Data & Methodology Appendix

The Gulf Conflict in Nine Moments — Supporting Calculations

Lewis “DJ” Johnston IV, MBA · L4 Global · July 10, 2026

Companion to: “Revisiting Asset Reactions in the Gulf after Another Failed Attempt at Diplomacy”, l4global.com

This appendix documents the full event-level data and backtest calculations behind the return, volume, and strategy-comparison figures cited in the article. It is provided for readers who want to check the arithmetic themselves; nothing here changes the article's conclusions.

Methodology

Universe: six tickers used as proxies for Gulf and shipping/tanker exposure — KSA (iShares MSCI Saudi ETF), UAE (iShares MSCI UAE ETF), QAT (iShares MSCI Qatar ETF), BNO (Brent Oil Fund ETF), ZIM (ZIM Integrated Shipping), and STNG (Scorpio Tankers).

Event window: T-1 is the closing price on the last trading day before the event. T0 is the closing price on the event day itself (or the next trading day if the event fell on a non-trading day). 1-day return = (T0 – T-1) / T-1. 1-week return uses T+5, the close five trading days after T0: (T+5 – T-1) / T-1.

Volume ratio: T0 trading volume divided by the trailing 30-trading-day average daily volume. A ratio above 1.0x means the event day traded above its recent norm.

Data source: daily OHLCV pulled via the yfinance library against Yahoo Finance. Same pipeline and ticker set used throughout this series since the original May 22 article.

Coverage note: nine events are tracked below, from March 1 through July 8, 2026. The two most recent (Hormuz Tanker Attacks, July 6; US Strikes 80+ Targets, July 8) do not yet have five full trading days of data as of this appendix's publication date and are therefore excluded from the backtest cumulative totals in Sections 3–4, though their 1-day figures are included in Section 1.

Section 1 — Event-Level Returns, All Nine Events

Full price and return detail for each of the six tracked tickers across all nine events, in chronological order.

US-Israel Strike Iran / Hormuz Closes — Mar 1, 2026 (escalation)

Ticker	Price T-1	Price T0	Price T+5	1-Day Ret.	1-Wk Ret.	Vol Ratio
KSA	$36.61	$36.03	$37.67	-1.59%	+2.91%	1.91x
UAE	$20.63	$19.62	$18.52	-4.87%	-10.21%	5.24x
QAT	$18.81	$18.24	$18.18	-3.03%	-3.34%	3.19x
BNO	$34.81	$37.34	$42.72	+7.27%	+22.72%	6.18x
ZIM	$27.89	$27.89	$28.16	+0.00%	+0.97%	0.59x
STNG	$78.15	$77.36	$75.82	-1.01%	-2.99%	1.61x

Jebel Ali Strike / DFM Crash — Mar 9, 2026 (escalation)

Ticker	Price T-1	Price T0	Price T+5	1-Day Ret.	1-Wk Ret.	Vol Ratio
KSA	$36.53	$37.67	$37.73	+3.13%	+3.29%	1.24x
UAE	$18.44	$18.52	$17.30	+0.47%	-6.18%	1.60x
QAT	$18.12	$18.18	$18.11	+0.32%	-0.05%	3.74x
BNO	$43.95	$42.72	$47.66	-2.80%	+8.44%	9.26x
ZIM	$26.90	$28.16	$25.85	+4.67%	-3.92%	0.64x
STNG	$76.39	$75.82	$68.01	-0.74%	-10.97%	1.39x

April 8 Ceasefire Announced — Apr 9, 2026 (de-escalation)

Ticker	Price T-1	Price T0	Price T+5	1-Day Ret.	1-Wk Ret.	Vol Ratio
KSA	$38.95	$39.03	$39.76	+0.20%	+2.07%	0.40x
UAE	$18.57	$18.82	$19.12	+1.38%	+2.99%	0.39x
QAT	$18.53	$18.48	$18.65	-0.23%	+0.68%	1.00x
BNO	$48.02	$48.52	$49.08	+1.04%	+2.21%	0.98x
ZIM	$26.45	$26.40	$26.95	-0.19%	+1.89%	0.51x
STNG	$76.35	$75.55	$73.57	-1.04%	-3.63%	0.97x

April 17 Strait Re-opened (briefly) — Apr 17, 2026 (de-escalation)

Ticker	Price T-1	Price T0	Price T+5	1-Day Ret.	1-Wk Ret.	Vol Ratio
KSA	$39.76	$39.98	$38.49	+0.54%	-3.20%	0.43x

UAE	$19.12	$19.71	$18.80	+3.08%	-1.67%	0.50x
QAT	$18.65	$18.73	$18.60	+0.42%	-0.26%	0.21x
BNO	$49.08	$45.47	$52.59	-7.36%	+7.15%	0.95x
ZIM	$26.95	$27.01	$25.93	+0.22%	-3.78%	0.72x
STNG	$73.57	$74.76	$77.90	+1.61%	+5.88%	0.85x

Ceasefire Reimposed / Talks Collapse — Apr 22, 2026 (escalation)

Ticker	Price T-1	Price T0	Price T+5	1-Day Ret.	1-Wk Ret.	Vol Ratio
KSA	$39.08	$38.94	$38.60	-0.35%	-1.23%	0.22x
UAE	$18.85	$18.77	$18.89	-0.41%	+0.21%	0.24x
QAT	$18.53	$18.47	$18.31	-0.35%	-1.18%	0.11x
BNO	$50.07	$50.53	$58.81	+0.92%	+17.46%	0.41x
ZIM	$26.24	$26.41	$26.01	+0.65%	-0.88%	0.64x
STNG	$74.17	$75.51	$80.56	+1.81%	+8.62%	0.60x

Operation Project / May Escalation — May 5, 2026 (escalation)

Ticker	Price T-1	Price T0	Price T+5	1-Day Ret.	1-Wk Ret.	Vol Ratio
KSA	$38.15	$37.88	$38.17	-0.70%	+0.05%	0.31x
UAE	$18.34	$18.51	$18.36	+0.95%	+0.11%	0.44x
QAT	$18.26	$18.23	$18.18	-0.16%	-0.42%	1.31x
BNO	$60.13	$58.18	$56.89	-3.24%	-5.39%	0.49x
ZIM	$26.07	$28.55	$25.75	+9.51%	-1.23%	6.81x
STNG	$82.77	$86.10	$83.01	+4.02%	+0.29%	1.71x

Islamabad Memorandum Signed — Jun 18, 2026 (de-escalation)

Ticker	Price T-1	Price T0	Price T+5	1-Day Ret.	1-Wk Ret.	Vol Ratio
KSA	$38.42	$38.60	$37.80	+0.47%	-1.61%	1.26x
UAE	$19.61	$20.35	$19.24	+3.77%	-1.89%	1.34x
QAT	$18.50	$18.56	$18.05	+0.32%	-2.43%	0.16x
BNO	$43.49	$43.88	$40.31	+0.90%	-7.31%	0.90x
ZIM	$23.98	$24.34	$25.58	+1.50%	+6.67%	0.84x
STNG	$78.04	$80.58	$72.58	+3.25%	-7.00%	1.09x

Hormuz Tanker Attacks — Jul 6, 2026 (escalation)

Ticker	Price T-1	Price T0	Price T+5	1-Day Ret.	1-Wk Ret.	Vol Ratio
KSA	$37.38	$37.30	$37.18	-0.21%	-0.54%	0.40x
UAE	$19.02	$19.48	$19.35	+2.42%	+1.74%	0.35x
QAT	$17.96	$18.30	$17.82	+1.86%	-0.81%	0.33x
BNO	$39.67	$39.94	$42.17	+0.68%	+6.30%	0.18x
ZIM	$25.57	$23.71	$24.14	-7.27%	-5.59%	4.45x
STNG	$73.01	$73.67	$76.25	+0.90%	+4.44%	0.88x

US Strikes 80+ Targets / Oil Sanctions Reimposed — Jul 8, 2026 (escalation)

Ticker	Price T-1	Price T0	Price T+5	1-Day Ret.	1-Wk Ret.	Vol Ratio
KSA	$37.43	$37.53	$37.18	+0.27%	-0.67%	0.27x
UAE	$19.17	$19.19	$19.35	+0.10%	+0.94%	0.37x
QAT	$18.11	$17.95	$17.82	-0.88%	-1.57%	0.11x
BNO	$41.93	$43.57	$42.17	+3.91%	+0.57%	1.25x
ZIM	$23.92	$24.60	$24.14	+2.84%	+0.92%	0.88x
STNG	$74.32	$77.33	$76.25	+4.05%	+2.60%	0.75x

Section 2 — Backtest Methodology

Two strategies run against an equal-weighted basket of the six tracked tickers, across the seven completed events (March 1 – June 18, 2026):

Chase: enter at the T0 close in the direction of that day's move (long if the basket was up on the day, short if down), hold to the T+5 close, then exit. Direction is decided purely by the sign of the T0 move — no view on whether the news was an escalation or a de-escalation.

Guided: same entry (T0 close) and exit (T+5 close) timing. Direction is set by event type instead of the day's price action: ride the T0 direction on escalation events (agrees with Chase), fade it — take the opposite side — on de-escalation events (diverges from Chase). This is the rule stated in the original May 22 Markets Note: de-escalation pops tend to reverse.

Per-ticker return: for each ticker in each event, the position (long or short) is set by the sign of that ticker's own T-1-to-T0 move, and the return is calculated strictly from the T0 close forward: (Price T+5 – Price T0) / Price T0, signed for the direction taken. This is deliberately not the same number as the 1-day/1-week figures in Section 1, which are measured from T-1 (they include the announcement-day move itself); a position entered at the T0 close was never exposed to that first move, so its return is measured only over the T0→T+5 window it was actually held. Guided uses the identical T0→T+5 return per ticker, with the position flipped to the opposite side on de-escalation events only — so a Guided de-escalation return is mathematically the negative of the Chase return on that same ticker and window (a short's payoff on a given price path is definitionally the negative of a long's payoff on that same path). The event-level Chase/Guided figures below are the simple average of the six tickers' returns for that event (equal-weighted basket); individual tickers are not always unanimous on direction, so the basket can hold a mix of longs and shorts within a single event.

Compounding: results are compounded sequentially, not summed. Each event's return is applied as a growth factor (1 + r) to whatever capital resulted from the prior event, assuming a trader exits fully at T+5 and re-enters the next event with the resulting balance. No transaction costs or slippage are modeled.

Event-Level Basket Returns (equal-weighted, 7 events used in backtest)

Event	Date	Type	Chase Return (equal-wt.)	Guided Return (equal-wt.)
US-Israel Strike Iran / Hormuz Closes	Mar 1, 2026	escalation	+3.12%	+3.12%
Jebel Ali Strike / DFM Crash	Mar 9, 2026	escalation	-2.72%	-2.72%
April 8 Ceasefire Announced	Apr 9, 2026	de-escalation	+0.71%	-0.71%
April 17 Strait Re-opened (briefly)	Apr 17, 2026	de-escalation	-4.08%	+4.08%
Ceasefire Reimposed / Talks Collapse	Apr 22, 2026	escalation	+3.78%	+3.78%
Operation Project / May Escalation	May 5, 2026	escalation	-2.08%	-2.08%
Islamabad Memorandum Signed	Jun 18, 2026	de-escalation	-3.87%	+3.87%

Section 3 — Compounding Walkthrough

Step-by-step multiplication of the growth factors above, in event order. “Running” is the cumulative compounded return through that event — i.e., what a $100 starting balance would be worth minus $100, expressed as a percentage.

#	Event	Chase Multiplier	Chase Running	Guided Multiplier	Guided Running
1	US-Israel Strike Iran / Hor...	x1.0312	+3.12%	x1.0312	+3.12%
2	Jebel Ali Strike / DFM Crash	x0.9728	+0.32%	x0.9728	+0.32%
3	April 8 Ceasefire Announced	x1.0071	+1.03%	x0.9929	-0.40%
4	April 17 Strait Re-opened (...	x0.9592	-3.09%	x1.0408	+3.67%
5	Ceasefire Reimposed / Talks...	x1.0378	+0.57%	x1.0378	+7.59%
6	Operation Project / May Esc...	x0.9792	-1.52%	x0.9792	+5.35%
7	**Islamabad Memorandum Signed**	**x0.9613**	**-5.33%**	**x1.0387**	**+9.42%**

Final compounded result after 7 events: Chase -5.33% | Guided +9.42% — published in the article, rounded, as –5.3% and +9.4%.

For comparison, a simple (uncompounded) sum of the same seven event returns gives Chase -5.14% and Guided +9.34% — close to but not identical to the compounded figures, since compounding lets losses shrink the base for the next bet and gains grow it.

Section 4 — Full Per-Ticker Backtest Detail

The individual ticker-level returns underlying the equal-weighted event figures in Section 2. Each event's six rows average to the event-level Chase/Guided figures shown there. All nine events are included here for completeness (the two July events are directional only — not part of the 7-event compounded backtest, since they lack full T+5 data).

Event	Type	Ticker	Chase Ret.	Guided Ret.
US-Israel Strike Iran / Hormuz Closes	escalation	KSA	-4.57%	-4.57%
		UAE	+5.61%	+5.61%
		QAT	+0.32%	+0.32%
		BNO	+14.40%	+14.40%
		ZIM	+0.97%	+0.97%
		STNG	+2.00%	+2.00%
Jebel Ali Strike / DFM Crash	escalation	KSA	+0.16%	+0.16%
		UAE	-6.62%	-6.62%
		QAT	-0.37%	-0.37%
		BNO	-11.56%	-11.56%
		ZIM	-8.21%	-8.21%
		STNG	+10.31%	+10.31%
April 8 Ceasefire Announced	de-escalation	KSA	+1.87%	-1.87%
		UAE	+1.59%	-1.59%
		QAT	-0.91%	+0.91%
		BNO	+1.16%	-1.16%
		ZIM	-2.08%	+2.08%
		STNG	+2.62%	-2.62%
April 17 Strait Re-opened (briefly)	de-escalation	KSA	-3.72%	+3.72%
		UAE	-4.61%	+4.61%
		QAT	-0.68%	+0.68%
		BNO	-15.66%	+15.66%
		ZIM	-3.99%	+3.99%
		STNG	+4.20%	-4.20%
Ceasefire Reimposed / Talks Collapse	escalation	KSA	+0.88%	+0.88%
		UAE	-0.62%	-0.62%
		QAT	+0.83%	+0.83%
		BNO	+16.39%	+16.39%
		ZIM	-1.52%	-1.52%
		STNG	+6.69%	+6.69%
Operation Project / May Escalation	escalation	KSA	-0.76%	-0.76%
		UAE	-0.83%	-0.83%

Event	Type	Ticker	Chase Ret.	Guided Ret.
		QAT	+0.26%	+0.26%
		BNO	+2.22%	+2.22%
		ZIM	-9.81%	-9.81%
		STNG	-3.59%	-3.59%
Islamabad Memorandum Signed	de-escalation	KSA	-2.07%	+2.07%
		UAE	-5.45%	+5.45%
		QAT	-2.74%	+2.74%
		BNO	-8.14%	+8.14%
		ZIM	+5.09%	-5.09%
		STNG	-9.93%	+9.93%
Hormuz Tanker Attacks	escalation	KSA	+0.33%	+0.33%
		UAE	-0.66%	-0.66%
		QAT	-2.62%	-2.62%
		BNO	+5.58%	+5.58%
		ZIM	-1.81%	-1.81%
		STNG	+3.51%	+3.51%
US Strikes 80+ Targets / Oil Sanctions Reimposed	escalation	KSA	-0.94%	-0.94%
		UAE	+0.84%	+0.84%
		QAT	+0.70%	+0.70%
		BNO	-3.21%	-3.21%
		ZIM	-1.87%	-1.87%
		STNG	-1.39%	-1.39%

Illustrative model only, equal-weighted, no transaction costs or slippage. Not investment advice. Full underlying CSVs and the Python data pipeline are available on request.