



Whispering Bell

Libya Daily Report



Strictly Confidential & Exclusive for ConocoPhillips Libya



KEY DEVELOPMENTS

09 May 2023

Tripoli

- Al-Hadba Al-Mashro/77 Camp: Weapon testing & drills
- Tripoli: FSA CPs & patrols
- Tripoli: 6+6 Joint Committee meets HNEC Chairman
- PM Office: Dbeibah receives CoS
- Tripoli: FSA CPs & patrols

Nationwide / General

- MRA: Two-week closure
- Surman: Female passer-by assaulted & robbed
- Garabolli Coastal Rd. closed
- Eastern LIS to target foreign entities
- CBL Jan-Apr expenditure & revenue report
- LNA 106 BDE prevents Barqa independence day celebrations
- Libyan-Tunisian border: GNU MoI desert patrols

Oil & Gas Update

- NOC Sharara/EI-Feel: LNA inspection visit

CONTENTS

SUMMARY	2
TRIPOLI	3
NATIONWIDE / GENERAL	5
OIL & GAS UPDATE	7
VERACITY SCALE	8

SUMMARY

Key Points

- UN proposes new initiative
- Political tensions to escalate
- Al-Zawiya Youth Movement temp. stop protests

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 Al-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. Beyond Tripoli, protesters in Al-Zawiya reopened roads and government buildings following civil disobedience sparked by a deteriorating security environment. The temporary stop to the protests came in response to a security plan drafted by GNU Chief of Staff (CoS) Mohammed Al-Haddad.

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°6311:** Al-Hadba Al-Mashro/77 Camp: Weapon testing & drills

WB sources reported sporadic gunfire heard across Tripoli, particularly in the south, including the areas of Airport Road Al-Hadba Al-Mashro, and Hai Al-Entisar as a result of the 111 Brigade testing weapons from their camp in Al-Hadba Al-Mashro at approximately 1900hrs on 08 May.

At approximately 1930hrs, sporadic gunfire was heard in Sidi Khalifa as a result of the Stabilisation Support Agency (SSA) conducting military drills at the 77 Camp.

Analysis/Comment: No further information.

Location: Airport Road; Al-Hadba Al-Mashro; Hai Al-Entisar

Incident Date: 08 May

Timestamp: 1900hrs; 1930hrs

Source: WB

Veracity: A

Actors: 111; SSA

Impact: Low

Recommendations:

Identify the motives behind gunfire heard across the capital.

- **Report n°6312:** Tripoli: FSA CPs & patrols

WB sources reported the Facilities Security Authority (FSA) established checkpoints and deployed patrols across several areas of Tripoli in the morning on 09 May. The Zintan General Security Apparatus and the Tripoli Security Directorate were spotted alongside the FSA at the Ghut Shaal Roundabout, while the Stabilisation Support Agency (SSA) and the Directorate were spotted alongside the FSA at the Tuesday Mall Roundabout.

Analysis/Comment: No further information.

Location: Tripoli

Incident Date: 09 May

Timestamp: Morning

Source: WB

Veracity: A

Actors: FSA

Impact: Low

Recommendations:

Identify the motives behind new checkpoints and deployments across the capital.

▪ **Report n°6313:** Tripoli: 6+6 Joint Committee meets HNEC Chairman

The 6+6 Joint Committee representing the House of Representatives (HoR) and the High Council of State (HCS) tasked with preparing electoral laws, met with High National Election Commission (HNEC) Chairman Emad Al-Sayeh at the HoR HQ on 08 May. The committee discussed with Al-Sayeh taking into account HNEC's technical observations on the presidential and parliamentary electoral laws. According to Fathallah Al-Sariri representing the HCS, the joint committee has yet to discuss the presidential eligibility criteria and that it is working on the parliamentary elections first (HoR and Senate).

Analysis/Comment: No further information.

Location: Tripoli 's HoR 's HQ

Incident Date: 08 May

Timestamp: Unknown

Source: Social Media

Veracity: B

Actors: HoR; HCS; HNEC

Impact: Low

Recommendations:

Continue to monitor the HoR and HSC meetings held across the capital.

▪ **Report n°6314:** PM Office: Dbeibah receives CoS

GNU Prime Minister Abdul Hamid Dbeibah received Chief of Staff (CoS) Mohamed Al-Haddad and several military officers at his office on 08 May. The meeting discussed army supplies, issues facing the military clothing factory, and the renovation of military headquarters according to the GNU's Media Office.

Analysis/Comment: No further information.

Location: PM Office

Incident Date: 08 May

Timestamp: Unknown

Source: Social Media

Veracity: B

Actors: GNU

Impact: Low

Recommendations:

Continue to monitor details surrounding high-profile meetings held across the capital.

▪ **Report n°6315:** Tripoli: FSA CPs & patrols

WB sources reported the Facilities Security Authority (FSA) established checkpoints and deployed patrols across several areas of Tripoli in the morning on 09 May. The Zintan General Security Apparatus and the Tripoli Security Directorate were spotted alongside the FSA at the Ghut Shaal Roundabout, while the Stabilisation Support Agency (SSA) and the Directorate were spotted alongside the FSA at the Tuesday Mall Roundabout.

Location: Tripoli

Incident Date: 09 May

Timestamp: Morning

Source: WB

Veracity: A

Actors: FSA

Impact: Low

Recommendations:

Identify the motives behind new checkpoints and deployments across the capital.

Analysis/Comment: No further information.

NATIONWIDE / GENERAL

- **MRA: Two-week closure**

Misrata International Airport (MRA) spokesman Suleiman Al-Juahimi stated that flights to/from the airport will be suspended for a two-week period starting 0600hrs on 13 April until 0600hrs on 27 May due to the maintenance of the airport's runway. Al-Juahimi stated that all flights will likely be diverted to Tripoli's Mitiga International Airport (MJI), while noting that the airport seeks to complete the maintenance work before the aforementioned time frame.

- **Surman: Female passer-by assaulted & robbed**

CCTV footage showed a dark-skinned male dressed in military uniform strangling a female on foot, robbing her belongings, and fleeing the scene in an alleyway in Surman in the daylight on 08 May. Reports indicate the attacker is affiliated with a Surman-based militia and is of Sub-Saharan African origin.

Comment: The incident could spark civil disobedience across Surman, similar to the measures taken by Al-Zawiya residents following video footage showing the torturing of Libyans at the hands of Sub-Saharan Africans in the city.

- **Garabolli Coastal Rd. closed**

Reports indicate residents of Garabolli closed Garabolli's Coastal Road at the Garabolli Traffic Light with dirt barricades at night on 08 May. The locals demanded roadworks be carried out across their town, as well as the reshuffling of the Garabolli Municipal Council. Of note, the aforementioned road remains closed as of 0630hrs on 09 May. WB sources reported that Garabolli's Coastal Road reopened and dirt barricades removed at Garabolli Traffic Light in the afternoon on 09 May.

- **Eastern LIS to target foreign entities**

The Libyan Intelligence Service (LIS) - eastern branch threatened to take legal action and tighten security measures against all local and international governmental and non-governmental organisations (NGOs), institutions, or bodies that receive financial or other means of support from foreign organisations and suspected of serving foreign agendas and/or threatening Libyan national identity, values, and principles on 08 May.

The eastern LIS stated that such measures will be taken if the aforementioned bodies fail to disclose their financial and administrative liabilities, activities and projects, and movements of expat employees.

Comment: NGOs are particularly exposed to arbitrary detention, especially organisations involved in sensitive political work.

- **CBL Jan-Apr expenditure & revenue report**

The Central Bank of Libya (CBL) announced that total revenues covering the period Jan through to April 2023 amounted to 31.9 billion Libyan dinars (LYD), while expenditures amounted to 24.9 billion LYD. Oil sales accounted for 19.1 billion LYD. Oil export revenues amounted to 7.02 billion, while state spending reached approximately 5.48 billion USD. Regarding the spending of political bodies, the House of Representatives (HoR) and its affiliated bodies spent over 374 million LYD, while the High Council of State (HCS) spent 13 million LYD, and the Presidential Council (PC) spent 204 million LYD. In addition, the GNU's spending amounted to 636 million LYD.

- **LNA 106 BDE prevents Barqa independence day celebrations**

LNA 106 Brigade commander Khaled Haftar prevented the "Barqa My Home Foundation" from celebrating the 74th anniversary of Barqa's independence on 08 May. In response, the Foundation issued a statement apologising for postponing the celebrations on 07 May.

- **Libyan-Tunisian border: GNU Mol desert patrols**

GNU Ministry of Interior (Mol) reported the beginning of desert patrols and the activation of work across all security checkpoints along the Libyan-Tunisian border at a distance of 200km on 08 May. The desert patrols are supervised by Border Guard Head Mohamed Al-Marhani and come within the framework of the Ministry's security plan for Tripoli and the broader western region.

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 atmospheric reported as of 1700hrs LT.

- **Report n°6316:** NOC Sharara/EI-Feel: LNA inspection visit

A senior LNA delegation led by Tariq Ibn Ziyad Brigade commander Saddam Haftar inspected Sharara and EI-Feel Oil Fields as part of ongoing inspection visits of oil installations across the Oil Crescent region on 08 May.

Analysis/Comment: No further information.

Location: Sharara Oil Field; EI-Feel Oil Field
Incident Date: 08 May
Timestamp: Unknown
Source: Social Media
Veracity: B
Actors: LNA

Impact: Low

Recommendations:
 Continue to monitor LNA figures' visit to the oil fields.

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