in Sazandegi criticising hardline efforts to perpetuate a war footing under «تندروها در مسیر اسرائیل»	NEW NAMED FIGURE
John Mearsheimer	Political scientist, University of Chicago	Banner-quoted by Sobh-e No calling the Islamabad memorandum Trump's document of surrender and predicting Trump will be forced into a second, harder agreement; a second consecutive cycle in which he fronts an Iranian cover	WATCH
Rear Admiral Sayyari	Senior Iranian naval commander	Kayhan's rail prints his commitment to strike enemy vessels again if necessary; Iran Daily gives the same line its cover over a photograph of a burning tanker	COERCION SPOKESMAN
Mohammad Eslami	Head of the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran	Carried by Jomhouri Eslami, Javan and Iran Daily announcing twenty thousand megawatts of nuclear generating capacity under construction and stating that building did not and will not stop in wartime	WATCH
Abbas Araghchi	Iranian Foreign Minister	Reported on one channel as telephoning the Saudi foreign minister to warn against a purely military approach and to offer Iranian help in starting Saudi-Yemeni talks; single-source and reported as a claim	WATCH
Kazem Gharibabadi	Iranian deputy foreign minister	Reported by the security council's own wire as receiving the American side's views on a seven-day plan through	NEW NAMED FIGURE

Figure	Role / relevance	Today's framing	Flag
		mediators including Qatar, with Tehran's answer to follow internal review	
Mohammad Javad Zarif	Former Iranian foreign minister	Caricatured on the Charsoogh front page in Qajar dress kneeling before a signpost reading Washington, captioned «تسلیم‌الدوله», and attacked on the Fars wire in the same idiom	WATCH
Benjamin Netanyahu	Israeli Prime Minister	Sobh-e No's rail asks whether crises accumulated since 7 October will force his removal, under «جنایتکار زیر تیغ», with two named Iranian commentators predicting electoral defeat; the first treatment of Israeli domestic politics as a theatre in this run	WATCH
Pete Hegseth	US Secretary of War	Named in the Vatan-e Emrooz page-one text for the use of scriptural language at war-related ceremonies, as part of the paper's civilizational-war argument	TARGET FRAMING
Mojtaba Khamenei	Supreme Leader	Present in this edition only by citation, as the authority whose economic priorities Charsoogh uses to score the government; no message, portrait or directly quoted words on any cover, and the official site was not reachable	absence noted

Headline Summary Table

Outlet	Lead Headline (English)	Orientation	Theme	Threat signal
Kayhan	Mohsen Rezaei to Press TV: if war comes again, the region's cables and AI facilities will be destroyed	Hardline, the Supreme Leader's flagship daily	Security council secretary's target set; Riyadh airport toll	SEVERE - state threat to regional undersea cables and AI infrastructure, endorsed by the editor
Javan	The two-week death sentence has run out, and 'he died'!	Hardline, IRGC-affiliated	Rezaei target set naming US assets in the UAE; expiry of the US economic prediction	SEVERE - names American assets in the Emirates and around the strait as targets
Vatan-e Emrooz	Historical enmity	Hardline principlist	Civilizational war framing on a verified US speech; Hormuz as a weapon against US markets	HIGH - war justification built on a correctly read adversary speech
Iran Daily	Iran to press ahead with 20,000-MW nuclear power plan despite attacks	English-language state daily, IRNA group	Wartime nuclear expansion; naval threat to shipping;	HIGH - naval commitment to strike vessels again, printed over a burning tanker

Outlet	Lead Headline (English)	Orientation	Theme	Threat signal
			fragility of the Russian diesel route	
Sobh-e No	Hey, Bessent! The two weeks are up	Principlist, No. 2447	Islamabad memorandum as American surrender; Netanyahu's removal	MODERATE-HIGH - argues the ceasefire memorandum was a US defeat and time favours Tehran
Jomhouri Eslami	The head of the Atomic Energy Organization announces: construction of 20,000 MW of nuclear electricity is under way	Traditional establishment	Wartime nuclear build; Zahedan funeral for the killed police officer	MODERATE-HIGH - declared wartime expansion of nuclear capacity
Etemad	Reviving the dormant document	Reformist	Reviving the Islamabad memorandum; fourteen days without internet	LOW - argues for reopening the ceasefire channel
Shargh	Incompatible narratives	Reformist daily of record	Contradiction between the Iranian and American negotiating packages	LOW - documents a structural mismatch rather than advocating escalation
Sazandegi	Going around Hormuz	Reformist, Kargozaran party, No. 1930	Russian diesel bypassing the chokepoint; criticism of the war footing	LOW-MODERATE - warns Tehran that its central instrument has a workaround
Charsoogh	The underperforming government	Economic daily, principlist register, No. 578	Government scored against the Leader's own economic priorities; Zarif caricature	LOW-MODERATE - domestic indictment with pre-emptive attack on the negotiator class

Per-Paper Front-Page Analysis

Iran Daily

English-language state daily, published by the Iran newspaper group under IRNA. Vol. 6236, 8 pages.

HIGH - naval commander's public commitment to strike vessels again, printed in English over a burning tanker

“Iran to press ahead with 20,000-MW nuclear power plan despite attacks”


Iran Daily

Iran to press ahead with 20,000-MW nuclear power plan despite attacks

Iran will strike enemy vessels again if necessary: Senior commander

Trump's unilateral approach limits mediating role in Iran dispute

- Main: The lead carries the Atomic Energy Organization announcement into English with three added words that change its meaning for a foreign reader, 'despite attacks'. The Persian papers report continuity of construction; the English paper reports defiance of strikes.
- Main: 'Iran will strike enemy vessels again if necessary: Senior commander', printed over a full-width photograph of a tanker burning at sea with a long trail of fire on the water. Kayhan's rail identifies the commander as Rear Admiral Sayyari, whose line it prints in Persian as 'لازم باشد باز هم به شناورهای دشمن ضربه می‌زنیم'. This is the only front page in the batch to put the maritime campaign in a photograph rather than in a sentence.
- Sub-item: 'Trump's unilateral approach limits mediating role in Iran dispute', an exclusive interview running the width of the page. The opening question asks what significance the Russian president's role in conveying Iran's position to Washington carries at a time when Qatar and Pakistan are seeking to mediate.
- Sub-item: The interview's substantive answer is the most careful piece of reasoning in the batch. It argues that the Russia-United States diesel arrangement does not change energy-market dynamics enough to justify saying Russia has abandoned Iran, that Russia is itself facing a diesel shortage and is reported to be importing diesel from India, that the whole arrangement depends on Ukraine halting its attacks on Russian refineries, which it is not doing, and that Ukraine and Europe are both unhappy with it. It adds that there is little reason to be optimistic that even Putin can make a difference. The interviewee's name is not legible in the available scan and is not reproduced here.
- Op-ed: 'Sánchez's gamble', on Spanish coalition politics, and a sports lead on a women's taekwondo competition, the paper keeping a general-interest English register beside the war coverage.
- Sub-item: 'Iran turns to rural tourism to boost local economies', the economic-resilience register aimed at foreign readers.

ANALYST NOTE The English daily is performing a different task from the Persian ones and it is worth reading for the difference. Where Sazandegi warns a domestic audience that the chokepoint is being bypassed, Iran Daily reassures a foreign audience that the bypass is fragile, and it does so with checkable arguments rather than assertions: Russia's own diesel shortage, Indian imports, Ukrainian refinery strikes that have not stopped. The same transaction is being used to produce alarm in Persian and calm in English, which is the clearest single example in this edition of audience-specific framing from within one state media group.

Vatan-e Emrooz

Hardline principlist morning daily. Volume 19, issue 4702, 8 pages.

HIGH - civilizational war framing built on a verified adversary speech, paired with explicit Hormuz-as-financial-weapon advocacy

“Historical enmity” «دشمنی تاریخی»



- Main: The full page is given to a staff report under the deck 'گزارش «وطن امروز» از اظهارات اخیر مقامات ارشد آمریکا و رژیم صهیونیستی درباره جنگ تمدنی و باستانی علیه ایران', printed over a photograph of the Acropolis with the US Secretary of State at a podium. The body text names the occasion exactly: Marco Rubio spoke on 7 October in Athens on the Pnyx, where the citizens of ancient Athens assembled, opened with the attack of Xerxes' army on Greece and the burning of Athens in 480 BC, described that event as part of the formation of Western civilization, and then turned to present-day Iran. Independent reporting confirms the speech, the date, the location and the Xerxes opening, so the paper's predicate is accurate.
- Main: The report's own analytic claim is that the language of senior American and Israeli officials has moved away from the usual framework of political and military dispute toward a civilizational and quasi-religious register in which Iran is no longer a rival state but part of a larger narrative linking the survival of Western civilization, Jewish historical heritage, the battle of good and evil and the fulfilment of religious prophecy. It argues the significance lies in the speakers: officials with a direct role in political and military decisions. It extends the case to Pete Hegseth, named as Secretary of War, for the use of scriptural language at war-related ceremonies, and it reaches Samuel Huntington and the clash of civilizations by name.
- Kicker: 'افزایش پیاپی تعداد قربانیان نظامی آمریکا در جنگ علیه ایران' over 'پنتاگون هنوز دارد می‌شمارد!' (The Pentagon is still counting!). The paper's own rendering of new Pentagon figures is 21 American service members killed and 865 wounded. This monitor has not been able to confirm those figures against any Pentagon release and reports them as the paper's claim.
- Banner: 'هزینه‌های هنگفت جنگ جدید برای آمریکا' over a direct quotation attributed to Mohsen Rezaei that if America attacks Iran again, assets such as key data systems and artificial-intelligence sensors will be targeted. This is the third front page in the batch carrying the same man on the same day.
- Right rail: 'سعودی مات' (Saudi checkmated) over a photograph of a burning terminal building, with the deck blaming Mohammed bin Salman's miscalculations and excessive reliance on America for placing the kingdom in the dead end of the Yemen war, and the strap 'کشته و بیش از ۳۰۰ زخمی در فرودگاه ریاض ۱۲'. The figure is stated accurately here, unlike on the Kayhan cover.

- Right rail: 'تنبیه روزانه نفتکش‌ها' (The daily punishment of the tankers) under a kicker about an increase in penalties against unauthorised vessels in the Strait of Hormuz. The word chosen is punishment, not defence or interdiction.
- Right rail: A boxed package, 'شلیک هرمز به قلب وال‌استریت' (A Hormuz shot to the heart of Wall Street) over 'فرمانروای آب‌ها' (Ruler of the waters), asking how an energy shock raises the debt of the artificial-intelligence giants and the risk of a fall in the American market, and citing a jump in daily tanker charter rates. The exact figure is not legible in the available scan and is not reproduced here.
- Right rail: 'تقابل تمدن‌ها' (The clash of civilizations), the rail label for the page-one argument.

> **ANALYST NOTE** This is the most intellectually coherent front page of the cycle and the one that most repays reading: it builds a war-justification narrative on a real, correctly dated and correctly located speech rather than on a fabrication, which makes it more durable than the claims around it. Read beside the rail, the paper is assembling a single argument in two registers, that the adversary has declared a civilizational war and that the strait is the instrument which converts that war into American financial pain, and the Hormuz, AI and Wall Street boxes are the economic half of the same thesis Rezaei states in military terms on the facing pages.

Javan

Hardline, affiliated with the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps.

SEVERE - IRGC daily names US assets in the UAE and around the strait as targets

“The two-week death sentence has run out, and 'he died'!” «اجل دو هفته‌ای به سر رسید «مرد»!»



- Banner: 'سرلشکر رضایی: جنگ شود این‌بار دیتاسنتر و کابل‌ها را نابود می‌کنیم' (General Rezaei: if there is war, this time we will destroy the data centres and the cables), with the deck naming the targets precisely: cables, data centres and artificial-intelligence facilities in the region worth two trillion dollars, and American assets in the Emirates and around the Strait of Hormuz which, the deck says, will certainly be kept among Iran's targets. The naming of the United Arab Emirates is the single most specific geographic threat on any cover this cycle.
- Main: A full-page photomontage marking the expiry of the US Treasury Secretary's prediction. Donald Trump shovels earth over an hourglass labelled 'Trump's Hourglass' while a green 'Oil Price' arrow climbs behind him; a wheelbarrow is labelled 'Trump's truck' and a buried figure 'Trump's Columbus Day'. The montage is timed to 12 October, which is Columbus Day in the United States, and folds the holiday into the civilizational argument running across the rest of the edition.
- Right rail: 'اسلامی: پروژه‌های هسته‌ای حتی در دوران جنگ تعطیل نمی‌شوند' (Eslami: nuclear projects are not shut down even in wartime), the same Atomic Energy Organization announcement that leads Jomhouri Eslami and the English-language Iran Daily.
- Right rail: 'راهپیمایی ۲۵۰ هزار نفری حمایت از فلسطین در لندن و چندین شهر اروپایی' (a 250,000-strong march in support of Palestine in London and several European cities), the Palestine file appearing as foreign street protest rather than as a front.
- Op-ed: The leader column on the right rail is built on the economic advice of the martyred Imam, the register in which the assassinated predecessor is invoked, and sits above the nuclear item rather than above any war item.

ANALYST NOTE Javan prints the Rezaei threat in its most operationally specific form of the three papers that carry it, adding American assets in the Emirates and around the strait to the cable and data-centre target set, and it is the Guard Corps' own daily that does so. The main page is given not to that threat but to mockery of an American economic prediction, which places the paper in the same auditing posture that Hamshahri occupied in the previous cycle: the covers now attack adversary credibility with dated, checkable predicates rather than contesting adversary claims.

Trump shovelling earth over 'Trump's Hourglass' as an 'Oil Price' arrow rises, with a buried figure labelled 'Trump's Columbus Day'

Sobh-e No

Principlist daily. Issue 2447 (the previous edition carried issue 2446, so the sequence is intact).

MODERATE-HIGH - argues the ceasefire memorandum was an American surrender and that time favours Tehran

"Hey, Bessent! The two weeks are up" «آهای، بسنـت! دو هفته تمام شد»



- Main: A full-width photograph of Donald Trump beside a second official, under a headline addressed directly to the US Treasury Secretary. The paper's own channel, item 116682, supplies the predicate with a date: Bessent said on 27 September 2026 that Iran's economy would probably collapse within two weeks, and the paper marks the expiry at 19 Mehr 1405. Independent reporting confirms Bessent made that claim on 27 September on a US Sunday broadcast, citing roughly fifteen million barrels of Iranian oil still at sea, under a pressure campaign named Operation Economic Outcast. The predicate checks out and the arithmetic is the paper's own.
- Main: The accompanying column argues that the prediction was an instrument of psychological and diplomatic pressure rather than economic analysis, and that persisting with it after it met field reality has cost the White House credibility. It is paired with an interview with Mohsen Zanganeh under 'ایران، چگونه محاصره را می‌شکند؟' (How does Iran break the siege?) and an item proposing Chabahar as the route to turn Iran into a regional transit hub.
- Banner: 'جان مرشایمر تحلیلگر برجسته آمریکایی در گفت‌وگو با برنامه «به وقت ایران»: تفاهم‌نامه اسلام‌آباد، سند تسلیم ترامپ است' (John Mearsheimer: the Islamabad memorandum is Trump's document of surrender). The channel version at item 116684 adds that he calls the 17 June memorandum a US surrender document, says Trump is flailing and cannot accept an American defeat, predicts Trump will be forced into a second and harder agreement, and says Iran is in no hurry because time favours it. Mearsheimer's affiliation to the University of Chicago is stated correctly. This is the second consecutive cycle in which Kayhan or Sobh-e No has fronted him.
- Banner: 'روسیه «آتش‌بس انرژی» را رد کرد' (Russia rejected the 'energy ceasefire'), the deck reporting that a deputy chair of the Russian State Duma energy committee professed no knowledge of the US president's claim of a Moscow-Kyiv energy ceasefire and said the claim was intended to contain world oil prices.
- Right rail: 'عربستان به میانجیگری چین برای صلح با انصارالله امیدوار است' over 'دست به دامان پکن' (Reaching for Beijing's skirts), reporting Saudi hope for Chinese mediation toward peace with Ansarallah.
- Right rail: 'آیا بحران‌های انباشته‌شده پس از ۷ اکتبر موجب حذف نتانیاهو خواهد شد؟' over 'جنایتکار زیر تیغ' (The criminal under the blade), with two named Iranian commentators arguing that Netanyahu faces serious electoral defeat and that a possible Israeli attack would not save him. A photograph at the foot of the page shows a protester holding a

'WANTED - NETANYAHU FOR WAR CRIMES' placard, printed mirror-reversed.

- Sub-item: 'توفیقی حاصل نشد', on Mehran Modiri's return to television failing to meet expectations, the only cultural item on the page.

> **ANALYST NOTE** Sobh-e No is the paper that names the edition's central document. By putting Mearsheimer's verdict on the Islamabad memorandum in a banner above a lead mocking the expiry of an American economic deadline, it argues that the June agreement was a defeat Washington has not yet admitted and that time is working for Tehran. The Netanyahu package matters as much: after two cycles in which Israel appeared on Iranian covers only as the object of other people's legal arguments, this is the first front page of the series to treat Israeli domestic politics as a theatre in its own right, and it does so as a prediction of removal rather than as a battlefield claim.

Kayhan

Hardline; published under the Supreme Leader's office, managing editor Hossein Shariatmadari. 85th year, issue 22458, 8 printed pages plus 4 digital pages.

SEVERE - state security-council threat to regional undersea cables and AI infrastructure, endorsed by the paper's editor

"Mohsen Rezaei to Press TV: if war comes again, the region's cables and artificial-intelligence facilities will be destroyed" «محسن رضایی در گفت‌وگو با پرس‌تی‌وی: اگر دوباره جنگ شود کابل‌ها و تأسیسات هوش مصنوعی منطقه نابود می‌شوند»


کیهان

اگر دوباره جنگ شود

کابل‌ها و تأسیسات هوش مصنوعی منطقه نابود می‌شوند

- Main: The whole upper page is given to an interview the paper attributes to Press TV with Mohsen Rezaei, photographed in IRGC uniform against an Iranian flag. The printed sub-heads carry the content of the threat: that the cables, data centres and artificial-intelligence centres of the region are worth more than two trillion dollars (ارزش کابل‌ها و دیتاسنترها و مراکز هوش مصنوعی در منطقه بیش از دو تریلیون دلار است), and that powers which have previously tried to force the strait ended in what the paper calls the dustbin of history. Independent reporting establishes that Rezaei has been secretary of the Supreme National Security Council since early August 2026 and is the Leader's own representative on that council, which makes this an office-holder's statement rather than a veteran's commentary.
- Sub-item: 'صدها کشته و زخمی در فرودگاه ریاض / یمن: رخدادهای عظیم در راه است' (Hundreds dead and wounded at Riyadh airport / Yemen: enormous events are on the way), under the kicker 'حملات موشکی به زیرساخت‌های سعودی ادامه دارد'. The bullets beneath the headline give the figure the headline does not: 'حمله موشکی نیروهای مسلح یمن به فرودگاه بین‌المللی ملک خالد ریاض ۱۲ کشته و ۳۰۹ زخمی برجای گذاشته است' (12 dead and 309 wounded). The paper's own text therefore reports twelve deaths under a headline claiming hundreds.
- Sub-item: The same item records, as the paper's own framing, that Saudi air defences backed by extensive American support are ineffective against Yemeni missiles and drones; that Saudi aviation authorities extended the closure of Riyadh airport by a further 24 hours; and that Saudi schools moved to remote teaching. It then prints a quotation attributed to Donald Trump, 'حملات علیه عربستان وحشتناک است اما سعودی‌ها باید توانایی دفاع از کشورشان را داشته باشند' (the attacks against Saudi Arabia are horrific, but the Saudis must be able to defend their own country), and a line stating that the US Secretary of State, whose country it says is directly complicit in the killing of 74,000 people in Gaza, announced the death of an American citizen and called for a halt to the killing of civilians.
- Op-ed: The 'یادداشت روز' box carries 'نوبت مجازات متجاوز نه تردید و مذاکره' (Now is the turn to punish the aggressor, not hesitation and negotiation), page 2. The adjacent 'گزارش روز' box reads 'وقتی «رؤیای ترامپ» با مین و واقعیت‌ها در هرمز منفجر می‌شود' (When 'Trump's dream' explodes on mines and realities in Hormuz), the first front-page

admission on any cover this cycle that mines are the instrument in the strait.

- Right rail: 'نکته: برادر محسن دست مریزاد!' (Brother Mohsen, well done!), page 2. The paper's own channel, item 86556, publishes this column over the name حسین شریعتمداری and argues that the undersea fibre-optic cables of the Persian Gulf and the Strait of Hormuz, which carry a large share of global internet, banking and AI traffic, are a strategic lever against the United States and its allies. The editor is endorsing the security council secretary's target set by name.
- Right rail: 'دریادار سیاری: لازم باشد باز هم به شناورهای دشمن ضربه می‌زنیم' (Rear Admiral Sayyari: if necessary we will strike enemy vessels again), page 7, and 'گزارش روز دویست و بیست و ششم جنگ / سناتور آمریکایی: ما در حال شکست‌خوردن هستیم؛ این یک تحقیر ملی است' (Report of the 226th day of the war / American senator: we are losing, this is a national humiliation). Also 'قشقاوی در گفت‌وگو با کیهان: تسلیح عناصر تروریست در جنوب شرق کشور سناریوی شکست‌خورده ترامپ و نتانیاهو است', tying the southeast to the two named adversaries.
- Kicker: 'تظاهرات ضدصهیونیستی در جهان علیه نسل‌کشی در غزه' over a photo block of marches, the only Israel-facing item on the page and a demonstration story rather than a front.

> **ANALYST NOTE** Kayhan is the clearest instrument of message discipline in this edition: it leads on the security council secretary's threat to destroy regional undersea cables and AI infrastructure, then has its own editor endorse that target set by name on page 2, then prints the navy's 'we will strike again' on page 7. The Riyadh item is the paper's second consecutive headline that overstates its own body text: yesterday it asserted the destruction of Saudi Arabia's largest oil field over a report conceding no independent damage detail, and today it prints 'hundreds dead and wounded' over a bullet giving twelve. The correction worth recording is that the twelve-and-309 figure is accurate to the independent record and is the toll Kayhan declined to carry on its front page the day before, so the paper has reversed its selection while keeping its inflation.

Shargh

Reformist daily of record.

LOW - documents a structural mismatch in the negotiating agendas rather than advocating escalation

“Incompatible narratives” «روایت‌های ناسازگار»



- Main: 'گزارش «شرق» از تناقض نهفته در دستور کار بسته‌های مذاکراتی ایران و آمریکا' (Shargh's report on the contradiction hidden in the agenda of the Iranian and American negotiating packages). Shargh is the only front page in the batch that reads the negotiating documents themselves rather than the rhetoric around them, and it reports that the two sides' agendas do not describe the same negotiation.
- Main: A boxed interview with the president under 'جلوی خودتحریمی و حذف گزینشی بایستیم' (Let us stand against self-sanctioning and selective exclusion), over a photograph of Masoud Pezeshkian against an Iranian flag, framed by the paper as an argument for national self-reliance.
- Sub-item: 'مخاطرات اقلیمی و ضرورت تحول در مدیریت حوادث' (Climate risks and the need for change in disaster management) and 'دست درازی به میراث فرهنگی' (Encroachment on cultural heritage), the paper keeping a domestic governance register on a war morning.
- Right rail: The editorial, 'حافظ و علوم اجتماعی' (Hafez and the social sciences), under a contributor portrait. The author's name is not legible in the available scan and is not reproduced here.
- Left rail: Under 'گازوئیل، شکاف تازه ترامپ و زلنسکی', 'بریده‌ها' (Diesel, the new rift between Trump and Zelensky), independently corroborating the Sazandegi lead from a second reformist desk, alongside items on poverty sending women onto unsafe roads and on Iranian football.
- Banner: The contents strap carries an item on the attack on Riyadh airport, so the Saudi story is present on this cover as a listed contents line rather than as a front.

ANALYST NOTE Shargh is doing the one piece of work no other paper attempts, which is to compare the two negotiating packages and report that they are not about the same thing. Placed beside the security council's own outlet reporting that a seven-day plan is moving through mediators, this is the most useful corrective on any cover: the diplomatic track is active and the two sides' agendas are incompatible, and those two facts are not in tension.

Sazandegi

Reformist, the daily of the Kargozaran-e Sazandegi party. Year 9, issue 1930, 8 pages.

“Going around Hormuz” «دور زدن هرمز»

LOW-MODERATE - reformist warning that the chokepoint strategy is being circumvented



- Main: The whole upper page carries a photograph of Vladimir Putin and Donald Trump walking together under a deck that states the Iranian reformist reading of the week in a single sentence: 'در حالی‌که بسته بودن تنگه هرمز، تأمین سوخت در آمریکا را با اختلال جدی مواجه کرده است، ترامپ توانست در توافقی با پوتین، نزدیک به ۵ میلیون تن گازوئیل از روسیه خریداری کند' (while the closure of the Strait of Hormuz has seriously disrupted fuel supply in America, Trump has been able, in a deal with Putin, to buy close to five million tons of diesel from Russia). The paper then asks what that transaction means for America's war with Iran and Russia's war with Ukraine.
- Main: The framing is the finding. A reformist paper states as settled fact that the strait is closed, which is also the IRGC Navy's own position, and treats the Russian diesel purchase not as a triumph of Iranian leverage but as evidence that the leverage can be bypassed. The headline is a warning to Tehran, not a boast.
- Op-ed: 'یادداشت روز: پیام گازوئیلی' (The diesel message), the day's note, reading the same transaction as a signal rather than a commodity flow.
- Left: 'انتقاد بهزاد نبوی از تلاش تندروها برای تداوم وضعیت جنگی در کشور' over 'تندروها در مسیر اسرائیل' (The hardliners on Israel's path), with a photograph of Nabavi, page 2. The charge is that the hardline estate's effort to perpetuate a war footing serves Israel's purposes.
- Top rail: Four red-flagged boxes running across the masthead, including one on Riyadh under Houthi attack and one on nationwide price controls, the economic and war files given equal rail weight.

ANALYST NOTE This is the sharpest dissent on any cover in the batch and it is argued in the adversary's own terms rather than in moral ones: if the strait's value is that it cannot be bypassed, then a five-million-ton diesel purchase from Russia is the beginning of a proof that it can. The Nabavi item beneath it supplies the political half of the same argument, and Nabavi's appearance here and on the Etemad front page the same morning makes this a coordinated reformist intervention by one veteran figure rather than two separate interviews.

Charsoogh Economic daily, principlist in register. Year 3, issue 578 (the previous edition carried issue 577).

"The underperforming government" «دولت کم‌کار» **LOW-MODERATE - domestic economic indictment, with pre-emptive delegitimation of the negotiator class**



- Main: 'ارزیابی عملکرد دولت چهاردهم در اجرای محورهای اقتصادی مورد تأکید رهبر انقلاب' (An assessment of the fourteenth government's performance in implementing the economic priorities emphasised by the Leader of the Revolution), over a photograph of a full cabinet meeting and a two-column scorecard headed 'محورهای تأکیدی' and 'وضعیت فعلی - نتیجه'. The rows run from 'معیشت مردم' (people's livelihood) and 'تولید داخلی' through 'اشتغال', 'مهار تورم و گرانی', investment and growth, to 'اقتصاد مقاومتی'. The verdicts in the right-hand column are predominantly negative.
- Main: The continuity is the finding. The previous edition of this same paper, issue 577, gave its entire front page to 'ده فرمان اقتصادی', an infographic compiled from the Leader's own messages running from 'معیشت مردم' through 'اقتصاد مقاومتی'. Twenty-four hours later the same headings return as the columns of a scorecard and the government fails most of them. The rulebook printed one day became the audit instrument the next.
- Sub-item: 'قیمت محصولات اسنوا ۶ برابر گران شد' (Snowa product prices have risen sixfold), with a model-by-model table comparing 1403 and 1405 prices, the kind of verifiable consumer series that does not appear on the political covers.
- Sub-item: 'امیرحسین ثابتی، نماینده مجلس: آقای همتی، اگر نمی‌توانید دلار را کنترل کنید، استعفا دهید' (MP Amir-Hossein Sabeti: Mr Hemmati, if you cannot control the dollar, resign), a named parliamentary demand for a named minister's resignation.
- Cartoon: A full caricature of Mohammad Javad Zarif in Qajar-era brocade robe and feathered hat, kneeling in obeisance before a gilded signpost reading 'واشینگتن' with a Qajar palace behind him, captioned 'تسلیم‌الدوله' (Surrender-of-the-Realm, a mock Qajar honorific). The accompanying text argues that Iran's foreign-policy problem is not enmity with America and the regional states but structural decline and excessive trust in the promises of Western powers.
- Sub-item: 'جوابیه وزارت جهاد کشاورزی به روزنامه چارسوق', the agriculture ministry's formal reply to the paper, printed on the front page.

ANALYST NOTE Charsoogh is running the only sustained institutional audit in the Iranian press and it is doing it with the Leader's own words as the yardstick, which makes the criticism unanswerable in factional terms: the paper is not opposing the Leader's programme, it is reporting that the government has not delivered it. The Zarif caricature on the same page places the attack on the negotiator class beside the attack on the economic managers, and read with the same figure's appearance on the Fars News wire this is a three-surface cluster delegitimising the diplomatic cadre at precisely the moment a negotiation revival is on two other front pages.



Mohammad Javad Zarif in Qajar dress kneeling before a signpost reading 'Washington', captioned 'Taslim-od-Dowleh' (Surrender-of-the-Realm)

Jomhouri Eslami

Traditional establishment daily, independent of the main factional blocs.

MODERATE-HIGH - declared wartime expansion of nuclear generating capacity

"The head of the Atomic Energy Organization announces: construction of 20,000 megawatts of nuclear electricity is under way" «رئیس سازمان انرژی اتمی خبر داد: ساخت ۲۰ هزار مگاوات برق هسته‌ای در حال اجرا»


جمهوری اسلامی

ساخت ۲۰ هزار مگاوات برق هسته‌ای در حال اجرا

- Main: Mohammad Eslami photographed at a podium, with two printed bullets beneath the headline: 'اسلامی: برنامه دستیابی به ۲۰ هزار مگاوات برق هسته‌ای را با جدیت ادامه می‌دهیم' (we are pursuing the 20,000-megawatt programme in earnest) and 'حتی در دوران جنگ نیز طرح‌های ساخت و ساز تعطیل نشدند و تعطیل نخواهند شد' (even in wartime the construction projects were not and will not be shut down). The second line is the load-bearing one: it is a claim of continuity of nuclear construction through a war in which nuclear sites have been struck.
- Sub-item: 'بدرقه باشکوه «شهید دکتر نصرت افتخاری» در زاهدان' (A magnificent farewell for 'Martyr Dr Nosrat Eftekhari' in Zahedan), over a crowd photograph of a funeral procession. This is the burial of the Sistan and Baluchestan police officer whose killing by a roadside device led the previous cycle, and the honorific printed here is 'Dr' where the earlier reporting gave a police rank, a discrepancy recorded rather than resolved.
- Sub-item: 'افزایش بیش از یک متری تراز دریاچه ارومیه' (Lake Urmia's level rises by more than a metre), over a photograph of boats and shoreline, one of the few positive domestic items on any cover.
- Sub-item: 'الزام دانش‌آموزان به حضور در کلاس درس با پلاک، دروغ‌پردازی است' (The claim that pupils are required to attend class wearing identification plaques is a fabrication), a denial carried at banner weight.
- Sub-item: 'یک درجه کاهش دمای محیط' from the gas company managing director, the domestic energy-conservation message that the government daily's own channel develops into warnings of winter gas shortfalls in eleven provinces.
- Op-ed: 'ترور نافرجام: اهداف و رسوایی مدعیان حمایت از مردم' (A failed assassination: the aims, and the scandal of those who claim to support the people), the page's long analytical piece, running beside a standing quotation box from Ayatollah Beheshti.

ANALYST NOTE The nuclear announcement is the most consequential single fact on any Persian front page in this edition, because it is a declared expansion rather than a declaration of survival: twenty thousand megawatts under construction, stated by the organisation's own head, in the middle of a war, and carried simultaneously by this paper, by the Guard Corps' daily and by the English-language state daily. The Eftekhari funeral closes the internal-security loop opened in the previous cycle and confirms that the state is handling the southeast through public commemoration rather than through a claimed operational response.

Etemad Reformist daily.

“Reviving the dormant document” «احیای سند مسکوت»

LOW - argues for reviving the ceasefire memorandum; records the domestic cost of the shutdown



- Main: 'بهزاد نبوی در گفت‌وگو با «اعتماد» از تفاهم اسلام‌آباد و دورنمای مذاکرات می‌گوید' (Behzad Nabavi speaks to Etemad about the Islamabad understanding and the outlook for negotiations), over a seated portrait filling the upper half of the page. The veteran reformist's proposition, carried in the headline, is that the June memorandum is dormant rather than dead and that reviving it is the available route.
- Sub-item: 'صبح بدون اینترنت' (Morning without internet), under a kicker marking fourteen days since part of daily life went offline. This is the only front page in the batch to treat the connectivity shutdown as a lead-adjacent story, and the duration is now printed as a number.
- Sub-item: 'مرز گفت‌وگو و نفوذ' (The boundary between dialogue and infiltration), the paper examining the margins of the anti-espionage bill, the domestic-security counterpart to the negotiation story above it.
- Sub-item: 'معماری جدید برای گفتمان اصولگرایی' (A new architecture for the principlist discourse), on a new interview with Mohammad-Reza Bahonar, secretary-general of the Followers of the Imam's Line and the Leadership Front, a reformist paper reading the conservative camp's internal reorganisation.
- Right rail: A column of signed 'یادداشت‌ها' with contributor portraits. The bylines are not legible at the available scan resolution and are not reproduced here.

> **ANALYST NOTE** Etemad supplies the other half of the edition's central argument. Where Sobh-e No calls the Islamabad memorandum Trump's surrender document, Etemad calls it the dormant document and wants it revived, and both are arguing for the same instrument to come back to the table for opposite reasons. The internet item is the cycle's most concrete domestic cost reported on any front page: fourteen days is a duration, not a complaint, and it is printed by a paper that also puts an anti-espionage bill and a negotiation revival on the same cover.

Appendix A: The Leader's presence in this cycle (documented absence)

Charsoogh, Year 3, No. 578, front page, 20 Mehr 1405; khamenei.ir not reachable at the time of compilation

No direct message, speech or statement from the Leader is retrievable for this cycle. The official site was not reachable at the time of compilation, and no front page in the batch carries a Leader message, a Leader portrait or a quotation presented as his own words spoken on this day. This appendix therefore records an absence rather than a translation, and the absence is itself the finding.

The Leader is nonetheless present on one front page, by citation rather than by voice. Charsoogh's lead deck reads «ارزیابی عملکرد دولت چهاردهم در اجرای محورهای اقتصادی مورد تأکید رهبر انقلاب», an assessment of the fourteenth government's performance in implementing the economic priorities emphasised by the Leader of the Revolution. The scorecard beneath it runs the same headings that the same paper printed the previous day, in issue 577, as «ده فرمان اقتصادی», ten economic commandments compiled from the Leader's own messages: livelihood of the people (معیشت مردم), domestic production (تولید داخلی), employment (اشتغال), curbing inflation and high prices (مهار تورم و گرانی), investment and growth, and the resistance economy (اقتصاد مقاومتی).

The analytic point is the conversion. On 19 Mehr the Leader's economic messages were printed as a rulebook under his portrait. On 20 Mehr the same headings return as the left-hand column of an audit table and the government fails most of them. The Leader's words are being used by a principlist economic daily as the authority for a domestic indictment, which is a different function from the commemorative or directive use recorded in earlier editions of this monitor.

Analyst flag: this appendix contains no translated message because none was available. Readers should not infer from the absence that no message was issued; they should infer only that none was retrievable through the sources this monitor can reach. The succession evidence underlying the identification of the current Leader as Mojtaba Khamenei remains as recorded in previous editions and is not re-established by anything printed in this cycle. Verification note: the Charsoogh issue numbers (577 on 19 Mehr, 578 on 20 Mehr) are consecutive and were read from the printed mastheads.

Appendix B: The day's flagged editorial, Kayhan, «برادر محسن دست‌مریزاد!» (Brother Mohsen, well done!)

Kayhan, Year 85, No. 22458, page 2, 20 Mehr 1405; published to the paper's own channel as item 86556, over the name حسین شریعتمداری (Hossein Shariatmadari)

Authorship note first, because the house rule requires it. Kayhan's front page of 20 Mehr carries two signed boxes: a «یادداشت روز» (day's note) titled «نوبت مجازات متجاوز نه تردید و مذاکره» (Now is the turn to punish the aggressor, not hesitation and negotiation) and a «نکته» (point) titled «برادر محسن دست‌مریزاد!». Only the second is published with an author name attached, on the paper's own channel at item 86556, where it appears over the name of Hossein Shariatmadari, Kayhan's managing editor. The first carries no retrievable byline and this monitor does not attribute it. The piece translated in summary below is therefore the «نکته», the one whose author is verified.

The full text was not retrievable in a form this monitor can reproduce, so what follows is a summary of the column's argument rather than a verbatim translation. No sentence below should be quoted as the author's own words.

The column's argument runs as follows. It returns to a theme the author says he has raised before: that the undersea fibre-optic cables running through the Persian Gulf and the Strait of Hormuz carry a large share of the world's internet, banking and artificial-intelligence traffic, and that this makes them a strategic lever against the United States and its allies. It then praises Mohsen Rezaei, identified as secretary of the Supreme National Security Council, for stating in a Press TV interview that a renewed war would destroy the region's cables, data centres and artificial-intelligence facilities, which Rezaei valued at more than two trillion dollars. It criticises domestic critics of that position as pro-Western, and characterises the United States as the aggressor in the recent fighting.

Analyst flag: this is an editor endorsing, by name and with approval, a sitting security official's public identification of civilian communications infrastructure as a target set. The two-trillion-dollar valuation and the claims about cable vulnerability are the column's own assertions and are not verified here. The column is documented for defensive assessment; nothing in this monitor endorses or amplifies it. Source line: Kayhan, No. 22458, page 2, 20 Mehr 1405, channel item 86556.

Appendix C: Methodology and sourcing notes

iran-press-digest pipeline, 12 October 2026

Scan coverage. Nine Persian front pages were retrieved from the Tasnim newspaper kiosk album of 20 Mehr 1405, posted at 00:03 UTC, and one English-language front page from the Newspapers_Iran album of the same Jalali date. The stale-batch guard compared the album's own printed Jalali date against the target day and matched it exactly, so this is a fresh batch and not a carried-over one. Every masthead was identified visually from the printed nameplate and cross-checked against the paper's own dateline, issue number and channel, not inferred from layout or cartoon style.

The ten papers read in full are Kayhan, Javan, Vatan-e Emrooz, Sobh-e No, Shargh, Sazandegi, Etemad, Jomhouri Eslami, Charsoogh and the English-language Iran Daily. Issue continuity was checked against the previous edition where the paper prints a number: Sobh-e No moved from 2446 to 2447 and Charsoogh from 577 to 578, both consecutive.

Text sources. Six newspaper channels (Kayhan, Vatan-e Emrooz, Jam-e Jam, Etemad, Iran, Sobh-e No) and three agency wires (Defa Press, Fars News, Nour News) were read directly. Agency material is treated throughout as claims and is folded into trends and judgments rather than into the front-page sections, in line with the attribution firewall. Tehran Times and the Leader's official site were both unavailable at the time of compilation, as they were in the previous cycle, so neither contributed to this edition.

Verification performed. Four load-bearing predicates were checked against the independent record and all four hold: the US Secretary of State's 7 October speech at the Pnyx in Athens, including its opening on Xerxes and the burning of Athens in 480 BC; the US Treasury Secretary's 27 September statement that Iran would have nothing left to trade within roughly two weeks; Mohsen Rezaei's appointment as secretary of the Supreme National Security Council in early August 2026, together with his designation as the Leader's representative on that council; and the existence and terms of the Islamabad memorandum of mid-June 2026, mediated by Pakistan, whose reported provisions include restoring commercial shipping through the Strait of Hormuz.

Accuracy corrections carried into this edition. First, the Riyadh casualty figure. The toll of twelve dead and 309 wounded belongs to the attack of Saturday 10 October and is accurate to the independent record, which also contains a slightly different tally of thirteen and 308 from one source. A separate and smaller strike on Sunday 11 October caused a terminal fire; Etemad's channel reports one Pakistani resident killed and eleven injured in it. Kayhan prints the Saturday figure under a headline reading «صدها کشته و زخمی», hundreds dead and wounded, which its own bullet does not support. Second, Defa Press places the Riyadh impact at Terminal 3 while the independent reporting of the Sunday strike gives Terminal 4; this monitor does not resolve the discrepancy and records both. Third, the Iran newspaper channel's own item is internally inconsistent, headlining a second mined tanker while its body text calls the vessel the third since the previous day; Jam-e Jam's channel gives the figure as three. Fourth, Kayhan numbers this the 226th day of the war against this monitor's calendar count of Day 223; the monitor's fixed-epoch count is retained and the discrepancy is noted rather than reconciled.

Single-source flags. The following are reported as attributed claims and are not independently confirmed: the Iranian foreign minister's telephone call with his Saudi counterpart and the offer to help start Saudi-Yemeni talks, which appears only on Jam-e Jam's channel; the seven-day plan and the

statement that the strait's return to normal depends on American compliance, which appear only on the security council's own wire; the IRGC Navy's account of three mined tankers; Vatan-e Emrooz's rendering of new Pentagon casualty figures as 21 killed and 865 wounded; the two-trillion-dollar valuation of regional cable and artificial-intelligence assets; and the quotation attributed to the US president on Saudi self-defence. None should be reproduced as authentic without primary-source confirmation.

Items deliberately not reproduced. Several bylines and one interviewee name were not legible at the resolution of the available scans: the author of the Vatan-e Emrooz page-one report, the author of the Shargh editorial «حافظ و علوم اجتماعی», the contributor names in the Etemad note column, and the interviewee in the Iran Daily exclusive. In each case the monitor records that the name exists and was not readable rather than guessing at it. One numeric claim, the daily tanker charter rate in the Vatan-e Emrooz Wall Street box, was likewise illegible and is described qualitatively rather than quoted.

Translation caveats. Persian headlines are retained in the original script beside the English throughout, because the register is evidence. Loaded terms are glossed where the framing depends on them: «تنبیه» is punishment rather than interdiction, «دست به دامان» carries supplication, «تسلیم‌الدوله» is a mock Qajar honorific with no clean English equivalent. Regime vocabulary appears in quotation marks where it is the outlet's characterisation and not this monitor's.

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.