

# S3T

SYSTEMIC STABILITY STRESS TEST

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**OPERATION EPIC FURY / OPERATION ROARING LION**

US-Israel Joint Military Operations Against Iran | 28 February 2026

Laboratorium Indonesia 2045



# SITUATION OVERVIEW

## US-ISRAEL STRIKE PACKAGE

### Operation Epic Fury (US) + Roaring Lion (Israel)

Targets: Tehran, Isfahan, Qom, Karaj, Kermanshah  
Supreme leader compound struck (7 confirmed missiles)  
Trump: 'major combat operations' + regime change call  
Multi-day sustained campaign planned (not single strike)

## IRANIAN RETALIATION

### Unprecedented simultaneous strikes on ALL US Gulf bases

Al Udeid (Qatar), Ali Al Salem (Kuwait), Al Dhafra (UAE), 5th Fleet (Bahrain)  
Ballistic missiles toward Israel (Tel Aviv, Haifa, Jerusalem)  
Houthis announce Red Sea shipping attack resumption  
IRGC: 'No red lines after this aggression'

## CRITICAL CONTEXT

### Strikes launched DURING diplomatic breakthrough

Iran agreed to enrichment halt + IAEA verification hours before attack

Oman FM: peace was 'within reach'

## FORCE POSTURE














USS Abraham Lincoln + USS Gerald R. Ford carrier groups  
Largest US military buildup since 2003 Iraq invasion  
Pentagon planning weeks-long sustained operations

## MARITIME IMPACT

Oil tankers avoiding Strait of Hormuz (20% global oil)  
Houthis resuming Red Sea attacks (dual chokepoint crisis)  
Greece advises vessels avoid Gulf entirely  
India: 50% crude imports at risk via Hormuz

# S3T FRAMEWORK: SEVEN STABILITY PILLARS

Each pillar scored 1–5 | All pillars assessed at CRITICAL post-cascade

 <b>P1</b>	Balance of Power	Baseline: 1.8	→	<b>1.3</b>	 CRITICAL
 <b>P2</b>	Deterrence Credibility	Baseline: 1.8	→	<b>1.2</b>	 CRITICAL
 <b>P3</b>	Competition Management	Baseline: 1.0	→	<b>0.8</b>	 CRITICAL
 <b>P4</b>	Strategic Restraint	Baseline: 1.0	→	<b>0.8</b>	 CRITICAL
 <b>P5</b>	Power Transition	Baseline: 1.5	→	<b>1.0</b>	 CRITICAL
 <b>P6</b>	Middle Power Space	Baseline: 1.3	→	<b>0.8</b>	 CRITICAL
 <b>P7</b>	Security Primacy	Baseline: 1.5	→	<b>1.0</b>	 CRITICAL

**SYSTEM COMPOSITE**

Baseline: 1.41 → Post-Cascade: 1.01 | **SYSTEMIC CRISIS**

# CRITICAL PILLAR FAILURES

*P3 and P4 scored lowest at 1.0 baseline — complete failure of management mechanisms*

## P3: COMPETITION MANAGEMENT | 1.0

### **Crisis Communication: COLLAPSED**

No functioning US-Iran channel. FM Araghchi: 'no communication right now.' Oman mediation destroyed.

### **Arms Control: DESTROYED**

Iran agreed to enrichment halt + IAEA verification hours before strike. Signal to all proliferators: compliance = no security.

### **Tacit Rules: SHATTERED**

US struck during negotiations. Iran targeted all US bases simultaneously. Senior leadership targeted. No red lines respected by either side.

### **Diplomatic Engagement: TERMINATED**

Three rounds of talks yielded near-breakthrough. Destroyed by strikes hours after Oman FM announced agreement.

## P4: STRATEGIC RESTRAINT | 1.0

### **Overextension: CRITICAL**

Two carrier groups in CENTCOM. Weeks-long ops planned. Houthis resume. Iraq/Syria proxies escalate. Indo-Pacific posture degraded.

### **Ideological Crusade: ACTIVE**

Trump called for regime change, urged Iranians to 'take over government.' Transforms limited military objectives into maximalist war aims.

### **Security Dilemma: SPIRALING**

Largest buildup since 2003 triggered Iranian mobilization, Hormuz drills. Gulf states trapped as targets without agency.

### **Proportionality: INCOHERENT**

Regime change objectives via air power alone. No ground component. Gap between aims and means is strategically unsound.

# SHOCK INJECTION SCENARIOS



## SCENARIO A

### HORMUZ-RED SEA DUAL CHOKEPOINT

HIGH 65-75%

SIGNIFICANT

Iran deploys asymmetric naval assets to harass Hormuz. Houthis resume Red Sea attacks. Oil \$120-150/bbl. Dual chokepoint crisis.

Historical analogue: *Iran-Iraq Tanker War 1984-88*

Pillars: P1 P6 P7



## SCENARIO B

### MULTI-FRONT PROXY ACTIVATION

MED-HIGH 45-55%

SEVERE

Hezbollah opens northern front. Iraqi PMF attacks US forces. Houthis launch ASBMs. Five simultaneous theaters.

Historical analogue: *2006 Lebanon + 2003 Iraq*

Pillars: P1 P2 P3 P4



## SCENARIO C

### REGIME COLLAPSE NUCLEAR CRISIS

LOW-MED 15-25%

CATASTROPHIC

IRGC C2 degraded. 100+ city protests reignite. Power vacuum. Nuclear materials unsecured. 88M population crisis.

Historical analogue: *Iraq 2003 + Libya 2011*

Pillars: ALL P1-P7

# CASCADE ANALYSIS

*Three self-reinforcing cascade pathways are active simultaneously*

1

ORIGIN: **P4 Strategic Restraint**

Overextension → Power vacuum in Indo-Pacific/Europe → Middle power entrapment

TERMINAL STATE: US strategic exhaustion across three theaters

2

ORIGIN: **P3 Competition Mgmt**

Diplomatic destruction → NPT deterrence collapse → Proliferation cascade

TERMINAL STATE: Multiple new nuclear states within decade

3

ORIGIN: **P7 Security Primacy**

Energy chokepoint crisis → \$120-150/bbl shock → Global political destabilization

TERMINAL STATE: Global recession; deglobalization accelerates

**CRITICAL: All three cascades interact and amplify each other. Circuit breaker window: days to weeks, not months.**

# VULNERABILITY CLUSTERS

## CLUSTER 1: HORMUZ-RED SEA DUAL CHOKEPOINT

Time to impact: 0-7 days

HIGH 65-75%

**Circuit breakers:** US Navy escorts; Saudi/UAE pipeline (2.6M bpd); OPEC+ emergency; rapid ceasefire

**Early warning:** Tanker traffic volume; insurance premiums; Houthi tempo; IRGC mine-laying

## CLUSTER 2: NON-PROLIFERATION REGIME COLLAPSE

Time to impact: 6-24 months

MED-HIGH 50-60%

**Circuit breakers:** Post-conflict grand bargain; IAEA emergency; ME NWFZ; US-China NPT commitment

**Early warning:** Saudi enrichment activity; DPRK test tempo; Turkish nuclear rhetoric

## CLUSTER 3: US MULTI-THEATER OVEREXTENSION

Time to impact: 1-6 months

MEDIUM 40-50%

**Circuit breakers:** Rapid US objective achievement; Congressional constraints; allied burden-sharing

**Early warning:** Chinese Taiwan activity; Russian NATO flank; US carrier redeployment

# FINAL ASSESSMENT

# 1.01

## SYSTEMIC CRISIS

Post-Cascade Composite

**01** All seven pillars degraded to CRITICAL. First post-Cold War event to simultaneously compromise every stability pillar.

**02** Striking during diplomatic breakthrough is the single most damaging element. Compliance offered zero protection — undermines rational basis for future diplomacy.

**03** Three self-reinforcing cascades active simultaneously. Circuit breaker window measured in days, not months.

**04** Historical analogue: July 1914. Localized military action cascading beyond initiating parties' control through alliance entrapment and absent circuit breakers.