

KIMKJ.COM DAILY BRIEFING

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Tuesday, September 22, 2026

## AI, Economy, and Global Conflict Daily Briefing

- 1 China AI, Robotics and Semiconductors In-Depth Briefing
- 2 World Economy Top 10
- 3 International Conflict Briefing
- 4 Global Incidents and Disasters Briefing

This edition omits: Global AI News Briefing. Available sections are published first.

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# China AI, Robotics and Semiconductors In-Depth Briefing

China AI, Robotics and Semiconductors In-Depth Briefing 2026-09-22

Tuesday, September 22, 2026

## Top 5 Highlights of the Day

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1. Two days ahead of the US-China summit, Treasury Secretary Bessent and Vice Premier He Lifeng held an eight-hour working-level meeting. The US proposed a mutual notification system for AI incidents and kept chip export controls off the negotiating table.
2. CXMT began mass production of fifth-generation DRAM, the G5. It reached 11.95 nanometers using quadruple patterning without EUV equipment, pushing its global DRAM market share to 10 percent.
3. StepFun opened API access to Step 5 Preview, a 600-billion-parameter agentic model. At \$1 per million input tokens, it costs one-seventh as much as comparable US models.
4. Tesla's Optimus team arrived in Ningbo to begin production audits of Chinese supply chains. The company targets 50,000 units this year, and Tuopu, Sanhua, and Joyson have been certified as mass-production partners.
5. The US Department of Defense nearly intercepted a Chinese vessel over an intelligence report written by an AI chatbot. The AI mistook a cargo manifest for nuclear weapons components, according to an exclusive CNN report.

### StepFun Step 5 Preview: A Price-Disrupting Agentic Model

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Chinese AI company StepFun (阶跃星辰) unveiled its Step 5 Preview API on September 20. The model has 600 billion total parameters but uses a sparse mixture-of-experts architecture that activates only 27 billion parameters per token when generating answers. It reads up to 1 million tokens of context at once and accepts both text and images.

Pricing is \$1 per million input tokens, \$0.05 on a cache hit, and \$2.7 per million output tokens. Its Artificial Analysis intelligence score is 44, on par with Moonshot's Kimi K3 Max, and one-seventh the cost of GPT-5.6 Sol. The company said it plans to release the model weights on October 15.

The competitive focus in China's AI industry is shifting from model scale to agentic commercialization. StepFun is targeting coding, financial analysis, and long-running agentic tasks.

(September 20, 2026, MarkTechPost, StepFun official X account)

### Alibaba Releases Qwen-Image-2.1 Weights

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Alibaba's Qwen team released the weights for Qwen-Image-2.1, a unified image generation and editing model, on Hugging Face and ModelScope on September 20. The image-generation component has 7 billion parameters. It generates images from text, accepts up to ten reference images for editing, and supports transparent backgrounds by default.

The license changed from Apache 2.0 to the Qwen Research License, requiring separate permission for commercial use. The company said it delivers the top performance among open-source image models.

(September 20, 2026, TechNode, Hugging Face)

Zhipu GLM-5.3-FlashX: Commercial Inference on 100,000 Domestic Accelerators

Zhipu (智谱) released GLM-5.3-FlashX on September 18. It generates 200 tokens per second. The model is identical to the existing GLM-5.3-Flash, but inference configuration changes running on 100,000 domestically made accelerators raised its speed by 3.2 times.

The model has 320 billion total parameters with 18 billion active, and accepts 1 million tokens of context. An AI agent (Infra Agent) handled the optimization work. Once engineers set a goal, the agent diagnosed root causes, proposed kernel patches and stack modifications, and applied them after testing.

This is a real-world case of running a top-tier inference service entirely on domestic accelerators without Nvidia GPUs.

(September 18, 2026, Pandaily, SCMP)

China Telecom's Xing 4.0-29B: A Model Trained Exclusively on Huawei Ascend

China Telecom (中国电信) unveiled Xing 4.0-29B-A4B on September 18. It is a mixture-of-experts model with 29 billion parameters, activating only 4 billion per token. It is the first model of this scale trained entirely on Huawei Ascend 910C chips and the MindSpore framework, without Nvidia GPUs or CUDA.

It scored 75 on SWE-bench Verified and 76.55 on Claw-Eval, surpassing Google's Gemma4-26B-A4B. The design targets agentic tasks, tool calling, and multi-step planning.

It is the first case of a fully domestic pipeline, from training to inference, built entirely on Chinese chips and frameworks. China is solidifying an independent AI software stack amid export controls.

(September 18, 2026, MindStudio, SCMP)

## Chinese State Media Targets Anthropic's Privacy Policy

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Yuyuantiantian (玉渊谈天), a social media account affiliated with China Central Television, criticized Anthropic's privacy policy on September 19. It claimed Anthropic could hand over user data to US intelligence agencies without legal

process, citing the fact that Anthropic has changed its privacy policy 13 times since 2023.

This is seen as a counterattack against US criticism of Chinese AI companies over distillation (unauthorized extraction of model knowledge). It reflects a broader US-China dispute over data sovereignty in AI.

(September 19, 2026, Bloomberg)

## Robotics, Humanoids, and Embodied Intelligence

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### Tesla Optimus Production Audit in Ningbo

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Tesla's robotics team arrived in Ningbo, Zhejiang Province, on September 16 and began production audits on September 17, targeting existing EV component suppliers around Ningbo, Hangzhou, and Shanghai.

Tuopu Group (拓普集团), Sanhua Intelligent Controls (三花智控), and Joyson Electronics (均胜电子) have been certified as mass-production partners, supplying joint modules, actuators, and precision structural components. The initial order is reportedly around 5,000 units.

Tesla plans to build 50,000 Optimus units this year for deployment across its global gigafactories. The units are third-generation Optimus, with a per-unit target price of \$20,000. The core purpose of the audit is to shift component production that was previously done in the US to Chinese supply chains.

China's humanoid robot component ecosystem is now drawing in even Tesla. Shares of Chinese robot component makers jumped on the news.

(September 21, 2026, Bloomberg, SCMP, CnEVPost, TrendForce)

### China Declares a Year of Mass Production for Humanoid Robots

The 9th China Robot Summit was held in Hangzhou on September 17-18, releasing a capability evaluation framework for embodied intelligence and a report on humanoid robots' overseas expansion.

Global humanoid robot shipments in the first half of the year totaled about 40,000 units, with Chinese companies accounting for 97 percent. Related investment in the first half reached 93.5 billion yuan (about 17.8 trillion won), five times the level a year earlier.

UBTech (优必选) started operating a factory in Liuzhou, Guangxi with an annual capacity of 10,000 units on September 12. It produces one robot every ten minutes and uses Siemens digital-twin technology so robots assemble robots. Its U1 humanoid robot began shipping on September 16, with orders totaling 13,000 units.

Xpeng (小鹏) started a production line for its IRON humanoid robot in Guangzhou on September 8. It has automated 80 percent of core processes, starting at 200 units a month with a year-end target of 1,000.

The Ministry of Industry and Information Technology (MIIT) projects annual shipments of 100,000 units this year.

(September 17-21, 2026, Xinhua, Science and Technology Daily, IT Home, TechNode)

## AI Semiconductors and Computing Infrastructure

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### CXMT Begins Mass Production of Fifth-Generation DRAM

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CXMT (长鑫存储) announced mass production of its fifth-generation DRAM platform, the G5, at the Hefei World Manufacturing Convention on September 20. Without EUV equipment, it used quadruple patterning to shrink the active-area half-pitch to 11.95 nanometers. The capacitor aspect ratio is 45:1, and cell height is 6,762 nanometers.

The number of dies per wafer rose more than 50 percent compared to the previous generation. Two types of 24Gb LPDDR5X have entered mass production: a 496-ball package for smartphones and a 245-ball package for mobile devices.

According to Counterpoint, CXMT's global DRAM revenue share in the second quarter reached 10 percent, ranking fourth behind Samsung (38-39 percent), SK Hynix (25 percent), and Micron (23 percent). The combined share of these three companies fell below 90 percent for the first time in a decade.

CXMT has also started risk production of HBM3E, targeting mass production in 2027.

(September 21, 2026, TechNode, SCMP, Seoul Economic Daily, XenoSpectrum)

## Huawei Unveils Ascend 960 Supernode

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Huawei unveiled the Ascend 960 supernode at Huawei Connect 2026 in Shanghai on September 17, becoming the first in the industry to incorporate Near-Packaged Optics (NPO) optical engines.

The Ascend 960DT training card delivers 2 PFLOPS at FP8 and 4 PFLOPS at FP4. The inference-oriented Ascend 960PR delivers 8 PFLOPS at FP4. High-bandwidth memory is 288GB with 9.6TB/s access bandwidth. A single supernode can scale up to 4,096 chips.

The 960DT is now scheduled for the first quarter of 2027, three quarters ahead of its original timeline. Huawei also outlined a one-chip-per-year roadmap, with the Ascend 970 planned for 2028 and the Ascend 980 for 2029.

Huawei said more than 1,000 sets of Ascend 950 supernodes have already been deployed. It also unveiled the Peerium architecture, aimed at treating one million processors as a single computer, though performance validation has not yet been presented.

(September 17, 2026, Huawei, 21st Century Business Herald, WCCFTech)

### Huawei's Stellar AI Network 2.0 and HiONE Optical Engine

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At Connect 2026, Huawei unveiled Stellar AI Network Solution 2.0, built around its self-designed Ascend A5/A6 chips inside the SF9300 series switches. A two-tier, multi-plane architecture eliminates the core layer, cutting deployment costs by 30 percent and reducing end-to-end latency from 20 microseconds to 11 microseconds.

HiONE is the industry's first NPO optical engine to reach mass production. Its 36-channel, 3.2T optical engine delivers 7.2Tbps. It replaces 48,000 conventional pluggable optical modules with 5,500 units, cutting power consumption by 550kW.

Huawei also introduced the concept of an Agent Communication Network (ACN), which handles identity verification, session management, and guardrail blocking (a 95 percent block rate) between agents at the network level. The company said it maintains 95 percent efficiency even over 1,000-kilometer distances on WAN links.

Huawei's vertical-integration strategy, tying together AI computing infrastructure and networking, is taking shape.

(September 17-18, 2026, Huawei, PR Newswire, Telecompaper)

### MIIT's 15th Five-Year Plan Formalizes 6G Commercialization

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MIIT's 15th Five-Year Plan for the information and communications industry, released September 7, is the first five-year plan document to explicitly name 6G commercialization. It sets a target of 4 trillion yuan in industry revenue and 95 percent 5G penetration by 2030, with a goal of 9,800 EFLOPS of intelligent computing capacity.

The plan identifies 6G base stations, 6G smartphones, and the integration of communication, sensing, and computing (通感智算) based on HarmonyOS as

core directions. Planned investment totals 3.8 trillion yuan.

The plan treats telecom and AI not as separate industries but as a single infrastructure, positioning AI-RAN (AI-based radio access networks) and edge AI as basic elements of telecom infrastructure.

(September 7, 2026, MIIT, Xinhua, China News Service)

## Policy, Regulation, and National Strategy

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### AI Safety Governance Framework 3.0 Released

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China's National Cybersecurity Standardization Technical Committee (TC260) released AI Safety Governance Framework 3.0 on September 14, under the guidance of the Cyberspace Administration of China (CAC).

This version is the first to formally codify risks from autonomous AI agent behavior. It classifies risks into five categories: planning errors, privilege escalation, memory tampering, identity spoofing, and tool misuse. Refusing shutdown or concealing capabilities is also classified as a risk.

While earlier frameworks focused on controlling model outputs, version 3.0 shifts its weight toward controlling agents' actions in the physical world, extending its regulatory scope to embodied intelligence and computing infrastructure.

China has systematized agent-related risks in a government document ahead of the United States. Combined with the agent standardization implementation opinion released in May, China is rapidly building out a regulatory framework for the agentic era.

(September 14, 2026, Xinhua, CGTN, MLex)

### Bessent and He Lifeng Hold Eight-Hour Working-Level Talks

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US Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent and Chinese Vice Premier He Lifeng held roughly eight hours of talks at JPMorgan's New York headquarters on September 20. US Trade Representative Jamieson Greer also participated.

The US proposed a mutual notification system for major, national-security-level AI incidents. Bessent said moving from opacity to transparency between the world's number one and number two AI powers matters. Both sides agreed to establish an AI dialogue channel and form a working group.

Export controls on advanced AI chips and semiconductor equipment were kept off the negotiating table. Greer stated flatly that export controls are not part of this proposal. There was no progress on rare earths or critical minerals either.

The tariff truce expires November 10, and whether it will be extended is expected to be decided at the summit. A Trump-Xi summit is scheduled for September 24 at the White House in Washington. Confirmed attendees at the White House dinner include Sam Altman (OpenAI), Jensen Huang (Nvidia), Tim Cook (Apple), Lisa Su (AMD), and Jamie Dimon (JPMorgan). Business figures from BYD, CATL, and Xiaomi are expected to accompany Xi Jinping.

Opening an AI safety dialogue while excluding chip controls would give the US the transparency it wants without giving China the chip-supply relief it wants. The talks are likely to focus more on maintaining a dialogue channel than on reaching a substantive deal.

(September 20-21, 2026, Al Jazeera, Bloomberg, CNBC, Forbes)

Pentagon AI Misinformation Incident: Chinese Ship Intercept Halted at the Last Moment

CNN reported exclusively on September 18 that during this spring's Iran conflict, an analyst at US Special Operations Command Pacific asked an AI

chatbot about the cargo manifest of a Chinese vessel sailing through the Middle East. The chatbot mixed open-source information with classified signals intelligence and concluded the cargo included nuclear weapons components. The analyst used AI to generate a standard-format intelligence report and distributed it.

The military immediately moved toward an interdiction operation. Armed personnel prepared to board, and aircraft took off. Just before the operation, another analyst reviewed the report again and confirmed it was entirely false, and the operation was halted.

The incident showed that an AI-generated intelligence report could nearly trigger military action. It is also part of the backdrop for discussions of an incident-notification system in the US-China AI safety dialogue.

(September 18, 2026, CNN, The Defense Post, Rolling Stone)

## South Korean Chip Exports and the China Variable

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According to Korea Customs Service data, South Korea's exports for September 1-20 reached \$71.4 billion, an all-time high for the period. Semiconductor exports rose 259.4 percent to \$34.12 billion, accounting for 47.8 percent of total exports.

Of this, exports to China rose more than twofold to \$16.6 billion, exceeding the \$14.2 billion sent to the United States.

CXMT crossing the 10 percent DRAM market-share mark is seen as a mid-term challenge for established memory makers.

(September 21, 2026, Korea Economic Daily, Korea Times, Seoul Economic Daily)

## Kim Kyung-jin Commentary

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This week's theme is speed. Where China is moving, and how fast, is showing up at every level at once.

CXMT is mass-producing 11.95-nanometer DRAM without EUV. It reached the 10 percent market-share mark that the industry expected only by 2028, two years ahead of schedule. It is a case of technology sanctions producing an alternative path instead of blocking one. Quadruple patterning is costly, but China has both the will and the capital to absorb that cost.

Zhipu is running commercial inference at 200 tokens per second on 100,000 domestically made accelerators. China Telecom trained a top-tier model using only Huawei Ascend chips and the MindSpore framework. An AI ecosystem without Nvidia GPUs has moved past the experimental stage into commercial deployment.

Humanoid robots are moving even faster. Chinese companies accounted for 97 percent of global shipments in the first half of the year. UBTECH builds one robot every ten minutes, and even Tesla has come to Ningbo to entrust its production supply chain.

At the US-China summit, an AI safety dialogue will open, but chip export controls remain off the agenda. If the talks address only the transparency the US wants, without the chip-supply relief China wants, the likely outcome is a maintained dialogue channel rather than a substantive agreement. The Pentagon's AI misinformation incident shows both sides urgently need better AI safety systems.

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# World Economy Top 10

World Economy Top 10 **2026-09-22**

As of: 2026-09-21 05:30 KST - 2026-09-22 05:30 KST

## Today's Top 10

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1. The United States and China wrapped up senior-level trade talks in New York. US Treasury Secretary Bessent said on September 20 local time, after meeting Chinese Vice Premier He Lifeng, that the talks were successful, and the two countries agreed to open a new channel for dialogue on artificial intelligence.
2. US stocks rose on strength in technology shares. On September 21 the Nasdaq gained 2.26 percent to close at a new record of 27,122.09, the S&P 500 rose 1.49 percent to 7,764.70, and the Dow rose 0.71 percent to 52,048.83.
3. Semiconductor stocks surged. On expectations for Meta's new AI agent, Intel rose about 12 percent and AMD about 10 percent on September 21, with AMD touching a \$1 trillion market capitalization intraday.
4. Global oil prices tumbled. On September 21 West Texas Intermediate crude fell 4.29 percent to close at \$91.96 a barrel, dropping below \$100, as Saudi Arabia's expanded supply routed around the Strait of Hormuz eased supply concerns.
5. Global government bond yields calmed. On September 21 the US 10-year yield fell about 3 basis points to 4.967 percent, pulling back from last week's 19-year high of 5.041 percent, while German and UK 10-year yields each fell 5 basis points.

6. China held its loan prime rates unchanged for the 16th straight month. On September 21 the one-year rate stayed at 3.00 percent and the five-year rate at 3.50 percent, with solid exports and improved August industrial output cited as the backdrop.

7. European stocks rose. On September 21 the pan-European STOXX 600 index gained about 0.5 percent, lifted by strength in tech shares and the drop in oil prices, with semiconductor-related stocks leading the index.

8. The yen continued to weaken. On September 21 the yen slipped to around 157 per dollar; even though the Bank of Japan raised rates to 1.25 percent last week, the yen weakened further on the central bank's gradual-tightening stance.

9. Gold prices edged lower. As of 9 a.m. US Eastern time on September 21, spot gold slipped to about \$4,353 an ounce and silver to about \$66, pressured by Middle East tensions and a strong dollar.

10. Ahead of the Trump-Xi Jinping summit, artificial intelligence company CEOs have been invited to a state dinner. Sam Altman, Jensen Huang, Tim Cook, Elon Musk and others are expected to attend the September 24 dinner in Washington, with AI regulation and semiconductor access cited as agenda items.

## Market Indicators

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US stocks all rose, with the Nasdaq at 27,122.09, the S&P 500 at 7,764.70, and the Dow at 52,048.83. The US 10-year Treasury yield fell to about 4.967 percent, while the 2-year stood at 4.729 percent and the 30-year at 5.306 percent. The yen traded around 157 per dollar, and Europe's STOXX 600 rose about 0.5 percent.

## Central Banks and Policy

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China held its loan prime rates unchanged for the 16th straight month, with the one-year rate at 3.00 percent and the five-year rate at 3.50 percent. The US

Federal Reserve has several officials' speeches scheduled this week, and attention is on whether further rate increases follow. Switzerland's central bank is widely expected to hold its policy rate at 0.00 percent on September 25.

## Commodities and Energy

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West Texas Intermediate crude fell 4.29 percent to \$91.96 a barrel, dropping below \$100. Saudi Arabia's shift to exporting more via the Strait of Hormuz, after a drone strike halted the east-west pipeline, eased supply concerns. Spot gold stood at about \$4,353 an ounce and silver at about \$66.

## What to Watch in the Next 24 Hours

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Watch the September 24 Trump-Xi Jinping summit and preparations for it. Check the flash September manufacturing and services purchasing managers' indexes for Germany, the eurozone, and the United States due September 23. Watch this week's scheduled Fed officials' speeches for any signal of further rate increases.

## [Source Links]

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# International Conflict Briefing

International Conflict Briefing **2026-09-22**

Period: 2026-09-21 09:20 KST - 2026-09-22 09:20 KST

## Today's Key Developments

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1. A Russian drone attacked the Voznesensk district of Mykolaiv region, killing a three-year-old boy. Ukrinform reported this on the night of the 21st.
2. A Russian drone struck a minibus near Komyshevakha in Zaporizhzhia region, killing one person and injuring three.
3. The Ukrainian Air Force announced that it neutralized 147 Russian drones and one Banderol missile from the night of the 20th to the morning of the 21st.
4. The General Staff of the Ukrainian Armed Forces said there were 197 clashes on the front line on the 21st. The Pokrovsk sector was the most intense.
5. The Israeli military announced that it struck a Hamas facility after an unmanned engineering vehicle was hit by explosives in northern Gaza. The Israeli military defined this as a ceasefire violation.
6. A spokesperson for Iran's Revolutionary Guard Corps warned that new weapons with new capabilities would be deployed if fighting expands.
7. UK Prime Minister Burnham approved defensive aerial refueling support for Saudi Arabia in its confrontation with Houthi attacks.
8. US Central Command said it has diverted 110 merchant vessels through its blockade operation against Iran. The Iraqi Prime Minister said Iran is blocking Iraqi tankers from passing through Hormuz.
9. The UN counted more than 112,000 displaced people within Yemen. About 3,000 refugees have also crossed to Djibouti.

## Changes by Front

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In the Russia-Ukraine war, civilian casualties continued on the southern front. A three-year-old child died in the attack on the Voznesensk district of Mykolaiv region. Near Komyshevukha in Zaporizhzhia region, a drone hit a minibus, killing one person and injuring three. The Ukrainian Air Force said it neutralized 147 drones and one Banderol missile overnight. The General Staff announced that it recorded 197 clashes on the 21st. It added that it repelled 23 Russian attacks in the Pokrovsk sector. These figures are Ukrainian military announcements and have no independent confirmation.

In the Gaza Strip, the Israeli military struck a Hamas facility, citing an attack on an unmanned engineering vehicle in the north. The Israeli military claimed it was a ceasefire violation by Hamas. The position of Hamas could not be confirmed.

In Yemen, the Houthis have expanded their control of the Red Sea coast. The Saudi-led coalition said it intercepted missiles aimed at Riyadh and Yanbu. According to an Al Jazeera summary article on the 21st, the attack on Riyadh is the first since July.

## Civilian Casualties and Humanitarian Situation

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In Ukraine, two people, including a child, died within a day in Mykolaiv and Zaporizhzhia regions. In Yemen, internally displaced people exceeded 112,000 according to UN figures. This is up from the 100,000 reported on the 16th. The International Organization for Migration said 22 million people, about half of Yemen's population, need urgent humanitarian assistance. In southern Lebanon, the installation of prefabricated housing for displaced families is underway in places such as Zawtar al-Gharbiyah. In the Gaza Strip, students returned to in-person classes for the first time in three years.

## Diplomacy, Sanctions, and Military Support

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The UK government approved aerial refueling for defensive purposes at the request of Saudi Arabia. UK Voyager tankers will support only Saudi fighter jets that intercept drones and missiles and will not assist strike operations against the Houthis. The mission is time-limited and will end within weeks. US Central Command said its blockade operation preventing access to Iranian ports has diverted 110 merchant vessels so far. Iraqi Prime Minister al-Zaidi told the New York Times that Iran is blocking Iraqi tankers from passing through Hormuz. Iraq claimed it has lost about 60 billion dollars in revenue since the war began. A spokesperson for Iran's Revolutionary Guard Corps warned of deploying new weapons and changing targets. Iran's foreign minister arrived in New York to attend the UN General Assembly. Qatar is mediating an agreement between Iran and the United States.

## Points to Watch in the Next 24 Hours

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1. Whether Iran and the United States make contact during the UN General Assembly and the outcome of Qatar's mediation should be watched.
2. The timing of the UK tanker deployment and whether the Houthis carry out further attacks on Saudi Arabia should be confirmed.
3. Whether the Israeli military expands airstrikes after the engineering vehicle attack in northern Gaza should be watched.
4. Tensions in the Strait of Hormuz could rise again over the issue of Iraqi tanker passage.
5. Civilian casualties on Ukraine's southern front and the intensity of fighting in the Pokrovsk sector should be watched.

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# Global Incidents and Disasters Briefing

Global Incidents and Disasters Briefing 2026-09-22

Basis: 2026-09-21 07:40 KST to 2026-09-22 07:40 KST. 6 items.

## Today's Summary

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In eastern Japan, heavy rain from Typhoon No. 25 Dujuan has killed 2 people, and 4 others cannot be reached. In the Pacific off western Mexico, Hurricane Polo has formed and could become a major hurricane. A helicopter fighting a wildfire in Yosemite National Park in the United States crashed, killing both pilots. The number of confirmed measles cases in Pennsylvania has reached 792.

## Earthquakes and Volcanoes

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### 1. Magnitude 5.5 earthquake in Indonesia

A magnitude 5.5 earthquake struck Indonesia at 10:41 KST on 2026-09-21 (9:41 local time). The location is 8.3 degrees south latitude and 120.6 degrees east longitude. The depth is 10 kilometers. The Global Disaster Alert and Coordination System (GDACS) estimated that about 2,000 people felt strong shaking. GDACS set the alert level to green and rated the humanitarian impact as low. Damage is still being tallied.

### 2. Magnitude 5.7 earthquake in the sea south of Africa

A magnitude 5.7 earthquake struck the sea south of Africa at 05:54 KST on 2026-09-21 (20:54 UTC on the 20th). The location is 48.4 degrees south latitude and 31.2 degrees east longitude. It occurred shortly before the collection window opened, and the GDACS record was posted at 15:19 KST on the 21st.

The depth is 10 kilometers. GDACS rated the humanitarian impact as low. No damage tally has been reported.

## Heavy Rain, Floods and Typhoons

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### 3. Typhoon No. 25 Dujuan: 2 dead and 4 unreachable in eastern Japan

On 2026-09-21, Typhoon No. 25 Dujuan brought heavy rain to the Izu Islands and the Kanto region. This continues the situation in an earlier report on the typhoon. In Izu Oshima Town, Tokyo, rainfall over 24 hours through 5:00 p.m. on the 21st exceeded 680 millimeters. This is about twice the normal monthly rainfall for September. According to Japanese media reports, 2 people died in Chiba Prefecture and Kanagawa Prefecture. In Sodegaura City, Chiba Prefecture, a 51-year-old man died in a landslide while working on road repairs. In Yokosuka City and Miura City, Kanagawa Prefecture, landslides occurred in several places. One person died there, and 4 people cannot be reached. The counts differ because each source reports a different point in time. A News reported only 1 death, in Sodegaura. The Japan Meteorological Agency issued a level 5 landslide warning for the northern Izu Islands. Evacuation advisories were issued to more than 1 million residents, and hundreds of flights were cancelled. In Chiba Prefecture, at least 8 houses were damaged. The typhoon is expected to move out over the sea east of Japan on the morning of the 22nd. NHK said to remain on strict alert for landslides on the 22nd as well.

### 4. Hurricane Polo forms in the Pacific off western Mexico

At 12:00 noon on the 21st (Mexico local time, 3:00 a.m. on the 22nd KST), Polo became a hurricane. Its maximum sustained wind speed is 130 kilometers per hour. It is located 270 miles (about 435 kilometers) south southeast of Manzanillo. Forecasters said it could become a major hurricane by Tuesday. They also said it could keep strengthening through midweek. The coasts of Guerrero and Michoacan states could receive 100 to 200 millimeters of rain through Thursday. Some areas could receive up to 300 millimeters. Mountainous areas face floods and landslides that threaten lives, and the sea

is dangerous as well. It has not made landfall yet. No damage tally has been reported.

## Accidents

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### 5. Helicopter fighting Dome Fire near Yosemite crashes, 2 pilots dead

On the afternoon of Sunday 2026-09-20 local time (the 21st in Korean time), a firefighting helicopter crashed in Mariposa County, California, in the United States. The crash site is the Dome Fire in Yosemite National Park. A Super Puma helicopter was dropping water from a bucket southeast of Lake Ostrander. Both pilots on board died. The helicopter belongs to the contract operator Precision. The Federal Aviation Administration and the National Transportation Safety Board are investigating, and the cause is unknown. The Dome Fire started on the 15th near Wawona. It covers 4.7 square miles (about 12.3 square kilometers) and is 15 percent contained. About 580 personnel are fighting the fire.

## Infectious Diseases

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### 6. Pennsylvania, United States: 792 confirmed measles cases

As of 2026-09-21, Pennsylvania health authorities count 792 confirmed measles cases. The number rose by nearly 100 in one week. This follows an earlier report on the measles outbreak. The state health authorities count 4 measles-related deaths. They are 2 infants in Lancaster County, a 40-year-old woman in Jefferson County, and an 18-year-old in Mifflin County. The Lancaster County coroner said 1 infant died of a ruptured spleen. This infant tested positive for measles. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has not listed these deaths on its outbreak dashboard. Lancaster County has the most cases, at more than 300. Mifflin County has 93, and Chester County has 76. The announcement on the 18th reported 767 confirmed cases in 38 counties and 150 hospitalizations. Since April, authorities have given more than 4,800 MMR vaccine doses at 148 mobile vaccination sites. On the 16th, the

state Department of Health began the formal process of asking the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for epidemiological support. Talks on the scope of that support continue. This is the largest measles outbreak in the United States this year.

## [Source Links]

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