



Saudi Arabia considers backing Yemeni ground offensive to retake Houthi-held Red Sea coast

August 13, 2026 Jerusalem Post reported: “Saudi Arabia is weighing whether to back a Yemeni ground campaign to retake the Red Sea coast from the Houthis, an offensive that would test forces Riyadh has spent seven months assembling out of rival Yemeni militias.

Ballistic missiles hit the commercial vessel *Tihama* on Tuesday in Bab-el-Mandeb, the strait at the southern mouth of the Red Sea, killing four of its crew. They were the first crew deaths from a Houthi attack since the American and Israeli war with Iran began in February...”

Iran-Backed Houthi Terrorists Launch Missile and Drone Attacks in Red Sea

August 12, 2026 Breitbart.com reported: “The Iran-backed Houthi insurgents of Yemen claimed responsibility for a murderous “double tap” strike on a ship in the Bab-el-Mandeb Strait on Tuesday, using three ballistic missiles to set the ship on fire — and then launching another missile in a deliberate attack on rescue teams, killing at least six people.

According to the UK Maritime Trade Operations agency (UKMTO), the incident began when the Houthis launched three ballistic missiles at a stationary ship in the Bab-el-Mandeb strait — which, like the now-infamous Strait of Hormuz, is a chokepoint for a major trade route.

The missile attack caused significant damage to the ship and started a fire on board, so the legitimate government of Yemen, which is partnered with Saudi Arabia, dispatched coast guard and military rescue teams. When the rescuers arrived, the Houthi insurgents launched another ballistic missile, using a “double tap strike” technique to inflict casualties by targeting the rescuers who responded to the first attack. Six deaths were reported, including three Pakistani nationals and an Indonesian who were crew aboard the targeted ship, plus two Yemeni rescuers.

The targeted ship was a Tanzanian-flagged, Egyptian-owned vessel called the *Tihamah*, variously described as a small cargo ship and a ferry boat...”

With Middle East still at war, three regional powers ink a new alliance

August 11, 2026 Christian Science Monitor reported: “As the U.S.-Iran war grinds to a stalemate, a new alliance is emerging in and around the Middle East. Accelerated by the conflict – but not party to it – this new bloc says it aims to bring stability to a region at war.

The new defense and security alliance, between Saudi Arabia, Turkey, and Pakistan, was cemented Friday in Mecca, one of Islam’s holiest cities.

The so-called Mecca Joint Defense Agreement includes a NATO member, a nuclear power, and the world’s largest exporter of oil and a leader of the Muslim world. It declares an attack on one as an attack on all, though at least one prominent analyst calls the initiative more symbolic than practical.

The Mecca pact might not lead to a new front being opened against Iran, but observers and officials say it signals a deep shift in a region confronting shared threats and preparing for waning U.S. influence in the Middle East.

The agreement declares that “any armed attack against any one of the three states shall be regarded as an attack against them all,” underlining security cooperation to act as a “deterrence against any act of aggression.”

In an interview on Turkish television on Saturday, Turkish Foreign Minister Hakan Fidan said the agreement is “technically similar to NATO’s Article 5 on collective defense,” but that joint action would depend on a request made by a member state. Under the terms of the pact, if one member is attacked, the alliance would provide intelligence, logistical support, and munitions – and consider the deployment of military units depending on the threat level, according to Mr. Fidan... Under the arrangement, Saudi Arabia is to import Turkish and Pakistani technology and manufacturing know-how to build up its domestic defense industry, with Saudi Arabia expected to ramp up its production of drones, interceptors, and missiles, say Saudi officials and observers, who spoke on the condition of anonymity to discuss sensitive matters...”



Turkey- Saudi-Pakistan Pact

Gulf States Accept a New Normal in Hormuz: Iran Is in Control

August 10, 2026 wsj.com reported: “Persian Gulf energy producers are concluding that Iran’s control over the Strait of Hormuz will become permanent, disrupting their oil and gas exports and global energy supplies indefinitely.

The problem is they worry the alternative—going back to war—would be worse. The conundrum highlights how the war has unleashed a more antagonistic Iran and left a region that is vital to the world's energy security with no good option for countering it.

Iran's rivals in the Gulf don't like the deal now under consideration to crack open the vital waterway that formalizes Iranian oversight of inbound ships. But Gulf officials said the region sees the agreement as preferable to further negotiations on the deal, which promises to release energy shipments through Hormuz, have stalled in recent days. Iran has demanded financial relief and a prohibition on American and Israel warships in the strait, and on the other side the U.S. has refused to entertain an agreement that allows Tehran to place impediments on shipping, the mediators said. Oil prices turned higher Monday, with international benchmark Brent crude futures trading around \$87 a barrel.

Meanwhile, traffic through the strait has been snarled by Iranian attacks since a June memorandum of understanding between Washington and military action between the U.S. and Iran, which would put Arab states' energy infrastructure at risk. Tehran to open the waterway and wind down the war fell apart last month. Gulf states' efforts to get around the blockage in Hormuz are faltering as well.

The United Arab Emirates said four of its ships were hit last week by Iranian attacks while attempting to transit the strait. Saudi Arabia, which had preserved much of its export capacity by piping oil across the desert to a port on the Red Sea, has seen that alternative export route come under attack by the Iran-backed Houthi militia in Yemen. Egypt even came under fire...showing that Iran's threat to energy exports extends well beyond Hormuz..."

Southwest Reservoirs Reach Record Low Levels

August 10, 2026 gwnews.com reported: "The largest water reservoir in the United States is emptier than ever before. Last week, the water level in Lake Mead dropped to its lowest level since its creation 90 years ago. The reservoir was formed in the 1930s when the U.S. government built the Hoover Dam on the Colorado River.

"It's extremely significant and extremely concerning," says J.B. Hamby, chairman of the Colorado River Board of California. The Colorado River is nicknamed the "Lifeline of the Southwest." It provides water for 40 million people across seven states. Its current powers several major hydroelectric plants.

The river usually flows 1,450 miles from its source in the Colorado Rocky Mountains to its mouth in northwestern Mexico. But in recent decades, the river dries up before it reaches the sea. Droughts have depleted reservoirs like Lake Mead. The Rocky Mountains received a record low snowfall this past winter. Melting snow is an important water source for the river.

Officials expect water levels to continue dropping the rest of the year. Hamby says it's vital for states to reduce water use. The governments of the seven states involved—California, Colorado, Arizona, Nevada, New Mexico, Wyoming, and Utah—failed to come to an agreement on how to share the resource.

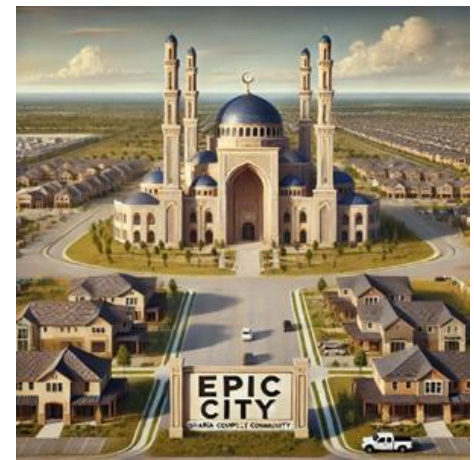
This year, the federal government stepped in. The U.S. Bureau of Reclamation plans to make water cuts mandatory for the three "lower basin states," Arizona, California, and Nevada..."

Iranian Woman Has Stark Warning for Americans as Creeping Sharia Spreads Across the Country

August 10, 2026 thegatewaypundit.com reported: "An Iranian woman shared her concern as creeping Sharia spreads across the United States, aided by leftists who have not yet come to understand they will not be protected if it is allowed to smother the Republic. Texas Governor Greg Abbott (R) has sounded the alarm against a planned Islamic "mega-city" outside Dallas.

The East Plano Islamic Center, via its affiliate Community Capitol Partners, is seeking to construct a 1,000-home settlement around 40 minutes from Dallas.

The so-called "Sharia City" would come complete with a mosque, Muslim schools, community college, and sporting facilities while serving as a reminder of Islam's growing influence across America and the Western world. On Monday, The Gateway Pundit reported that the McKinney City Council ignored citizens and instead submitted to political Islam..."



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