



Whispering Bell

Libya Daily Report



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KEY DEVELOPMENTS



07 April 2023

Tripoli

- PC Deputy Head receives Norland
- Gaddafi-era FM allegedly returns

Nationwide / General

- Misrata: Dbeibah convoy reportedly shot at
- Benghazi: 5+5 JMC western members postpone visit
- Qaryat: Juwaili-affiliated military movements
- CBL distributes over 25 B LYD to commercial banks

Oil & Gas Update

- Crude output at 1.223 M bpd

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SUMMARY

Key Points

- UN proposes new initiative
- Political tensions to escalate
- HCS accepts HoR Constitutional Amendment

Political

The absence of a solution to the political deadlock and continuing legitimacy crisis over the GNU's mandate continue to define the context of heightened political uncertainty. In the current context, there are two political initiatives at odds with one another. The pro AI-Meshri bloc within the High Council of State (HCS) recently voted in favour of the House of Representatives' (HoR) 13TH constitutional amendment, while key international actors have announced support for the political initiative proposed by UN SRSG Abdoulaye Bathily.

Intense political manoeuvring will likely define the next few weeks against the backdrop of Bathily's proposed formation of a High-level Steering Panel for Libya. Key contentious issues such as the eligibility of dual nationals and military officials to run for president will continue to divide Libyan stakeholders and undermine progress towards a solution to the stalemate.

The UN SRSG's proposal is already facing resistance from key domestic actors such as the HoR. Consequently, Whispering Bell assesses actors opposed to the UN-led initiative will double down on their campaigns to form a new unified government as a hedge against the UN push to establish a new dialogue forum. In turn, renewed efforts to form a new government will mount the pressure on the GNU and PM Abdul Hamid Dbeibah. Amid US pressure to hold elections, Dbeibah may be compelled to reshuffle his cabinet and/or organise limited legislative elections. Of note, Dbeibah announced the formation of a government committee to implement and coordinate elections on 09 March, while Bathily provided further details on his proposal to form a High-Level Steering Panel for Libya in a press briefing on 11 March.

Security

Tripoli is operational and continues to present a relatively permissive operational environment. Sporadic incidents will continue to define security atmospherics in the western region. From a security standpoint, the status quo and stable atmospherics are set to remain as is in Tripoli. Low-impact and localised flashpoints outside government offices are possible but are unlikely to escalate or impact business operations. Targeted attacks against HoR MPs, HCS members, and other political figures are likely as political tensions peak over the next few weeks.

Oil & Gas

Disruptions to production are likely despite evidence the LNA is yet to support a coordinated oil blockade. In his latest visit to Libya, US Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) Director William Burns allegedly reiterated to Haftar the importance of safeguarding oil and gas facilities and production.

TRIPOLI

- **Report n°6224:** PC Deputy Head receives Norland

US Special Envoy to Libya Richard Norland discussed with Presidential Council (PC) Deputy Head Mosa Al-Koni the US' new strategy to prevent conflict and promote stability in Libya on 06 April. Norland reaffirmed his country's support for the efforts of UN SRSG Abdoulaye Bathily to organise elections in 2023, while noting that the US' new strategy will focus on historically marginalised areas in Libya.

Analysis/Comment: No further information.

Location: PC Office
Incident Date: 06 April
Timestamp: Unknown
Source: Local Media
Veracity: B
Actors: US Special Envoy; PC
Impact: Low

Recommendations:
 Assess the impact of the US' renewed focus on Libyan affairs.

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- **Report n°6225:** Gaddafi-era FM allegedly returns

Unconfirmed reports allege former Foreign Intelligence Chief and Foreign Minister in the Gaddafi regime, Moussa Koussa, returned to Tripoli on 05 April. Of note, Koussa defected from the Gaddafi regime in protest of attacks on civilian protesters by the Gaddafi regime during the 2011 Libyan uprising.

Analysis/Comment: No further information.

Location: Unknown
Incident Date: 05 April
Timestamp: N/A
Source: Untested Social Media
Veracity: C
Actors: Gaddaf-era FM
Impact: Low

Recommendations:
 Assess the impact of the return of senior Gaddafi-era figures to Libya.

NATIONWIDE / GENERAL

- **Misrata: Dbeibah convoy reportedly shot at**

Reports indicate an unidentified assailant fired a rocket propelled grenade (RPG) on a convoy carrying GNU Prime Minister Abdul Hamid Dbeibah while en route to Ibrahim Al-Mahjoub Mosque to attend the Holy Quran Competition in Misrata's Zawiyat Al-Mahjoub area in protest

of his visit to the city in the evening on 06 April. Dbeibah was unhurt and no confirmed casualties were recorded. Conflicting reports suggest the sounds of gunfire and RPGs were heard during a dispute between two families in the city. Of note, the incident has yet to be widely reported across media channels.

Comment: If confirmed as a direct attack on the PM's convoy, the incident does not stand favourable to Dbeibah's posture particularly as it took place in his hometown of Misrata.

- **Benghazi: 5+5 JMC western members postpone visit**

Western representatives of the 5+5 Joint Military Commission (JMC) have delayed their scheduled visit for 06 April to Benghazi until 07 April. The western delegation was due to meet with eastern officials to build on the Tunis and Tripoli security meetings.

- **Qaryat: Juwaili-affiliated military movements**

Reports indicate military convoys including technicals and armed vehicles (AVs) affiliated with Zintan military commander Osama Juwaili headed southwards towards Qaryat on 05 April. There are no further details available.

Comment: It will be recalled that a military convoy affiliated with Juwaili's hometown of Zintan mobilised towards Qaryat on 08 March after residents demanded the intervention of Zintan forces in response to the security campaign targeting criminal hideouts by the 444 Fighting Brigade, Law Enforcement Department, and Criminal Investigation Department (CID).

- **CBL distributes over 25 B LYD to commercial banks**

The Central Bank of Libya (CBL) announced the distribution of over 25 billion Libyan dinars (LYD) to commercial banks across Libyan cities as part of its strategy to provide liquidity to all of the banks' branches. The latter was announced in the CBL's expenditure report covering the period 01 Jan until 31 March. Among the statistics documented, the GNU Council of Ministers and its affiliates spent 26.593 million LYD while the Presidential Council (PC) spent 12.663 million LYD and its affiliated security agencies spent 124.581 million LYD.

OIL & GAS UPDATE

Terminal Status

Es-Sider	Operational
Ras Lanuf	Operational
Mellitah	Operational
Zawiya	Operational
Zueitina	Operational
Marsa	Operational
Brega	
Marsa	Operational
Hariga	
Bouri	Operational
Jurf	Operational

Es-Sider: Stable terminal operations and security atmospherics reported as of 1700hrs LT.

- **Report n°6227:** Crude output at 1.223 M bpd

The National Oil Corporation (NOC) reported that current crude production levels stand at 1.223 million barrels per day (bpd) and condensate production amounted to 53k bpd as of 06 April.

Analysis/Comment: N/A.

Location: N/A
Incident Date: 06 Apr
Timestamp: N/A
Source: NOC
Veracity: A
Actors: NOC

Impact: N/A

Recommendations:
 Continue to monitor
 Libya's crude output
 levels.

VERACITY SCALE

A – Reliable:

This information is almost certainly true. A is Reliable, "No doubt of authenticity, trustworthiness, or competency; has a history of complete reliability". It is reported by one or more credible publications, and if an author is listed we have no reason to suspect them to be biased. The reporting is sourced based on widely available or verifiable information. The information is consistent with everything our team knows about this subject.

B – Fairly Reliable:

This information is probably true. This information is possibly true. B is "Fairly Reliable" for "minor doubt". It is reported one or more mostly credible publications, and if an author is listed we have no reason to suspect them to be biased on this subject. The reporting is primarily based on verifiable information. The information is mostly consistent with everything our team knows about this subject, but may contain new or surprising information given credibility on the strength of the publication or author.

C – Unreliable:

This information is probably false. This information is almost certainly false. "not usually reliable" for "significant doubt," and "unreliable" for "Lacking in authenticity, trustworthiness, and competency; history of invalid information". It appears in social media or an unreliable publication, and may be written by an author that is not known to us or is known to be less reliable. The reporting is thin, largely dependent on anonymous sources or unverifiable accounts from social media or limited access areas. The information is consistent enough with our knowledge of the subject to be possible, but contains sufficient discrepancies to make it seem unlikely. The information is mostly or entirely inconsistent with our knowledge of the subject.

ACRONYM LIST

AQ	Al-Qaeda
BAM	Al-Bunyan Al-Marsous
BCP	Border Crossing Point
BEN	Benghazi International Airport
BDB	Benghazi Defence Brigade
BPMC	Brega Petroleum Marketing Company
BRSC	Benghazi Revolutionary Shura Council
CBL	Central Bank of Libya
CESF	Constitution and Elections Support Force
CNI	Critical National Infrastructure
CDA	Constitutional Drafting Assembly
DACOCT	Deterrence Apparatus for Combating Organized Crime and Terrorism
DDR	Disarmament, demobilising and reintegration
DF	Direct Fire
DMSC	Derna Mujahideen Shura Security Council
GACS	General Administration of Central Support
GASO	General Administration of Security Operations
GECOL	General Electricity Company of Libya
GMMR	Great Man-Made River
GNA	Government of National Accord
GNC	General National Congress
GNS	Government of National Stability
GNU	Government of National Unity
GTUC	Greater Trpoli Union Council
HCS	High Council of State
HNEC	High National Election Commission (HNEC)
HoR	House of Representatives
IDF	Indirect Fire
IED	Improvised Explosive Device
IDP	Internally Displaced Persons
IOC	International Oil Company
IS	Islamic State
JMC	Joint Military Commission
LAB	Libyan Audit Bureau
LIFG	Libyan Islamic Fighting Group
LNA	Libyan National Army
LPA	Libyan Political Agreement
LPDF	Libyan Political Dialogue Forum
LROR	Libyan Revolutionary Operations Room
MJI	Mitiga International Airport
MoD	Ministry of Defence
MoF	Ministry of Finance
MoFA	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
MOGC	Mellitah Oil and Gas Complex
MoI	Ministry of Interior
MoJ	Ministry of Justice
MoO	Ministry of Oil

MoT	Ministry of Transportation
MRA	Misrata International Airport
NEE	No Expected Exposure
NIEE	No Immediate Expected Exposure
NFDK	No Further Details Known
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
NOC	National Oil Company
NSTR	Nothing Significant To Report
P3+2	France, Germany, Italy, UK, US
PC	Presidential Council
PFG	Petroleum Facilities Guard
RASCO	Ras Lanuf Oil and Gas Processing Company
RPG	Rocket-Propelled Grenade
RTA	Road Traffic Accident
SAF	Small Arms Fire
SSA	Stabilisation Support Agency
SDF	Special Deterrence Force
TPF	Tripoli Protection Force
UNSRSG	United Nations Special Representative of the Secretary General
UNSMIL	United Nations Support Mission in Libya
UXO	Unexploded Ordnance
WOC	Waha Oil Company