

DAILY THREAT REPORT

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⚠️ PREPAREDNESS CONDITION 3 - INCIDENT PROBABLE - Brown Sky ⚠️

Friday, 22 May 2026 | Op Epic Fury Day 84 | Hormuz Blockade Day 40 | LBN CF Day 37 | Trend: STABLE

COMMUNICATIONS CONDITION: COMCON 4 - INCIDENT POSSIBLE

WEATHER: WX-CON 2 - SLGT - W Texas/Oklahoma convective + Ohio Valley flash-flood

SPACE WEATHER: SWX-CON 1 - Minor - Elevated energetic-electron flux; geomagnetic/radio quiet

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BOTTOM LINE UP FRONT

STATUS: [PREP-CON 3](#) INCIDENT PROBABLE (Brown Sky), Trend STABLE. US naval blockade of Iran Day 40; Lebanon ceasefire Day 37 of 45-day extension (porous, holding); Iran deal-or-strike window remains open and unresolved -- Iran still reviewing the US memorandum, Trump signalling a wait of a couple of days. [WX-CON 2 SLGT](#) dual-hazard: an SPC Day 1 SLIGHT convective risk across west Texas and Oklahoma, and a WPC Day 2 Excessive Rainfall SLIGHT flash-flood risk now centered on the Ohio Valley. [SWX-CON 1 Minor](#) -- elevated energetic-electron flux (satellite-charging hazard) under a continued SWPC alert; geomagnetic and HF-radio environment quiet. PREP-CON holds STABLE; the WHO Ebola public health emergency remains a lead driver, with US airport screening now operational.

URGENT -- IRAN DEAL-OR-STRIKE WINDOW STILL OPEN; TEHRAN HARDENS ON URANIUM: Iran remains under review of the US one-page memorandum of understanding and has not accepted or rejected it; Trump said this cycle he is willing to wait a couple of days for a response, leaving the window open rather than closing. The most consequential current-cycle development is a hardening signal: Supreme Leader Mojtaba Khamenei has formally directed that Iran's near-weapons-grade enriched-uranium stockpile remain inside the country, which runs directly against a core term of the US proposal. In parallel, Iran announced a "Persian Gulf Strait Authority" asserting a controlled maritime zone in the Strait of Hormuz and is working with Oman on a permanent transit-toll framework; Trump rejected both. Domestically, House leadership pulled a war-powers resolution vote on 21-MAY after it became clear the measure to constrain the Iran campaign would pass, deferring the question into June. This remains the cycle's highest-stakes inflection -- see KJ-5 and FLASH [\[GEO-002\]](#).

PUBLIC HEALTH -- WHO EBOLA EMERGENCY, US ENTRY SCREENING ACTIVE: The WHO public health emergency over the Bundibugyo-strain Ebola outbreak in the DRC and Uganda remains in force; the strain has no approved vaccine or treatment. The case count has risen this cycle to roughly 600-plus suspected cases and about 148 deaths per UN figures, with 51 laboratory-confirmed in the DRC. Two developments are new this cycle: the outbreak has spread geographically, with a confirmed case in South Kivu hundreds of kilometers from the Ituri epicenter and a case in M23-controlled Goma; and enhanced US entry screening is now physically operational, having begun at Washington-Dulles on 21-MAY. The US doctor previously reported positive in the DRC was moved to Germany for treatment. There is still no US case and CDC continues to assess the domestic risk as low. See FLASH [\[HLTH-002\]](#).

AVIATION -- Ebola entry restrictions now operational; central-Africa flights routed to Dulles only: The CBP/DHS entry restriction is now in active enforcement. All US nationals and lawful permanent residents who have been in the DRC, Uganda, or South Sudan within the prior 21 days must enter through

Washington-Dulles for enhanced CDC screening; foreign nationals who have been in the three countries in that window are barred from entry at this time. The restriction runs 30 days. Operators and travelers with central-Africa routing should plan for diversions, re-routing, and screening delays. See FLASH [\[HLTH-002\]](#).

WEATHER -- Dual hazard: west Texas/Oklahoma convective SLIGHT and an Ohio Valley flash-flood SLIGHT: [SPC](#) carries a Day 1 SLIGHT risk centered on western Texas and Oklahoma, where a sharpening dryline and moderate instability support scattered severe storms with large hail and damaging winds; an isolated hail threat extends into central Kansas, and a few brief tornadoes are possible along a low-level-jet corridor from the central Gulf Coast into the Tennessee and Ohio Valleys. Separately, [WPC](#) carries a Day 2 Excessive Rainfall SLIGHT risk for portions of the Ohio Valley, valid 12Z 22-MAY through 12Z 23-MAY -- the flash-flood focus has shifted east this cycle from the prior southern Plains and Hill Country framing. See [\[WX-001\]](#).

CYBER -- PAN-OS deadline past, Exchange at T+7, NGINX active exploitation, two fresh KEV entries: The FCEB BOD 22-01 deadline for PAN-OS CVE-2026-0300 Captive Portal RCE is now past; any unpatched internet-exposed PA-Series or VM-Series instance is past-deadline exposure. Microsoft Exchange CVE-2026-42897 OWA XSS carries a CISA KEV due date of 29-MAY, now T+7. NGINX CVE-2026-42945 "NGINX Rift" (CVSS 9.2 heap overflow in ngx_http_rewrite_module) remains under active exploitation, though current analysis assesses real-world remote code execution as unlikely -- it requires both a specific vulnerable configuration and ASLR disabled -- leaving denial-of-service via worker-process crashes as the practical hazard. CISA added two further KEV CVEs on 21-MAY: CVE-2025-34291 (Langflow) and CVE-2026-34926 (Trend Micro Apex One on-premise). See [\[CYB-001\]](#), [\[CYB-009\]](#), [\[CYB-010\]](#), [\[CYB-007\]](#).

LEBANON: Ceasefire Day 37 of the 45-day extension. The truce, in effect since 17-APR, continues to be honored only loosely; overnight Israeli strikes in the Tyre district killed four and wounded two paramedics at an Islamic Health Committee site this cycle. Next Washington political round 2-3 JUN; Pentagon security track 29-MAY. See [\[GEO-CF-LBN\]](#).

IRAN-HORMUZ: Strait blockade Day 40. The JMIC maritime security threat level for the Strait of Hormuz remains CRITICAL; commercial traffic is significantly reduced, with mines reported in and near the Traffic Separation Scheme and sporadic GNSS interference in the approaches. Iran has moved to formalize its control by announcing a Persian Gulf Strait Authority and a controlled maritime zone, and is pursuing an Oman-brokered permanent transit-toll framework; the US has rejected both and continues to insist the waterway stay open and toll-free. See [\[GEO-001\]](#).

SPACE WX: [SWPC](#) reports a continued energetic-electron environment: alert ALTEF3 Serial 3692 (operator-confirmed, issued 22-MAY 0507 UTC) has the 2 MeV electron integral flux above 1000 pfu, sustained since 16-MAY, with yesterday's maximum at 2842 pfu -- up from 1717 pfu the prior cycle -- a satellite-charging hazard for geostationary operators; the SWPC 27-day outlook keeps the greater-than-2 MeV flux at high levels through 23-MAY. The geomagnetic and HF-radio environment is quiet: no G, S, or R storm, with the greatest expected planetary Kp at 3, below storm thresholds, and only a slight chance of a minor radio blackout. SWX-CON is set at 1 (Minor) on the electron-flux driver.

MARKETS: Brent crude is trading above 104 dollars per barrel after rising past 107 dollars on Thursday, recovering most of a roughly 6 percent two-session drop, and remains near 50 percent above pre-war levels; the Friday move higher followed the Khamenei directive keeping Iranian uranium in-country. Defense names (LMT/RTX/NOC/GD/BA/HII/LHX) carry asymmetric downside on a confirmed deal, upside on no-deal plus strike resumption. [USDA](#) WASDE-671 (released 12-MAY): 2026/27 wheat 1.561 bb, corn 16.0 bb, soybeans 4.435 bb. Next WASDE 11-JUN.

PRACTITIONER POSTURE -- 72-HOUR DECISION TRIGGERS

1. PAN-OS CVE-2026-0300 FCEB deadline is now past. Confirm patch deployment for any internet-exposed PA-Series or VM-Series immediately; any unpatched instance is past-deadline exposure. See [\[CYB-001\]](#).
2. Iran deal-or-strike inflection window remains open and unresolved, with Tehran reviewing the US memorandum and Trump signalling a short wait; the Khamenei uranium directive narrows the path to a near-term deal. Hold pump-price posture flex through the weekend; cyber-spillover preparedness elevates on a no-deal-plus-strike scenario. See [\[GEO-002\]](#).
3. Ohio Valley households face a WPC Day 2 ERO SLIGHT flash-flood window 22-23 MAY; west Texas and Oklahoma face an SPC Day 1 SLIGHT convective risk. Pre-position drainage and high-water route plans, verify two-of-three non-NWR alert paths (Wireless Emergency Alerts + [NWS](#) app + commercial broadcast). TN Shelbyville and IL Hillsboro NWR transmitters are OUT OF SERVICE near the Tennessee/Ohio Valley storm corridor. See [\[WX-001\]](#).

4. Cisco SD-WAN operators past the FCEB deadline: re-baseline web-shell detections (XenShell + Godzilla), audit AWS vManage credential reuse, rotate JWT signing keys. See [\[CYB-007\]](#).

5. Travel/health: the CBP/DHS Ebola entry restrictions are now in active enforcement, routing all US-bound flights carrying passengers recently in the DRC, Uganda, or South Sudan to Washington-Dulles only, with CDC screening operational. Travelers with central-Africa routing should expect diversions and screening delays. See [\[HLTH-002\]](#).

WHAT CHANGED SINCE 21-MAY (24-HOUR ROLLUP)

+ ADDED: Enhanced CDC Ebola screening became physically operational at Washington-Dulles on 21-MAY. The Ebola outbreak spread geographically to South Kivu and to M23-controlled Goma. Supreme Leader Mojtaba Khamenei directed Iran to keep its enriched-uranium stockpile in-country. Iran announced a Persian Gulf Strait Authority and a controlled maritime zone. House leadership pulled the Iran war-powers resolution vote on 21-MAY. CISA added two KEV CVEs on 21-MAY: Langflow CVE-2025-34291 and Trend Micro Apex One CVE-2026-34926.

~ CHANGED: Day counters advanced one cycle: blockade to Day 40; LBN CF to Day 37; Op Epic Fury to Day 84; WHCD to Day 28. WX-CON dual-hazard geography shifted: the SPC Day 1 SLIGHT convective risk moved to west Texas and Oklahoma, and the WPC Day 2 ERO SLIGHT flash-flood focus shifted east to the Ohio Valley. Iran deal-track hardened on the Khamenei uranium directive. PAN-OS FCEB deadline moved from reached to past. Exchange deadline now T+7. Cisco SD-WAN deadline now T+5 past. Ebola toll updated to roughly 600-plus suspected cases and about 148 deaths. NWR roster per the 22-MAY operator snapshot: 36 transmitters affected (16 OUT OF SERVICE, 20 DEGRADED) -- numerically identical to 21-MAY but with a shifted composition (AK Sand Point now OUT OF SERVICE; new OUT OF SERVICE at AL Columbus, IA Cedar Rapids, MD Baltimore; IN Angola moved to DEGRADED).

= NO MATERIAL CHANGE: PREP-CON 3 INCIDENT PROBABLE baseline; COMCON 4 INCIDENT POSSIBLE baseline; SWX-CON 1 Minor on the continued ALTEF3 electron-flux driver; US naval blockade operational posture; munitions stockpile structural posture (1-4 year replenishment window); Lebanon ceasefire holding in name with strikes continuing; no significant US-impacting seismic activity.

SECTION INDEX

Click any entry ID for full detail. Color band: red = FLASH ≥ 25; orange = FLASH 20-24.

SECTION	ACTIVE ENTRIES (click ID)
SECTION 1 - KEY JUDGMENTS	KJ-1 · KJ-2 · KJ-3 · KJ-4 · KJ-5
CRITICAL TIME HACK	7 cards linked to FLASH entries
SECTION 3 - FLASH EVENTS	GEO-002 · WX-001 · CYB-010 · CYB-007 · CYB-009 · GEO-001 · GEO-CF-LBN · CYB-001 · CYB-005 · HLTH-001 · AGR-001
SEC 4A - CYBER (CARRYOVER)	below-FLASH cyber + supporting CVEs
SEC 4B - GEOPOLITICAL (CARRYOVER)	LBN/IR/RU-CN context
SEC 4C - MIC SECOND-ORDER IMPACTS	GEO-002 → MIC chain
SEC 4D - INDICATORS & WARNING MATRIX	10 active tracks
SEC 5 - ENERGY / INFRASTRUCTURE / SUPPLY CHAIN	GEO-001
SEC 6 - AVIATION / TRANSPORTATION	WX-001 (IROPS)
SEC 7 - METEOROLOGICAL & SEVERE WX	WX-001 · AGR-001

SEC 7A - SPACE WEATHER & EMCMM	ALTEF3 electron-flux alert continues
SEC 7B - AGRICULTURE, FOOD & SUPPLY CHAIN	AGR-001
SEC 10 - PREP-CON ASSESSMENT	(narrative)
SEC 11 - SECTOR IMPACT MATRIX	PREP-CON + COMCON
SEC 12 - ANALYTICAL INTEGRITY	(narrative)
SEC 13 - CLOSING	(narrative)

GEOGRAPHIC IMPACT INDEX

DETERMINING YOUR POSTURE

This index and the Section 11 matrix are decision-support tools, not just data. Use them with this cycle's [PREP-CON](#), [COMCON](#), [WX-CON](#), and [SWX-CON](#) to set your own [CONCON \(Continuity Conditions\)](#) -- your family's or MAG's operational posture. FFTP sets the four conditions; you set CONCON.

Find your region; entries in that row apply to you. Click any entry ID for full detail.

REGION / STATE	ACTIVE ENTRIES	NOTES
West Texas / Oklahoma	WX-001	SPC Day 1 SLGT; scattered severe storms with large hail and damaging winds along a sharpening dryline. NM triple-gap (Roswell/Carlsbad/Artesia) and TX Rio Grande City NWR transmitters OUT OF SERVICE near this zone
Tennessee / Ohio Valley	WX-001	WPC Day 2 ERO SLGT excessive rainfall 12Z 22-MAY to 12Z 23-MAY; flash-flood concern. A few brief tornadoes possible along the low-level-jet corridor. TN Shelbyville and IL Hillsboro NWR transmitters OUT OF SERVICE near this corridor
Central Kansas	WX-001	Isolated marginally severe hail possible. KS Ulysses NWR transmitter OUT OF SERVICE adjacent
Alaska (NWR cluster)	-	18-site Kodiak/Anchorage/Juneau/Fairbanks NWR cluster (Sand Point OOS + 17 DEGRADED); outside the CONUS severe-weather corridor
NATIONAL - CYBER	CYB-001 · CYB-005 · CYB-007 · CYB-009 · CYB-010	PAN-OS FCEB deadline past · Linux Copy Fail T+7 past chain-risk · Cisco SD-WAN T+5 past UAT-8616 active · Exchange T+7 · NGINX active exploitation · Langflow + Trend Micro Apex One added to KEV 21-MAY
NATIONAL - ENERGY/FUEL	GEO-001 · GEO-002	Hormuz blockade Day 40 · Iran deal-or-strike window open and unresolved · JMIC threat level CRITICAL · Brent above 104 dollars
NATIONAL - AGRICULTURE	AGR-001	WASDE-671 baseline (12-MAY) · Ohio Valley flash-flood risk to Corn Belt fieldwork · next WASDE 11-JUN
International Travel - Middle East	GEO-001 · GEO-002 · GEO-CF-LBN	Gulf airspace + Middle East flexibility while the Iran deal-or-strike window remains open and unresolved; central-Africa-origin US-bound flights

		routed to Washington-Dulles only under Ebola entry rules
Strait of Hormuz	GEO-001 · GEO-002	Blockade Day 40; Iran announced a Persian Gulf Strait Authority and a controlled maritime zone; US rejects any toll framework; UAE accelerating Fujairah bypass pipeline (operational 2027)
Southern Lebanon + Bekaa + Northern Israel	GEO-CF-LBN	CF Day 37 of 45-day extension; overnight IDF strike in the Tyre district killed four this cycle; strikes on south Lebanon continue
Beijing - Putin-Xi summit	-	Summit concluded 20-MAY; declaration signed, 2001 Treaty extended. Carryover in SEC 4B; no current-cycle delta
Russia-Ukraine	-	Pokrovsk-axis pressure continuing; below-FLASH this cycle
HF / EMCOMM - high latitudes	-	SWX-CON 1 Minor on the ALTEF3 electron-flux driver; geomagnetic and HF-radio environment quiet; satellite-charging hazard for GEO operators

SECTION 1 - KEY JUDGMENTS

Five key judgments drive this cycle. Each is a 2-3 sentence summary per ICD 203 estimative scale; full evidence base, tripwires, and alt-hypotheses live in the linked FLASH entry.

KJ-1: Lebanon ceasefire holds porously through 29-JUN. CONFIDENCE: HIGH -- CF Day 37 of the 45-day extension. Israeli strikes on south Lebanon continued through this cycle, including an overnight strike in the Tyre district that killed four and wounded two paramedics. Both Washington and Beirut benefit politically from continuation; the tripwire for collapse remains a high-mass IDF Beirut Dahieh strike paired with a same-week Hezbollah strategic-rocket response. Full analysis: [\[GEO-CF-LBN\]](#).

KJ-2: Strait of Hormuz remains effectively closed through Q2 2026. CONFIDENCE: MODERATE -- The JMIC maritime threat level for the Strait of Hormuz remains CRITICAL, with mines reported in and near the Traffic Separation Scheme. The operational reality is unchanged: blockade Day 40, commercial transit at single-digit percent of pre-war volume. Iran has moved this cycle to formalize its control through a Persian Gulf Strait Authority and a controlled maritime zone. Practitioner watch: Hormuz language in any US-Iran negotiated text, and whether the deal-or-strike inflection resolves toward a memorandum or a strike. Full analysis: [\[GEO-001\]](#).

KJ-3: Dual-hazard weather drives EOC readiness in west Texas/Oklahoma and the Ohio Valley 22-23 MAY. CONFIDENCE: MODERATE -- [SPC](#) Day 1 carries a SLIGHT risk across western Texas and Oklahoma for scattered severe storms with large hail and damaging winds, with a few brief tornadoes possible from the central Gulf Coast into the Tennessee and Ohio Valleys. [WPC](#) Day 2 ERO holds a separate SLIGHT excessive-rainfall risk for portions of the Ohio Valley. TN Shelbyville and IL Hillsboro NWR transmitters are OUT OF SERVICE near the Tennessee/Ohio Valley corridor. Full analysis: [\[WX-001\]](#).

KJ-4: WHO Ebola PHEIC; no US Ebola cases assessed as very likely through 21-JUN. CONFIDENCE: HIGH -- The WHO Ebola PHEIC over the Bundibugyo-strain outbreak in the DRC and Uganda remains in force; the strain has no approved vaccine. Enhanced CDC entry screening became physically operational at Washington-Dulles on 21-MAY, and the outbreak has spread geographically to South Kivu and Goma. There is still no US case and CDC assesses overall US public risk as low. Full analysis: [\[HLTH-002\]](#).

KJ-5: US-Iran deal-or-strike inflection window remains open and unresolved. CONFIDENCE: MODERATE -- Iran is still reviewing the US one-page memorandum and has neither accepted nor rejected it; Trump signalled this cycle a willingness to wait a couple of days for a response. The path to a near-term deal narrowed when Supreme Leader Mojtaba Khamenei directed that Iran keep its enriched-uranium stockpile in-country, against a core US term. The IRGC has previously threatened to take the war beyond the region if attacks resume. Full analysis: [\[GEO-002\]](#).

CRITICAL TIME HACK - 0-72H DECISION TRIGGERS

Items ordered by (probability × impact). Each card is a standalone decision trigger per SOP §0.71. Bracketed IDs cross-reference matching FLASH entries.

Iran deal-or-strike window open; Tehran reviewing the US memorandum.

[TODAY | 22-MAY (T+0) | GEOPOLITICAL]

DECISION TRIGGER: Iran is reviewing the US one-page memorandum and Trump has signalled a willingness to wait a couple of days; the Khamenei directive keeping uranium in-country narrows the deal path. Practitioner read: hold pump-price posture flex through the weekend; cyber-spillover preparedness elevates on a no-deal-plus-strike scenario; retain Middle East airspace travel flexibility. See [\[GEO-002\]](#).

PAN-OS CVE-2026-0300 FCEB deadline past -- verify patch now.

[TODAY | 22-MAY (T+1) | CYBER]

DECISION TRIGGER: The FCEB BOD 22-01 deadline for PAN-OS Captive Portal RCE is now past. [Unit 42](#) has published indicators of compromise including post-compromise log cleanup. Any internet-exposed PA-Series or VM-Series not yet patched or Captive-Portal-restricted is past-deadline exposure -- remediate immediately. See [\[CYB-001\]](#).

WHO Ebola PHEIC; US airport screening operational at Dulles.

[TODAY | 22-MAY (T+0) | PUBLIC HEALTH]

DECISION TRIGGER: The WHO Ebola PHEIC and the CBP/DHS entry restrictions are in active enforcement: enhanced CDC screening became operational at Washington-Dulles on 21-MAY, and all central-Africa-origin US-bound flights are routed there. Practitioner read: travelers and operators with DRC/Uganda/South Sudan routing should expect diversion and screening delays; there is still no US Ebola case and CDC assesses public risk as low. See [\[HLTH-002\]](#).

SPC Day 1 SLGT west Texas/Oklahoma convective; WPC Day 2 ERO SLGT Ohio Valley flash-flood.

[TODAY-SAT | 22-23 MAY | WEATHER]

DECISION TRIGGER: [SPC](#) Day 1 carries a SLIGHT risk across western Texas and Oklahoma for scattered severe storms with large hail and damaging winds, with a few brief tornadoes possible from the central Gulf Coast into the Tennessee and Ohio Valleys. [WPC](#) Day 2 ERO holds a SLIGHT excessive-rainfall risk for portions of the Ohio Valley. TN Shelbyville and IL Hillsboro NWR transmitters are OUT OF SERVICE near the Tennessee/Ohio Valley corridor. Local EOCs in the affected corridors should plan activation triggers. See [\[WX-001\]](#).

SWPC ALTEF3 alert continues -- 2 MeV electron flux above 1000 pfu; satellite-charging hazard.

[TODAY | 22-MAY (T+0) | SPACE WX]

DECISION TRIGGER: SWPC alert ALTEF3 Serial 3692 (issued 22-MAY 0507 UTC) shows the 2 MeV electron integral flux above 1000 pfu, a continued alert since 16-MAY with yesterday's maximum at 2842 pfu. This is a satellite-charging hazard for geostationary operators. The geomagnetic and HF-radio environment is quiet -- no G-storm, no R or S storm. Practitioner-tier hams: HF conditions are normal this cycle; the watch item is GEO satellite charging, not radio blackout.

Microsoft Exchange CVE-2026-42897 FCEB deadline T+7.

[FRIDAY | 29-MAY (T+7) | CYBER]

DECISION TRIGGER: On-prem Exchange Server OWA XSS spoofing CVE-2026-42897 (CVSS 8.1). Microsoft tagged "Exploitation Detected" in advisory; EEMS mitigation available pending permanent fix.

FCEB BOD compliance due 29-MAY (T+7). Exchange operators should enable EEMS now if not already done. See [\[CYB-009\]](#).

US-Iran deal-or-strike window open; Khamenei orders uranium kept in-country.

[GEO-002 | FLASH | UPDATED - DEAL WINDOW OPEN; TEHRAN HARDENS | Score 25]

DELTA SINCE YESTERDAY

~ **CHANGED:** The deal-or-strike window did not close as the prior cycle framing anticipated. Iran is still reviewing the US one-page memorandum and has neither accepted nor rejected it; Trump said this cycle he is willing to wait a couple of days for a response, effectively extending the window rather than enforcing a deadline.

+ **ADDED:** Supreme Leader Mojtaba Khamenei formally directed that Iran's near-weapons-grade enriched-uranium stockpile -- assessed at close to 900 pounds at 60 percent purity -- remain inside the country, per two senior Iranian sources cited by Reuters. This hardens Tehran against a core US term that the stockpile be shipped abroad.

+ **ADDED:** Iran announced the creation of a Persian Gulf Strait Authority and declared a controlled maritime zone in the Strait of Hormuz, and is reportedly working with Oman on a permanent transit-toll framework. Trump rejected both, insisting the waterway remain open and toll-free.

+ **ADDED:** House leadership pulled a war-powers resolution vote on 21-MAY after it became clear the measure constraining the Iran campaign would pass with Republican absences; the vote is deferred into June. The Senate has already advanced its companion resolution.

= **NO MATERIAL CHANGE:** NYT/TOI option set if no deal: (a) intensified bombing of military + infrastructure, (b) Kharg Island seizure, (c) commando operation to extract buried nuclear material. IRGC standing threat to take the war beyond the region if attacks resume.

WHY THIS CYCLE

This remains the cycle's highest-impact transition, and it is now defined by a hardening rather than a closing. Iran is reviewing the US memorandum while its Supreme Leader has placed the uranium stockpile -- a core US demand -- formally out of reach, and Tehran has moved to institutionalize its control of the Strait through a new maritime authority. Trump has chosen to wait rather than strike, leaving the window open. Lebanon fighting remains a complicating factor -- Tehran has refused a wider peace deal that does not include a halt to Israel's fight with Hezbollah. Sources: [CBS News](#), [Arab News](#), [CNBC](#).

SALUTE - Size / Activity / Location / Time / Equipment / Unit

SIZE	US Department of War + CENTCOM full force posture for renewed strike option; IDF coordination cell active; CSG plus amphibious group in CENTCOM AOR; air-wing assets at Al Udeid/Al Dhafra/Prince Sultan AB/Manama; THAAD/Patriot batteries forward-deployed across UAE/Saudi/Bahrain/Kuwait/Qatar.
ACTIVITY	Iran is reviewing the US one-page memorandum and Trump has signalled a willingness to wait a couple of days for a response. Supreme Leader Khamenei directed that Iran keep its enriched-uranium stockpile in-country, against a core US term. Iran announced a Persian Gulf Strait Authority and a controlled maritime zone; the US rejected any toll framework. Diplomatic tracks remain active through Pakistani and Gulf-monarchy mediation. House leadership deferred a war-powers vote into June.
LOCATION	Targeting set per prior intel: Natanz/Fordow/Arak nuclear complexes; IRGC C2; Bandar Abbas naval; Kharg Island oil-export terminal (named NYT option). Iran-side response posture: IRGC-AF Khatam HQ "hands on trigger"; Houthi/Iraqi-PMF/Hezbollah proxy activation Tier-2.

TIME	Deal-or-strike window remains open as of 22-MAY; Trump has signalled a wait of a couple of days for Iran's response. No deadline is being enforced and no strike order has been issued. Outcome remains open and unresolved.
EQUIPMENT	No CENTCOM kinetic posture change observed in OSINT this cycle; carrier movements, B-2 / B-52 generation, and tanker formation patterns consistent with on-call posture. Strike option appears to remain a 24-72 hour generation cycle.
UNIT	CBS News liveblog 20-MAY (primary); Arab News ; CNBC ; Reuters via Pakistani source; CSIS munitions analysis (April 2026 baseline).

DOWNSTREAM - CASCADE IMPLICATION

If a deal is announced: Hormuz partial-reopening framework **likely**; Brent -\$8 to -\$12 on confirmation; defense-sector retracement; cyber-spillover risk softens. If no deal and strike order is issued: Hormuz fully collapses for an additional 30-60 days; Brent +\$10 to +\$15 on order announcement; Iranian Houthi/Iraqi-PMF activation in 48 hours; US/EU airspace advisories for ME corridors; Lebanon CF follow-on collapse risk elevates per KJ-1 tripwire. MIC chain: stockpile-replenishment cycle **almost no change** on 72h horizon (structural 1-4 year window); FY27 supplemental request holds. Domestic-stability factor: Iran entered the war already in the largest anti-government uprising since 1979, and the war froze that unrest rather than resolving it; regime stability is a second-order driver of Tehran's negotiating incentives and post-conflict continuity risk. Full standalone analysis is in the FFTP companion report [SUPINTEL-2026-001: Iranian Domestic Unrest](#).

ANALYST ASSESSMENT

I assess this remains the single highest-stakes decision window of Q2 2026, and the Khamenei uranium directive has lowered the probability of a near-term comprehensive deal. I judge the probability of a deal or interim memorandum being announced in the next 72 hours at **unlikely** (25-40%): the public directive to keep uranium in-country directly contradicts a core US term, and a visible reversal would carry severe domestic cost for Tehran. I judge the probability that a strike order is issued in the same window at **unlikely** (20-30%): Trump has chosen to wait rather than strike and the Pakistani and Gulf mediation tracks remain active. The window most likely (45-55%) persists in an unresolved, extended state. I would change my mind if (a) Hegseth or Caine make public statements consistent with strike preparation; (b) an IDF mobilization order is observed; (c) Iran formally and publicly rejects the US memorandum; (d) the IRGC beyond-the-region threat is paired with observed proxy force-generation.

ALTERNATIVE HYPOTHESES

Alt-Hyp 1 (unlikely): The Trump call-off was a deception operation and the strike is actually still scheduled, with the public announcement designed to lower Iranian readiness.

WHAT WOULD SUPPORT	Strike-window observation of B-2 generation or carrier repositioning inconsistent with peacetime posture; secondary leak from Israeli sources confirming continued planning.
WHAT WOULD DISCONFIRM	No detected CENTCOM force-generation indicators this cycle; Iran has not surged air-defense posture; Trump publicly chose to wait rather than strike.
CURRENT STATUS	INDETERMINATE -- collection gaps preclude high-confidence call either way.

Alt-Hyp 2 (roughly even chance): The Gulf-monarchy intervention is genuine and Iran is actually close to a deal that includes a long-term enrichment suspension.

WHAT WOULD SUPPORT	Trump's explicit position shift from permanent halt to multi-year suspension; doubled Pakistani-track mediation; concrete UAE/Saudi/Qatar leader engagement.
WHAT WOULD DISCONFIRM	Iran IRGC public rhetoric ("beyond the region") inconsistent with imminent concession; Tehran political costs of any visible concession after Khamenei death are severe.
CURRENT STATUS	OBSERVED IN PROGRESS -- proposal substance not yet public.

COLLECTION GAPS - WHAT I CANNOT SEE

- Substance of Iran's revised proposal via Pakistan track is not public.
- Israeli internal cabinet position on Trump's deal terms unknown; the IDF was reportedly not coordinated with on the "hour away" decision.
- Whether the IRGC "beyond the region" threat is backed by observable proxy force-generation is not yet established.
- Domestic US political cost-benefit calculation in Trump's framing is not externally observable.

SOURCES

[CBS News liveblog 20-MAY](#) (primary); [Arab News](#); [CNBC](#); [NYT via Times of Israel](#) (Ahmadinejad plan, context); [UK Commons Library briefing CBP-10637](#) (cumulative baseline).

SPC Day 1 SLGT west Texas/Oklahoma; WPC Day 2 SLGT Ohio Valley.

[WX-001 | FLASH | UPDATED - DUAL-HAZARD WEATHER | Score 21]

This is the cycle's FLASH-tier weather item, a dual-hazard cycle. **In brief:** [SPC](#) Day 1 carries a SLIGHT risk across western Texas and Oklahoma, where a sharpening dryline and moderate instability support scattered severe storms with large hail and damaging winds; an isolated hail threat extends into central Kansas, and a few brief tornadoes are possible from the central Gulf Coast into the Tennessee and Ohio Valleys. [WPC](#) Day 2 holds a flash-flood (ERO SLIGHT) risk for portions of the Ohio Valley; the flood focus has shifted east this cycle from the prior southern Plains framing. Full analysis -- SPC/WPC corridor detail, the NWR transmitter outage roster, instability/shear/PWAT specifics, and practitioner action by County Warning Area -- is in **SECTION 7 (METEOROLOGICAL & SEVERE WEATHER)**. WX-CON scale: [FFTP WX-CON definitions](#); NOAA source: [SPC Convective Outlook](#).

NGINX CVE-2026-42945 actively exploited; practical hazard is denial of service.

[CYB-010 | FLASH | CARRYOVER - ACTIVE EXPLOITATION | Score 25]

DELTA SINCE YESTERDAY

~ **CHANGED:** Active exploitation continues, but current analysis refines the threat picture: researchers including Kevin Beaumont assess real-world remote code execution as unlikely, because a working RCE chain requires both a specific vulnerable rewrite-rule configuration and ASLR disabled on the host. The practical hazard is denial of service through repeated worker-process crashes.

~ **CHANGED:** CVE-2026-42945 is still not on the CISA KEV catalog as of cycle close; it remains a KEV-pending item. The 20-MAY and 21-MAY KEV additions did not include it.

= **NO MATERIAL CHANGE:** Patches available from F5 and the NGINX project. ASLR posture remains the critical secondary mitigation; any FCEB or critical-infrastructure operator should patch within standard 14-day cadence regardless of catalog status.

WHY THIS CYCLE

Heap buffer overflow in `ngx_http_rewrite_module` affecting NGINX Plus + NGINX Open Source 0.6.27 through 1.30.0. RCE on ASLR-disabled hosts; worker-process crash even with ASLR. Active exploitation in

the wild per [VulnCheck](#) telemetry; chain-risk with Linux Copy Fail CVE-2026-31431 provides full root primitive on Linux container hosts.

SALUTE - Size / Activity / Location / Time / Equipment / Unit

SIZE	NGINX is the most-deployed web server globally (~33% market share); affected versions span the last 18 years. Internet-exposed instance count is in the millions. FCEB exposure significant; commercial-sector exposure higher.
ACTIVITY	Heap-corruption exploitation observed in the wild; payloads consistent with web-shell deployment. Exploit reliability higher on long-lived servers without ASLR randomization or with predictable allocator states.
LOCATION	NGINX Plus all editions; NGINX Open Source 0.6.27 through 1.30.0. Patches: NGINX Plus R32, NGINX Open Source 1.30.1+.
TIME	Public disclosure week of 12-MAY; active exploitation observed within 48 hours. CISA KEV catalog add still not observed at cycle close, ten days post-disclosure; the absence is now itself notable given the active-exploitation telemetry.
EQUIPMENT	CVSS 9.2 (network/no auth/no UI/high impact). CWE-122 Heap Buffer Overflow. Trigger via crafted HTTP rewrite-rule processing.
UNIT	VulnCheck (active exploit telemetry); F5 (vendor); NGINX project; The Hacker News (analysis); depthfirst (corroborating advisory).

DOWNSTREAM - CASCADE IMPLICATION

Worker-process DoS **likely** baseline; full host compromise on ASLR-disabled. Chain with Linux Copy Fail **likely** yields root primitive. Cascade to cloud workloads where NGINX is fronting an internal service depends on IAM posture and container-runtime isolation.

ANALYST ASSESSMENT

I judge this remains a high-priority patch item, but I assess the realistic worst case for most operators is service disruption rather than host compromise, given that RCE depends on a disabled-ASLR configuration that is uncommon on modern Linux distributions. I assess that mass-scan activity for unpatched NGINX is **almost certain** to continue. I would change my mind on the impact framing if (a) a reliable RCE technique that does not depend on disabling ASLR is demonstrated, or (b) CISA adds the CVE to the KEV catalog with a near-term Federal deadline.

ALTERNATIVE HYPOTHESES

Alt-Hyp 1 (unlikely): Observed exploitation telemetry is proof-of-concept research traffic rather than weaponized attack traffic.

WHAT WOULD SUPPORT	VulnCheck retraction of active-exploitation flag; F5 / NGINX project public statement.
WHAT WOULD DISCONFIRM	Continued telemetry; secondary-source confirmation of web-shell deployment.
CURRENT STATUS	NOT observed (PoC-only framing).

COLLECTION GAPS - WHAT I CANNOT SEE

- CISA KEV catalog timing is opaque; cannot confirm whether a Federal compliance deadline will materialize this week.
- F5 (vendor) has not released a comprehensive customer-impact statement; commercial scope is inferred.

SOURCES

[VulnCheck advisory](#); [The Hacker News](#); F5 / NGINX project security advisories; [depthfirst](#) corroboration.

WHO Ebola PHEIC stands; US airport screening operational at Dulles.

[HLTH-002 | FLASH | UPDATED - US SCREENING OPERATIONAL | Score 22]

DELTA SINCE YESTERDAY

~ **CHANGED:** Enhanced CDC Ebola entry screening became physically operational at Washington-Dulles on 21-MAY. Arriving travelers who were in the DRC, Uganda, or South Sudan within the prior 21 days are escorted to a dedicated screening area for a travel-history and symptom questionnaire, observation, and a non-contact temperature check.

~ **CHANGED:** The outbreak has spread geographically. A confirmed case has been reported in South Kivu, hundreds of kilometers from the Ituri epicenter, and a case has been reported in M23-controlled Goma, a major urban center. The updated toll is roughly 600-plus suspected cases and about 148 deaths per UN figures, with 51 laboratory-confirmed in the DRC.

~ **CHANGED:** The US doctor previously reported to have tested positive in the DRC was transferred to Germany for treatment. There is still no suspected, probable, or confirmed Ebola case in the United States; CDC continues to assess domestic risk as low.

= **NO MATERIAL CHANGE:** The WHO PHEIC declared 17-MAY remains in force; the WHO 20-MAY Emergency Committee agreed the situation is a PHEIC but not a pandemic emergency, with risk assessed high at national and regional levels and low globally. The Bundibugyo strain has no approved vaccine or treatment.

= **NO MATERIAL CHANGE:** The CBP/DHS entry restriction routing all central-Africa-origin US-bound flights to Washington-Dulles runs 30 days; foreign nationals present in the three countries within the prior 21 days are barred from entry at this time.

WHY THIS CYCLE

The WHO PHEIC and the US entry-restriction regime remain a lead public-health driver. The restriction has moved from a published rule to operational screening at Washington-Dulles, and the outbreak's geographic spread to South Kivu and Goma raises the regional containment difficulty. Sources: [WHO](#), [CDC](#), [CBS News](#), [Federal Register](#).

SALUTE - Size / Activity / Location / Time / Equipment / Unit

SIZE	Outbreak population in the DRC and Uganda; US-bound travelers and air carriers serving central-Africa routes; US ports of entry, with public-health resources concentrated at Washington-Dulles.
ACTIVITY	WHO PHEIC declared 17-MAY, reaffirmed by the Emergency Committee 20-MAY. CDC/DHS entry restrictions from 18-MAY. Enhanced CDC airport screening operational at Washington-Dulles from 21-MAY. Outbreak spread to South Kivu and Goma.
LOCATION	Source region: DRC and Uganda (Bundibugyo strain). US enforcement: all ports of entry for screening; Washington-Dulles (IAD) as the sole permitted port for central-Africa-origin flights.
TIME	PHEIC 17-MAY; Emergency Committee 20-MAY; enhanced Dulles screening operational 21-MAY; single-port restriction runs 30 days from its 21-MAY publication.
EQUIPMENT	CDC/DHS HHS order; CBP enforcement authority; Federal Register rule. No approved Bundibugyo-strain vaccine or therapeutic.
UNIT	WHO ; CDC ; CBS News ; Federal Register .

DOWNSTREAM - CASCADE IMPLICATION

Air carriers serving central-Africa routes face diversion and rebooking exposure; travelers with recent DRC/Uganda/South Sudan presence should expect screening and Dulles-only routing for the 30-day

window. The outbreak's spread to Goma, a major transit city, raises the regional containment difficulty. There is still no US case and CDC assesses public risk as low.

ANALYST ASSESSMENT

I judge that further flight diversions or boarding refusals under the entry rules remain **likely** over the 30-day restriction window as carriers adjust to the Dulles-only routing. I assess introduction of an Ebola case into the US remains **unlikely** given the screening regime and the absence of a US case to date, though the spread to Goma modestly raises the regional export risk. I would change my mind if (a) a symptomatic case is confirmed at a US port of entry, or (b) WHO revises the outbreak to a pandemic emergency or reports spread to a major international transit hub outside the region.

ALTERNATIVE HYPOTHESES

Alt-Hyp 1 (unlikely): The true outbreak size is materially larger than reported and undercounting masks wider regional spread.

WHAT WOULD SUPPORT	Expert commentary that confirmed cases may be the visible top of a larger iceberg; transmission believed to date to early April, weeks before the WHO declaration; spread already reaching South Kivu and Goma.
WHAT WOULD DISCONFIRM	WHO and CDC maintaining a low global-risk assessment; case and death figures rising at a rate consistent with active surveillance rather than a step-change.
CURRENT STATUS	INDETERMINATE - surveillance gaps in M23-controlled territory preclude a high-confidence call.

COLLECTION GAPS - WHAT I CANNOT SEE

- Surveillance in M23-controlled Goma and parts of South Kivu is limited; the true case count in those areas is not independently reconciled.
- WHO, CDC, and UN case and death figures diverge; the true toll is not independently reconciled.
- Carrier-level compliance with the Dulles-only routing not yet fully observable.

SOURCES

[WHO](#); [CDC](#); [CBS News](#); [NBC News](#); [Federal Register](#).

Cisco SD-WAN CVE-2026-20182 FCEB deadline T+5 past; UAT-8616 cluster still active.

[CYB-007 | FLASH | FCEB DEADLINE T+5 PAST | Score 24]

DELTA SINCE YESTERDAY

~ **CHANGED:** FCEB BOD compliance deadline 17-MAY now T+5 past. Federal posture remains in compliance audit; private-sector exposure remains real and ongoing, with no current-cycle change in the exploitation picture.

= **NO MATERIAL CHANGE:** UAT-8616 attribution per Cisco Talos holds; Operational Relay Box (ORB) network overlap; XenShell + Godzilla web shells across at least 10 exploitation clusters since March 2026; Cluster 10 credential-stealer (admin hashdump + JWT chunks + AWS vManage credentials) active.

WHY THIS CYCLE

CVSS 10.0 authentication bypass in Cisco Catalyst SD-WAN Controller and Manager. Cloud-pivot capability via stolen AWS vManage credentials. CISA KEV add 14-MAY. [CISA ED 26-03](#) "Mitigate Vulnerabilities in Cisco SD-WAN Systems" plus supplemental hunt-and-hardening guidance issued.

SALUTE - Size / Activity / Location / Time / Equipment / Unit

SIZE	FCEB agencies running Catalyst SD-WAN are within scope of BOD 22-01; commercial customers global. Service-provider deployments compound exposure by exposing customer-tenant networks.
ACTIVITY	Web-shell deployment (XenShell + Godzilla variants) on ≥10 clusters; Cluster 10 specifically extracts admin hashdump, JWT chunks, and AWS vManage credentials for cloud-pivot. ORB-network overlap consistent with state-cluster operational pattern.
LOCATION	Cisco Catalyst SD-WAN Controller + Manager (cloud and on-prem). Patches available via Cisco PSIRT.
TIME	CISA KEV add 14-MAY; FCEB deadline 17-MAY (T+5 past as of today).
EQUIPMENT	CVSS 10.0 unauthenticated authentication bypass to administrative privileges. Post-exploitation observed: web-shell, credential theft, AWS vManage cloud pivot.
UNIT	CISA KEV ; Cisco PSIRT + Talos (attribution UAT-8616); The Hacker News ; CISA ED 26-03 and supplemental directive.

DOWNSTREAM - CASCADE IMPLICATION

SD-WAN fabric compromise yields enterprise-network visibility, lateral pivot, and cloud-pivot beyond on-prem footprint. Service-provider deployments cascade compromise to customer tenants. AWS vManage credential theft enables out-of-band access even after on-prem patching.

ANALYST ASSESSMENT

I judge FCEB compliance at deadline (17-MAY) at **likely** (60-75%) based on historical BOD telemetry; supplemental directives are **likely** within 14 days. I assess that any FCEB or commercial customer that has not rotated AWS vManage credentials since 14-MAY should treat those credentials as **likely** compromised even after applying the patch. I would change my mind on compromise probability if Cisco Talos publishes telemetry showing the credential-theft Cluster 10 footprint is narrower than current assessment.

ALTERNATIVE HYPOTHESES

Alt-Hyp 1 (unlikely): UAT-8616 attribution is incorrect and observed exploitation is a non-state cluster repurposing public PoC.

WHAT WOULD SUPPORT	Independent threat-intel community attribution to a different cluster; public PoC repository showing first-mover advantage outside Talos timeline.
WHAT WOULD DISCONFIRM	Continued Talos visibility into ORB-network overlap consistent with state-cluster operational tradecraft.
CURRENT STATUS	NOT observed.

COLLECTION GAPS - WHAT I CANNOT SEE

- Private-sector compliance rate is opaque; only FCEB has attestation requirement.
- Service-provider scope of compromise is not directly observable from outside.
- AWS vManage credential rotation rate is not externally measurable.

SOURCES

[CISA KEV catalog](#); Cisco Talos + PSIRT; [The Hacker News](#); [CISA ED 26-03](#).

Microsoft Exchange CVE-2026-42897 XSS spoofing - FCEB deadline T+7 (29-MAY).

[CYB-009 | FLASH | MID-CYCLE | Score 23]

DELTA SINCE YESTERDAY

~ **CHANGED:** Days-to-deadline 8 → 7 (T+7 future); FCEB compliance window now one week out.

= **NO MATERIAL CHANGE:** "Exploitation Detected" per Microsoft advisory; Exchange Emergency Mitigation Service (EEMS) mitigation available; permanent fix pending.

WHY THIS CYCLE

CVSS 8.1 cross-site scripting vulnerability in Outlook Web Access (OWA) during web-page generation, allowing arbitrary JavaScript execution in browser context under specific interaction conditions. KEV add 15-MAY with FCEB compliance due 29-MAY (T+7). On-prem Exchange Server only; Exchange Online not in scope.

SALUTE - Size / Activity / Location / Time / Equipment / Unit

SIZE	All FCEB agencies operating on-prem Exchange; commercial-sector on-prem Exchange installed base global. Exchange Online (cloud) NOT in scope.
ACTIVITY	Cross-site scripting in OWA web page generation. Under specific interaction conditions, arbitrary JavaScript executes in user browser context. Microsoft advisory tagged "Exploitation Detected" without published threat-actor attribution.
LOCATION	On-prem Exchange Server (specific build numbers per Microsoft advisory).
TIME	KEV add 15-MAY; FCEB compliance due 29-MAY (T+7).
EQUIPMENT	CVSS 8.1; CWE-79 Cross-Site Scripting. Exchange Emergency Mitigation Service (EEMS) provides interim mitigation; permanent fix in future cumulative update.
UNIT	CISA KEV ; Microsoft MSRC ; The Hacker News .

DOWNSTREAM - CASCADE IMPLICATION

BEC-style fraud at scale enabled; OWA session hijack yields enterprise-mail access; potential chain with internal-network attacks once user-context foothold established. Exchange Online tenants not affected.

ANALYST ASSESSMENT

I judge FCEB compliance at 29-MAY at **likely** (60-75%) based on EEMS availability + 14-day window; commercial-sector compliance lags FCEB by 14-21 days historically. I would change my mind if (a) Microsoft pulls EEMS interim mitigation requiring direct patch deployment, or (b) public proof-of-concept exploit code is published, accelerating commercial exposure.

ALTERNATIVE HYPOTHESES

Alt-Hyp 1 (unlikely): Microsoft "Exploitation Detected" framing reflects research-lab telemetry rather than in-the-wild exploitation.

WHAT WOULD SUPPORT	Subsequent Microsoft advisory revision; absence of secondary-source confirmation.
WHAT WOULD DISCONFIRM	Continued KEV listing past 7 days; secondary-source confirmation of OWA session-hijack incidents.
CURRENT STATUS	INDETERMINATE.

COLLECTION GAPS - WHAT I CANNOT SEE

- Threat actor attribution not published by Microsoft.

- Commercial-sector compliance rate not measurable.
- EEMS deployment compliance rate not measurable outside FCEB.

SOURCES

[CISA KEV catalog](#); [Microsoft MSRC CVE-2026-42897](#); [The Hacker News](#); Microsoft EEMS documentation.

US blockade of Iran Day 40; Iran asserts a new Strait Authority.

[GEO-001 | FLASH | UPDATED - IRAN FORMALIZES STRAIT CONTROL | Score 23]

DELTA SINCE YESTERDAY

~ **CHANGED:** Day counter 39 → 40.

+ **ADDED:** Iran announced the creation of a Persian Gulf Strait Authority and declared a controlled maritime zone in the Strait of Hormuz, and is reportedly working with Oman on a permanent transit-toll framework. The US rejected both and reiterated that the waterway must remain open and toll-free.

+ **ADDED:** Brent crude is trading above 104 dollars per barrel after rising past 107 dollars on Thursday, partly recovering a roughly 6 percent two-session drop; the move higher followed the Khamenei uranium directive. Prices remain near 50 percent above pre-war levels.

= **NO MATERIAL CHANGE:** The JMIC maritime security threat level for the Strait of Hormuz remains CRITICAL, with mines reported in and near the Traffic Separation Scheme. Strait effectively closed since 28-FEB; US naval blockade since 13-APR; commercial transit remains at single-digit percent of pre-war volume.

WHY THIS CYCLE

Strait effectively closed since 28-FEB. US naval blockade since 13-APR. The blockade now sits inside the active US-Iran deal-or-strike window (see [\[GEO-002\]](#)); Hormuz transit terms are a likely component of any negotiated outcome, which is why Iran's move to institutionalize control through a Persian Gulf Strait Authority, and the US rejection of any toll framework, matter as forward indicators.

SALUTE - Size / Activity / Location / Time / Equipment / Unit

SIZE	Global oil markets; Asia LNG buyers (Japan, South Korea, India) sourcing alternates; Iraqi state budget under acute stress given heavy revenue dependency on Hormuz-routed exports.
ACTIVITY	US naval blockade since 13-APR continues. JMIC holds the Hormuz maritime threat level at CRITICAL with mines reported near the Traffic Separation Scheme. Iran announced a Persian Gulf Strait Authority and a controlled maritime zone; the US rejected the associated toll framework.
LOCATION	Strait of Hormuz; Persian Gulf; Iraqi exports via Basra terminals; UAE Fujairah bypass; Saudi Arabia East-West Pipeline (Red Sea) alternative carrying limited capacity.
TIME	Blockade Day 40 (since 13-APR). The blockade sits inside the US-Iran deal-or-strike window, which remains open and unresolved this cycle.
EQUIPMENT	US Navy carrier strike group + amphibious group + USCG cutters; Iran IRGC-Navy plus regular Navy small-boat swarm + anti-ship missile + mine inventory.
UNIT	JMIC and UKMTO advisories; Reuters regional maritime reporting.

DOWNSTREAM - CASCADE IMPLICATION

Global oil and LNG supply remains tight; Iraqi state budget under severe stress; Asia LNG buyers continue alternates. A negotiated US-Iran outcome could shift Hormuz transit terms, but the current blockade operational reality is unchanged this cycle. US household downstream: the blockade's 2nd-through-8th-order consumer cost cascade (fuel, grocery, pharma, electronics, durable goods) is analyzed in depth in the FFTP companion report [Iranian Blockade: US Consumer Impact Analysis](#), which estimates a 24-month median household impact in the \$1,860 to \$9,380 range with the action window for most cost-avoidance closing inside 90 days.

ANALYST ASSESSMENT

I judge that the blockade operational posture is **very unlikely** to change before the deal-or-strike window closes, even if a partial framework is announced. I assess that any near-term partial reopening would be a limited "humanitarian corridor" framing rather than a full restoration of pre-war commercial transit. I would change my mind if (a) a joint US-Iran statement explicitly references a Hormuz reopening framework, or (b) a transit mechanism is published with terms consistent with prior commercial volumes, signaling de facto reopening.

ALTERNATIVE HYPOTHESES

Alt-Hyp 1 (unlikely): A US-Iran deal includes a fast-track Hormuz reopening within 7 days of any agreement.

WHAT WOULD SUPPORT	Joint US-Iran statement language explicitly addressing Hormuz; a published transit mechanism with terms consistent with pre-war commercial volume; a CENTCOM blockade lift order.
WHAT WOULD DISCONFIRM	Continued blockade operations; Hormuz language absent from any negotiated text.
CURRENT STATUS	NOT observed.

COLLECTION GAPS - WHAT I CANNOT SEE

- Hormuz transit terms within the US-Iran negotiating track not public.
- Extent and emplacement pattern of reported mines near the Traffic Separation Scheme not independently confirmed.
- CENTCOM commercial-vessel-redirect detailed scope (origin/cargo) not externally observable.

SOURCES

[JMIC](#); [UKMTO](#); [Reuters](#) regional maritime reporting.

Lebanon CF Day 37 of 45; overnight IDF strike kills four.

[GEO-CF-LBN | FLASH | EXTENDED - DAY 37 OF 45 | Score 22]

DELTA SINCE YESTERDAY

~ **CHANGED:** Day counter 36 → 37 (Day 37 of the 45-day extension, expiring ~29-JUN).

+ **ADDED:** Overnight Israeli strikes in the Tyre district killed four and wounded two paramedics at an Islamic Health Committee site, per Lebanon's state National News Agency. The strikes continued against assessed Hezbollah targets; no strategic-rocket exchange was observed.

= **NO MATERIAL CHANGE:** The earlier Baalbek (Bekaa Valley) strike remains the marker for Bekaa-axis geographic expansion. 4th Washington political round 2-3 JUN; security track Pentagon 29-MAY.

WHY THIS CYCLE

Third extension on 15-MAY for 45 days expiring ~29-JUN. US permission framework continues to allow IDF tactical action against assessed Hezbollah threats. Sources: [Times of Israel](#) liveblog, [Al Jazeera](#), Alma Research center analysis.

SALUTE - Size / Activity / Location / Time / Equipment / Unit

SIZE	Lebanese civilian population in south Lebanon + Bekaa; northern Israeli population displaced or shelter-eligible; UNIFIL French + Italian + Indonesian + other contingents continue mandate.
ACTIVITY	IDF airstrikes against assessed Hezbollah targets continue, including an overnight strike in the Tyre district that killed four and wounded two paramedics this cycle. Hezbollah rocket and drone fire against IDF buffer-zone positions continues at lower tempo than pre-CF. The earlier Bekaa-Valley targeting marks geographic expansion versus the south-of-Litani historical pattern.
LOCATION	Southern Lebanon (south of Litani primary footprint); Bekaa Valley (Baalbek, earlier in extension); Beirut Dahieh (single strike total since CF began); Yellow Line buffer zone (IDF-controlled).
TIME	CF began 16-APR. First extension 23-APR. Current 45-day extension from 15-MAY (Day 37 today, expires ~29-JUN). Pentagon security track 29-MAY. 4th Washington political round 2-3 JUN.
EQUIPMENT	IDF: F-16/F-15 + Hermes + Eitan UAVs + Merkava ground patrols. Hezbollah: rockets + drones + small-team ATGM + IED. No strategic-rocket exchange observed since CF began.
UNIT	Times of Israel ; Al Jazeera ; Alma Research center.

DOWNSTREAM - CASCADE IMPLICATION

Lebanese economic recovery further delayed; FAO/IPC food insecurity holds; agricultural sector damage matches prior war. The Bekaa-expansion precedent remains tripwire-relevant for the collapse track per KJ-1.

ANALYST ASSESSMENT

I judge CF holds through the 45-day extension (29-JUN) at **likely** (65-80%) probability. Both Washington and Beirut benefit politically from continuation. The collapse tripwire I am watching is a high-mass IDF Beirut Dahieh strike paired with a same-week Hezbollah strategic-rocket response - neither observed this cycle. I would change my mind on holding probability if Hezbollah launches any cross-border strategic-rocket strike (not buffer-zone tactical fire), or if the 2-3 JUN political track produces no joint statement.

ALTERNATIVE HYPOTHESES

Alt-Hyp 1 (unlikely): CF collapses before the 29-JUN extension expiry due to Bekaa-axis targeting escalation.

WHAT WOULD SUPPORT	Renewed daily Bekaa strikes; Hezbollah strategic-rocket retaliation; Lebanese government formal withdrawal from Washington track.
WHAT WOULD DISCONFIRM	No further Bekaa strikes; Hezbollah statement framing strikes as within tolerable CF-violation bandwidth.
CURRENT STATUS	WATCH WINDOW open through the 2-3 JUN political round.

COLLECTION GAPS - WHAT I CANNOT SEE

- Bekaa-axis Hezbollah operational presence detail is opaque; cannot independently verify IDF target validity.
- Hezbollah strategic-rocket readiness is not externally measurable.
- Lebanese-cabinet internal debate on CF continuation not public.

SOURCES

[Times of Israel](#) liveblog; [Al Jazeera](#); Alma Research center.

PAN-OS CVE-2026-0300 Captive Portal RCE - FCEB deadline 21-MAY now past.

[CYB-001 | FLASH | FCEB DEADLINE T+1 PAST | Score 22]

DELTA SINCE YESTERDAY

~ **CHANGED:** The FCEB BOD 22-01 deadline of 21-MAY has passed (T+1 past). Any internet-exposed PA-Series or VM-Series instance not yet patched or Captive-Portal-restricted is now past-deadline exposure; Federal posture transitions to compliance audit.

= **NO MATERIAL CHANGE:** Wave 1 patch shipped 13-MAY; Wave 2 ETA ~28-MAY (post-deadline). Unit 42 attribution CL-STA-1132; ~225,000 internet-facing instances per Shadowserver baseline (not re-pulled this cycle).

WHY THIS CYCLE

CVSS 9.3 internet-exposed root-level RCE in PAN-OS User-ID Authentication Portal (Captive Portal). No user interaction required. The FCEB BOD 22-01 deadline of 21-MAY has now passed; remediation verification is the focus. CISA KEV add 06-MAY.

SALUTE - Size / Activity / Location / Time / Equipment / Unit

SIZE	All FCEB agencies running affected PAN-OS versions plus DIB, financial services, regulated healthcare, critical-infrastructure exposure; ~225,000 PAN-OS internet-facing per Shadowserver baseline.
ACTIVITY	CISA KEV add 06-MAY based on limited targeted exploitation; Palo Alto PSIRT confirms exploitation against internet-exposed User-ID Authentication Portal. Unit 42 attributes to CL-STA-1132 (likely state-sponsored cluster) deploying open-source tunneling tools and AD enumeration after initial compromise.
LOCATION	PA-Series hardware + VM-Series virtual firewalls running PAN-OS 12.1 / 11.2 / 11.1 / 10.2 (specific releases). Cloud NGFW, Prisma Access, and Panorama NOT affected per vendor advisory.
TIME	KEV add 06-MAY; Wave 1 patch shipped 13-MAY; Wave 2 ETA ~28-MAY; FCEB BOD 22-01 deadline 21-MAY now past (T+1).
EQUIPMENT	CVSS 9.3 (internet-exposed) / 8.7 (trusted-IP-only). CWE-787 Out-of-Bounds Write in User-ID Authentication Portal. Unauthenticated buffer overflow allowing arbitrary code execution at root.
UNIT	CISA KEV ; Palo Alto Networks PSIRT; Unit 42 ; Shadowserver (exposure scan); Shodan (internet-facing count).

DOWNSTREAM - CASCADE IMPLICATION

Firewall takeover yields lateral pivot and egress data theft. Chain with NGINX CVE-2026-42945 + Linux Copy Fail CVE-2026-31431 yields a root primitive on Linux container hosts.

ANALYST ASSESSMENT

I judge FCEB compliance as of the now-passed 21-MAY deadline at **likely** (60-75%) based on historical BOD compliance telemetry. I assess mass-exploitation pivot is **likely** within 5-10 days of Wave 1 patch shipment as proof-of-concept reverse engineering converts limited targeted operation into broad ransomware pickup; non-FCEB exposure lags FCEB by 14-21 days historically. I would change my mind if

(a) CISA issues a post-deadline supplemental directive, signaling underperformance, or (b) Palo Alto PSIRT accelerates the Wave 2 patch.

ALTERNATIVE HYPOTHESES

Alt-Hyp 1 (very unlikely): CL-STA-1132 attribution is incorrect and the observed exploitation is a non-state ransomware affiliate testing capability ahead of campaign launch.

WHAT WOULD SUPPORT	Open-source ransomware-affiliate telemetry showing identical exploitation tactics; threat-intel community attribution to commodity actor.
WHAT WOULD DISCONFIRM	Continued state-typical post-exploitation tradecraft consistent with CL-STA-1132 baseline.
CURRENT STATUS	NOT observed.

Alt-Hyp 2 (very unlikely): Wave 1 patch contains regression introducing a second exploitable code path.

WHAT WOULD SUPPORT	Palo Alto PSIRT post-patch advisory; community PoC disclosure showing second exploitable code path; secondary CVE assignment.
WHAT WOULD DISCONFIRM	Clean patch telemetry from FCEB attestation; quiet community testing window through 21-MAY.
CURRENT STATUS	NOT observed.

COLLECTION GAPS - WHAT I CANNOT SEE

- FCEB BOD attestation telemetry held by CISA; cannot independently confirm compliance.
- Cannot independently confirm Unit 42 CL-STA-1132 attribution without access to primary forensic dataset.
- Shadowserver scan visibility is internet-facing only; internal-network PAN-OS exposure not measured.

SOURCES

[CISA KEV catalog](#); Palo Alto Networks PSIRT; [Unit 42](#); [Shadowserver](#); [Shodan](#).

Linux Copy Fail LPE CVE-2026-31431 chain-pivot risk continues; FCEB deadline T+7 past.

[CYB-005 | FLASH | CHAIN-RISK T+7 PAST | Score 21]

DELTA SINCE YESTERDAY

~ **CHANGED:** Days-since-deadline 6 → 7 (T+6 past → T+7 past); no current-cycle change in the exploitation picture.

= **NO MATERIAL CHANGE:** Public PoC continues to circulate; chain risk with internet-exposed RCE (NGINX, PAN-OS, Cisco SD-WAN) provides root primitive on Linux container hosts.

WHY THIS CYCLE

Linux kernel local privilege-escalation (LPE) in copy_from_user/copy_to_user fast path. Most distros patched by 11-MAY. Residual exposure in long-lived deployments and container base images. KEV add 12-MAY; FCEB deadline 15-MAY (T+7 past).

SALUTE - Size / Activity / Location / Time / Equipment / Unit

SIZE	All Linux distros with kernel 5.10.x through 6.8.x in affected range; FCEB Linux footprint plus broader critical-infrastructure (cloud, container, ICS gateway).
ACTIVITY	LPE chain pivot from web RCE or container-escape initial access. PoC publicly available.
LOCATION	Linux kernels 5.10.x through 6.8.x in affected range; specific minor versions per distro advisory.
TIME	KEV add 12-MAY; FCEB deadline 15-MAY (T+7 past); 3-day FCEB window was the shortest in catalog history.
EQUIPMENT	CVSS 7.8 (local); CWE-787 Out-of-Bounds Write; requires unprivileged local access (SSH, container escape, chained RCE).
UNIT	NVD CVE-2026-31431 ; CISA KEV ; VulnCheck ; AA26-097A joint advisory (CISA + NSA + FBI).

ANALYST ASSESSMENT

I judge non-compliance at FCEB deadline (15-MAY) at **almost certain** (over 95%) - the 3-day window was operationally infeasible. CISA supplemental directive is **likely** within 7-14 days post-deadline. Chained exploitation (PAN-OS + Copy Fail) is **likely** observed in the wild within 14-30 days. I would change my mind on chain likelihood if Palo Alto Wave 2 patch ships before 22-MAY (would reduce CVE-2026-0300 dwell time).

ALTERNATIVE HYPOTHESES

Alt-Hyp 1 (very unlikely): KEV addition is a CISA error and the vulnerability is not under active exploitation.

WHAT WOULD SUPPORT	CISA KEV catalog removal within 7 days; AA26-097A rescission statement.
WHAT WOULD DISCONFIRM	Continued KEV listing past 7 days; CISA supplemental directive reinforcing the BOD.
CURRENT STATUS	NOT observed.

COLLECTION GAPS - WHAT I CANNOT SEE

- AA26-097A advisory does not name the threat actor; cannot attribute to specific cluster.
- FCEB compliance rate not measurable without BOD telemetry.
- Container-escape exploitation paths not visible in standard NDR telemetry; underreporting likely.

SOURCES

[CISA KEV catalog](#); AA26-097A advisory (CISA + NSA + FBI); [NVD CVE-2026-31431](#); [VulnCheck](#).

SECTION 4A - CYBER & INFORMATION SECURITY (CARRYOVER)

Below-FLASH cyber items this cycle: Grafana GitHub token compromise codebase-download (6-month derivative-CVE watch), Foxconn NA cyberattack supplier-cascade window (Tue-Thu).

Grafana GitHub token compromise (CYB-011 below-FLASH this cycle): Grafana Labs 17-MAY statement series confirms single GitHub access token compromised and codebase downloaded; no customer-data exposure claimed; extortion attempt observed. Codebase-download events of this class historically yield derivative-CVE flow within 6 months; Grafana customers should monitor advisories closely through Q3 2026.

Foxconn NA cyberattack (SC-001 below-FLASH this cycle): Foxconn NA cyberattack confirmed; scope undisclosed. Standard post-confirmation cycle: SEC 8-K window 4 business days from confirmation; supplier notifications expected Tue-Thu peak per typical pattern. Tier-1 OEM customer (Apple/Dell/HP) advisories if material; Q3 deliveries product-availability watch.

SECTION 4B - GEOPOLITICAL CARRYOVER

Below-FLASH geopolitical items this cycle: Russia-Ukraine kinetic tempo, Saudi-Israel normalization track, IN-PAK posture, Venezuela posture, DPRK posture. Full FLASH treatment for active Iran/Lebanon/PRC tracks in Section 3.

Russia-Ukraine: Pokrovsk-axis pressure continuing at a steady tempo with no current-cycle delta rising to FLASH; the negotiating track remains stalled since the Iran war began 28-FEB. Carried below-FLASH this cycle.

IN-PAK / Venezuela / DPRK / Sahel / Houthi: No material change this cycle. Pakistan visible in mediation role for US-Iran revised proposal (see [\[GEO-002\]](#)). Houthi posture remains Tier-2 proxy activation if Iran strike order issued.

SECTION 4C - MIC SECOND-ORDER IMPACTS

Munitions stockpile and production-rate posture post-Op Epic Fury. Practitioner tier: this section is the bridge between the deal-or-strike inflection (GEO-002) and the 1-4 year defense-industrial replenishment cycle. The 72-hour deal window does not change the structural picture.

Stockpile expended (CSIS April 2026 baseline, unchanged this cycle): THAAD ~50%; Patriot PAC-3 ~50%; Tomahawk ~30%; PrSM ≥ 45%; JASSM / SM-3 / SM-6 ~20%. 1-4 year window to replenish per Cancian. Pentagon FY27 munitions request ~\$70B (3x current).

Prime contractor exposure: LMT (THAAD + PAC-3 + JASSM): tightest demand-pull; multi-year backlog assured. RTX (PAC-3 + SM-3 + SM-6): parallel demand; Tomahawk JV with LMT. NOC (B-21 + PrSM + GMD): platform-program steady; GMD intercepts under continuing review. GD (M1 Abrams + Stryker + Virginia-class): ground-platform demand secondary; SSN-774 priority. BA (Apache + KC-46 + JDAM): mixed; commercial-side headwinds offset defense backlog. HII (DDG-51 + LHA): shipbuilding bottleneck (drydock and welder labor); cannot accelerate. LHX (sensors + EW): force-multiplier demand high.

Practitioner read: A confirmed Iran deal **softens** the immediate intercept-demand spike but does not change the FY27 supplemental supplemental request risk profile (Congress already on path for ~\$70B munitions request regardless of 72h decision). A confirmed strike order **accelerates** all stockpile-replenishment timelines and likely triggers DPA Title III invocations within 30 days.

SECTION 4D - INDICATORS & WARNING MATRIX

Active tracks with tripwires and observed status. Each track is anchored to a FLASH entry or below-FLASH carryover.

TRACK	TRIPWIRE / CONFIRMS / DISCONFIRMS	STATUS
Iran deal-or-strike	Confirms: memorandum accepted or strike order issued. Disconfirms: window persists unresolved with no movement either way.	WINDOW OPEN; TEHRAN HARDENS ON URANIUM
Lebanon CF collapse	Confirms: high-mass IDF Beirut Dahieh strike + same-week Hezbollah strategic-rocket response. Disconfirms: 2-3 JUN political track produces joint statement.	WATCH (Bekaa-axis expansion precedent holds; 2-3 JUN political round pending)
Hormuz reopening	Confirms: joint US-Iran statement with a Hormuz reopening framework; a published transit mechanism with terms consistent with pre-war volumes. Disconfirms: continued CENTCOM redirect of commercial vessels.	NOT observed (blockade Day 40; Iran asserts Strait Authority)

Ebola US entry enforcement	Confirms: a symptomatic case at a US port of entry; WHO escalation to pandemic emergency. Disconfirms: 30-day restriction window closes with no US case.	ACTIVE (Dulles screening operational; outbreak spread to South Kivu/Goma)
PAN-OS FCEB compliance	Confirms: CISA supplemental directive within 14 days of the 21-MAY deadline. Disconfirms: clean attestation telemetry pass.	FCEB DEADLINE PAST (21-MAY)
Cisco SD-WAN exploitation	Confirms: Cluster 10 expands beyond 10 clusters; AWS vManage credential abuse incidents reported. Disconfirms: Talos telemetry stable.	ACTIVE (UAT-8616)
NGINX active exploitation	Confirms: a reliable RCE technique not dependent on disabled ASLR; CISA KEV catalog add. Disconfirms: VulnCheck retracts the active-exploitation flag.	ACTIVE (KEV pending; practical hazard is DoS)
Andes hantavirus (winding down)	Confirms: second-generation case in HCW or household contact. Disconfirms: surveillance window closes clean.	CLEAN; winding down (demoted from FLASH)
Severe weather / flash-flood	Confirms: county EOC activation + Flash Flood Warning issuance. Disconfirms: WPC Day 2 ERO QPF underperforms forecast.	ACTIVE (SPC Day 1 SLGT W Texas/Oklahoma; WPC Day 2 ERO SLGT Ohio Valley)
Space weather escalation	Confirms: SWPC issues a geomagnetic storm watch or an R/S-scale event begins. Disconfirms: electron flux subsides below 1000 pfu and conditions stay quiet.	ALTEF3 electron-flux alert continues since 16-MAY (Ser 3692); geomagnetic/radio quiet

SECTION 5 - ENERGY / INFRASTRUCTURE / SUPPLY CHAIN

Brent is trading above 104 dollars per barrel after touching above 107 dollars on Thursday, recovering most of a roughly 6 percent two-session drop; the Friday move higher followed the Khamenei directive to keep Iranian uranium in-country. Prices remain near 50 percent above pre-war levels. Energy markets are watching the deal-or-strike window closely - a confirmed deal would ease prices, a strike resumption would spike them.

Practitioner read: Pump-price posture for travel-flex through end of week. Confirmed deal scenario: **likely** 3-5 cents/gal forecast retail decline 5-7 days post-confirmation. No-deal + strike scenario: **likely** 8-15 cents/gal forecast retail increase 3-5 days post-order. See [\[FIN-001\]](#) (below-FLASH this cycle).

Hormuz transit terms (cross-ref [\[GEO-001\]](#)): Hormuz transit terms are a likely component of any negotiated US-Iran outcome. Iran has moved this cycle to formalize its control by announcing a Persian Gulf Strait Authority and a controlled maritime zone, and is pursuing an Oman-brokered permanent transit-toll framework; the US rejected both, insisting the waterway stay open and toll-free. Watch for explicit Hormuz language in any negotiated text as the forward indicator of a reopening framework.

Iraqi export impact: Iraq's oil minister has disclosed that April Hormuz-routed exports ran roughly 89 percent below the pre-war monthly baseline. With the Iraqi state budget heavily dependent on this revenue, the budget is under acute stress. Practitioner read: Iraqi government stability is at risk while exports remain at single-digit percent of pre-war volume; military-faction posture and US embassy security posture are worth monitoring.

SECTION 6 - AVIATION / TRANSPORTATION

IROPS risk Friday into the weekend across the convective and flash-flood corridors: scattered severe storms over western Texas and Oklahoma place DFW, AUS, SAT, and OKC at thunderstorm-delay risk, while the WPC Day 2 ERO over the Ohio Valley adds CVG, SDF, and CMH exposure. See [\[WX-001\]](#).

ME airspace advisories: Carriers continue flexibility for Gulf overflight routing while the deal-or-strike window remains open. FAA NOTAMs unchanged from prior cycle; no new advisories issued for Iran proximity. Separately, the CBP/DHS Ebola entry rule routes all central-Africa-origin US-bound flights to Washington-Dulles only, now in active enforcement. See [\[GEO-002\]](#).

Hormuz commercial shipping: CENTCOM redirect of commercial vessels continues; insurance war-risk premium for the Strait remains elevated. Iran's newly announced Persian Gulf Strait Authority adds regulatory uncertainty to any future transit. See [\[GEO-001\]](#).

SECTION 7 - METEOROLOGICAL & SEVERE WEATHER

Two separate hazards this cycle: a west Texas and Oklahoma convective threat and an Ohio Valley flash-flood threat. Full FLASH signpost [\[WX-001\]](#). SPC Day 1 carries a SLIGHT risk across western Texas and Oklahoma, where a sharpening dryline and moderate instability support scattered severe storms with large hail and damaging winds; an isolated hail threat extends into central Kansas, and a few brief tornadoes are possible along a low-level-jet corridor from the central Gulf Coast into the Tennessee and Ohio Valleys. WPC Day 2 holds an Excessive Rainfall (ERO SLIGHT) risk for portions of the Ohio Valley, valid 12Z 22-MAY through 12Z 23-MAY. The flood focus has shifted east this cycle from the prior southern Plains framing. SPC Day 3 shows no severe areas for Saturday, a calming trend.

NWR transmitter outage list - 22-MAY operator snapshot

Total: 36 affected (16 OUT OF SERVICE + 20 DEGRADED) across 17 states (AK AL CO GA IA IL IN KS MD ME MI MN NM NV OR TN TX), including an 18-site Alaska cluster. The total is numerically identical to the 21-MAY snapshot but the composition has shifted: AK Sand Point moved to OUT OF SERVICE, IN Angola moved to DEGRADED, and AL Columbus, IA Cedar Rapids, and MD Baltimore are newly OUT OF SERVICE. Critical-corridor intersect with the active weather footprint: TN Shelbyville and IL Hillsboro (OOS) sit near the Tennessee and Ohio Valley storm and excessive-rainfall corridor; the NM triple-gap at Carlsbad, Roswell, and Artesia and TX Rio Grande City (OOS) sit near the SPC Day 1 west-Texas convective zone.

ST	CITY	FREQ	CWA / SOURCE WFO	CALLSIG N	STATUS	THREAT OVERLAP TODAY
TN	Shelbyville	162.475	Nashville TN	WXK63	OOS	NEAR - Tennessee/Ohio Valley storm and ERO corridor
IL	Hillsboro	162.425	St. Louis MO	KXI79	OOS	NEAR - Ohio Valley excessive-rainfall corridor edge
TX	Rio Grande City	162.425	Brownsville/RGV TX	WNG601	OOS	NEAR - SPC Day 1 west-Texas convective zone
NM	Roswell	162.450	Albuquerque NM	WWG36	OOS	NEAR - west-Texas / SE New Mexico convective zone
NM	Carlsbad	162.475	Midland/Odessa TX	WWF37	OOS	NEAR - west-Texas / SE New Mexico convective zone
NM	Artesia	162.425	Midland/Odessa TX	WXN24	OOS	NEAR - west-Texas / SE New Mexico convective zone
KS	Ulysses	162.450	Dodge City KS	WXN81	OOS	NEAR - central Kansas isolated-hail threat
AL/C O/G A/IA/ MD/ ME/ MI/M N	Other CONUS OOS	multiple	multiple	multiple	OOS	AL Columbus, CO Colorado Springs, GA Baxley, IA Cedar Rapids, MD Baltimore, ME Sugarloaf Mtn, MI Petoskey, MN Gunflint Lake - no direct corridor overlap
Multi	CONUS DEGRADED sites	multiple	multiple	multiple	DEG	IN Angola, NV Owyhee, OR Portland DEGRADED; reduced range or audio, not a full outage
AK	18-site cluster	multiple	JNU/AFC/AFG	multiple	1 OOS + 17 DEG	Sand Point OUT OF SERVICE; remainder DEGRADED. Outside the CONUS severe-weather corridor

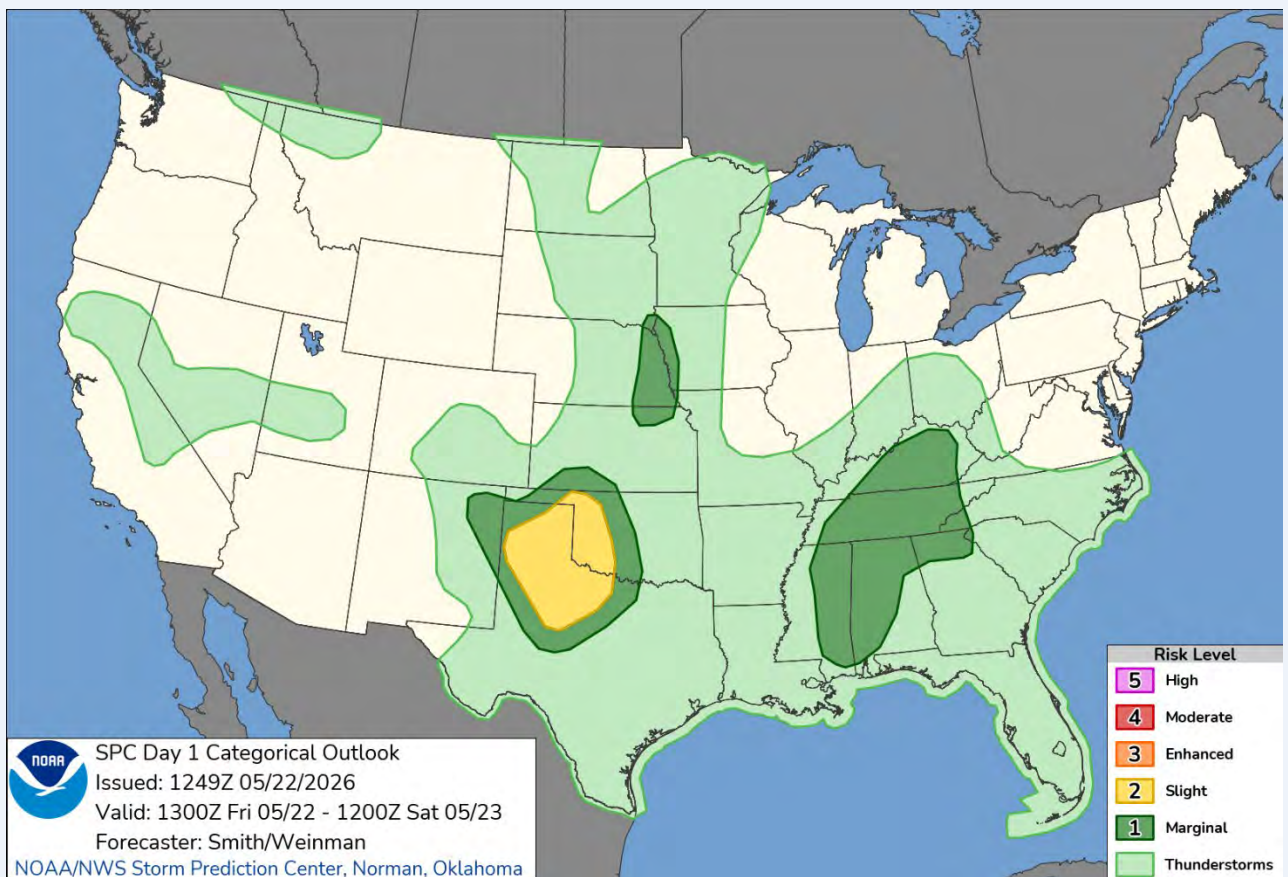
PRACTITIONER ACTION: Operator NWR snapshot 22-MAY: 36 transmitters affected (16 OUT OF SERVICE + 20 DEGRADED) across 17 states, including an 18-site Alaska cluster. The most operationally relevant gaps are TN Shelbyville and IL Hillsboro (OOS), which sit near the Tennessee and Ohio Valley storm and excessive-rainfall corridor, and the NM triple-gap with TX Rio Grande City (OOS) near the SPC

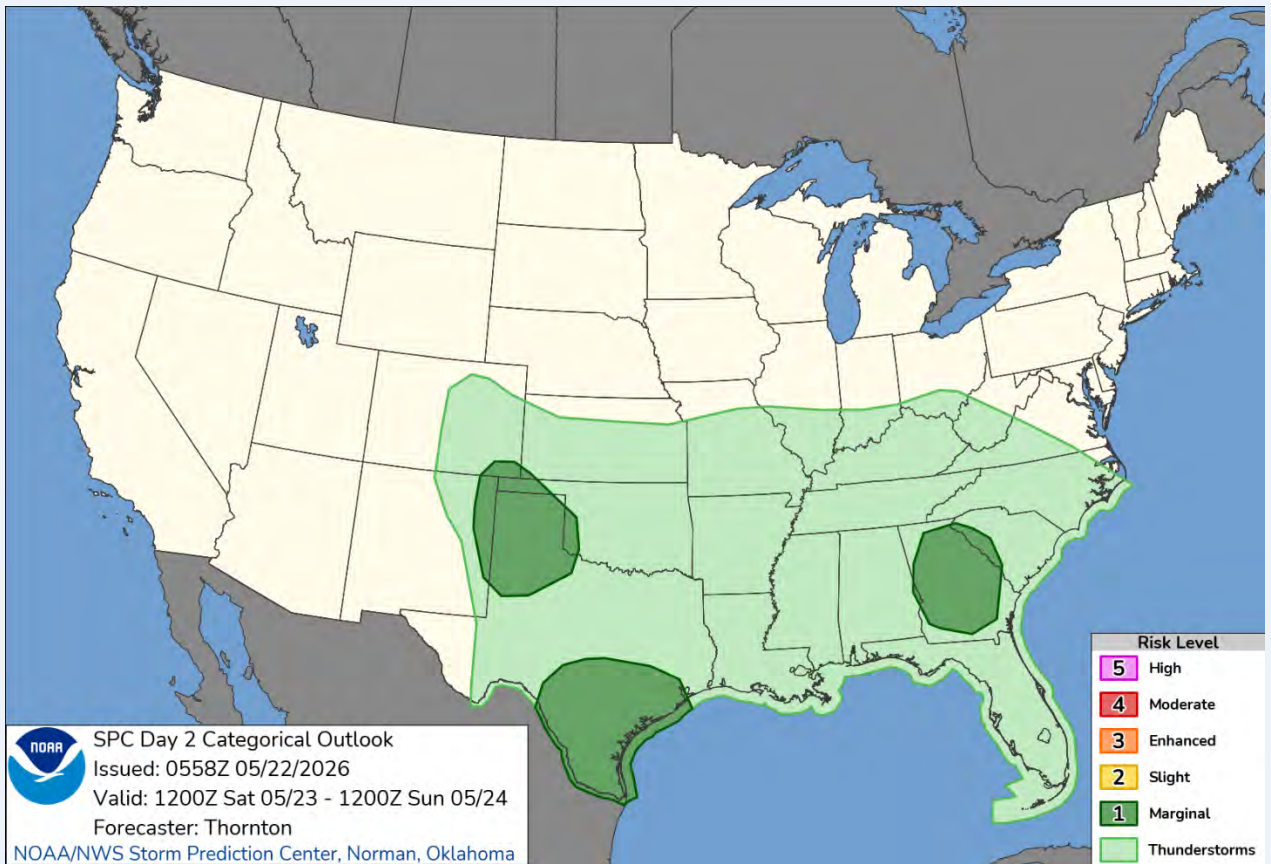
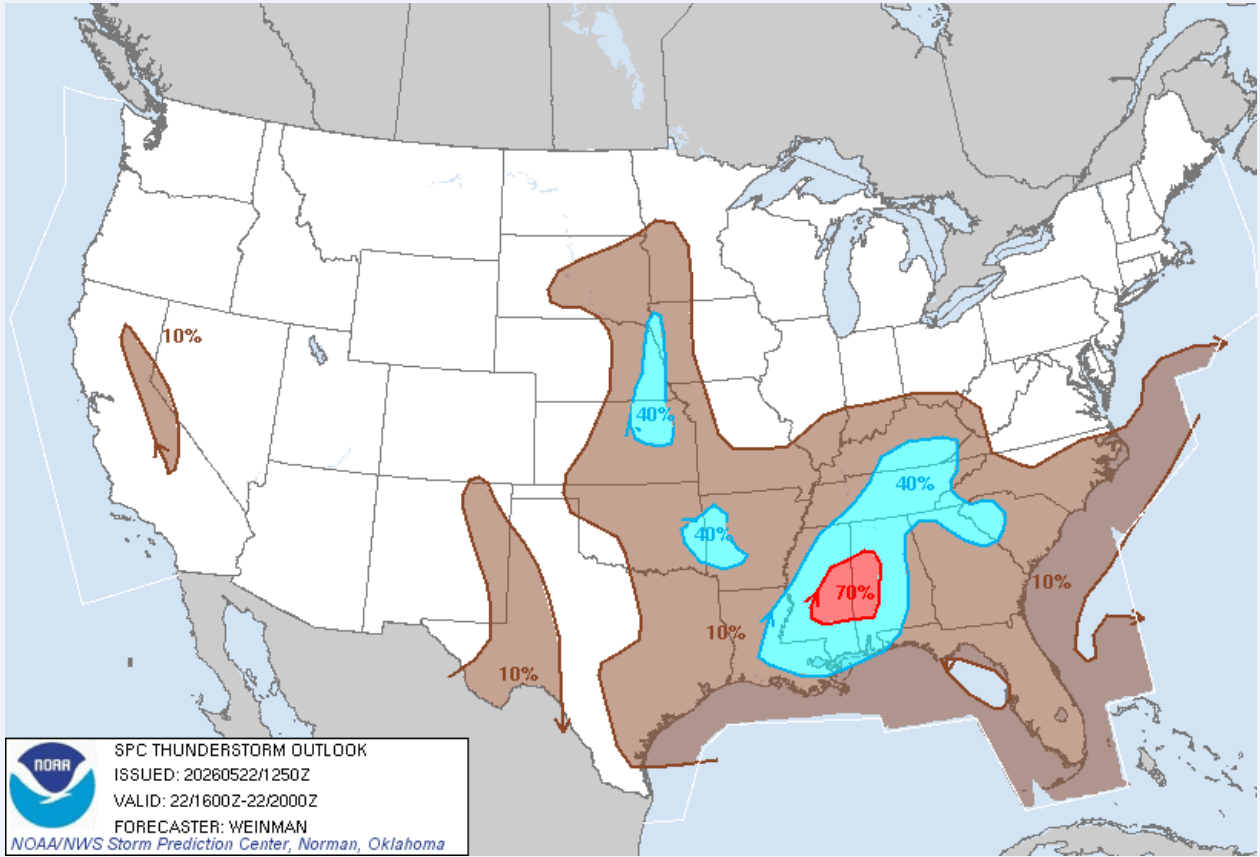
Day 1 west-Texas convective zone. Households in or near these areas should verify two-of-three non-NWR alert paths: Wireless Emergency Alerts on cellular handset + [NWS](#) app push notifications + commercial-broadcast (radio or TV) coverage. Cross-check county SAME location code against a backup NWR transmitter via [NWR Station Search](#).

WILDFIRE ACTIVITY - NIFC, 22-MAY

National Preparedness Level 2. NIFC reports 16 uncontained large fires nationwide with roughly 2,000 personnel assigned; year to date, 26,568 fires have burned over 1.9 million acres. New large fires this cycle in New Mexico, Texas, Nebraska, and Wyoming. The **Seven Cabins Fire** on the Lincoln National Forest in New Mexico is exhibiting wind-driven runs and spotting; the **Hunggate Fire** in Texas has prompted evacuations and road closures. Warm temperatures, dry fuels, and gusty winds continue to support elevated wildfire potential across the southern Plains and Southwest. The New Mexico fire activity overlaps the region carrying the NM NWR transmitter outages noted above (Artesia, Roswell, Carlsbad all OUT OF SERVICE), compounding alert-dissemination risk for that area.

PRACTITIONER ACTION: Households in or near the New Mexico and west Texas fire footprint should monitor [InciWeb](#) for incident-specific perimeter and evacuation status, maintain awareness of local evacuation routes, and treat the elevated fire-weather environment as a multi-day condition. Where NWR coverage is degraded, rely on the two-of-three non-NWR alert paths noted above.





SECTION 7A - SPACE WEATHER & EMCOMM

[SWPC](#) reports a quiet geomagnetic and HF-radio environment this cycle: no G, S, or R storm, with the greatest expected planetary Kp at 3. The active driver is energetic-electron flux: alert ALTEF3 Serial 3692 (operator-confirmed, issued 22-MAY 0507 UTC) shows the 2 MeV electron integral flux above 1000 pfu, a continued alert since 16-MAY with yesterday's maximum at 2842 pfu, up from 1717 pfu the prior cycle. The SWPC 27-day outlook keeps the greater-than-2 MeV flux at high levels through 23-MAY. SWX-CON is set at 1 (Minor) on the electron-flux driver. SWX-CON scale: [FFTP space-weather conditions](#); NOAA source: [NOAA Space Weather Scales](#).

Geomagnetic status: Quiet. No geomagnetic storm watch or warning is active; the greatest expected planetary Kp through the period is 3, below the G1 storm threshold. The HF-radio environment is quiet, with only a slight chance of a minor R1-R2 radio blackout and no blackout in progress.

Far-side outlook (3-5 day flare watch): The Earth-facing solar disk lacks impressive sunspot groups, consistent with the present quiet posture. Practitioner read: the quiet flare posture is **likely** to hold over the near term; EMCOMM operators should monitor SWPC for any revision as new active regions rotate into an Earth-facing position.

Electron flux: SWPC alert ALTEF3 Serial 3692 (operator-confirmed, 22-MAY 0507 UTC) reports the 2 MeV electron integral flux above 1000 pfu, continued since 16-MAY, with yesterday's maximum at 2842 pfu, up from 1717 pfu the prior cycle. The SWPC 27-day outlook keeps the greater-than-2 MeV flux at high levels through 23-MAY. This is a satellite-charging hazard for geostationary operators; SAT operators should verify spacecraft charging mitigations are current. This is the cycle's SWX-CON driver.

HF Band Conditions (Friday 22-MAY)

BAND	DAY	NIGHT	POLAR	MID-LAT	EMCOMM RECOMMEND
80m	Poor	Good	Degraded	Good	Use night
40m	Fair	Good	Degraded	Good	Primary daytime
20m	Good	Fair	Poor	Good	Primary DX
15m	Fair	Poor	Poor	Fair	Daytime DX only
10m	Poor	Poor	Poor	Poor	Not recommended

SECTION 7B - AGRICULTURE, FOOD & SUPPLY CHAIN

[USDA](#) WASDE-671 released 12-MAY (now 10 days old, no current-cycle delta): 2026/27 wheat 1.561 bb (-424 mb YoY), corn 16.0 bb (-6%), soybeans 4.435 bb (+173 mb). Wheat farm price \$6.50/bu (+\$1.50), corn \$4.40/bu (+25c), soybeans \$11.40/bu. Next release 11-JUN.

Plains ag impact: The WPC Day 2 ERO SLGT for portions of the Ohio Valley adds flash-flood and standing-water risk to Corn Belt fieldwork during the planting window, while scattered severe storms over western Texas and Oklahoma carry a hail risk to winter wheat in the southern High Plains. See [WX-001](#).

Lebanon food security: FAO/IPC food insecurity holds at prior-cycle levels; agricultural-sector damage matches prior war. CF holding reduces additional damage accumulation.

SECTION 10 - PREPAREDNESS CONDITION ASSESSMENT

PREP-CON 3 INCIDENT PROBABLE (Brown Sky), Trend STABLE

Why this condition: Trend holds STABLE with the Iran deal-or-strike window open and unresolved. PREP-CON 3 INCIDENT PROBABLE (Brown Sky) baseline holds because Op Epic Fury Day 84 + US naval blockade Day 40 + Lebanon CF Day 37 of 45 (porous) maintain the elevated-but-stable backdrop. The WHO Ebola PHEIC with US screening now operational, the dual-hazard weather (SPC Day 1 SLGT west Texas/Oklahoma plus WPC Day 2 ERO SLGT Ohio Valley flash-flood), and the cyber-deadline stack (PAN-OS deadline past, Cisco SD-WAN T+5 past) sustain the Brown Sky condition.

What would move PREP-CON up to 2 GUARDED: A no-deal announcement triggering a renewed kinetic order against Iran; Lebanon CF formal collapse; observed mass cyber exploitation chain (NGINX + PAN-OS + Linux Copy Fail); a major-CME impact upgrade to G3 or higher over CONUS.

What would move PREP-CON down to 4 GUARDED: Iran deal announcement reducing kinetic risk; cyber + severe-wx + Iran-prep windows all close benignly within 7 days.

Top 5 practitioner actions this cycle:

1. PAN-OS CVE-2026-0300 FCEB deadline is now past; confirm patch deployment fleet-wide immediately. Any unpatched internet-exposed instance is past-deadline exposure.
2. Ohio Valley households: WPC Day 2 ERO SLGT flash-flood window 22-23 MAY; west Texas and Oklahoma face an SPC Day 1 SLGT convective risk. Pre-position drainage and high-water route plans; verify two-of-three non-NWR alert paths.
3. Cisco SD-WAN operators T+5 past deadline: re-baseline web-shell detections (XenShell + Godzilla); audit AWS vManage credential reuse; rotate JWT signing keys.
4. Iran deal-or-strike inflection: window open and unresolved, hardened by the Khamenei uranium directive. Hold pump-price and travel-flex posture through the weekend; elevate cyber-spillover preparedness on a no-deal-plus-strike scenario.
5. Microsoft Exchange operators: enable EEMS mitigation if not already done; prepare for the permanent patch; FCEB deadline T+7 (29-MAY).

SECTION 11 - SECTOR IMPACT MATRIX

PREP-CON and COMCON condition impacts across 6 sectors. Per §0.77, only standing conditions with practitioner-actionable variation are shown.

Use this matrix with the Geographic Impact Index to set your own CONCON (Continuity Conditions) posture -- see the "Determining Your Posture" note under the Geographic Impact Index.

CONDITION	Healthcare	Bank/Fin	Manuf	Transp	Energy	PubSec	HouseHold
PREP-CON 3 BROWN SKY	MED	MED	MED	MED	HIGH	HIGH	HIGH
COMCON 4 INCIDENT POSSIBLE	LOW	LOW	LOW	MED	LOW	MED	HIGH

PREP-CON commentary: Energy + PubSec + Household carry HIGH impact this cycle on the Iran inflection plus the flash-flood and convective corridor stack. Healthcare, Bank/Fin, Manuf, and Transp at MED reflects the cyber-deadline stack (PAN-OS past deadline, Exchange T+7, Cisco SD-WAN T+5 past) plus weekend IROPS risk in the storm corridors.

COMCON commentary: NWR posture this cycle: the 22-MAY operator snapshot shows 36 transmitters affected (16 OUT OF SERVICE + 20 DEGRADED) across 17 states with an 18-site Alaska cluster -- numerically identical to 21-MAY but with a shifted composition. The most operationally relevant gaps are TN Shelbyville and IL Hillsboro (OOS) near the Tennessee and Ohio Valley storm corridor, and the NM triple-gap with TX Rio Grande City (OOS) near the SPC Day 1 west-Texas convective zone. HouseHold = HIGH where any NWR-gap household sits in an active-threat County Warning Area.

SECTION 12 - ANALYTICAL INTEGRITY & METHODOLOGY

Full methodology: Complete Analytical Standards & Tradecraft (sourcing standards, estimative-language scale, risk-score formula, alt-hypothesis discipline, second-order chain tracing, collection-gap acknowledgment) are published at fortunefavorstheprepared.com/analytical-standards. This section is a cycle-specific summary; refer to the published page for the full standards.

SOP: v5.54 (amendments §§0.90-0.109 active: hardened artifact handoff, Section Index + Geographic Impact Index permanent, operator-snapshot beats web re-scrape, filename simplification, WX-CON banner mandatory, Analytical Standards link, FFTP 5-level condition colors, watch_desk four-peer schema, NOAA-native WX-CON and SWX-CON scales, FFTP logo top-right, the §0.104-C1 logo media-type fix, the §0.105

operator cross-check prompt, condition-banner hyperlinking, the CONCON posture reference, and the §0.109 no-promotion rule effective this cycle).

Estimative language: ICD 203 scale only (almost no chance / very unlikely / unlikely / roughly even / likely / very likely / almost certain). Forbidden hedges: might / maybe / possibly / perhaps.

Risk score (Impact + Imminence + OpFriction): Impact 1-10; Imminence 1-10; OpFriction 1-10 (inverse - high = high friction reducing actionability). FLASH band: Score \geq 20 enters Section 3; below-FLASH items addressed in Section 4A/4B/5/6/7/7A/7B narrative.

Sources swept this cycle (10 of 10): [SPC Day 1-2](#), [WPC Day 1-3 ERO](#), [CISA KEV catalog](#), [USDA WASDE](#), [SWPC 3-day forecast](#), Lebanon CF status (multi-source), Iran-Hormuz posture (multi-source incl. Gulf foreign-ministry track), munitions stockpile (CSIS baseline), [NWR transmitter outage list](#) (22-MAY operator snapshot); WHO / CDC / CIDRAP Ebola reporting; Reuters / CBS / Trading Economics (Iran deal-track, Khamenei uranium directive, Brent). 42 mandatory DTR sources swept two-pass against Master Source Registry v2.3.

Gaps acknowledged: Detailed terms within the US-Iran negotiating track not public; Shadowserver telemetry not re-pulled this cycle (~225K PAN-OS baseline carried); surveillance in M23-controlled Goma and parts of South Kivu is limited, so the true Ebola toll is not independently reconciled. WX-CON cross-checked against SPC and WPC web products; SWX-CON operator-confirmed via the ALTEF3 Serial 3692 bulletin.

Date coherence: All T+N values computed against 22-MAY-2026 base date. Cycle window 21-MAY 1530 UTC through 22-MAY 1530 UTC (24h daily rollup).

END

END OF REPORT

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