

# DTR LITE - Executive Brief

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## ⚠️ PREPAREDNESS CONDITION 3 - INCIDENT PROBABLE - Brown Sky ⚠️

Thursday, 21 May 2026 | Op Epic Fury Day 83 | Hormuz Blockade Day 39 | LBN CF Day 36 | Trend: STABLE

## COMMUNICATIONS CONDITION: COMCON 4 - INCIDENT POSSIBLE

## WEATHER: WX-CON 2 - SLGT - E Colorado convective + southern Plains flash-flood

## SPACE WEATHER: SWX-CON 1 - Minor - Elevated energetic-electron flux

Publication (UTC)	21 MAY 2026 / 1530 UTC
Reporting Period	20-MAY 1530 UTC through 21-MAY 1530 UTC (24h daily rollup)
SOP	v5.54   Source linkify complete   All hooks PASSED

## BOTTOM LINE UP FRONT

### BLUF - 21 MAY 2026 | Executive Brief

**STATUS:** [PREP-CON 3](#) INCIDENT PROBABLE (Brown Sky), Trend STABLE. Op Epic Fury Day 83; US naval blockade Day 39; Lebanon ceasefire Day 36 of 45-day extension (porous, holding). [WX-CON 2 SLGT](#) dual-hazard: eastern Colorado convective and southern Plains flash-flood; [SWX-CON 1 Minor](#) on an elevated energetic-electron-flux alert.

**URGENT:** Iran deal-or-strike window in its closing 48 hours. Trump said Tuesday 19-MAY he had been "an hour away" from ordering new strikes before Gulf allies asked him to hold; the IRGC threatened to take the war "beyond the region" if attacks resume. This remains the cycle's highest-stakes inflection.

**PUBLIC HEALTH:** WHO declared the DRC/Uganda Ebola outbreak a PHEIC on 17-MAY (Bundibugyo strain, no approved vaccine). CDC/DHS enhanced US entry screening from 18-MAY; Air France Flight 378 was refused US landing 20-MAY and diverted to Montreal under the new rules. A Federal Register notice routes all central-Africa-origin US-bound flights to Washington-Dulles only, 30-day duration. No US cases; CDC assesses public risk as low.

**WEATHER:** [SPC](#) Day 1 carries a SLIGHT risk across eastern Colorado (supercells, large hail, possible tornado). [WPC](#) Day 2 ERO SLIGHT excessive rainfall for the southern Plains and Piney Woods, with flash-flood concern for the Hill Country of southwest Texas.

**CYBER:** PAN-OS CVE-2026-0300 FCEB deadline reached 21-MAY; any unpatched internet-exposed instance is now past-deadline exposure. Microsoft Exchange CVE-2026-42897 T+8 (29-MAY). NGINX CVE-2026-42945 (CVSS 9.2) active exploitation. Cisco SD-WAN T+4 past; UAT-8616 cluster still active.

**LEBANON:** CF Day 36 of the 45-day extension; never observed in practice. Israeli airstrikes on south Lebanon continued through this cycle. Next Washington political round 2-3 JUN.

**IRAN-HORMUZ:** Strait blockade Day 39. The JMIC maritime threat level for the Strait of Hormuz remains CRITICAL, with mines reported near the Traffic Separation Scheme and a UKMTO-reported vessel seizure northeast of Fujairah.

**SPACE WX:** [SWPC](#) alert ALTEF3 shows the 2 MeV electron flux above 1000 pfu, continued since 16-MAY - a satellite-charging hazard for geostationary operators. Geomagnetic and HF-radio conditions are quiet.

**MARKETS:** Brent absorbed Trump's strike call-off as partial good news. Defense names carry asymmetric downside on a confirmed deal, upside on no-deal plus strike resumption. [USDA](#) WASDE-671 (12-MAY): wheat 1.561 bb / corn 16.0 bb / soybeans 4.435 bb. Next WASDE 11-JUN.

**IRAN SPECIAL REPORTS:** Two FFTP companion reports posted this week carry the Iran situation in depth: the [Iranian Blockade US Consumer Impact Analysis](#) (the household cost cascade, \$1,860 to \$9,380 over 24 months) and [SUPINTEL-2026-001 Iranian Domestic Unrest](#) (regime stability as a second-order driver of the war).

## DETERMINING YOUR POSTURE

Use this brief with this cycle's [PREP-CON](#), [COMCON](#), [WX-CON](#), and [SWX-CON](#) to set your own [CONCON \(Continuity Conditions\)](#) posture. FFTP sets the four conditions; you set CONCON.

## PRACTITIONER POSTURE - 72-HOUR DECISION TRIGGERS

1. Iran deal-or-strike inflection in its closing 48 hours - pump-price posture flex; cyber-spillover preparedness elevates on a confirmed strike.
2. PAN-OS CVE-2026-0300 FCEB deadline reached 21-MAY - confirm patch deployment fleet-wide immediately; unpatched instances are past-deadline exposure.
3. Southern Plains and Hill Country households: **WPC Day 2 ERO SLIGHT flash-flood window 21-22 MAY** - pre-position drainage and high-water route plans; verify two-of-three non-NWR alert paths.
4. Cisco SD-WAN operators **T+4 past FCEB deadline** - re-baseline web-shell detections, audit AWS vManage credential reuse, rotate JWT signing keys.
5. Travel and health: **central-Africa routing now Dulles-only** - travelers and operators with DRC/Uganda/South Sudan routing should expect diversion and screening.

## WHAT CHANGED SINCE 20-MAY (24-HOUR ROLLUP)

**+ ADDED:** WHO Ebola PHEIC now the lead public-health driver; Air France 378 refused US landing 20-MAY and diverted to Montreal under the new entry restrictions; Federal Register notice routes central-Africa-origin flights to Washington-Dulles only. SWPC ALTEF3 energetic-electron-flux alert active.

**~ CHANGED:** Day counters advanced one cycle: blockade to Day 39; LBN CF to Day 36; Op Epic Fury to Day 83; WHCD to Day 27. WX-CON reframed dual-hazard (eastern Colorado convective plus southern Plains flash-flood). SWX-CON driver shifted to the ALTEF3 electron-flux alert. Iran window advanced to its closing 48 hours. PAN-OS FCEB deadline reached. Exchange now T+8; Cisco SD-WAN now T+4 past. NWR roster updated to the operator 21-MAY 1125 UTC snapshot: 36 affected (16 OOS + 20 DEG).

**= NO MATERIAL CHANGE:** Op Epic Fury baseline; Hormuz blockade operational posture; munitions stockpile structural posture (1-4 year replenishment); Iran deal-or-strike window still open and unresolved; [NWR](#) roster carrying critical-corridor gaps.

## KEY JUDGMENTS

*Formal analytical conclusions per ICD 203. These are NOT operational decision triggers (see BLUF above).*

**KJ-1.** I assess it is **likely** (65-80%) that the Lebanon ceasefire holds through the 45-day extension to 29-JUN. Matters because both Washington and Beirut benefit politically from continuation; the collapse tripwire remains a high-mass IDF Beirut Dahieh strike paired with a same-week Hezbollah strategic-rocket response. Daily Israeli strikes on the south narrow the geographic envelope but do not break the CF.

**KJ-2.** I assess the Strait of Hormuz remains effectively closed through Q2 2026 with **moderate** confidence. Diplomatic activity around Hormuz has increased, but the operational reality is unchanged: blockade Day 39, commercial transit at single-digit percent of pre-war volume, JMIC threat level CRITICAL. Watch for Hormuz language in any US-Iran negotiated text.

**KJ-3.** I assess the US-Iran deal-or-strike window, now in its closing 48 hours, resolves with **roughly even chance** (40-55%) of an actual deal announcement before it closes. Matters because Trump said 19-MAY he had been "an hour away" from ordering strikes before Gulf allies asked him to hold, while the IRGC

threatened to take the war "beyond the region" if attacks resume. This remains the highest-stakes decision window of Q2 2026.

**KJ-4.** I assess the southern Plains and Hill Country flash-flood corridor produces material EOC activation Thursday into Friday at **roughly even chance** (40-60%) probability. Matters because [WPC](#) Day 2 ERO holds a SLIGHT excessive-rainfall risk for the southern Plains and Piney Woods with flash-flood concern for the Hill Country of southwest Texas. The TX Rio Grande City NWR transmitter is OUT OF SERVICE adjacent to that area.

**KJ-5.** I assess US public-health risk from the DRC/Uganda Ebola outbreak remains **low** with high confidence, consistent with the CDC assessment. Matters because there are no US cases, the WHO PHEIC and the 17-MAY declaration have triggered enhanced US entry screening from 18-MAY, and the Air France 378 diversion on 20-MAY reflects regulatory entry-restriction enforcement rather than a confirmed medical case.

## FLASH EVENTS THIS CYCLE (Score ≥ 20)

8 FLASH events at executive summary level. Full SALUTE / Alt-Hyp / Collection Gaps available in DTR Full edition.

### US-Iran deal-or-strike window in closing 48 hours; IRGC threatens war beyond the region.

[GEO-002 | UPDATED - DEAL WINDOW CLOSING 48H | Score 25]

**Current state:** The window opened by Trump's strike call-off is in its closing 48 hours. Trump said Tuesday 19-MAY he had been "an hour away" from ordering new strikes before Gulf allies asked him to hold, and signalled a deal could follow "in coming days." Iran's IRGC threatened to push the war "beyond the region" if attacks resume. Pakistan is mediating; Israel's military was reportedly surprised by the "hour away" disclosure.

**Downstream:** Confirmed deal: Brent -\$8 to -\$12, defense-sector retracement, cyber-spillover softens. No deal + strike: Brent +\$10 to +\$15, Iranian proxy activation 48h, ME airspace advisories. Domestic-stability factor and household cost cascade are carried in the two FFTP Iran companion reports referenced in the BLUF.

Sources: [CBS News liveblog](#) | [Arab News](#) | [Times of Israel](#).

### WHO declares DRC/Uganda Ebola a PHEIC; US enhances entry screening, no US cases.

[HLTH-002 | NEW - WHO PHEIC DECLARED | Score 24]

**Current state:** WHO declared the DRC/Uganda Ebola outbreak (Bundibugyo strain, no approved vaccine) a Public Health Emergency of International Concern on 17-MAY, with roughly 600 cases and 139 deaths per WHO figures. CDC and DHS implemented enhanced US entry screening and travel measures from 18-MAY. CDC assesses overall US public risk as low; there are no US cases.

**Downstream:** A CBP/DHS Federal Register notice routes all DRC/Uganda/South Sudan-origin US-bound flights to Washington-Dulles only for a 30-day duration. Air France Flight 378 (Paris to Detroit) was refused US landing 20-MAY and diverted to Montreal; CBP stated the passenger was boarded "in error" and that there was no medical emergency - a regulatory entry-restriction enforcement, not a confirmed case.

Sources: [WHO](#) | [CDC](#) | [US Federal Register](#).

### WEATHER: SPC Day 1 SLGT eastern Colorado; WPC Day 2 SLGT southern Plains flash-flood.

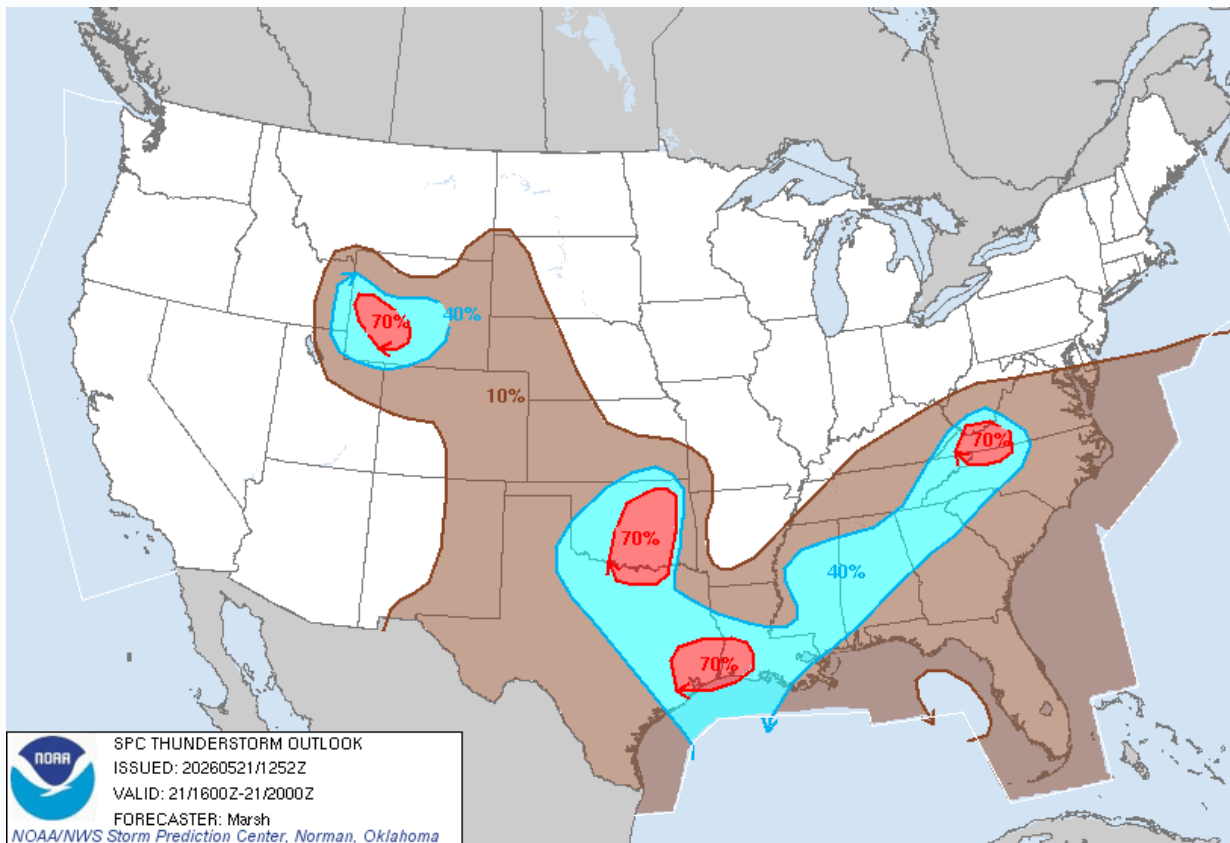
[WX-001 | UPDATED - DUAL-HAZARD WEATHER | Score 23]

**Current state:** [SPC](#) Day 1 carries a SLIGHT risk (NOAA tier 2 of 5) across eastern Colorado, where afternoon convection off the higher terrain near Denver and Colorado Springs supports supercells with

large hail, isolated severe gusts, and a possible tornado. [WPC](#) Day 2 ERO holds a SLIGHT excessive-rainfall risk for the southern Plains and Piney Woods. NWR critical-corridor gaps: CO Colorado Springs, KS Ulysses, IL Hillsboro, TN Shelbyville, TX Rio Grande City.

**Downstream:** County EOC activation **roughly even chance** across the southern Plains and Hill Country Thu-Fri; flash-flood concern for southwest Texas. CO Colorado Springs NWR transmitter is OUT OF SERVICE inside the eastern-Colorado SLIGHT zone.

Sources: [NWS WPC](#) | [NWS SPC](#) | [NWS NWR](#) (operator snapshot 21-MAY 1125 UTC).



### NGINX CVE-2026-42945 (CVSS 9.2) actively exploited; CISA KEV pickup pending.

[CYB-010 | ACTIVE EXPLOITATION | Score 25]

**Current state:** Heap buffer overflow in `ngx_http_rewrite_module` affecting NGINX Plus + Open Source 0.6.27 through 1.30.0. RCE on ASLR-disabled hosts; active exploitation per [VulnCheck](#) telemetry. Chain-risk with Linux Copy Fail = root primitive on Linux container hosts.

**Downstream:** Mass-scan activity for unpatched NGINX **almost certain** by end of week. Treat as "KEV add pending" for compliance posture: any FCEB or critical-infra operator should patch within standard 14-day cadence.

Sources: [VulnCheck](#) | [The Hacker News](#) | F5/NGINX project advisories.

### Cisco SD-WAN CVE-2026-20182 (CVSS 10.0) T+4 past; UAT-8616 cluster active.

[CYB-007 | FCEB DEADLINE T+4 PAST | Score 24]

**Current state:** Authentication bypass in Catalyst SD-WAN Controller + Manager. CISA KEV 14-MAY; FCEB deadline 17-MAY (T+4 past). Talos attribution UAT-8616; XenShell + Godzilla web shells across 10-plus exploitation clusters; Cluster 10 extracts admin hashdump, JWT chunks, AWS vManage credentials for cloud pivot.

**Downstream:** Any FCEB or commercial customer that has not rotated AWS vManage credentials since 14-MAY should treat them as **likely** compromised even after applying the patch.

Sources: [CISA KEV](#) | Cisco PSIRT + Talos | [CISA ED 26-03](#).

### Microsoft Exchange CVE-2026-42897 OWA XSS - FCEB deadline T+8 (29-MAY).

[CYB-009 | FCEB DEADLINE T+8 FUTURE | Score 23]

**Current state:** Cross-site scripting (CVSS 8.1) in Outlook Web Access during web-page generation; arbitrary JavaScript in user browser context. Microsoft tagged "Exploitation Detected." On-prem Exchange Server only; Exchange Online not in scope. KEV 15-MAY; FCEB 29-MAY (T+8).

**Downstream:** Exchange operators should enable Exchange Emergency Mitigation Service (EEMS) if not already done. BEC-style fraud at scale enabled by OWA session hijack.

Sources: [CISA KEV](#) | [Microsoft MSRC](#).

### US naval blockade of Iran Day 39; JMIC maritime threat level CRITICAL.

[GEO-001 | STABLE | Score 23]

**Current state:** Strait blockade Day 39. The JMIC maritime threat level for the Strait of Hormuz remains CRITICAL, with mines reported near the Traffic Separation Scheme and a UKMTO-reported vessel seizure northeast of Fujairah. Commercial transit holds at single-digit percent of pre-war volume.

**Downstream:** Iraqi government stability at risk while Hormuz exports remain suppressed. The blockade's 2nd-through-8th-order US household cost cascade is analyzed in the FFTP [Iranian Blockade US Consumer Impact Analysis](#) (24-month median household impact \$1,860 to \$9,380; most cost-avoidance window closes inside 90 days).

Sources: [JMIC](#) | [UKMTO](#) | regional maritime reporting.

### Lebanon CF Day 36 of 45-day extension; daily Israeli strikes on the south continue.

[GEO-CF-LBN | EXTENDED - DAY 36 OF 45 | Score 22]

**Current state:** The truce, in effect since 17-APR, has never been observed in practice; daily IDF airstrikes against assessed Hezbollah targets in south Lebanon and the Bekaa continued through this cycle. Next Washington political round 2-3 JUN; Pentagon security track 29-MAY.

**Downstream:** CF holds through the 45-day extension (29-JUN) at **likely** (65-80%) probability. Collapse tripwire: high-mass IDF Beirut Dahieh strike + same-week Hezbollah strategic-rocket response.

Sources: [Times of Israel](#) | [Al Jazeera](#) | Alma Research center.

## PREPAREDNESS CONDITION ASSESSMENT

### **PREP-CON 3 - INCIDENT PROBABLE (Brown Sky) | Trend: STABLE**

**COMCON 4 - INCIDENT POSSIBLE:** 36 [NWR](#) transmitters affected (16 OUT OF SERVICE + 20 DEGRADED) across 17 states per operator snapshot 21-MAY 1125 UTC, including an 18-site Alaska cluster. Most operationally relevant: CO Colorado Springs (OUT OF SERVICE, inside the eastern-Colorado SLIGHT zone) and KS Ulysses, IL Hillsboro, TN Shelbyville near the southern-Plains excessive-rainfall corridor.

**WX-CON 2 - SLGT: SPC** Day 1 SLIGHT (NOAA tier 2 of 5) eastern Colorado convective; **WPC** Day 2 ERO SLIGHT southern Plains and Piney Woods excessive rainfall, with flash-flood concern for the Hill Country of southwest Texas. Scale per [NOAA SPC Convective Outlook](#).

**SWX-CON 1 - Minor:** [SWPC](#) alert ALTEF3: the 2 MeV energetic-electron flux has held above 1000 pfu since 16-MAY, a satellite-charging hazard for geostationary operators. Geomagnetic and HF-radio conditions are quiet. Scale per [NOAA Space Weather Scales](#).

#### Top 5 operational drivers:

- ▶ Iran deal-or-strike window in its closing 48 hours; Trump "an hour away" from strikes 19-MAY before Gulf allies asked him to hold; IRGC threatens war beyond the region.
- ▶ WHO Ebola PHEIC (DRC/Uganda Bundibugyo strain); enhanced US entry screening from 18-MAY; Air France 378 diverted 20-MAY; no US cases, CDC assesses US risk low.
- ▶ PAN-OS CVE-2026-0300 FCEB deadline reached 21-MAY; unpatched internet-exposed instances are now past-deadline exposure.
- ▶ SPC Day 1 SLGT eastern Colorado convective; WPC Day 2 ERO SLGT southern Plains and Piney Woods flash-flood.
- ▶ Lebanon CF Day 36 of 45-day extension; daily Israeli strikes on the south continue; next Washington political round 2-3 JUN.

**Full PREP-CON framework reference:** [fortunefavorstheprepared.com / preparedness-conditions](https://fortunefavorstheprepared.com/preparedness-conditions).

**Full analytical methodology:** [fortunefavorstheprepared.com / analytical-standards](https://fortunefavorstheprepared.com/analytical-standards) (sourcing standards, estimative-language scale, risk-score formula, alt-hypothesis discipline).

## UPGRADE - FULL DTR ACCESS

#### What's in DTR Full that this brief omits:

- Full SALUTE detail per FLASH entry (Size/Activity/Location/Time/Equipment/Unit)
- Structured Alternative Hypotheses with WHAT-WOULD-SUPPORT / WHAT-WOULD-DISCONFIRM rows
- Collection Gaps callouts (what the analyst CANNOT see)
- Indicators & Warning Matrix (active tracks with tripwires + observed status)
- Sector Impact Matrix (threats × Healthcare/Bank-Fin/Manuf/Transport/Energy/Pub-Sec)
- Carryover monitor sections (Cyber 4A, Geo/IO 4B, Energy 5, Aviation 6, Wx 7, Space Wx 7A, Ag 7B)
- Analytical Integrity disclosure (Risk Score methodology + ICD 203 estimative scale)

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## END

### END OF REPORT

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