



Global Watch Daily – August 13, 2026

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A concise summary of significant developments in Israel and the world through a grounded Christian worldview.

Israel & Jerusalem

The Israeli military condemned the unauthorized entry of Israelis into Palestinian homes and areas in the Samaria region as “illegal, obscene and unacceptable,” subsequently declaring the area a closed military zone. In the village of Qusra, two Palestinian families reported being trapped in their homes since Sunday, with water and electricity supplies cut off. Israeli security forces have reportedly withdrawn from the area, leaving approximately a dozen settlers still present at the site where the families remain besieged ([JNS](#); [BBC News](#); [BBC News](#)).

Ambassador Walid Abu Haya stated that up to 60% of Israel’s oil imports transit through Georgia, highlighting the deepening economic and strategic ties between Jerusalem and Tbilisi. Meanwhile, Iran’s proxy forces claimed responsibility for striking a ship carrying Saudi military equipment in the Red Sea, intensifying tensions amid ongoing hostilities between the United States and Iran ([Al Jazeera](#); [JNS](#); [BBC News](#)).

Wars & Security (Israel and Region)

China, Russia, Iran, and North Korea have moved beyond rhetorical alignment to actively coordinate efforts aimed at undermining American military, economic, and cyber supremacy. In a recent discussion, Bill Roggio of Generation Jihad interviewed Bradley Bowman, senior director of the Foundation for Defense of Democracies’ Center on Military and Political Affairs, exploring this axis of aggressors. The Iran-backed Houthi movement launched coordinated drone and missile attacks on Yemeni forces and civilian infrastructure across three governorates on August 6, escalating the conflict in Yemen while simultaneously targeting Saudi Arabia and shipping lanes in the Red Sea. Additionally, General Esmail Qaani, commander of Iran’s Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps-Qods Force, traveled to Iraq amid Baghdad’s legislative efforts to place all weapons under state control, coinciding with ongoing Iranian drone and missile strikes against Kurdish opposition groups ([Long War Journal](#); [Long War Journal](#); [Long War Journal](#)).



Jamal Kiyemba, a Ugandan national arrested in northwest Pakistan in 2002 for allegedly attempting to join Al Qaeda in Afghanistan, was detained at the US Guantanamo Bay prison until his release in 2006 and subsequent transfer to Uganda. Since then, his activities have remained under scrutiny. Meanwhile, Russia is assisting China in narrowing the military gap with the United States amid rising tensions over Taiwan. Concurrently, US policy continues to address the challenges posed by Islamist extremism globally ([Long War Journal](#); [FDD](#); [FDD](#)).

Despite widespread concern about Iran's control over oil shipments through the Strait of Hormuz, recent developments indicate Tehran is losing its grip and, consequently, much of its leverage. Operations targeting Iranian influence have shifted the balance. The latest Iranian government reshuffle appears to be a rearrangement among regime veterans rather than a renewal, with Supreme Leader Mojtaba Khamenei maintaining significant authority. In Somalia, US influence is waning as frustration with the Mogadishu government threatens critical African Union support and risks strengthening the Al Shabaab insurgency. In Mali, renewed US airstrikes against the jihadist group JNIM raise questions about the effectiveness of air power without accompanying ground operations or political reforms ([FDD](#); [FDD](#); [Long War Journal](#)).

North Korea is reportedly dispatching up to 120 additional ballistic missiles to Ukraine as the embattled nation seeks means to destroy Russian missile launchers. In Sudan, the military's recapture of the Al Sadarat highway represents its most significant success against the Rapid Support Forces in the ongoing civil war. However, the RSF's increasing reliance on tribal mobilization and foreign-backed drone warfare signals a strategic shift in the conflict ([Long War Journal](#); [Long War Journal](#)).

Global Macro & Geopolitics

Vietnam has significantly benefited from foreign companies seeking to reduce dependence on China, particularly in critical sectors such as rare earth elements. Nevertheless, questions remain about Vietnam's ability to free itself entirely from reliance on China's rare earth inputs. Taiwan has advised its citizens to postpone travel to Uganda following a series of passport disputes, underscoring growing diplomatic pressures on Taiwan's international presence in Africa ([The Diplomat](#); [Bloomberg](#)).

AI Dominion, Deception & the Antichrist System



Open artificial intelligence research reveals how enterprises are adopting agentic artificial intelligence, using ChatGPT and Codex, and how frontier firms are pulling ahead in artificial intelligence adoption ([OpenAI](#)).

Pestilence & Global Health

Research indicates that low arginine levels may enable cancer cells and viruses to evade the immune system by diminishing the production of a vital cellular warning protein. In mouse studies, diets enriched with arginine led to fewer colon tumors and milder viral infections, suggesting that arginine supplementation could be a straightforward, effective therapeutic strategy ([ScienceDaily](#)).

Natural Disasters & Signs in the Heavens

The United States Geological Survey recorded a magnitude 0.7 earthquake near The Geysers in California, as well as a magnitude 4.6 earthquake near Gambiran Satu, Indonesia ([USGS](#); [USGS](#)).

Additionally, a magnitude 7.4 earthquake was recorded near San José del Palmar, Colombia. Meanwhile, Indonesia issued a green forest fire notification, indicating ongoing wildfire activity in the region ([USGS](#); [GDACS](#)).

Middle Eastern Artifacts

The glass assemblage uncovered at Oboda spans approximately four centuries of production in the Eastern Mediterranean, ranging from the Early Roman to the early Byzantine periods. The collection includes forms characteristic of Palestine. Excavations in Oboda, located in the Negev Highlands, also yielded faunal remains from Roman and Early Byzantine contexts dating from the late third to early fifth centuries CE, revealing that the site's economy during both periods relied heavily on local resources ([Israel Antiquities Authority](#); [Israel Antiquities Authority](#)).

The first volume of a two-part series presents the results of excavations at Paneas conducted by Z.U. Ma'oz in the area that housed the sanctuary of Pan (Paneion) established during the Roman period. Archaeologists have also discovered a Ramesside-era tomb belonging to "Paser" on Luxor's west bank. Furthermore, an Egyptian archaeological mission uncovered three New Kingdom rock-cut tombs at the Bubasteion Necropolis in Saqqara, contributing valuable insights into ancient Egyptian burial practices ([Israel Antiquities Authority](#); [BiblePlaces](#)).

