

BOTTOM LINE UP FRONT — 16 APRIL 2026

The US Naval Blockade of Iranian ports is now in Day 4. The most significant development: AP reports the US and Iran gave an "in-principle agreement" to extend the ceasefire two weeks — though a US official told Reuters this is not formally confirmed. Pakistan Army Chief Munir flew to Tehran today carrying a new US message. IRGC Commander Abdollahi issued the most expansive Iranian threat to date: threatening to block all Persian Gulf, Sea of Oman, and Red Sea traffic if blockade continues. WTI ~\$91, Brent ~\$95 on ceasefire extension signals — prices now testing the \$90 floor. The Abdollahi threat is the analytical counterweight: a Persian Gulf-wide Iranian blockade would encompass all GCC energy exports, not just Iranian shipping. NOAA SWPC issued G2 (Moderate) geomagnetic storm watches for 17-18 APR — HF degrading now.

Decision required today: Ceasefire expires 22-APR (6 days). The 17-20 APR window is the decision point. Pre-position VHF/UHF backup before tomorrow — G2 Watch 17-18 APR will degrade HF. Iranian cyber operations (AA26-097A Day 9) continue regardless of diplomatic track — 5,219 internet-exposed PLCs confirmed. Netanyahu-Aoun leaders call announced for today, first in 34 years.

DAILY THREAT REPORT LITE

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 16 APRIL 2026 | PREP-CON 3 ELEVATED | BLOCKADE DAY 4 | Op Epic Fury Day 47
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PRIORITY ACTIONS — 16 APRIL 2026

1 ENERGY SUPPLY	<p>FOR: Fleet / Manufacturing / Agriculture / Generator-dependent households</p> <p>WTI ~\$91, Brent ~\$95 — this is not a resolution. Iran Commander Abdollahi threatened to block all Persian Gulf/Sea of Oman/Red Sea traffic, which would encompass all GCC energy exports. Structural IEA/WB/IMF warning unchanged. Fill fuel tanks while prices are off peak. Fertilizer prices locked for 2026 crop year.</p>
2 CYBER OT / ICS	<p>FOR: Any organization with internet-exposed industrial control systems, PLCs, SCADA, or OT networks</p> <p>AA26-097A Day 9: 5,219 internet-exposed PLCs confirmed globally (74.6% US). Dragos identified PYROXENE — new IRGC-backed OT threat actor alongside CyberAv3ngers. Fortinet CVEs Day 10: ~2,000 instances still exposed. Patch immediately. This campaign does not stop with a ceasefire.</p>
3 COMMS G2 WATCH	<p>FOR: All EMCOMM operators / served agency emergency managers — G2 Watch 17-18 APR</p> <p>NOAA SWPC issued G2 (Moderate) geomagnetic storm watches for 17-18 APR (published 16-APR 02:25 UTC). CH HSS active now — R1 impacts already noted. HF degrading on 20m/15m/10m. PRE-POSITION VHF/UHF BACKUP BEFORE TOMORROW. 40m/60m viable today. G2 at Kp 6 = aurora possible at Portland OR / Columbus OH latitude. Big Falls Dam (WI) and Cheboygan (MI) both have active flood emergencies — served agency EMCOMM in those areas: verify alternate comms paths now.</p>

SITUATION	ANALYST ASSESSMENT • ALTERNATIVE HYPOTHESIS • SOURCE	STATUS
▶ STRATEGIC — Active conflict drivers with multi-week consequences		
US Naval Blockade Iranian Ports Day 4 — CF Extension In-Principle	<p>CENTCOM blockade Day 4 active. Pakistan Army Chief Munir flew Tehran with new US message. AP (regional officials): US/Iran gave "in-principle agreement" to extend ceasefire two weeks. Reuters (US official): not formally confirmed; "continued engagement." Ceasefire expires 22-APR (6 days). Iran Commander Abdollahi threatened to block ALL Persian Gulf/Sea of Oman/Red Sea traffic — geographic escalation beyond Hormuz. DoD deploying +6,000 troops to region. UK PM Starmer: UK NOT joining US blockade; UK focusing on mine clearance.</p> <p><i>ALT: Abdollahi threat may be deterrence messaging rather than operational preparation — Iran historically calibrates before execution. However, 4 days of blockade without kinetic response is creating decision pressure on IRGC credibility. Formal ceasefire extension confirmation is the only near-term de-escalation signal that matters. fortunefavorstheprepared.com/dtr/ — AP/Fortune Ceasefire Extension (15-APR)</i></p>	FLASH Blockade Day 4
Oil Stabilizing WTI ~\$91 Brent ~\$95 Extension Signal	<p>WTI ~\$91, Brent ~\$95 (16-APR). Ceasefire extension signal driving prices toward \$90 floor. WTI settled \$91.28 (CNBC 14-APR); 8th consecutive weekly crude inventory build (+6.1M bbl, API) confirms demand destruction in data. IEA/WB/IMF structural warning unchanged: no quick relief even post-reopening. WATCH: WTI close below \$88 = market pricing significant resolution; above \$95 = renewed escalation concern.</p> <p><i>ALT: Abdollahi threat to expand blockade to Persian Gulf/Sea of Oman/Red Sea could reverse oil pullback immediately. Any IRGC interdiction of GCC tankers = oil back to \$110+. Watch Trump statement and formal US response to Abdollahi threat. — CNBC / Investing.com (15-APR)</i></p>	FLASH Stabilizing
Lebanon War Leaders Call Today 16-APR 2,020+ KIA	<p>Trump (Truth Social, 15-APR): announced Netanyahu-Aoun leaders call today (16-APR) — first Israel-Lebanon contact in 34 years. No confirmation from either side. IDF issued new evacuation</p>	FLASH 2,020+ KIA

	<p>warning south of Zahrani River (16-APR). IDF struck ambulance teams in Nabatieh three times (15-APR), killing 4 paramedics (Lebanon Health Ministry T2). Cumulative: 2,020+ KIA confirmed (Al Jazeera/Health Ministry 11-APR); current count higher given ongoing daily strikes, exact figure not confirmed this cycle.</p> <p><i>ALT: If Netanyahu-Aoun call produces even a tactical pause in IDF operations, Iran loses its Lebanon pretext for ceasefire violations. This is the most impactful potential positive signal this cycle. Watch for any Trump or IDF statement on Beirut operations. — CNBC / ABC News (16-APR)</i></p>	
<p>Bushehr NPP 4 Strikes 1 KIA 04-APR IAEA/WHO Alarm</p>	<p>Four confirmed strikes on Iran sole nuclear plant since 28-FEB. Last 04-APR: security guard KIA, auxiliary building damaged. IAEA DG Grossi invoked seven pillars framework. WHO DG Tedros: strike could trigger nuclear accident with multigenerational health impacts. Rosatom technicians partially evacuated. No radiation detected. No new strike 09-15 APR. THREE RISK VECTORS: (1) Radiological dispersal across Gulf if auxiliary systems fail; (2) Russian escalation if Rosatom nationals killed; (3) Global precedent that civilian nuclear plants are legitimate military targets.</p> <p><i>ALT: Near-reactor strikes may be deliberate coercive signaling — four strikes, none on reactor core, mirrors Trump pattern of explicit target-sparing as coercion tool (cf. Kharg terminal). — IAEA / WHO 04-06 APR</i></p>	<p>HIGH Monitor</p>
<p>▶ OPERATIONAL — Sector impacts requiring near-term action</p>		
<p>Iranian Cyber OT/ICS Active AA26-097A Day 9 5,219 Exposed PLCs</p>	<p>Six-agency advisory Day 9. NEW: Network Threat Detection confirmed 5,219 internet-exposed PLCs globally; 74.6% (3,893) in US. NEW: Dragos identified PYROXENE — new IRGC-backed OT threat actor alongside CyberAv3ngers. The Iranian OT threat ecosystem is broader than any single advisory covers. Fortinet CVEs Day 10 — ~2,000 instances still exposed. Patch immediately.</p> <p><i>ALT: Day 9 without new victim disclosure may reflect rapid remediation by covered organizations. However 5,219 confirmed exposed PLCs means the attack surface remains vast. PYROXENE identification signals threat diversification beyond what existing IOCs cover. — CISA AA26-097A (07-APR)</i></p>	<p>FLASH Patch Now</p>
<p>Fertilizer Shock Urea \$999/ton Anhydrous \$1,099 Crop Year Locked</p>	<p>USDA AMS Illinois (03-APR): Urea \$999/ton, Anhydrous \$1,099/ton. DTN National Retail (first week APR): Urea \$847/ton (+26% vs prior month, +48% YoY); Anhydrous \$1,088/ton (+18% vs prior month, +40% YoY). US spring planting underway at peak input cost. No strategic reserve for fertilizer. 2026 crop year locked in regardless of Hormuz outcome. AFBF: farmers who did not preorder before 28-FEB paying 100%+ premiums at spot. Food price transmission to consumers: Q3 2026 confirmed at IEA/WB/IMF multilateral level.</p> <p><i>ALT: Operators who contracted fertilizer pre-war (~40-60% of Corn Belt volume) are insulated. Spot-market and fall application buyers are fully exposed. Price impact to retail food is delayed but certain. — USDA AMS / Red River Farm Network (03-APR)</i></p>	<p>FLASH Ongoing</p>
<p>Microsoft April Patch Tuesday SharePoint 0-Day</p>	<p>April 14 release: 167 CVEs. CVE-2026-32201 SharePoint Server spoofing — ACTIVELY EXPLOITED in the wild. Allows unauthorized attacker to view/modify data via improper input validation. Affects SharePoint 2016, 2019, Subscription Edition. CVE-2026-33825 (BlueHammer) — Microsoft Defender EoP, publicly disclosed; local user escalates to SYSTEM via Defender signature update process. CVE-2026-21643 Fortinet SQL Injection federal deadline TODAY 16-APR. 8 Critical vulnerabilities total including Windows TCP/IP RCE (CVE-2026-33827, potentially wormable).</p> <p><i>ALT: Timing of SharePoint zero-day exploitation concurrent with AA26-097A raises question of Iranian APT attribution — unconfirmed. May be criminal/ransomware initial access vector rather than nation-state. Microsoft has not disclosed exploitation details or threat actor. — BleepingComputer April 2026 PT (14-APR)</i></p>	<p>HIGH Patch Today</p>
<p>Hormuz Blockade Day 4 +Gulf-Wide Threat Signal</p>	<p>Blockade Day 4 active. IRGC Commander Abdollahi threatened to block ALL Persian Gulf/Sea of Oman/Red Sea — this would stop Bahrain, UAE, Kuwait, Qatar, Saudi Arabia energy exports. ~2,000+ vessels stranded. Mine clearance 6-10 weeks regardless of diplomacy. IEA structural damage warning unchanged. SUPPLY CHAIN HEALTH NOTE: Bicillin L-A (BPG) drug shortage ongoing through Q3 2026 — FDA authorized Lentocilin importation 06-MAR-2026; BPG = sole first-line treatment for syphilis in pregnancy. 90-day prescription fills recommended for all critical medications.</p> <p><i>ALT: Abdollahi threat may be deterrence signaling, not operational preparation. IRGC has not moved assets to enforce such a threat as of 16-APR. The 13-day oil storage constraint creates more leverage for Iran at the negotiating table than actual interdiction. — CENTCOM / Fortune/AP (15-APR)</i></p>	<p>FLASH Ongoing</p>
<p>▶ WATCH — Developing situations requiring monitoring</p>		
<p>G2 Watch + Wolf River WI Evacuations Active</p>	<p>NOAA SWPC G2 (Moderate) geomagnetic storm watches issued for 17-18 APR (published 16-APR 02:25 UTC) due to CH HSS effects. R1 Radio Blackout active NOW. HF degrading on higher bands. G2 = Kp 6 expected 17-18 APR. 40m/60m viable today; 20m/15m/10m degrading. Pre-position VHF/UHF backup BEFORE tomorrow. Aurora possible Portland OR / Columbus OH / Philadelphia PA latitude. Big Falls Dam (WI) and Cheboygan (MI) flood emergencies both active — compound EMCOMM stress.</p> <p><i>ALT: G2 watches can underperform if CH HSS arrives weaker than forecast. However EMCOMM pre-positioning cost is minimal — pre-position VHF/UHF regardless. — NOAA SWPC G2 Watch (16-APR)</i></p>	<p>HIGH 17-18 APR</p>
<p>Domestic Threat NTAS Bulletin No Elevated Alert Analytical Gap</p>	<p>DHS NTAS Bulletin active (05-MAR-2026). No Elevated Alert despite Blockade Day 4 and IRGC Commander Abdollahi explicit Persian Gulf/Sea of Oman/Red Sea blockade threat (16-APR). 47-day gap since Bulletin with no upgrade is unprecedented in modern US counterterrorism framework. State and local partners not receiving threat-level communications consistent with operational environment.</p>	<p>WATCH Gap</p>

	<p><i>ALT: Upgrade most likely if IRGC executes Abdollahi threat against GCC targets or executes homeland kinetic action. Watch for any DHS statement following Abdollahi threat statement. — DHS NTAS (05-MAR)</i></p>	
<p>Iran Internet Day 47 1,120+ Hours Record Shutdown</p>	<p>Day 47 at approximately 1,120+ hours. Longest nation-scale internet shutdown on record. IRNA (16-APR) confirmed 3,375 total killed including 383 children — Iranian state media partially operational for outbound messaging. No new material change from prior cycle. MOIS Handala operating via Starlink through blackout — cyber threat not neutralized by shutdown.</p> <p><i>ALT: Partial whitelist expansion is a potential early signal of regime stability pressure. If internet access broadens materially, it may indicate internal negotiating flexibility not visible through official channels. — NetBlocks / Iran Int'l (14-APR)</i></p>	<p>MOD Day 48</p>
<p>Houthi\nBab el-Mandeb\nStrategic\nPatience</p>	<p>Houthis have NOT attacked Red Sea shipping since 28-FEB-2026 despite Iran war. Analysts (CSIS, ICG) assess strategic patience — Bab el-Mandeb held in reserve per Iranian coordination. ~30 tankers near Yanbu within Houthi strike range. A single attack arrests all Red Sea shipping (~15% global seaborne trade). LINK: Abdollahi threatened the Red Sea (16-APR) — Houthi execution is the proximate mechanism for that threat. 22-APR ceasefire expiration is the primary tripwire for potential Houthi activation.</p> <p><i>ALT: Prior back-channel understandings with Riyadh/Washington may durably prevent Houthi activation. Domestic Yemeni pressures (secessionist threat in south) diverting Houthi focus from Red Sea operations. — Defense News: Houthi/Bab el-Mandeb Analysis (14-APR)</i></p>	

INDICATOR	CURRENT — 16 APR 2026	CONTEXT
WTI / Brent	~\$91 / ~\$95	Ceasefire extension signal; WTI settled \$91.28 (CNBC 14-APR); 8th consec. inventory build
Gas / Diesel	~\$3.99 / ~\$5.40/gal (EIA)	Pump prices not yet reflecting crude pullback; 7-10 day pass-through lag
Urea Fertilizer	\$999/ton (USDA AMS IL, 03-APR)	+115% vs pre-war; 2026 crop year locked — no relief path
Lebanon Deaths	2,200+ KIA est. since 02-MAR	IDF expanding invasion; ambulances struck Nabatieh 15-APR (4 paramedics KIA)
Iran Internet	Day 47 / 1,104+ hrs offline	Longest nation-scale shutdown on record; IRNA reporting 3,375 KIA confirms partial outbound media

<p>PREP-CON 3 ELEVATED Prepare your household and organization now.</p>	<p>COMCON 4 PARTIALLY DEGRADED OT/ICS and EMCOMM operators: verify backup comms.</p>	<p>CYBER ELEVATED Patch and isolate OT/ICS. Assume targeting.</p>	<p>NTAS BULLETIN Heightened environment. No specific alert issued.</p>	<p>SWX G2 WATCH 17-18 APR HF degrading now. 21 NWR OOS/DEG. Pre-position VHF/UHF BEFORE tomorrow.</p>
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24-HOUR WATCH — What changes the picture by 17 April 0600

<p>WATCH 1 CF EXTENSION</p>	<p>The in-principle extension (AP) must be formally confirmed before 22-APR. Pakistan Army Chief Munir flew Tehran today — his report to Washington 16-17 APR is the most significant diplomatic signal of the next 24 hours. Also watch: Netanyahu-Aoun leaders call outcome — if a tactical pause in Lebanon emerges, Iran loses its primary pretext for ceasefire violations. WTI below \$88 = market pricing formal confirmation.</p>
<p>WATCH 2 ABDOLLAHI THREAT</p>	<p>IRGC Commander Abdollahi threatened to block all Persian Gulf/Sea of Oman/Red Sea if blockade continues — the most geographically expansive Iranian threat of the conflict. Watch for: (1) Any IRGC pre-positioning of naval assets; (2) US official response to Abdollahi statement; (3) Any GCC tanker incident or interdiction. Day 4 without IRGC kinetic response is analytically significant, but does not negate Abdollahi threat execution risk.</p>
<p>WATCH 3 G2 WATCH + DAM STATUS</p>	<p>G2 Watch (Kp 6) forecast 17-18 APR — HF degrading now, will worsen significantly tomorrow. Pre-position VHF/UHF backup before tonight. 40m/60m still viable today; use it while it lasts. Big Falls Dam (Wolf River WI) flash flood watch through 18-APR. Cheboygan Dam (MI) ESCALATED: Water 6.84 in below crest; multi-county flooding; State EOC active. Both dam emergencies will face G2 EMCOMM degradation simultaneously tomorrow — coordinate backup comms NOW.</p>

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