

Information Cut-Off: 1245h (BST), 31 July 2026

Executive Summary

Iran launched a drone attack on a US base in Kuwait this morning (31 July). No injuries or damage have been confirmed; the strike appears largely symbolic retaliation for US attacks yesterday (30 July).

Unconfirmed reports claim that Saudi Arabia is preparing land and sea operations against the Houthis. This would likely trigger retaliation by the Houthis and raise the risk of Houthi strikes against Saudi oil infrastructure; civilian airports have been hit before when Saudi Arabia targeted Houthi airports.

Conflict

Iran struck the US Ahmad al-Jaber Air Base with drones this morning (31 July), per Iranian state media, calling it retaliation for recent US attacks. Kuwait's military said the drones targeted military infrastructure but were intercepted, with no confirmed injuries or damage.

Saudi Arabia is preparing a sea, and possibly land, offensive against the Houthis in central Yemen, unnamed Yemeni sources told the Guardian, which also reported Saudi forces repositioning from eastern Yemen. The claims are unverified, but such operations would make Houthi retaliation likely and raise the risk of Houthi attacks against Saudi oil infrastructure; Saudi airports have also come under attack in response to Saudi Arabia's strikes on Houthi airports in Yemen.

Diplomacy

Trump announced yesterday (30 July) that Hamas has agreed to disarm and transfer control of Gaza to a Palestinian technocratic government, via a 200–250-day transition backed by a neutral International Stabilisation Force that will train police. Israeli acceptance and Hamas compliance remain unconfirmed.

United States

The US Treasury sanctioned six entities/individuals in China, India, Russia, and Iran yesterday (30 July) for supporting Mahan Air, an Iranian carrier linked to the Iranian military.

Strait of Hormuz / Bab al-Mandeb

Saudi Arabia hosted talks in Riyadh yesterday (30 July) to form a multinational "maritime defence coalition" to protect transit through the Bab al-Mandeb Strait, Red Sea, and Gulf of Aden. Dozens of countries attended, including the US. 14 states have joined so far: Turkey, Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, Jordan, Egypt, Pakistan, Djibouti, Somalia, Bangladesh, Yemen, Sudan, and the Comoros.

Regional Information

Iraq

A drone attack hit Kurdish opposition groups in Erbil this morning (31 July); no casualties have been confirmed.

Egypt

Egypt's Information Minister denied US media reports that Cairo blames Iran for Wednesday's (29 July) drone attack on Damietta Port.

Travel

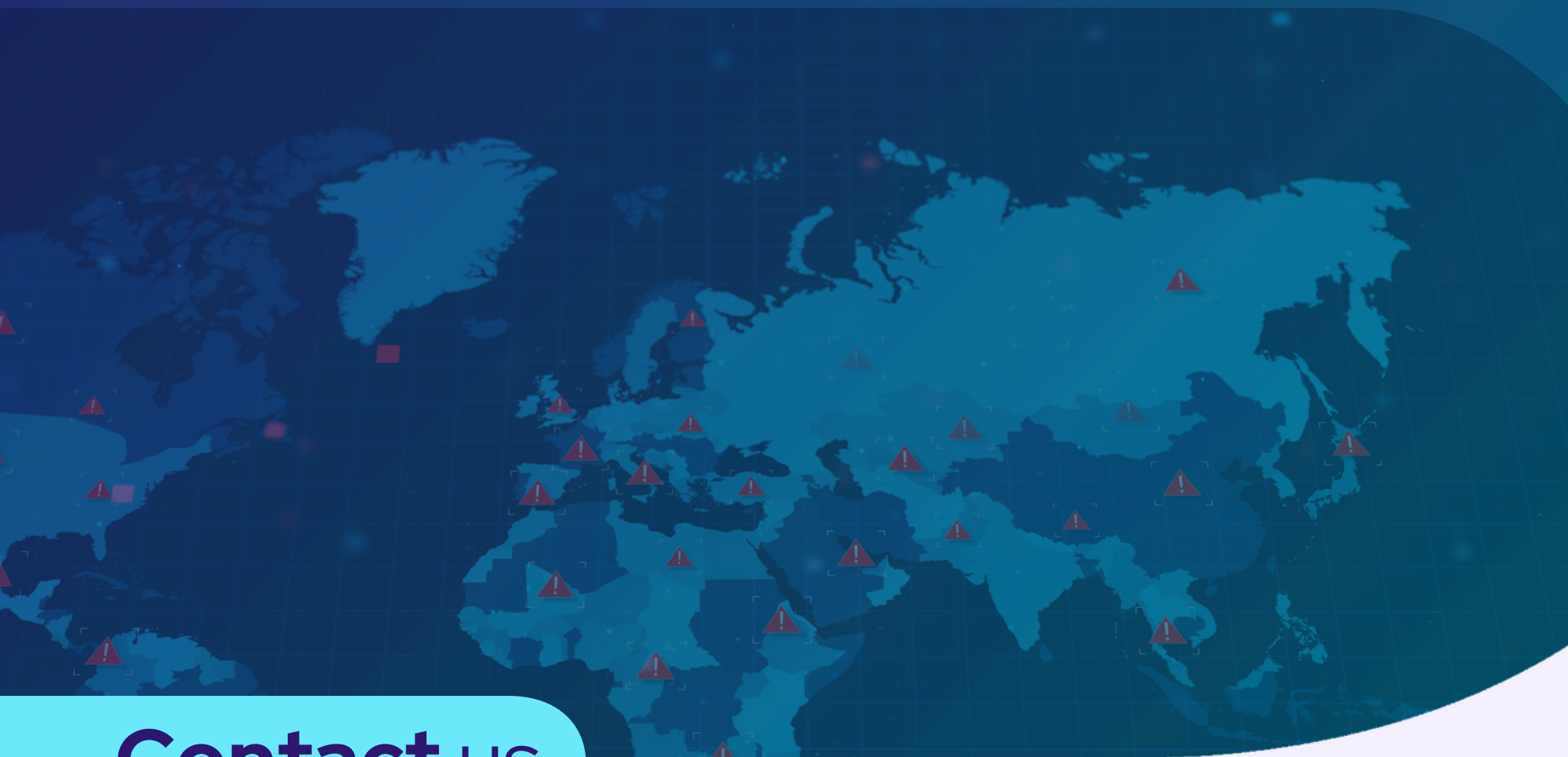
Aviation

Qatar Airways has extended suspensions to Bahrain (BAH), Erbil (EBL), and Kuwait (KWI) through 07 August.

Delays are being reported at Kuwait International Airport (KWI) after this morning's drone attacks; most flights are still departing.

Advice

- Reconsider all travel to Israel, Iran and Lebanon (especially south of the Litani River, Dahiye in Beirut, and in the Beqaa Valley).
- Be aware that US facilities throughout the Gulf are potential targets for Iranian attacks, and avoid all such sites whenever possible.
- Monitor international media and relevant embassy/diplomatic advisories to remain aware of any fresh developments and to ensure receipt of all attack warnings, and follow all guidelines.
- Ensure awareness of the nearest shelter in the event of air sirens.
- Avoid any demonstrations or gatherings in the region that appears to be linked to the US/Israel – Iran conflict.
- Globally, reconsider travel to any locations with links to Israel or Judaism.
- Aviation travellers should anticipate schedule changes and limited seat availability, should allow additional connection time and should confirm flight status directly with the operating airline before travelling to the airport.
- If you need further support, or wish to discuss options for evacuation, call NGS.



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